

TOWN OF PERTH

Regular Town Board Meeting

February 3, 2022

1:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Councilman Fisher

ALSO PRESENT: Town Clerk, Judith English; Town Attorney, Carmel Greco Esq.; Highway Superintendent David Dopp; Working Forman Highway Employee, Richard Wallace; Town Justice, Wayne McNeil; Reporter for the Gazette papers, Andrew Waite; and Bruce Krohn.

Supervisor Fagan opened the Meeting at 1:10 p.m. A salute to the flag was held and a moment of silent prayer observed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the Close-Out Meeting held on December 30, 2021 were offered for approval by Councilman Betz, and seconded by Councilman Lewandowski. All were in favor; motion carried.

The minutes from the Organizational Town Board Meeting held on January 6, 2022 were offered for approval by Councilman Lewandowski, and seconded by Councilman Betz. 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

Councilman Lewandowski read the **Dog Control Officer's Report**, a copy of which will be filed with these minutes. There were a total of seven complaints, four dogs at large, three impounds, one dog bite, five with no license, two abuse cases, and one missing dog.

Councilman Betz read the **Assessor's Report**, a copy of which will be filed with these minutes. The new solar formula for discounted cash flow to calculate the assessment is now in effect. This formula will create a low assessment for the parcel. The New York State Assessor's Association is fighting for a more fair formula. **Supervisor Fagan** asked Councilman Betz to talk to Assessor David Walendziak about raising the Town of Perth's Equalization Rate.

Councilman Betz reported that the **Perth Seniors** have started having meetings again. They will be meeting twice a month, on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month.

Highway Superintendent, David Dopp reported for his department that he had a good meeting with newly elected **Councilman Byron Barker**, who is on the Highway Committee. Mr. Barker agreed with Superintendent Dopp that the Highway Department needs a computer with the internet. **Councilman Barker** feels that too much of the Highway business is done on paper when it would be faster and easier to have all of the maintenance on each truck on a spreadsheet. This would also give the residents of the Town more information on the Town's website regarding the Highway Department. He will get some prices on what is needed for this to happen.

Superintendent Dopp also reported that the Town of Amsterdam Highway Department is getting rid of two used International plow trucks. One is a 2005 7600 Model and the other is a 2007 7600 Model. He checked into it, and found they they are in better shape than the older trucks that the Town of Perth has. The Town of Amsterdam is asking \$20,000 a piece for them. He says the trucks have some rust but are in good shape. He says that the Town of Amsterdam has all of the maintenance books on the trucks, and they are mechanically sound.

Councilman Byron stated that he feels that the trucks are being offered at a good price, and he would ask for a resolution from the Town Board to purchase both of these trucks.

Superintendent Dopp stated that it takes two years for delivery of a new truck, which would give the Town time to put money aside to pay for one. **Supervisor Fagan** stated that he could set up a reserve fund for this purpose. Also CHIPS money from the State can be used for equipment. The Town is expecting extra CHIPS money this year since the State went from a seventy nine billion dollar deficit to a thirty six billion dollar surplus, thanks to the Federal Government's recovery money sent to New York because of the Covid pandemic.

Town Attorney, Carmel Greco Esq., reported that he read all of the 150 pages fine print of the contract with the Town of Perth, and National Grid regarding the purchase of the Town's street lights. The closing has been held up because of the insurance papers. Attorney Greco stated that the insurance contract needs some tweaking and rewording.

Superintendent Fagan stated that it is hard for him to be on time for the afternoon Town Board Meetings due to the Fulton County Finance Committee meeting on Thursday mornings. As he is the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors for 2022, he has to attend those Meetings.

Supervisor Fagan also wanted to report that the Town has purchased a new John Deere mower to be used for the Town Park.

He is happy that the Governor's Budget has some good things for the Towns in it. He expects the CHIPS highway money to be increased again this year and it can be used to fix potholes as well as for the annual paving of Town Roads. Also the AIM payment will no longer be taken from the sales tax that the County collects, but will be a payment directly from the State funds. However, the State is still taking money from the County Sales tax for the distressed hospitals fund, because of the Covid pandemic.

Town Justice, Wayne McNeil, reported for the Town Court that he is working with the Fulton County Magistrate's Association to set up a central arraignment area in the Fulton County Sheriff's Office to be used for arraignments in the County.

The idea would be for the Sheriff's Deputies to have one central place to come to instead of looking for a Justice in the County that is available to do an arraignment. The Town Justices would take turns being on duty for arraignments. The Sheriff's Office would be responsible for providing the space and necessary furnishings to be used for this purpose.

Fulton County Administrative Officer, Jon Stead, is aware of this proposal, as are most of the County's Town Justices. It is **Justice McNeil's** hope that the Town Supervisors will get behind this project, as it will save a lot of time and effort for the Court System.

Town Justice, Wayne McNeil, also wished to report that there are no speed limit signs up in the school zone around the Broadalbin Perth Elementary School, located on County Highway 107. He thinks that this is a dangerous situation for the students and teachers. The signs that were up had an electronic component that flashed lights that were on the signs when the school was open. The signs stated that the speed limits were in force when the signs were flashing.

The signs have not been working properly for some time, and this has caused confusion to motorists. The Fulton County Sheriff's Office has also been confused as to whether they could ticket speeders when the signs stated that the speed limit was in force when the signs were flashing, which they no longer do.

Supervisor Fagan already has called HFM Boces about these signs as they were the ones that installed them.

HFM Boces told **Supervisor Fagan** that the signs were solar powered and they stopped working. They are supposed to come back and install regular signs without the flashing lights, so the Fulton County Sheriff's Office will be able to enforce the school speed limit. Town of Perth Attorney, Carmel Greco Esq. stated that the school is on County Highway 107, and as such is not a responsibility of the Town of Perth.

Wayne McNeil, Treasurer of the Perth Cemetery stated that they have filed their annual report with the State . He would like to thank the Town Board, and the Highway Department for their assistance with the maintenance of the Cemetery.

Also Nathan Littauer Hospital printed, free of charge, the annual newsletter for the Cemetery, which was written by Peter Betz.

Peter Betz , the new president of the Cemetery Association, stated that he is heartened to find that there are many volunteers willing to give of their time and effort to help with the Cemetery.

Supervisor Fagan stated that the Cemetery looks much better since the new Committee has taken over. He went on to state that perhaps they could enlist some boy scouts to help with straightening some of the older headstones to use as an Eagle Scout project.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS

Bruce Krohn of Royal Coachman Drive came to talk about the way his road is being plowed. He states that the snow is ending up in the wrong place. It is ending up in his driveway instead of in the circle in the middle of the road. He said that in the previous winters the road has been plowed so this does not happen.

Highway Department Working Foreman, Richard Wallace told him that the Highway Department has a new part-time employee who is driving the pickup truck that is used to plow Royal Coachman Drive. He said that he will instruct this employee on the proper way to plow this area.

Mr. Krohn also stated that there are several large pot holes on his road that are much deeper than they look, and he would like the Town to use some cold patch on them.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION # 37- AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER OF MONEY

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth authorizes the transfer of the amount of \$53.00 from Account A1990.4 Contingent to Account A1220.4 Supervisor 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 # 38- AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF A MOWER

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth authorizes the purchase of a 2021 John Deere Z994R Diesel Commercial Ztrak mower with a 60 inch deck and a string trimmer mount, off of State Contract pricing from United Ag and Turf; for the amount of \$17,265.54; to be charged to Account A7110.2 Parks Equipment.

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 # 39- 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 \$5,421.83 to Frank's Heavy Duty Truck Repair for repairs on Truck #5, to be charged to Account DA5130.4 Machinery Contractual.

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 # 40- AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF A TRUCK

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth authorizes the purchase of a 2005 International 7600 Dump truck vin# 1HTWYSBT65J031280 from the Town of Amsterdam for the price of \$20,000.00.

Offered by: Councilman Byron

Seconded by: Councilman Lewandowski

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

RESOLUTION # 41- AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF A TRUCK

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth authorizes the purchase of a 2007 International 7600 Dump truck vin# 1HTWYSBT37J452652 for the sum of \$20,000.

Offered by: Councilman Byron

Seconded by: Councilman Lewandowski

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

RESOLUTION # 42- AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER OF MONEY

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth authorizes the transfer of the amount of \$25,000 from Account DA5110.4 General Repairs Contractual to Account DA5130.2 Machinery Equipment.

Offered by: Councilman Byron

Seconded by: Councilman Lewandowski

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

RESOLUTION #43- AUTHORIZE THE PAYMENT OF BILLS ON ABSTRACT #2-22

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth authorizes the payment of bills on abstract #2-22 as follows:

Prepaid General	4-13	\$4,434.85
Prepaid Highway	2-4	\$7,351.68
Highway	4-12	\$31,646.77
General	17-38	\$72,135.28

Offered by: Councilman Betz

Seconded by: Councilman Lewandowski

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 2:40 p.m. by Councilman Barker and seconded by Councilman Lewandowski. All were in favor; motion carried.

The next meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Perth will be held on March 3, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at the Perth Town Hall Complex, 1849 County Highway 107, Perth, N.Y.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith English
Town Clerk