

Sennett Town Board Meeting
June 17th, 2021

Agenda:

1. Pledge
2. Public be Heard
3. Approval of Meeting minutes
4. Bookkeeper Request
5. Old Business:
 - a. Cannabis Sales presentation
 - b. Water 3 projects and easements (funding sources)
 - c. Building maintenance and upkeep – Kris
 - d. Park Grant
 - e. Negotiations
 - f. Cayuga County water and sewer
6. New Business:
 - a. MEO Hire – Kris
 - b. Stimulus Money
7. Department Reports
8. Public be Heard

Members Present: Thomas Gray, Supervisor
Edward Rizzo, Town Councilman
Richard Gagliardi, Town Councilman
Michael Adrian, Town Councilman
James Jeffers, Town Councilman

Also present: Richard Andino, Town Attorney
Stacy Marris – Associate with Costello, Cooney and Fearon
Kris LaPointe – Highway Superintendent
Ron Schalck – Water and Sewer Superintendent
Cheri Major - Bookkeeper

As the town board continues to conduct meetings via ZOOM, an audio version of the town board meeting is available upon request.

Tom Gray: Okay, I'd like to call the June meeting of the Sennett town board in the session, let's rise for the pledge. Because this meeting is on zoom still him it'll probably be on zoom for a while, we will have the board members announce who's here.

The following board members stated their names: Mike Adrian, Rick Gagliardi, Ed Rizzo, Tom Gray and James Jeffers – also, attorney Rich Andino.

We'll open the public be heard session. Do I have a motion? Motion? (Jim Jeffers). Second? (Mike Adrian). Thank you.

Jim Jeffers: Hearing none I motion that we close the public to be heard.

Tom Gray: We will have another public to be heard at the end of the meeting. So, second, I'll second that. Okay, Now let me explain the minutes. You got a draft copy of the minutes from Penny yesterday. She's back doing the minutes. And Marie was out for over two months with her eyes. She has since just completed January, February and March. You will get those and if you don't mind, we'll approve all of them at the next meeting. Okay, very good. The bookkeeper has a request. I'm going turn it over to Cheri, and then after that, we'll go to the presentation.

Cheri Major: I have a budget adjustment for the court. When we did the budget, we budgeted \$10,000 for Laurie, who's here almost every day, and we've budgeted another \$5000 thinking Tracy is going to help out at court night, and since everything is changed, we have not touched the \$5000 for Tracy. Laurie is at..we put \$10,000 in for Laurie, but she's already used up \$8300 of it, so I want to make a budget adjustment to move Tracy's \$5000 with up to Laurie's line, and Tracy won't be back because there's no court night - because there's hardly any.

Jim Jeffers: So, split - we budgeted \$10,000 and \$5,000 for a total of \$15,000. And you just want to move the \$5,000 over to the \$10,000 to cover what's going to be happening in the near future. I'll make a motion that we allow that budget transfer.

Tom Gray: Do we have a second?

Ed Rizzo: I'll second it.

Tom Gray: Ed seconds it. Voice vote: Michael? (Mike Adrian – Yes.), Rick? (Rick Gagliardi – Yes.) Ed? (Ed Rizzo – Yes.), Jim? (Jim Jeffers – Yes.), Tom? Yes. Okay, anything else Cheri? I will mention that we did receive the paperwork for the stimulus money and Cheri mentioned that towns under 50,000 have to accept or reject it, and she's working on that paperwork to do that. To accept it. Any questions for Cheri before she goes? Okay. I'd like to have Rich, will you introduce your speaker?

Rich Andino: As everyone knows, this topic came up last month or the month before and I offered for our office to give a presentation on the Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act. This is the state's recent legislation which you know, in large part legalizes marijuana in New York State and various ways. Tonight, I have with me an attorney from my office, Stacy Marris, who has been monitoring and basically, is an expert on this legislation at this point. She's given the presentation to numerous other municipalities in Onondaga and Madison counties. She's just going to give an overview of what the legislation provides and more specifically and relevant to the town's discussion of the option for the town to opt out of the retail and on-site consumption for marijuana.

**Ms. Marris provided literature and information, as well as an overview of this new legislation to all board members. This presentation concluded after approximately one-half hour, at which time, the board resumed its meeting.

Tom Gray: I've got to use Rich for the next one, so I'm going to jump down to "C" and have Kris present Building Maintenance and Upkeep. Then we'll go back to "B".

Kris LaPointe: You probably saw in the proposal where they've got all the doors and the electronic lock. Their all done, they did a pretty nice job The doors were repaired, and they did a great job and were very pleasant to work with. I would use them again. That's all I have for that. The lights went out here for a few days, so I called NAPA - They came right over. Half of the lights were out, and the guy said rather than fix the lights, it's cheaper to buy new fixtures and put them in and he did put four of them in. Along with that, the procurement policy for \$2000.00, in my opinion – everything has gone up, everything has doubled in price, you might want to consider raising that up. The people who did the outside lights, they were \$3000.00 cheaper than the three other bids I got. They've been very fair to us, they're quick and they're in town.

Tom Gray: And I think what we see now is they replaced the four lights. When you come in here in the morning, the lights that are still working flash for about 20 minutes before they come on. And you called it something else. I called it a charger. The drivers gone on the lights. He feels it came from one of the many power surges that we've had in the area over the last few months. The new four new lights are much brighter, that it's really nice in there. And they look almost the same as the other ones, but they're just a little less, so With the Board's decision, we'll put the other four in then a month or two or whenever. Thank you.

Kris LaPointe: That's all I've got for now. I'm looking into the camera setup. I'm looking at prices right now.

Tom Gray: He said they just did it at the Firehouse, right?

Ed Rizzo: I would like to see that.

Jim Jeffers: I would rather have - I agree that we should have it. I would rather look at it and see what there is out there for grant money through the court system.

Tom Gray: We can ask.

Jim Jeffers: I think the courts before we say yes to spending money because of court system. I know other municipalities have had a lot of work done in their areas, their general area because they have court and legal stuff going on. And there's a lot of money in the court system for such things as security, windows, lighting, cameras.

Mike Adrian: I don't have a problem with looking at the court systems if there's some kind of grant there but I would just assume we're waiting

Jim Jeffers: Along that line, I would I recommend that we look into trying to find and hire somebody who's in the grant writing aspect. And does that for a living, because there's a lot of grants out there for a lot of things that we don't know. We don't know what's out there. We're not we're not educated on

that. We have engineers, we have legal, we have legal assistance. I wonder, you know, if we could really value cost and get any return of cost for grant writing advice.

Kris LaPointe: I can find out who the person is at the fire department and get back to you. He or she, whoever, has been gracious – I'll find out the name.

Tom Gray: And even the security companies will know what grants are out there, because they're selling to everybody. So, let's investigate what we need and what's out there. Very good. Thanks, Kris.

Jim Jeffers: Thank you.

Tom Gray: Rich, we're going back to Water Project III, which is becoming very busy. I gave everybody a chance to appear on a conference call last Monday, we've got another one this Monday, we're adding the bond people and our money people, fiscal advisors. Rich, can you give us how you perceive this, and then we can talk about some funding.

Rich Andino: Sure. Just keep the board apprised, the town received the letter, earlier this month, late last month from the Environmental Facilities Corporation as the entity that provides that provided the grant for the project. The letter basically says you need to request an extension, provide certain information or else by basically the end of this month, or the grant is going to go away. That was the purpose of the call we had. I think it was just this past Monday or is last week, and Labella Associates who's administering the grant and Paul, are working on putting together a letter that effectuates that extension. This isn't uncommon. This isn't specific to the town of Sennett. Basically, EFC is looking at all the grants that were awarded back in 2018, and they're sending letters to all the municipalities that have those grants, basically saying, you know, "get a move on type thing." And which is odd that they're putting the squeeze on people because of obviously what happened the last year, and no one at the State was working, for permitting and all that type of stuff. It's a little odd, but you know, it is what it is at this point, so that Labella is working on getting that letter out.

In terms of the easements, also the other thing too, Paul Chatfield from the MRB Group is anticipating that the current project budget is not sufficient, given the current climate that we're paying for not only materials, but labor as well, so he's prepared to do a project budget. I don't know if that got circulated.

Tom Gray: I got it today. I'll send it out tonight.

Rich Andino: Obviously with that project budget increase, the previous funding that was in place for the project between grants and loans that were committed, is not enough at this point. So, Labella and Paul are looking into additional funding sources through Rural Development, which would be another low interest loan, or EFC, to provide short term financing for the project. There's, you know, different pros and cons to each of those, which, you know, fiscal advisors, the financial advisor for the project, they'll talk about next week, there's a call next Monday, I think right now. Obviously, the whole board is welcome to attend.

Tom Gray: It's at 1:30, so when I get that information like, this week, I'll email it right out.

Rich Andino: So, they'll have more information about the financial options and different funding sources and what would be best for the town because there's different strings - like if you use EFC money, that's all that comes with the MWBE strings. You have to do that at minority business - Women owned enterprise requirements and that's a whole thing that adds more paperwork at times and headache and things like that. That's what's going on right now. All the easements have been obtained with the exception of one, the easement sign, but the company TP584 isn't signed. We can't file it without it, that's the only thing that we're waiting on.

Tom Gray: And we're going to talk to him on Monday or Tuesday.

Rich Andino: For that, we are also talking to the railroad because there we need a license/easement to go. Due to the railroad crossing, the license agreement they proposed is, I don't know if there's much that we can do about it. But I wanted to at least push back on a couple of terms that we're talking with them about that. I think that's it. That's as much as I know. Paul Chatfield and the financial advisors, they'll know more from the technical engineering and financial standpoint.

Tom Gray: One of the things that was said the other day was there's another funding source that would do the whole project, but rather than a 38-year payback, they'd want to be paid back in either 10, 20 or 30 years. That would increase the outlay of the people in Water districts 1 and 3.

Rich Andino: I think that was EFC. EFC funding might be the 30 years.

Tom Gray: And they said that currently, what was approved by RD at the rate, and I don't know what that rate is right now, that rate's, fixed. But if you go back for more money, it'll be at a much lower rate for the new money.

Rich Andino: If it goes down, I think you benefited. But you can't go up. I think there's a chance that the interest rate on the next - whatever the difference in funding is, which will be lower than the last one. But that's where we're at right now. Again, there's a call on Monday with the project team, obviously, you're encouraged to attend it.

Tom Gray: I'll add mine to it because Paul asked if there was any local funding available to keep the borrowing rate down. Cheri can entertain some questions here. The packet I gave you with the yellow stripes, that's Water District 1 and Water District 3. Now that cash total fluctuates, but it usually doesn't go down very much does it, Cheri? The bottom total, so it currently in May, the cash total in Water District III was \$211,800, and in Water District I, that has \$170,000.00 - District 1 has 80. Customers in III has 240. If you flip the page, (because I made a phone call yesterday), this is the agreement that was made four or five years ago with Weedsport, that we put aside a certain amount of money. It wasn't put originally put aside, I think there was a communication thing, but when we signed our last contract, we updated it and put the money in it was supposed to be that came out of the Weedsport contribution. So, if you took Water District 1 and added the \$1350.00, that's what's currently in there. We'll report to them again on July 15th - I told them, and we're running about \$4400/\$4500 a quarter. I called the mayor and asked the mayor because this is supposed to be to repair the lines or anything that dealing with the water going to Weedsport.

(continued)

I asked the mayor last night, if we could use \$25,000 of this fund, to help finance the water tower; so which would be money that wouldn't have to be borrowed, and it's probably money we wouldn't touch for another year or so anyways, when the project came through, and he had no problem with that. He says if it deals with delivery of water to Weedsport, there's no issues. So, there was \$25,000 available there. Paul wants to know what's available and what isn't. So that the financial people can look at what they need to borrow. If you flip to the third page, Cheri gave me this today, this is what's been paid out of Water District 1 and in Water District III since 2018. The "A" is, evidently when this started, the money came out of the General Fund, which is going to have to be repaid when all this grant and stuff comes due, but if you look at the other part here, we've already paid out \$197,000 based on 70% and 30%. If we took that \$190,000 and went back to the yellow line and added that, that would be more to our cash reserves. I'd like to propose (and we won't need this money for a year so), that we take \$200,000 - the money we've already paid, there's only about \$3000 less, and use that money. It's coming from Districts 1 and III of the projects coming from I and III and offer that money towards the loans to keep the costs for people I in III down.

Jim Jeffers: We've already paid that out.

Tom Gray: But it's got to be paid back from when the loan comes in and the grant comes in, this has to go back in. I'm saying we excuse \$200,000 because it's going to come from I and III. We've already paid 197,000, but it's got to come from I and III anyways.

Jim Jeffers: I'm not following you at all. We paid \$200,000 roughly, we'll do simple math. We paid \$200,000. And when the loan - when we get proof a little over \$200,000 comes right off the top to repay that. So, if we have a \$2 million loan, one point something million to work with, so what are you proposing?

Tom Gray: I'm proposing that this \$197,000 rounded up to \$200,000 is money that we don't pay back, we use it from the surplus of one in three, to reduce whatever loan comes to keep the cost of the residence of one and three down by that much. Weedsport has already offered \$25,000.

Jim Jeffers: Well, Weedsport doesn't - number one Weedsport doesn't have the ability to offer \$25,000. That's our money.

Tom Gray: He said they had he said he had no problem...

Jim Jeffers: They don't control... Let's get this straight. We collected that money for them on an agreement and put it in an account for the management of our water district that supplies their water.

Tom Gray: No, here's just a line...

Jim Jeffers: Exactly. They have no control over how we spend it, or they can't say "yes" or "no" to us spending that on things. They don't have a say in it. Now, I appreciate the fact that you called and asked them, but they can say they can't say "yes" or "no" to it.

Tom Gray: Right. Okay. But I informed him that that's what I'd like to do.

Jim Jeffers: And that's perfect. But they have no say yes or no - number one. Number two - I'm not going to... I will not agree to what you're asking because if this project never goes through and we never have the money, then we never get it back. So, it's money spent - it's money spent. And if we get the loan back...

Tom Gray: What it's doing is, it's reducing the amount of money that needs to be borrowed for the job.

Jim Jeffers: At pennies on the dollar.

Tom Gray: \$200,000 isn't pennies on the dollar.

Jim Jeffers: In the in the scope of this project? What's it going to reduce?

Tom Gray: Well, if they borrow 2 million, that's going to reduce it by 10%. I'd like to make the proposal that we, when it comes around, we forgive up to \$200,000. We've already spent \$197,000 of it, plus what came in this month. As an offer, so that I can call tomorrow and say there's \$25,000 from Weedsport, and there's \$200,000.

Jim Jeffers: Alright, back up.

Tom Gray: From the Weedsport fund. Excuse me. Thank you. Let me clarify that - the Weedsport fund.

Jim Jeffers: From that line item?

Tom Gray: Yes. I'd like to make that proposal. Do I have a second?

Ed Rizzo: I'll second. Discussion.

Tom Gray: Discussion?

Jim Jeffers: I still don't... what if this number, what if we lose their grant?

Tom Gray: Then we already lost \$190,000.

Jim Jeffers: So, what are we doing?

Tom Gray: If we get the grant, we've forgiven it any ways to reduce the amount.

Jim Jeffers: And if we don't get the grant?

Tom Gray: Then we've lost the money.

Rich Andino: So basically, you know what, like Tom said, because of the nature of where the prices for material labor are and what Paul is anticipating, a bid would come back. The project needs additional funds. There is an additional grant money at this time, which would mean you have to borrow money. So instead of borrowing an additional 2 million, you borrow 1.8 - because you're basically saying we're not going to use whatever we borrowed to reimburse III and I. I'm not the financial advisor on the project. I don't know if that's a good thing or bad thing, but I think that's what the what the thought is. Again, we're having a call Monday with bond counsel and fiscal advisors. They're intimately familiar with the RD and EFC program, and what that additional 200 or lack of borrowing an additional 200 for the project.

Jim Jeffers: My experience comes from the fact that once you start saying "oh no, we won't repay this money - we've got money here, we've got money there", that starts putting you in a in a whole other category of "Do they really need money?"

Tom Gray: Well, a year ago, January, we had a meeting after the last election, and we sat down and I said to the board, and Jerry was there, we were collecting much more money in water than we were paying the city and we were building up surpluses. I would like to see that money reduce the water rates. The board voted 4 -1 not to, because they said we may need that money someday for a project. Well, that someday is today.

Jim Jeffers: Well, the project, I'll clarify that. When you look at these highlighted lines, you know how fast it get spent? If we have a break? If we have an emergency?

Tom Gray: This money is not going to be touched.

Jim Jeffers: This money right here that you highlight. Do you know how fast that goes? In an emergency?

Tom Gray: No, I don't.

Jim Jeffers: Well, I happen to be in the business, and I know how fast that goes in a heartbeat. So, when you start talking about reducing our reserved funds, then what happens? Great, we reduce it now to get this project and then a year later, we have a something that happens that we need to do.

Tom Gray: We're not taking anything out of the yellow.

Jim Jeffers: I'm not talking about that. You're talking about a year ago when we voted to not reduce the funds. That's why I voted to not reduce the funds, because this goes in a heartbeat.

Tom Gray: And we didn't reduce the funds. Okay, any more discussion? The motion's been made to use \$200,000. Right now, we've paid \$197,000 plus \$25,000, from the Weedsport line to offer that towards the loans.

Mike Adrian: My personal thought, for what it's worth, if you're going to borrow money anyway. And you already have it in here. I will use the money out of the account before borrowing any. That's just good business.

Jim Jeffers: Out of the account for what? Are you talking about this \$192,000?

Mike Adrian: You've already spent that money whether you borrow it or pay it back or use it out of the reserve?

Jim Jeffers: To clarify, you're talking about the money we've already spent - not what's listed.

Tom Gray: We're not touching anything that's listed right now.

Mike Adrian: The 200 for argument's sake that we have spent. Before I would borrowed it, I would use it out of the reserves as long as it didn't deplete the reserves.

Tom Gray: And if I offered to call Paul tomorrow and say we have that money available, then he can talk to the people and adjust the figures.

Jim Jeffers: Wait, let's clarify this. Because I think I'm getting confused. If I'm listening to both of you. This \$221,000. We have spent that. We've written checks and it's spent. This is \$192,000 and 11,500 has not been spent. Yes or no?

Tom Gray: Well, go down the 11. Because that was in the bonds there to.

Jim Jeffers: \$211,000 in cash and 170,000 in cash that has not gone?

Cheri Major: Yes. That has *not been* spent.

Jim Jeffers: This \$221,000 we have written checks for and technically, if we have continued...

Rick Gagliardi: Where'd you pull that money out of?

Cheri Major: One and three.

Tom Gray: Right there those lines

Rick Gagliardi: That's...it's already out of these numbers?

Cheri Major: It's... (I was unable to hear and transcribe Ms. Major's explanation as she was continually interrupted by Councilman Jeffers.)

Tom Gray: Yes, that's out of these numbers, right.

Jim Jeffers: So, these numbers that are highlighted - that the whole line, these numbers that are highlighted are today - and that has nothing to do with the 220. So, Mike, are you talking about taking more money out of these lines?

Mike Adrian: No.

Jim Jeffers: Okay.

Mike Adrian: You're talking about pulling it out of there? What I'm saying is I wouldn't borrow it to put it back in there. You're going to borrow and put money in reserve? understood.

Jim Jeffers: So, we're not taking more money?

Mike Adrian: No.

Tom Gray: The only reserve we have to pay on that paper is we've got to pay the general fund back that \$24,000. All right. Any other discussion?

Rich Andino: Again, there's a call on Monday with financial advisor with bonds council. They might say "yes, that's a good idea". They might say "no, that's not a good idea because here's what we can offer". It's up to you guys.

Ed Rizzo: But also, the rates, we talked about rates. Rates are low right now, just the cost of the pipe to do this project, since they first initially came up with the price to now, is doubled. And so, Paul figured that it's going to be roughly about 150% per household increase over the life. But the rates being as low as they are, we really don't know what we're going get, because there was some kind of national grant - that they might want to get into that. So, we don't know. What they asked us to do is, to see if we can come up with any money, so we don't have to borrow as much, and that's why we looked at this avenue here.

Rich Andino: Again, so what are you getting out of return with these funds?

Cheri Major: CD's.

Rich Andino: What's your interest rate?

Cheri Major: We did really well. This is only a couple of years ago. They're down to .3.

Rich Andino: So that's, like, they might say, on one day, you're going to be locked in at this at 1.5%. Historical interest rates in your CD are 2.5. Would you rather borrow at one and a half and then keep the money in your CD at two and a half percent? It was point three, correct?

Cheri Major: It's .3. One year, we switched everything over again. This point three and it was phenomenal, and then the bottom fell out.

Rich Andino: If you're locked in for 38 years... So, if you're interest rate for 38 years is 1.5, what's the interest rate in your CD going to be over the next? These are just things that your advisors will talk to you about.

Tom Gray: Well, we can put that on the table tomorrow that if they don't use it then... But voice vote - \$200,000 rounded up from \$197,000. I noticed there's \$900 in legal fees.

Jim Jeffers: So, before we vote, where are we going? We're voting on not replenishing this \$221,000.

Tom Gray: No, \$200,000 of it, we got to replenish.

Jim Jeffers: So, we're voting on not replenish those \$220,000, but we're also not offering up how much we have in reserves.

Tom Gray: Right. Nothing from the yellow line and we're offering the \$25,000 from the Weedsport line.

Mike Adrian: Just so I'm clear, even if we vote on this, that's not a guarantee that we're going to do that. When you talk to these financial people, they might say, "no, we can get you that loan for 1%". That's a different conversation.

Ed Rizzo: Okay, but at least they know if we do do it...

Tom Gray: Alright, voice vote, Michael? (Yes.) Rich? (Yeah.) Ed? (Yes) Jim?

Jim Jeffers: Again, I am not going to vote until I hear...we are voting to not replenish the \$200,000 if we get the grant, it's got nothing to do with our reserves or the reserves associated with Weedsport line item.

Tom Gray: Other than the \$25,000 from the Weedsport line item that would go towards the tank.

Jim Jeffers: No.

Tom Gray: Well, the votes out there. I vote yes. Your vote?

Jim Jeffers: I voted no, you said we were considering reserve funds. And you just said other than the \$25,000. So, I vote no.

Tom Gray: Motion passes. Any other questions? I will send some stuff out tomorrow. The other thing they Paul suggested, if the government approves it, they're not going to bid this until January, hoping that things turn around and start the project in April.

Rich Andino: Well, one other thing, under the provisions of the law that the project is under, anytime you're increasing the maximum cost, you have to basically undergo additional procedures to authorize that increased funding. At some point, in late summer fall, you're going to have to have another public hearing for the project. To just explain that I've gone to a resolution say, here's the whole project. maximum amount. Just so everyone's aware.

Tom Gray: Park grant - I got a call from Senator Mannion's new person - on grants. The previous lady who was doing this, her child has some serious health issues. She had to step back. They still haven't freed up the funds. They owe us what \$68,000. It's still on. I'm going to contact that other guy we talked to before Sean Rezny, who controls the funds.

Mike Adrian: Tom, are they saying that we owe them anything as far as paperwork or no, they're just saying the funds are not available?

Tom Gray: They got the paperwork a year ago, January.

Mike Adrian: And it's literally got pushed out like another month.

Rich Andino: A lot of state agencies literally just got back.

Tom Gray: So, they are working on it. And I'm going to contact the dormitory guy to this week.

Negotiations - I placed in your mailbox, the signed contract that replaces the one that expired in 2018. I was here at 6:30 this morning, because I knew that they were out chipping, and I wanted to catch Billy before the meeting because I wouldn't see him later in the day. So, the contract is there.

Tom Gray: Jimmy - Cayuga County Water and Soil?

Jim Jeffers: So, Cayuga County Water and Soil had a meeting yesterday. Basically, the gist that I got from that meeting was they're really pushing forward on Aurora, Wells college and Honoco Road, Ledyard area, trying to decide what they're going to do their as far as upgrade for the water system or build the whole new water system at Long Point. In that discussion, they also mentioned the whole county project - the Master Plan project. They once again alluded to the fact that they're looking at leasing distribution lines in the towns that are affected. They didn't go into the details of that. In the conversation amongst people, they really struck a chord with me. Number one: We'll put it this way - the county legislature is who appoints these people to this board. They have now heavily weighed the board to their likings of getting this pushed through - to the fact that there is now representatives from the people who will be greatly affected with it as far as getting any anything from this project. And nobody on the board (of anybody who will lose - any municipality that will lose from getting this project going forward). They went as far as saying...Mr. John Miller, who's on the board, went as far as to say

that the towns are good at plowing snow, and not good at anything else. And they should get out of the water and sewer business. They are very fortunate that I was zooming in and was not able to be heard because I would have had a lot of good things to say to them about that. So, my opinion and my advice to this board in this town is, in going forward, to keep a close eye on the County Water and Sewer Authority and make sure that your constituents are represented well because to bring this to a political point, our county representative who happens to be the chairperson, is not on our side and not does not have the best interest of our town. In my opinion. That brings me to this District I and III.

A lot of that money that we're talking about spending, is on their distribution line. And they have said that if you do work and you incur a debt, they will not be picking up the debt they'll be leasing the line. So, if we put that onus of District, I and III on our constituents, then they take over the line, we're going to have District I and III paying for that line and paying for all the others.

Mike Adrian: When you say "take over the line" ...

Jim Jeffers: Lease it.

Mike Adrian: You know we don't have to agree to that. The town owns that line. The town and the taxpayers.

Tom Gray: There will be a legal fight when it happens.

Jim Jeffers: So, the way it works is, if the county wants to take over every Water District in the county that is currently there, if they want to take it over, they can put it up for a public referendum to a vote. Every legal registered voter can vote on that. If everybody in the town of Sennett says no, and everybody else in the county says yes, we got nothing we can say. Done - here's what we're paying you.

Mike Adrian: I'd be hard pressed to see that.

Jim Jeffers: I'm just I'm reporting what's being told to the county by their lawyers. Moving forward from the town, aspect, board aspect, many boards before us and us sitting here have worked diligently, very hard at keeping our water and sewer systems up to snuff and, sat here and had heated discussions about how we're going to do that. And to have this thrown down our throat that they're going to just come in and take over the district and do stuff like that and tell us that no offense to Kris and his guys because they do a good job. But to say that our water and sewer guys are don't know what they're doing is extremely offensive and I can't believe it was said in a public forum.

Tom Gray: Anything else on that? Kris - MEO hire?

Kris LaPointe: I'm still in the process with that.

Tom Gray: Okay. Yes, because we got to have another two. Okay. Cheri's working on the stimulus money. The guidelines come in; I think it's July 9th.

Jim Jeffers: Do we have a figure on what amount we should be getting? So, are there caveats as to how it can be spent?

Cheri Major: Yes.

Rich Andino: The Treasury timelines aren't totally final yet.

Tom Gray: Department reports, Kris.

Kris LaPointe: I gave you my regular report. We got the new Parish mower in. I like to have the old Parish put on surplus for Auctions International.

Jim Jeffers: Before we do that, is there any other places around here that need one? The fire department, do they have their own? I specifically meant the fire department or cemetery. I think I'll make the motion that we make that surplus so that he can put it on Auctions International. Yes?

Tom Gray: Mike, second?

Mike Adrian: Second.

Tom Gray: All in favor? (All were in favor)

Kris LaPointe: We took all the tires we had over to Newport. No charge. Dumpster days, we had (.4???) pounds of trash. It was \$3900.00 bucks. We got a ton of metal – it was \$1300.00. You might want to put some thought into how we can regulate it in October. It's coming right along. How do you want to do it?

Tom Gray: I'll sit down with you. We'll come up with some suggestions for the board.

Kris LaPointe: As I told you in the last meeting, I was able to save \$12,000.00. I'm getting a little bit more CHIPS money this year, they're giving us back that 20% that they took from us last year. I've got a pretty good chunk of money in reserves and good chunk of money in cash. I'd like to spend some this year. I've got about \$272,000 cash, and I have a regular road reserve. I'd like to spend \$150,000 or \$200,000 just to bring things up to snuff.

Tom Gray: Okay. Ron, water?

Ron Schalck: I've submitted the monthly operating reports. and continue to do samples daily. We attended a training and got six credit hours. We helped Weedsport. I was able to get out today and mark out for us the water line. The other thing is, is the auction ended last night for our 450 which is a 2011. The high bid was \$17,500, which I think is pretty good. A few \$1000 more than I expected to see out of it. So, I would make a recommendation that you guys accept that.

Mike Adrian: I'll make a motion to accept that.

Tom Gray: Do I have a second?

Ed Rizzo: I'll second.

Tom Gray: All in favor? (All were in favor) Very good. Thank you, Ron. Anything else?

Ron Schalck: No, that's it.

Tom Gray: Okay, we're going to make a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel. When we come out of executive session, I don't know if we'll be conducting any business. We'll just do the vouchers. Any questions? Let's do public be heard again. Do I have a second on that motion?

Jim Jeffers: Second.

Tom Gray: All in favor? (All were in favor). I'm turning the tape back on to close the meeting.

Mike Adrian: I make a motion to come out of Executive Session.

Jim Jeffers: So, moved.

Tom Gray: I'll second. Okay, now I make a motion that we pay all abstracts with three or more signatures.

Jim Jeffers: So, moved.

Ed Rizzo: I'll second.

Tom Gray: That's going to be a voice vote because it's money, Mike? (Yes.) Rich? (Yeah.) Ed? (Yes.) Jim? (Yes.) Tom? Yes. And you got the abstracts. I make a motion that the meeting be adjourned.

Jim Jeffers: So, moved.

Rich Andino: But before everyone leaves, again - that's December 31 is the date for the opt out. So just get started.

Minutes respectfully submitted by AnnMarie Clarke
07/14/21

