

Town Board Minutes
September 12, 2023

The monthly meeting held on September 12, 2023 at 56 Geneva St. Dresden New York was called to order Supervisor Peter Martini at 7:30PM.

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

Others present: George Thompson, George Dowse, Terry Button, Rick Willson, Gary McIntee, John Ghidiu, Jim Smith, Dave Goff, Robert Miller, Nancy Sarver, Tim Chambers- Hwy Supt., Dwight James- CEO

Mr. Martini led the pledge of allegiance.

Matt Tette agent of Stork Insurance presented an insurance proposal for 2023-2024 He did a comparison of three insurance carriers for coverage. He stated insurance companies are pulling out of California and Florida due to large claims and losses. Rate increases are causing many turnovers in customers. The Town changing last year to Trident saved 2600. This year's premiums will increase only 1000. with last years (2600.) savings.

John Ghidiu asked if the deductible was higher would this help lower the premium.

Mr. Tette said not on a commercial policy, would there be savings.

Mr. Martini presented the abstracts of vouchers for audit.

Motion by Mr. Martin 2nd Mr. Henderson that the bills on the General A & B Fund accounts in the amount of \$ 5,902.20 be paid, carried by all.

Motion by Mr. Downs 2nd Mr. Martin, that the bills on the Highway DA & DB Fund accounts in the amount \$ 151,570.23 be paid, carried by all.

Motion by Mr. Downs 2nd Mr. Henderson to accept the Stork proposal for insurance for 2023-2024 \$ 22,901.51 carried by all.

Motion by Mr. Downs, 2nd Mr. Martin to approve the August minutes carried by all.

Mr. Martini introduced a local law entitled "Amending the Senior Citizens Tax Exemption from Real Property Taxation". He set the public hearing on this law for October 10, 2023 at 7:30pm in the Town meeting room. Yates County adopted this law in July, raising the ceiling on exemption amounts Low Income Exemption range \$ 20,000 to 28,399.99.

Mr. Martini set the 2024 budget workshop for September 14 at 1:00PM in the Town meeting room.

Mr. Martini made a motion to reappoint Pamela Dowse to the Board of Assessment Review, term to 2028, 2nd Mr. Downs carried by all.

Hazardous Mitigation plan still in the works with the County.

Mr. Henderson and Mr. Downs are working on it.

Discussion on the Employment Policy update ongoing.

Mr. Chambers reported work on Hazard & Norris Rd. Shimmed shoulders and applied oil & stone double coated. The double treatment should last about 10 years. Shared services with other townships on roadwork. Received two loads of table salt from railroad for free. Highway employees went to site in Himrod to pick up @ 40 tons.

Code report total permits to date 90, 1 area variance application, 1 Sub division application, 3 site visits, 10 inspections, 1 short term rental inspections, 187 miles.

Assessor report submitted.

George Dowse, Planning Board Chairman asked Board members if they had reviewed the draft, he emailed to them regarding short term rental law. He asked if they would send him any comments on the law.

Mr. Dowse reported Planning Board has requested a meeting with Greenidge representatives regarding scheduling sound testing of newly built structures housing bit coin miners on North side of plant.

John Ghidiu asked if Torrey Station has been sold. He said there has been men working on the roof.

Mr. James stated that it has been sold, the new owners have been in for permits. The plans are to open a convenience store with gas.

Water District 1- Engineer is in contact with Nardoizzi, will have a meeting September 19 in the town meeting room to discuss the next steps to move forward with project.

Rick Willson spoke on the Sales Tax sharing or as the county refers to it as "Revenue Sharing" Discussion on the formula for sharing the money, noting Greenidge being a large contributor of this sales tax.

Terry Button spoke on approved payment to NYSEG for gas line, Pre-Emption to garage.

September is declared USAF month and recognized Richard Ayers for 35 years of service to the county in Soil & Water on his retirement.

Issues with broadband determining the project will not cover entire county as indicate in the original 5-year grant.

Jim Smith, Cornell Cooperative Extension Board Member reported boards visit to a new business north on Route 14, Black Squirrel Farm, a walnut farm. Locals can sell their walnuts to the farm for processing.

October 4th there is a community information meeting at the county "Northwest Dairy Association" The Co-Op Ext.is looking for interested persons to serve on the board. Call Jim at 315-719-7779 if interested.

Mr. Downs made motion to adjourn 2nd Mr. Henderson, carried at 8:45PM

Respectfully submitted,
Betty M Daggett
Town Clerk