

TOWN OF PERTH

Minutes, March 3, 2022

Regular Town Board Meeting

1:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Supervisor Fagan, Councilman Lewandowski, Councilman Betz and Councilman Barker

ABSENT: Councilman Fisher

ALSO PRESENT: Town Clerk, Judith English; Town Attorney, Carmel Greco Esq.; Highway Superintendent, David Dopp; Sole Assessor, David Walendziak; Town Justice, Wayne McNeil; Working Foreman Highway Department, Richard Wallace; Pastor of Perth Bible Church, Mark Appell; President of the Perth Seniors, Elaine Gasner; and Fire Chief of the Perth Volunteer Company Inc., Peter Watrobski.

Supervisor Fagan opened the meeting at 1:00 p.m. A salute to the flag was held, and a moment of silent prayer observed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the February 3, 2022 Regular Town Board Meeting were offered for approval by Councilman Betz and seconded by Councilman Lewandowski. All were in favor; motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

The communications as listed on the Agenda are filed in the Town Clerk's Office where they are available to anyone who wishes to see them. There were no late communications.

UPDATE FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT, DAVID DOPP reported for the Highway Department that he will be advertising for paving bids this month. The plan is to pave Stairs Road from Midline Road to County Highway 126, Royal Coachman Drive, and Eccles Drive.

He feels that the bridge on Stairs Road does not need to be fixed before the road is paved. After the shoulder of the road collapsed two years ago and was fixed, there has not been a problem with the bridge. Superintendent Dopp is going to have an inspector look at the bridge to see if it has to be replaced.

Superintendent Dopp is getting quotes for a new truck off of County Bid. He recommends that we order it with a stainless steel box which will make it last longer, because it resists rust better than a steel box. It will add approximately \$11,000.00 to the cost of the truck. The Town can use CHIPS money towards the truck.

Superintendent Dopp spoke about Truck #8 which is a 2017 Freightliner 114SD. It is used for sanding. It has a slide in sander. It sits at the Highway garage most of the time, and only has 16,000 miles on it. He feels that if the Town put it out for auction it would bring about \$100,000. The decision is up to the Town Board but he would highly recommend doing this.

Custodian, Robert Nolan, reported for buildings and grounds that the water system has been running with no problems after a new iron out filter was installed. He also stated that because of the amount of ice that we have had lately he has been using a lot of rock salt on the walk ways at the Town Hall Complex.

Councilman Betz read the **Assessor's Report**, a copy of which will be filed with these minutes. The Assessor reported that in mid- February he sent out another agricultural exemption renewal form to all the Ag holders that did not come in. The response was excellent; 100%.

The **Dog Control Officer's** Report was submitted. There was one cat bite. The owner was told to quarantine the animal for ten days and then get the cat a rabies vaccination.

Supervisor Fagan stated that the County is getting ready to interview candidates for the head of the County Veterans Administration. He also distributed to the Board Members a hand out from the Fulton County IDA detailing a purchase agreement for 236 acres at the Tryon Technology Complex. It isn't final yet but is poised to sell for 5.8 million dollars.

Supervisor Fagan went on to say that the new flooring for the Town Hall is ready to start being installed. It will include all of the Town Offices except for the Assessor's Office, which recently had new flooring installed. It will also include the Meeting/Court room the hallway, and the bathroom. The Town Justice Court has obtained a grant for \$30,000 to pay for this, and the Town will make up the rest. Supervisor Fagan estimates the final cost will be around \$63,000.00.

Town Justice, Wayne McNeil, stated that the grant that he applied for included the flooring, a new bench and new bench seating. For security reasons this seating will be safer, and also the Court will be using the Community Senior Center entrance any more. Entrance to the court room will be limited to one entry way, which in the future may be fitted with an electronic arch to prevent weapons from being introduced to the court area. The bench seating will eliminate anyone using a chair as a weapon.

Fire Chief Peter Watrobski of the Perth Volunteer Fire Company Inc. reported that at a recent house fire on McQueen Road the home owner succumbed to smoke inhalation and died. Two dogs were also lost. He wanted to thank the James Brennan Memorial Animal Shelter for taking care of the disposal of the dogs at no charge.

Fire Chief, Peter Watrobski, stated that they have sold the 1997 truck to a Fire Company in Wisconsin. The Perth Company has a new EMT vehicle which cost \$30,000. The Company has had sixty calls so far this year.

Chief Watrobski also stated that membership in the Fire Company is down. They are actively recruiting new members, while trying to retain the members that they do have. The Greater Amsterdam Volunteer Ambulance Corps also is in need of personnel.

Chief Watrobski reported that the mutual aid agreement with the Broadalbin Fire Department is working out well. He went on to say that recently they had a request from the Galway Fire Department to assist with a fire on Perth Road. They needed the Perth ladder truck and tanker.

He would like to have new housing in the Town of Perth required to have a 911 number of the house that is easily visible for the Fire Company and ambulances to see from the road.

AUDIT OF FINANCIAL RECORDS

The 2021 Financial Records for **Town Clerk, Judith English** were audited by the members of the Town Board of the Town of Perth. They indicated their approval by signing the cover sheet attached to the records; which included both computer generated monthly reports, and sequentially numbered paper receipt books.

A motion was made by Councilman Lewandowski to accept the records and it was seconded by Councilman Betz. All were in favor; motion carried.

The 2021 Financial Records for **Town justices Wayne McNeil and Lisa Wallace** were also audited by the Town Board of the Town of Perth. They all indicated their approval by signing the cover sheets attached to their records which consists of computer generated monthly reports and reconciliation reports.

A motion was made by Councilman Betz to accept the Town Justices Financial Records for 2021 and it was seconded by Councilman Lewandowski. All were in favor; motion carried.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS

Pastor Marc Appell of the **Perth Bible Church** stated that it will be wonderful to be able to hold the annual Memorial Day Ceremony at the Town of Perth Town Hall Complex, after missing two years of having it due to the Covid-19 pandemic. He will be working with Councilman Peter Betz to make the arrangements.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION # 44- ADVERTISE FOR PAVING BIDS

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth authorizes the advertisement of bids for asphalt concrete paving for 2022 as per specifications prepared by the Superintendent of Highways. Bids are to be received by the Town Clerk's Office by 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 7, 2022.

Offered by: Councilman Lewandowski
Seconded by: Councilman Betz

A vote was taken with the Supervisor and all of the Councilmen present voting in favor; motion carried.

RESOLUTION # 45- AUTHORIZE PAYMENT FOR TRUCK REPAIRS

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth authorizes the payment of the amount of \$2,331.82 to Frank's Heavy Duty Truck Repairs for repair of Truck #3, 2005 Ford F550 Super Duty; for towing and replacing the starter and injection control pressure in the high pressure oil pump; to be charged to Account DA5130.4 Machinery Contractual.

Offered by: Councilman Betz
Seconded by: Councilman Lewandowski

A vote was taken with the Supervisor and all of the Councilmen present voting in favor; motion carried.

RESOLUTION # 46- AUTHORIZE PAYMENT FOR TRUCK REPAIRS

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth authorizes the payment of the amount of \$1,931.22 to Frank's Heavy Duty Truck Repairs for

repairs to Truck #4 2003 Sterling LT9500 Series for right hub assembly removal and replacement, to be charged to Account DA5130.4 Machinery.

Offered by: Councilman Betz
Seconded by: Councilman Barker

A vote was taken with the Supervisor and all of the Councilmen present voting in favor; motion carried.

RESOLUTION #47- AUTHORIZE THE PAYMENT FOR TRUCK REPAIRS

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth authorizes the payment of the amount of \$3,982.00 to Frank's Heavy Duty Truck Repair for installing all new springs in the rear of Truck #7, 2016 Freightliner, to be charged to Account DA5130.4 Machinery Contractual.

Offered by: Councilman Lewandowski
Seconded by: Councilman Betz

A vote was taken with the Supervisor and all of the Councilmen present voting in favor; motion carried.

RESOLUTION #48- TOWN OF PERTH SUPPORT FOR COUNTY'S PLAN FOR CENTRALIZED ARRAIGNMENTS

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth passes the following resolution #48:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that whereas Fulton County is submitting a plan for counsel at initial appearance coverage for arraignments in local courts and

WHERE AS the plan provides for a central arraignment part conducted twice a day at the Fulton County jail rather than at the town location of the arrest; and

WHERE AS this plan should assure consistency in representation as well as in the afterhours schedules of the various town justices; and

WHERE AS the program will promote efficiencies among the town justices as well as County operations providing for mutual cooperation of the County's municipalities; now therefor be it

RESOLVED that the Town of Perth hereby indicates its support for the County's plan for counsel at initial appearance coverage for arraignments in local courts.

Offered by: Councilman Lewandowski
Seconded by: Councilman Barker

DISCUSSION

Town of Perth Justice, Wayne McNeil, explained to the Town Board that this will ensure that all arraignments are done between the hours of 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. instead of any hour of the day or night. Every Town Justice will be entitled to either opt in or opt out of this program. There will be no change in the location of the individual Town Courts.

The advantage to this plan will be that Town Justices will not be called out in the middle of the night, the police officers will not have to hunt to find a justice to arraign the case, and there will be no transport of prisoners involved. The State will pay the Town Justices for participating in this program.

A vote was taken with the Supervisor and all of the Councilmen present voting in favor; motion carried.

RESOLUTION # 49- APPOINT A MEMBER TO THE PLANNING BOARD

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth appoints Treavor Gilday to the Town of Perth Planning Board to replace Francis Sikorski, who resigned as of 02/01/2022. Mr. Gilday's term will be from 03/03/2022 to 12/31/2027.

Offered by: Councilman Betz

Seconded by: Councilman Lewandowski

A vote was taken with the Supervisor and all of the Councilmen present voting in favor; motion carried.

RESOLUTION #50- AUTHORIZE REPLACEMENT OF TOWN HALL FLOORING

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth authorizes the replacement of the flooring in the Perth Town Hall Complex, with the exception of the Assessor's Office by Flooring Environment; at a cost of \$14,583.00 to be charged to Account A1620.2 Buildings Equipment.

Offered by: Councilman Lewandowski

Seconded by: Councilman Barker

A vote was taken with the Supervisor and all of the Councilmen present voting in favor; motion carried.

RESOLUTION #51- AUTHORIZE PAYMENT FOR SENIORS PIZZA PARTY

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth authorizes the payment of the amount of \$148.00 to Fritz's Pizza for a luncheon held at the Community Senior Center for their Valentine's Day Party.

Offered by: Councilman Lewandowski

Seconded by: Councilman Barker

A vote was taken with the Supervisor and all of the Councilmen present voting in favor; motion carried.

RESOLUTION #52- AUTHORIZE THE PAYMENT OF BILLS ON ABSTRACT #3-2022

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth authorizes the payment of bills on abstract #3-2022 as follows:

Prepaid General	14-27	\$ 5,993.67
Prepaid Highway	5-8	\$9,351.68
Highway	13-24	\$75,849.29
General	39-59	\$28,187.08

Each Councilman present indicated their approval by signing each voucher.

A vote was taken with the Supervisor and all of the Councilmen present voting in favor; motion carried.

With all of the business concluded for the afternoon, a motion was made to close the Meeting at 2:35 p.m. by Councilman Lewandowski and seconded by Councilman Barker. All were in favor; motion carried.

The next meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Perth will be held on Thursday, April 7, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at the Perth Town Hall Complex, 1849 County Highway, Perth, NY.

Respectively submitted,

Judith English
Perth Town Clerk