

TOWN OF CATHARINE
TOWN BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 17, 2016

Members present: Supervisor John VanSoest; Councilmen: Ronald Hoffman, Wayne Chapman, Glenn Bleiler; Highway Superintendent William Morgan; Code Enforcement officer: Harold Russell; Guests: Jamee Dickens, Tom Ruocco, Jim & Barb Halpin, Marty Vondracek; absent: C. Michael Learn

Meeting called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Supervisor VanSoest

Public Be Heard:

Jamee said that she wants to thank the Code Enforcement in the Alpine for the slight improvements

Jim said thanks for the call confirming the cancellation of the meeting

Barb said that the county did talk about the county helping with the disposal costs (by relevy on taxes) of removing unsafe buildings.

RESOLUTION 2016-8

RESOLVE that the minutes of the prior meeting be accepted as presented to the board with clarification on the question of Subdivisions--the best way to prevent illegal divisions is to police them better.

RESOLUTION by Glenn Bleiler, seconded by Ronald Hoffman

VOTE 4 ayes, no noes

RESOLUTION 2016-9

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

RESOLUTION by Wayne Chapman, seconded by Glenn Bleiler

VOTE 4 ayes, no noes

Supervisor's Report: John went through the report and explained the expenses/income . Because we are early in the year, everything is still looking good.

RESOLUTION 2016-10

RESOLVE that the Supervisor's report be accepted as presented by the Supervisor and the Bookkeeper

RESOLUTION by Glenn Bleiler, seconded by Ronald Hoffman

VOTE 4 ayes, no noes

Annual report: John went through this report as submitted by the bookkeeper. Total surplus for 2015 was approximately \$17,000. That puts us a little lower in Capital Reserves, but we did purchase a new loader in 2015 out of cash available so that is what puts us lower than normal. Each of the Highway accounts has approximately \$90,000 in cash available and the General side has \$160,000 in cash available. Building maintenance would come out of the General side--so we need to start building a reserve for that. Glenn would like to see us set up another Capital Reserve for Equipment by using some of the cash reserves on the DA/DB sides. He also said that we need to look at retirements and the costs of them. We might want to set up a formal reserve for that. Could set up 2 CD's by putting \$10000 in one and \$7000 in a second (for retirements)--John will come back with a proposal for setting those up.

Zoning: We received a proposal from WilliamsonLaw for Code Enforcement software. We need to see what Harry wants to do with this. Glenn questioned the necessity of such a program--Carmella explained that it would keep all the building permits and information on properties in one place and secure, versus being on paper that fades and is misplaced.

RESOLUTION 2016-11

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

RESOLUTION by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by Glenn Bleiler

VOTE 4 ayes, no noes

Highway Superintendent: Bill laid Cory off but will keep him as "on call". Our Highway department got 6 new radios from the County. These are "connected" to the new radio system in the county and work exceptionally good. There are very few "dead spots". They had been cutting brush and running millings to Seneca Stone and trading it for different aggregates until the snow/ice came. The pickup is getting tired. It has 114,000 miles (8 years) and is rusting. After this, the next big purchase would be either an excavator or a grader. To fund these, we would need to put aside approximately \$90,000 per year for the next 5 years. We will monitor it from time to time. Bill will do some homework and bring prices for a pickup truck back at the next meeting. They had flooding in the storm on Tuesday night. Glenn brought to their attention the lack of shoulders at McClure Creek (Pertl Rd.). Bill is looking at a Grant to replace a pipe on Pertl Rd. where it's been damaged. We do have a road use agreement, could we fall back on that? Bill will put signage up indicating no shoulder.

RESOLUTION 2016-12

RESOLVE that the following vouchers G25-41 & TA6 & SL38 in the sum of \$11788.53 and H12-18 in the sum of \$7660.44 be paid within funds according to the totals.

RESOLUTION by Wayne Chapman, seconded by Ronald Hoffman

VOTE 4 ayes, no noes

Date for the public hearing on the rental registration/inspection law: We will set the date for a public hearing for March 15, 2016 7:00 p.m. Glenn is still concerned that it's just another layer of laws that won't be able to be enforced and will require more manpower. Barb added that the DSS does not inspect the properties prior to paying the rent for their clients. This will eliminate people living in some horrific conditions. Glenn indicated at he is unable to attend the March meeting, John indicated that we will not vote next month but will wait until the April meeting to do a vote. Jamee asked how do we control slum lords--Glenn said with existing laws--he's concerned about the overhead that will be required to enforce this law. John suggested that maybe the county could take the rental registration over, but Barb said maybe the towns could come together to make it happen. This law helps to keep the landlords (and tenants) out of court.

Ruocco's Renovations and Handyman Service gave an estimate for the replacement of the window on the back of the Clerk's office for a total of \$2100.

RESOLUTION 2016-13

RESOLVE that the Board approve the estimate for window replacement at the total of \$2100. He will also look at the Eaves troughs on the front of the building and see if they are just full or if they need replacement (if they need work, it will be a matter of time and materials).

RESOLUTION by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by Glenn Bleiler

VOTE 4 ayes, no noes

Landfill--nothing will happen for a while because DEC has changed personnel again. There has been no comments on the solar field.

adjourned at 8:42 p.m. with a motion by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by Glenn Bleiler

Respectfully submitted by Carmella P. Hoffman