

TOWN OF CATHARINE  
TOWN BOARD MEETING  
AUGUST 15, 2017

Members present: Supervisor John VanSoest; Councilmen: Glenn Bleiler, Wayne Chapman, Ronald Hoffman, C. Michael Learn; Highway Superintendent William Morgan; Guests: Larry Reynolds, Mackenzie Secord, Jamee Mack

Additions to the Agenda:

Public Be Heard:

Jamee Mack reported that Allen McGilroy did pass his Civil Service test as assessor so will most likely be appointed by the county in the near future.

Mack Secord--is part of the Schuyler County Adult Softball league--they are looking to put 2 fields into our 10 acre field--They currently play in Hector, Montour (Havana Glen). There are 12 teams that play--they are looking for 330 ft. from home plate to the outfield fence. John explained that back some years ago, Dave Kelly wanted to do soccer fields, but that fell through. He said that the town doesn't have the money to do all the work, and that the organization would have to put some money into the process, and then they would want to have some ability to guarantee usage. They are looking for grants, have discussed that they have people in their organization who own machinery who would donate their time and would only need gas/fuel money. John said that we need to have some public input and some sort of agreement with the league that would be legally binding (although simple). Charlie Friends is working on a plan currently and Kelly Field is the president of the league. There should be some back and forth communication between the league and the town, and John would be the contact person for the town. We will reach out to Cornell to see if they have someone who can work on designs. The league people can contact Jerry at Soil and Water to see if he knows of any grants to help with leveling/seeding. Action pending.

RESOLUTION 2017-48

RESOLVE that the minutes of the July meeting be accepted with an addition to Resolution 2017-47 of "Cory's wages will be increased by \$2./hr now that he has his CDL license effective the next pay period"

RESOLUTION by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by Glenn Bleiler

VOTE 4 ayes, no noes

RESOLUTION 2017-49

RESOLVE that the Clerk's report be accepted as submitted to the supervisor and board. It was noted that again this month over \$500 was brought in by the clerks doing fingerprinting services.

RESOLUTION by C. Michael Learn, seconded by Ronald Hoffman

VOTE 4 ayes, no noes

Carmella brought up that the board members should each sign the vouchers, but there was much discussion. Glenn feels that we could appoint an audit committee of one to do the signature and that should be fine. Carmella will look into the legalities of this. Other Towns/Villages do have each board member sign.

Jamee asked about the lack of wording for Campgrounds in the zoning laws. Carmella checked with Chelsea and she spoke with David West and he indicated that we purposely left it out of the new zoning

because there would have to be regulations that would be required by the town and we didn't feel that more campgrounds were going to pop up. The decision was to leave it out. Chelsea said that the current law does not allow campgrounds in the town, and if there is one stated, it would be a non-conforming use. Glenn asked if it would be a floating business zone--those would have to be conforming uses, therefore no it couldn't be a floating business zone.

RESOLUTION 2017-50

RESOLVE that the Justice report be accepted as submitted to the State Comptroller and Supervisor

RESOLUTION by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by Glenn Bleiler

VOTE 4 ayes, no noes

Supervisor's report: John went through the report. We are still okay on the A and B side, the DA side is pretty close, but that is winter expense side. DB still has a lot of money to come in from Sales tax and CHIPS, but those come throughout the year. Bill indicated that we have recently filed for a portion of the CHIPS funding, so we should see a check in the mail within a month or two.

RESOLUTION 2017-51

RESOLVE that the Supervisor's report be accepted as presented to the Board.

RESOLUTION by Glenn Bleiler, seconded by Ronald Hoffman

VOTE 4 ayes, no noes

Highway Report: They replaced the cross pipe at the end of Park Rd. They had 6 trees that came down that had to be removed. Cory and the summer worker did a lot of work while the other guys were out on vacation. When they got back, they worked with Town of Hector for one of their projects. Bill was informed that we did get the grant for the Salt Storage and the men have been working to clear the site. Ron said to keep track of the in-kind work that they do as that will come off the \$\$ we have to pay. They have the site leveled and expect that the construction will start in September.

The Rams are back for truck #3 and they are working--still getting the truck back together--an air valve blew. They have rented the mower again and all the guys are using it. The board suggested seeing if we could do some sharing with Montour or another town to help cut on the expenses. If they have to send one of their guys with the machine, then we give them one of our guys and equipment in return. The sickle bar is almost dead, but the tractor is also dead as the rear end went out. Bill will explore the shared services idea. Glenn asked how long it takes to do all the mowing--Bill said that it takes longer with the boom mower so it takes about a month and by law we have to do mowing twice a year. Cory went to work for Cayuta the past week to get some other experience on different vehicles and to help them out.

RESOLUTION 2017-52

RESOLVE that the following vouchers G137-155 in the sum of \$6,237.98 and H83-91 in the sum of \$75,168.38 be paid within funds according to the totals.

RESOLUTION by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by C. Michael Learn

VOTE 4 ayes, no noes

Unfinished business--county consolidation suggestions. The supervisors and county administrator got together and decided what MIGHT save some money. There will be a vote by each town, and then a public vote also--any plan that we do has to be new as anything that we are currently doing won't count toward the Governor's initiative. The idea that they came up with is to consolidate Code Enforcement throughout the county. Of course, there are things to still be worked out, like who will do the hiring, what the rate will be for each town and how that rate is determined. John doesn't have a problem

voting on the PLAN, but not to commit to a price and he wants to be involved with the hiring of the people, and the ability to leave the plan with 30 day written notice. Glenn said that he could see we could vote NO because we don't have all the details as far as costs to our town. Jamee said that her understanding is that if we don't approve something this year, next year we will HAVE to do something to save money. John explained that there were a number of things that were discussed that could be done, but everything had some sort of issues. John will not vote for anything that is binding to the town.

Ron brought up the fact that the Governor is putting up a referendum that will be on the back of the ballot sheets. A blank vote is an automatic YES vote. Somehow, we need to make people aware of this so that it doesn't go through without a proper vote. Carmella will see what the referendum is and will make a poster to put on the counter PRIOR TO Election day to make people aware that there is something to look at on the back of the ballot!

Business to conduct being concluded, a motion by Glenn Bleiler to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. with a second by Ronald Hoffman--all approved.

Respectfully submitted:  
Carmella Hoffman  
Town Clerk/Collector