

Minutes of the Town of Sennett Town Board Meeting Held on Thursday, June 16, 2022, at 6:30 PM at the Sennett Town Office Building.

Members Present: Thomas Blair, Supervisor
Richard Gagliardi, Councilman
Michael Wellauer, Councilman
Edward Rizzo, Councilman
Robert Edmunds, Councilman

Also Present: Kathleen Salisbury, Town Clerk
Kristopher A. LaPointe, Water & Sewer Superintendent
Cheri Major, Bookkeeper
Kristopher L. LaPointe, Highway Superintendent
Edward Magdziak
David Morris
Chris Catt, Siemens Corp.
Tim and Deanna Ryan

Remotely: Jim Jeffers
Chuck (no last name)

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting is called to Order by Supervisor Blair at 6:30.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE - The meeting is opened with the pledge to the flag and a prayer by Supervisor Blair.

ROLL CALL - Town Clerk Salisbury opens the meeting with a Roll Call, Councilman Gagliardi, Councilman Wellauer, Councilman Rizzo, Councilman Edmunds and Supervisor Blair are present.

SCHEDULED SPEAKERS -Supervisor Blair advises the scheduled speakers are:

- MRB Group (WD #s 1 & 3 project, mapping, water/sewer rate study) - Paul Chatfield of MRB Group advised Supervisor Blair by phone that they are still waiting for updates on the Panna Easement Agreement, they continue to work with the water department on updating maps and has submitted a proposal for a sewer rate study.

- Chris Catt, Siemens Corp. re: charging station opportunities - Mr. Catt gave a presentation on the electric vehicle program and charging stations. A discussion was held with regard to potentially utilizing charging stations in the future as NYS will possibly require municipalities to offer the electric vehicle stations and there are two Cayuga County municipalities that have already set these up at their locations and we would like to get ahead and be prepared.

PUBLIC BE HEARD - Motion is made by Councilman Edmunds to open the Public Be Heard Period, seconded by Councilman Wellauer. All in favor. 5 ayes 0 nays 0 absent, carried. With no public comments, a motion to close is made by Councilman Edmunds and seconded by Councilman Gagliardi. All in favor. 5 yes 0 nays 0 absent, carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- a. Town Clerk - Town Clerk Salisbury advised that the May 2022 monthly report was in the Board's meeting packet for their review.

Meeting Minutes for May 19, 2022 are reviewed by the Board. Supervisor Blair has a correction to be made on page 5 to change "Legions" to "Legion." Motion is made by Councilman Edmunds to approve the May 19, 2022 minutes with the correction, seconded by Councilman Rizzo. All in favor. 5 ayes 0 nays 0 absent, carried.

- b. Bookkeeper - Bookkeeper Major advises that Water & Sewer has gone over their expense due to purchasing supplies for repairs, and is requesting a budget adjustment with taking money out of the repairs reserve. The auditors are available July 21st via Teams to go over their report. A motion is made by Councilman Wellauer to transfer \$12,576.23 from the repair side of the Sewer and Water Budget to the expense side, seconded by Councilman Gagliardi. All in favor. 5 ayes 0 nays 0 absent, carried.

Roll call vote:

Councilman Gagliardi Yes
Councilman Wellauer Yes
Councilman Rizzo Yes
Councilman Edmunds Yes
Supervisor Blair Yes

Motion carries 5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent

The Auditors are available to go over their report at the July meeting if needed.

Supervisor Blair advises that he and Bookkeeper Major have been discussing refunding the debt service for Sewer/Water 2 and Sewer/Water 6 with Bond Attorneys Trespasz and Marquardt and Lyons National Bank for a lower interest rate at 3.25% and will be saving approximately \$34,070 (\$49,000 - \$15,000 costs). Original amount was \$170,000+/- and we will now be paying \$121,000+/- . These are significant savings. In the Board's packets is the information regarding this, including a proposal and engagement contracts for Fiscal Advisors and Trespasz & Marquardt.

A motion is made by Councilman Wellauer to refinance the \$685,000.00 and also to sign and approve the signing of the two agreements with Fiscal Advisors and Trespasz and Marquardt as Bond Counsel to lock in the 3.25% rate for a term of 9 years, seconded by Councilman Rizzo. All in favor. 5 ayes 0 nays 0 absent, carried.

Roll call vote:

Councilman Gagliardi Yes
Councilman Wellauer Yes
Councilman Rizzo Yes
Councilman Edmunds Yes
Supervisor Blair Yes

Motion carries 5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent

- c. Town Assessor - Councilman Edmunds reported on behalf of Assessor Lowe who advised that Grievance Day was held, three property owners filed complaints, the Board approved 1 property owner and made an adjustment to the assessment.

NYS provided corrected tentative rolls STAR exemptions and will be entered by Cayuga County into the final roll.

- d. Fire District - Dave Morris reported on behalf of the Fire Department who advised that there were 34 calls in the month of May, including assisting other departments, 3 training classes. In July Owasco will have fireworks and Sennett will be there to assist. Supervisor Blair thanks the department for their service and it is greatly appreciated.
- e. Highway Dept. - Highway Superintendent LaPointe was out handling drainage matters due to the weather. Councilman Rizzo read his report.
- f. Water Dept. - Water & Sewer Superintendent LaPointe's report was in the Board's meeting packet for their review. Meters will be read at the end of the month. Have been putting Storz connections on the hydrants. He attended a meeting with Councilman Edmunds in Auburn regarding water rates. Another 263 more meter heads need to be replaced. We are outside the warranty period and will need to purchase \$30,000 worth of new meter heads. Discussion is held regarding new meters, the cost and is it a per district cost. Kris will do further research.

Jim Jeffers advises the Board that the history of the water meters was that when originally purchased that it was a line item that was borrowed out of the general fund to pay a lump sum payment for the water meters for the Town. In each payment system, each homeowner paid in three quarterly bills.

Sennett Meadows has agreed to buy a replacement back up pump for Quincy Hill.

Tim and Deanna Ryan are here to check on the status of the claim regarding the water main break on May 4 and a second one a few days later on Capital Street Ext and is the Town or insurance company going to cover. Mr. Ryan advises his homeowners has disclaimed coverage. Supervisor Blair advises that we are still working with the carrier.

- g. Attorney - Supervisor Blair spoke with Attorney Andino who advises that they are still waiting for the Panna easement. Councilman Rizzo advises Mr. Panna requests a date change and should be able to finalize thereafter. Attorney Andino advises that all NYS municipalities need to update their fire prevention building code and the Town needs to update theirs.
- h. Codes/Zoning Enforcement Officer - Councilman Wellauer provides a status report by Codes Officer Passarello. Fourteen new permits were issued, Chipotle has ZBA approval complete; and Sennett Meadows is progressing on schedule, with ongoing inspections; Bartolotta Construction has applied for a building permit for repairs to the Route 20 Grill.
- i. Planning Board - Councilman Gagliardi advises he spoke with Chairman Bacon who advised there is nothing to report.
- j. Dog Control Officer - There is no report from the dog control officer this month.
- k. Committees - Supervisor Blair advises committees are still being formed. Edward Magdziak is the Chairman for the Veteran Affairs Committee and asks the Town Board for official recognition for existence of the Town of Sennett Veterans Affairs Committee. A mission statement has been adopted by the Committee and is read by Supervisor Blair. A motion is made by Councilman

Gagliardi to recognize the Town of Sennett Veteran Affairs Committee as an official committee in the Town and we have their mission statement as proposed, seconded by Councilman Edmunds. All in favor. 5 ayes 0 nays 0 absent
Mr. Magdziak discusses the future use of the storage area and sharing with the historians and is getting estimates to convert the same. In addition, the committee would be interested in having a part-time staff member to answer calls from Vets. A discussion is held regarding a local Veteran Affairs Outreach Coordinator and the assistance she provides to neighboring towns for the Town to review. Councilman Gagliardi stated that at budget time, a line item should be made, along the same lines as the Senior Program.

OLD BUSINESS

- Water Rate Hike from City of Auburn and resulting Sennett Rates - Councilman Edmunds and Water Superintendent LaPointe will meet with Seth from the County to discuss our water rates. Supervisor Blair will be meeting with Weedsport and Throop to discuss water rates as well.
- Sennett Pit Mining Expansion Permit application status (Route 20) - No update from the DEC has been received to date.
- WDs 1&3 project (Easement and bid status) - Councilman Rizzo provided an update earlier in the meeting.
- Town Park & Grant - Hoping to get the committee up and running in the next month or two. Supervisor Blair signed the DASNY grant documents.
- Website progress - the website address is www.sennettny.org
- Town Hall security camera project - Highway Superintendent LaPointe advised that the system is up and running and is working very well.
- Town Lighting replacements - Councilman Edmunds advised lighting replacements are not yet complete as the material is on back order.
- Town Hall capital needs - We have quotes, however, we are looking into whether sealed bids are required. We will wait to hear back from Attorney Andino and Paul Chatfield from MRB.
- Town branding & marketing project - Working with a company to update letterhead, haven't moved forward on this matter just yet.
- Town Employee Handbook review - The parties have not yet been able to meet to discuss the Handbook due to scheduling conflicts.
- BAR recommendation/appointment - We have prepared a welcome letter to Mr. Cuddy who completed his training and appeared at grievance day.
- Deferred Compensation Eligibility for Town Employees/Officers - This Plan has been set up and each employee needs to set up their own account.

NEW BUSINESS

- Possible debt service refinancing - this was discussed earlier in the meeting
- Possible Building Maintenance Position - Civil Service, etc. - This position will be advertised at a late date.
- Charging Stations - this was discussed earlier in the meeting

- Juneteenth - A discussion was held regarding this Federal and State Holiday. The County and some neighboring Towns are not and it will be revisited next year. Following said discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Gagliardi that Juneteenth will not be recognized as a Town holiday, seconded by Councilman Wellauer. All in favor. 5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent. Carried.

SUPERVISOR CORRESPONDENCE/REPORT -

A request has been made for a party at the Park to include a bounce house. A discussion was held. Due to potential liabilities, it is recommended that it not be allowed. It is recommended that the Parks and Rec Committee, once formed and up and running, provide rules and regs.

A request has been made for free mulch to a new start up garden facility. A discussion was held. It is decided that mulch is for Town residents only.

The Board will review MRB's proposal on water rates.

The Town's insurance renewal in the amount of \$33,175.90 is due and owing. A discussion is had regarding rebidding next year. A motion is made by Supervisor Blair, seconded by Councilman Rizzo to renew the NYMIR insurance policies in the amount of \$33,175.90.

Roll call vote:

Councilman Gagliardi	Yes
Councilman Wellauer	Yes
Councilman Rizzo	Yes
Councilman Edmunds	Yes
Supervisor Blair	Yes

Motion carries 5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent

There are two bids in for the storage room for the Veteran Affairs Committee room. Case \$20,525; Carson \$21,840 and waiting for another bid from XCL. On June 25th, the Committee will meet to clean out the storage room.

Windows - Richie Meyer previously replaced windows and there are a few more that needed to be replaced. Quotes from Mr. Meyer have been received and will be reviewed and decided at a later date. For the Court windows replacement, a request will be made to Office of Court Administration.

The quotes from Business Systems of CNY for the Assessor laptop and Zoning desktop (\$4,344), server upgrade (\$1,420) and backup storage (\$1,850) for a total of \$7,614. A motion is made by Councilman Wellauer to approve the purchases per our IT department recommendation, seconded by Councilman Rizzo.

Roll call vote:

Councilman Gagliardi	Yes
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Councilman Wellauer Yes
Councilman Rizzo Yes
Councilman Edmunds Yes
Supervisor Blair Yes

Motion carries 5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent

EXECUTIVE SESSION - Town Employee Personnel matter (medical)

Motion to enter Executive Session made by Councilman Edmunds and seconded by Councilman Rizzo at 8:38 p.m. to discuss employee personnel medical matter.

Motion to return from Executive Session made by Councilman Rizzo and seconded by Councilman Edmunds at 9:09 p.m.

During said executive session the position of Zoning Officer/Fire Marshal was discussed due to Jerry VeVone being unable to perform all of his duties due to recent health issues, it was decided to seek assistance. A motion is made by Councilman Wellauer, seconded by Councilman Rizzo to authorize the Supervisor to offer a part-time position for the remainder of 2022 to Tim Ganey for the position of Fire Inspector/Fire Marshal and do so with diligence and to take the current salary of Mr. VeVone's salary for the two positions and split it between Mr. VeVone and Tim Ganey with 33.34% going to Zoning (VeVone) and 66.66% going to Fire Inspector/Fire Marshal (Ganey), prorated for the remainder of 2022, conditioned upon Mr. Ganey's certifications and upon Mr. Ganey's acceptance of same.

Roll call vote:

Councilman Gagliardi Yes
Councilman Wellauer Yes
Councilman Rizzo Yes
Councilman Edmunds Yes
Supervisor Blair Yes

Motion carried 5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent

Supervisor Blair and Councilman Wellauer will speak with Mr. VeVone and Mr. Ganey.

PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS - A question was raised regarding The Duke Company bill for the lift used to install the outside security cameras has been set aside to gather further information as to whether it should be included and bill to NetManageIT as part of their work.

Vouchers - Motion by Councilman Edmunds, seconded by Councilman Wellauer to pay the monthly vouchers with three or more signatures.

Roll call vote:

Councilman Gagliardi Yes
Councilman Wellauer Yes
Councilman Rizzo Yes
Councilman Edmunds Yes
Supervisor Blair Yes

Motion carried 5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING - Motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Wellauer, seconded by Councilman Rizzo. All in favor.

Next meeting is July 21, 2022

Meeting ends at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Salisbury, Town Clerk
Town of Sennett