

Town Board Minutes  
April 11, 2023

The monthly meeting held on April 11, 2023 at 56 Geneva St. Dresden New York was called to order Supervisor Peter Martini at 7:30PM.

Present: Supervisor Pete Martini, Councilman; Colby Petersen, Grant Downs, Bruce Henderson Absent: Lawrence Martin

Others present: George & Rosa Thompson, Gary McIntee, Jim Riesenberger, Robert Brechko, Sheila Burt, Richard Wilson, Richard Harper, Tim Chambers, Donna Rae Sutherland

Yates County Board of Elections Commissioner Robert Brechko and Sheila Burt gave an elections update. Presently there are over 138 changes to the election law. There are bills under consideration which will impact the local elections. One: To move odd year elections to even years.

Locally odd years elections would be County: Sheriff, Clerk, Judge, DA. Absentee Ballot changes. County will mail ballots out with return postage paid. BOE is seeking grants to reimburse the mailing expenses.

Absentee Ballots will be received, opened, authenticated and placed in ballot bag to be scanned before elections.

Black out period February to July, period when party changes are not allowed.

Registration: New voters can register without signature now. With proper identification will add signature when at voting site.

Generators at polling site a must for communication with electronic poll books.

**March Minutes** Motion by Mr. Downs 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Henderson to approve the March minutes, carried with Mr. Petersen abstaining.

**Abstract of vouchers** - Mr. Martini presented the abstracts.

Motion by Mr. Petersen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Downs that the bills on the General A & B Accounts in the amount of \$ 33,545.85 be paid, carried by all.

Motion by Mr. Downs 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Henderson, that the bills on the Highway DA & DB Accounts in the amount of \$ 193,282.64 be paid, carried.

Supervisor presented Water District #1 project modification resolution.

Motion by Mr. Downs 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Petersen to adopt this resolution  
Martini- Aye, Petersen-Aye, Down -Aye, Henderson-Aye 4-0 Adopted

Supervisor presented Water District #1 Form E Payment #2 for approval.

Motion by Mr. Petersen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Henderson authorizing Supervisor to accept and sign Form E, payment #2 in the amount of \$108,187.08, carried by all

**Appointments:** Supervisor Martini introduced the following resolution # 402-

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Torrey -Board of Assessment Review has a vacant seat, and **Mary Joan LeClaire**, a town resident and recently retired assessor, has stated her interest in serving the Board of Assessment Review, and

**WHEREAS**, the Torrey Town Board feels it is in the best interest of the Town and its residents to have a full Board of Assessment Review,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Torrey Town Board appoints Mary Joan LeClaire to the Board of Assessment Review to fill an vacant seat, term to 2025.

Motion to adopt resolution # 402-23 By Mr. Martini 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Henderson, Roll Call- Supervisor Martini Aye, Councilmen: Petersen Aye, Downs Aye, Henderson Aye 4-0

Motion by Supervisor Martini, seconded Mr. Henderson to reappoint **Dani Eichas** to Board of Assessment Review for a term to 2027, Carried by all.

Mr. Downs and Mr. Henderson reported they are working on the Hazardous Mitigation Plan update.

Supervisor presented contract for lifeguard with Yates County.

Motion by Mr. Downs 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Petersen authorizing Supervisor to sign 2023 Lifeguard Contract with yates County carried by all.

**Town Clean up Date** June 17, 2023 8:AM to 2:00PM

Discussion on Personnel Policy update, appointed Mr. Martin and Mr. Henderson as committee to draft update, preliminary draft by July. Mr. Chambers will help also.

**Highway report;** Mr. Chambers gave the highway report. New Cat loader arrived this week and invoice was paid in this audit, and is insured.

Installed culvert on Serenity road with the help of County mini excavator. It was a great help and very appreciated.

Poured concrete into this culvert and gave the remaining yards of concrete to Nardozzi for culvert they are working on.

Water line installation going well.

Generator is being installed this week, to save \$\$ the highway will install bollards for the generator. These were not included in the proposal

He also received a call of concern from a resident at the end of Perry Point Rd. There is trees being removed off the past the end, land which is a steep slope with eroding issues in the past, called a ground slump. Code Officer and Yates Co Soil & Water have been notified.

Village of Dresden is celebrating the County Bi-centennial on July 15, town has been asked to participate in parade.

**Code Report submitted.** Permits to date 43. 1 Special Use application, 1 Site plan review, 5 site visits, 5 building progress inspection, 7 meetings annual training in Rochester, traveled 262 miles.

**Assessor Report:** Stephanie Holtz- Sole Assessor

**March** - Enhanced STAR and IVPs processed 13, Senior Citizens Exemptions 7, Agricultural Exemptions 147, Vet Exemptions 2 new ones.

**April-** Enhanced STAR Exemptions 121, STAR Exempt removed 6, STAR exemption rescinded by owner.

2023 Assessment Roll, Equalization rate set at 75%

NYS Tax and Finance has requested a survey be done. 12 properties were selected randomly and information on each will be sent in before Grievance Day. Survey requested due to equalization rate has dropped dramatically since 2019 re-valuation.

To date over \$ 2,000,000. increase in taxable assessed value from Ag land updates and building permits.

**Water District #1**

Mr. Downs discussed the Quarterly rates sent out in letter to WD # 1 property owners. The letter did state that rates are subject to change by the board. He will contact Jeremy Delyser to determine water rate.

**Perry Point Water District #2** Mr. Martini presented contracts from CLP Engineering to update Map Plan Report for \$ 2,000 and Environmental study for \$ 4,000. Mr. Downs made a motion 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Petersen authorizing Supervisor to sign MPR contract, and Environmental Study contract, carried by all.

Richard Harper District 2 Legislator gave a update on County actions. 27 million approved for new highway building.

Communication system should be in place by May.

Discussion on cost for gas line to new building is very high. Researching direction in which the gas can come from and cost. There are rebates available.

County is repairing and repainting historical signs throughout the county. New sign at Jemima Wilkinson homestead on Hewitt Rd has been replaced.

Discussion on old sign at the Whitaker Homestead farm on east side of Townline Road. Post is broken, highway department will replace post and erect sign again. Highway did not know what the sign read.

Donna Rae Sutherland appeared to announce the Friends of the Outlet new primitive campsite on top of their Hopeton property. Total of 4 sites when completed, no electric or water.

She requested the town consider a town wide roadway clean up date. Ask for volunteers to help clean up. Late this year but could connect with the Keuka College Celebrate Yates Community Service Day next year. Board agreed this is a great idea to pursue.

Ms. Sutherland also announced the road work to begin on the NYS Route 14 bridge this month. NYS DOT plans on re-decking the bridge span. The Dresden entrance of trailhead will be blocked off to keep people away from or under the work area. Entry on the trail will be at Hopeton.

Discussion on solar farms. Mr. Downs presented a copy of Host Community Benefit Agreement from Town of Benton has in place. He would like to send this to Attorney Graff so he may review and consider drafting an agreement for the Town of Torrey to have in place. Motion by Mr. Petersen 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Henderson to have Attorney Graff draft the Host Community Benefit Agreement, carried by all.

Mr. Downs made motion to adjourn 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Petersen, carried at 9:25PM

Respectfully submitted,

Betty M Daggett  
Town Clerk