

TOWN OF CATHARINE  
TOWN BOARD MEETING  
MARCH 21, 2017

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

Public be Heard: Barb Halpin spoke about the Town of Hector Supervisor's concern about the Governor's plan to make the Towns do a referendum showing the public how we are saving money. John said that he and Alvin did speak and talked about the supervisors getting together to talk about the issues that could come forth. John said that often times the governments above the towns make decisions that the towns don't like but they happen anyway. If it's realistic to work together to save money then we will & currently do. Barb is happy to hear that we are happy to work together. She offered having a district court--she doesn't know if it would save the towns money or not, but it might be a way to consolidate. To consolidate courts, you would definitely have to have permission from the office of Court Administration. Jim stated that the Magistrates association is a powerful organization and have pushed back--. John said that we do some things by working together--like our highways. John asked about the new health care plan where counties outside of NYC would be relieved of the Medicaid mandates that the counties are responsible for. Barb isn't sure what part of Medicaid they are talking about and if the county didn't have to bear that burden, it would be a great thing for the county. The governor wants the County's to lower property taxes, but 60-70% of what we spend is mandated by the state.

RESOLUTION 2017-14

RESOLVE that the minutes of the February meeting be accepted as presented to the board.  
RESOLUTION by Glenn Bleiler, seconded by Ronald Hoffman  
VOTE 5 ayes, no noes

RESOLUTION 2017-15

RESOLVE that the Clerk's report be accepted as presented to the Board and Supervisor  
RESOLUTION by Glenn Bleiler, seconded by Wayne Chapman  
VOTE 5 ayes, no noes

Supervisor's report: John went through the Supervisor's report

RESOLUTION 2017-16

RESOLVE that the January Supervisor's report be accepted as submitted to the Town Board after all the questions were answered  
RESOLUTION by Glenn Bleiler, seconded by Ronald Hoffman  
VOTE 5 ayes, no noes

RESOLUTION 2017-17

RESOLVE to approve the February Supervisor's report as presented to the Town Board.  
RESOLUTION by Glenn Bleiler, seconded by Ronald Hoffman  
VOTE 5 ayes, no noes

John explained the end of year surpluses and what we had talked about doing with them. We have a surplus of \$130,000 total. John questioned if we could move money from the A side to the DA side and

Suzanne indicated that we could do that--we can move it that way, but cannot move from DA to A or from A to DB. If we move \$20,000 of the A surplus to DA, then we could take \$20,000 from highway to make a total contribution of \$40,000 into Equipment reserve. We could also put some money into retirement reserve. Johns idea is that we should also put some into facility reserve. The garage needs new windows and doors and that would be a good summer project. Carmella also mentioned that we could at some point put a cover over the handicap lift to help preserve that.

#### RESOLUTION 2017-18

RESOLVE that the Board approve the following transfers

1. \$20k from A to facilities reserve
2. \$20k from A to DA side
3. \$40k from DA to equipment (includes the \$20 from A side)
- 4 \$40K from DB to equipment reserve
5. \$5K + 15K into a reserve for retirement

RESOLUTION by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by C. Michael Learn

#### RESOLUTION 2017-19

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

RESOLUTION by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by Glenn Bleiler

VOTE 5 ayes, no noes

Highway report: as you all know we've had much snow and with it lots of breakdowns again--the spreader chain broke and broke the gear box housing--the materials are heavier this year because of the clay that is in it. Bill will look into other sand from other places--he would like to see us get washed sand--he will do some pencil pushing. its convenient to get the sand right across the road, but if it continues to break equipment then we need to look at other options. The man for the loader wants to know if we want to do the trade--we are over 700 hours now. Bill was driving truck 7 and he had a front tire blow out. Everything is serviced in preparation of spring. Been patching holes, and he went to Advocacy day in Albany. Did trees in Cemeteries and there are some trees on Cayutaville Rd. that need to be removed--it will be \$3800 to have them removed (county bid price) the price includes chipping the small stuff (and they will put the chips into the park) and the guys would have to move the big stuff- - He has the CHIPS projects--Cayutaville Rd (25906), Beardsley Hollow 14520, Terry Hill (18286)and lower texas hollow Rd 18286--and Pertl Rd. 18286 and maybe Grant Rd. TOTAL \$95,285. Glenn, Ron

Landfill report: the Commission will have to hire a lawyer about the drilling test holes for the neighbor. The neighbor wants test wells dug for him and wants the commission to pay for it.

#### RESOLUTION 2017-20

RESOLVE that the following vouchers be paid G45-63 in the sum of \$8520.38 and H29-38 in the sum of \$6814.08 within funds according to the totals.

RESOLUTION BY Wayne Chapman, seconded by C. Michael Learn

VOTE 5 ayes, no noes

## RESOLUTION 2017-21

RESOLVE that as per the language of our Wastewater Management Local Law 1-2016 that states "These rules shall be supplemental to the Schuyler County Watershed Protection Laws.... " and S. Regulatory Officer- " shall mean the authorized representative of the Schuyler County Watershed Protection Agency, including but not limited to the Watershed Inspector who additionally may be the duly authorized representative of the Town Health Officer following approval and/or designation by the Town."

RESOLUTION by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by Glenn Bleiler

VOTE 5 ayes, no noes

Reassessments went out, and there have been complaints both in person and by phone, but at this point we will just see what happens. Larry Reynolds thinks that there should be a different way to do it--he thinks they should let people know that their assessments are going up considerably. They do offer informal reviews by calling the Real Property Tax office. Jim Halpin said that he thinks the community meetings should be held after the reassessment letter go out--before that the information is always the same. You can argue the system, but if the numbers are fair, that's fair. Once the valuation goes on, and the budgets get worked on, the rates will never go down. Jim said that there are 3 classifications Woods, pastures, tillable.

The Town needs someone on the Assessment Review Board to replace Marc Cassada. Be thinking because we need to let the County know.

Glenn suggested having BOCES come back and do more work in the park--he would still like to see them put a "track" around the 10 acre lot and plant some trees.

Races at Seneca Highlands- Carl States has requested 2 races for this summer. The first would be on May 14th which is run by WNYOA. It is a one day race. The second race is scheduled for June 10/11 from 8-4:30 each day. That one is run by GNCC. Because his special use permit allows only one race each year, this one would require a vote. One of the races crosses the roads so Bill will contact the county and inform them. John will talk to Carl about the events and some of the things that are required.

## RESOLUTION 2017-22

RESOLVE that the Town Board approve the request from Carl States to add an additional race to his special use permit for the 2017 season. All requirements (State/County/Town) must be met as stipulated in the Special Use permit and State laws.

RESOLUTION by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by Wayne Chapman

VOTE 5 ayes, no noes

Jamee Mack talked about the planning board meeting--Carl States came about the "camp ground" that is on his property. Carl said that he doesn't want to be in the campground business and if he has to take a camper out then he will. Carl said that Mr. Jelliff owns some of those properties and has trailers on his property also, so it might look like there are more than allowed.

There was Cell phone tower discussion. The planning board had no concerns. There was only one opposition to the tower by letter. Planning board decided that they would approve the application. Glenn asked they are pulling fiber--John and Jamee can't remember what was said about that.

Loader discussion: Glenn said that if we kept our loader for 15 years, it would cost us 10,700/yr. to keep it--and a lot more to replace it. If we do the trade-in program, it costs us \$10,000/yr. After much discussion:

RESOLUTION 2017-23

RESOLVE that that Town Board approved the Trade-in program for the loader and give Bill permission to proceed with that purchase.

RESOLUTION by Glenn Bleiler, seconded by C. Michael Learn

VOTE 5 ayes, no noes

A motion was made by John VanSoest to enter into executive session at 9:30 to discuss employee benefits. Seconded by Glenn Bleiler.

Motion to come return to regular session from executive session at 9:41 p.m. was made by Glenn Bleiler, seconded by Wayne Chapman,

Motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:42 was made by Glenn Bleiler, seconded by Ronald Hoffman. All approved.

Respectfully submitted:

Carmella Hoffman  
Town Clerk/Collector