

Minutes

Town of Persia Regular Board Meeting

8 West Main Street, Gowanda, NY 14070

July 11, 2019

Budget Workshop at 6:00pm

Supervisor John Walgus calls meetings to order at 7:00p.m.

Roll Call:

Supervisor: John T. Walgus: present

Highway Superintendent: Daniel H. Ackley: absent

Councilperson: Theresa A. Girome: present

Councilperson: Gloria J. Tomaszewski: present

Councilperson: Robert O. Dingman: present

Councilperson: Seth H. Howard: present

Town Clerk: Denise M. Trumpore: present

Others present:

Jack Broyles

Supervisor John T. Walgus: * I have paid the pre-pays and have processed payroll. * I ask for a resolution to approve the Supervisors report and also a resolution to accept the financial statement from Bahgat & Bahgat. * On June 20th, I was invited to a meeting with representatives from Gernatt Gravel Corp. They wanted to inform the town of their recent land purchases and what their intentions are for future use of the properties. I have referred this information to the Zoning and Planning Boards and also to the Code Enforcement Officer. The Zoning and Planning Board will be having their quarterly meeting on July 15th @ 7pm here at the town hall and at that time I will inform them of what I learned from the Gernatt meeting. * On June 27th the Cattaraugus County Planning Board approved the updates and revisions of the 2019 Town Zoning Ordinance, commenting that it will not have any adverse impacts. I have sent hard copies and electronic copies of our Comprehensive/Master Plan 2030 and the 2019 revised Zoning Ordinance to the Cattaraugus County Planning Board and to the Cattaraugus County Dept. of Economic Dev., Planning & Tourism for their files. * The ongoing NYSERDA Clean Energies Community project has seen the low bidder B&R HVAC install a new water heater and a furnace and the highway garage this month. * I was asked by the village to write a letter of support for their CFA grant application thru the DEC's Green

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Infrastructure grant program to rehabilitate the parking lot behind the stores in the main business district, and I was also asked to write a letter of support for the Gowanda Area Redevelopment Corporation's grant application thru the NYS Environmental Protection Fund for Creek bank stabilization at Zoar Valley Gateway Park. * I have asked Councilperson Dingman, Chair of our EDC, to sponsor supporting resolutions for these projects also. * Our Dog Control Officer has asked for permission to conduct a dog census this summer. The last census was done is 2011. Councilperson Girome our liaison for the DCO will be sponsoring a resolution tonight for the enumeration of dogs in the town. There is money in the budget to cover the costs to do a census, and I am in favor of doing having this done and would like it to be done every 5 years. * I would like to thank Pat Spruce for helping me correct the problem with the flag atop the town hall. We were able to fix the broken carabiner that holds the flag on the rope. * Last month, our highway crew with the town of Dayton's highway crew spent two days cleaning gravel from around the trash rack on Thatcher Brook. As in the past, if I see large blow downs in the brook, I notify the highway department and they remove them. * Councilperson Tomaszewski will be asking for your approval to execute a contract tonight with the Cattaraugus County Real Property Tax Services starting October 1, 2019 and ending September 30, 2025, our attorney James Musacchio has given the approval to sign the contract. * Our Assessor Kate Harrington has posted new summer hours, she or other members of their staff will be available all during the week by calling the Cattaraugus County Real Property Services office in Little Valley at 938-2343 from 8am to 5pm if someone needs help.

Highway Superintendent Daniel H. Ackley: * absent

Councilperson Theresa A. Girome: * I would like a resolution for the Dog Control Officer to conduct a dog enumeration in the Town not to exceed \$1,500.00. The last enumeration was done in 2011. * On July 16th, there will be a meeting at the Village Hall with Dollar General.

Councilperson Robert O. Dingman: * Being on Persia's Economic Development Committee I would like to have a resolution supporting GARC's Environmental Protection Fund grant application for the creek bank restoration at the Zoar Valley Gateway Park's Cattaraugus Creek banks. * I also ask for a resolution to send a letter of support to the Village in their quest to obtain a parking lot rehabilitation grant. * The Chamber of Commerce "Music in the Park" series starts tonight at the legion; it will run every Thursday night at 6:30 until August 1st, they are also having a Fall Fest on September 28th which will include a car show.

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Councilperson Seth H. Howard: * read highway bills. * We received \$12,500 from NYSERDA so we need a resolution to increase the General Fund Town Wide 2019 budget.

Councilperson Gloria J. Tomaszewski: * I ask we accept the assessing contract with Cattaraugus County. * I would like a resolution to have a budget workshop on August 8th at 6:30pm.

Assessor Kate Harrington: (by email) * All assessments that were changed as a result of a grievance determination have been added to our system. These should be reflected on the county's parcel search website and on the final roll for 2019. * The 2019 roll year has been finalized as of July 1, 2019. These are the assessments that will be used for all 2019 taxes. Changes can no longer be made to the roll, and any complaints will need to go through the County Real Property office. * Persia's equalization rate is 69% for the 2019 roll year. * We have already begun working on the 2020 roll year. Once again, assessments can be changed on the current roll until next year, sales can be added and exemptions will be accepted. Updated paperwork for these exemptions should be released by the state in September. * My summer hours have been limited as I begin work on projects. I will be in the town hall July 1st, August 6th, and September 2nd. Signs have been posted in the town hall that give summer hours and provide contact information for the Real Property Assessing office, which will remain open Monday - Friday 8am to 5pm throughout the summer.

Town Clerk Denise M. Trumpore: *

Total transactions for June: 85

Total Collected: \$ 1,403.00

Towns Portion: \$ **505.14**

*I ask for a resolution to accept the minutes from June 13th.

RESOLUTION # 64 Audit of Claims

On a motion of Councilperson Howard

Seconded by Councilperson Girome

The following was

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Howard, Girome, Tomaszewski, Dingman, Walgus

NAYS – 0

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RESOLVED that the bills contained on abstract #7 for General and Highway have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts:

Abstract 7 – General vouchers # 111 to # 125 Total = \$ 16,600.90

Abstract 7 – Highway vouchers # 43 to # 47 Total = \$ 1,388.96

RESOLUTION #65 Approval of Minutes

On a motion of Councilperson Tomaszewski

Seconded by Councilperson Howard

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Tomaszewski, Howard, Girome, Dingman, Walgus

NAYS - 0

RESOLVED to approve the minutes from June 13, 2019.

RESOLUTION #66 Supervisors report

On a motion of Councilperson Dingman

Seconded by Councilperson Girome

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Dingman, Girome, Tomaszewski, Howard, Walgus

NAYS - 0

RESOLVED to accept the Supervisor report for June 2019.

RESOLUTION #67 Financial Report

On a motion of Councilperson Dingman

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Dingman, Tomaszewski, Girome, Howard, Walgus

NAYS - 5

RESOLVED to accept the financial report for June 2019.

RESOLUTION #68 Village of Gowanda application for parking lot rehabilitation

On a motion of Councilperson Dingman

Seconded by Councilperson Howard

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Dingman, Howard, Girome, Tomaszewski, Walgus

NAYS – 0

RESOLVED

WHEREAS, the Village of Gowanda is seeking to improve the economic environment for our business owners, residents, and visitors, and

WHEREAS, the Village of Gowanda is an important historical community committed to improving opportunity and growth to impact surrounding Towns, and

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WHEREAS, the downtown business district parking lot has been deteriorating from the impact of (2) 100-year floods with no resources available to make the necessary drainage, curbing, lighting, and surfacing improvements, and

WHEREAS, the Village is committed to creating an improved Village center and parking opportunities to support the business district and the anticipated growth from the Waterfront Development projects, and

WHEREAS, the Village recognizes the importance of municipal parking improvements to accommodate the attraction of the newly renovated Gowanda Historic Hollywood Theater, and

WHEREAS, the Village is applying for grant funds to improve the downtown municipal parking lot and install green infrastructure in support of the downtown revitalization and improved water quality,

NOW, THEREFORE be it resolved that the Town of Persia supports the Village of Gowanda's grant application to the Department of Environmental Conservation thru Green Infrastructure Program.

RESOLUTION #69 Agreement with Cattaraugus County for Assessing Services

On a motion of Councilperson Tomaszewski

Seconded by Councilperson Howard

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Tomaszewski, Howard, Girome, Dingman, Walgus

NAYS – 0

RESOLVED

WHEREAS, the County of Cattaraugus and its municipalities are empowered to enter into joint services contracts pursuant to Article 5-G of the General Municipal Law, and

WHEREAS, Real Property Tax Law Section 1537 makes provision for the County to provide assessing services to its municipalities, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Persia desires to contract with Cattaraugus County for assessment services, as part of the County Wide Shared Services Initiative, and

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NOW, THEREFORE be it resolved that the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized to execute a contract with Cattaraugus County to enter into the above named contractual agreement for the term of October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2025.

RESOLUTION #70 Supporting GARC's grant application to NYS Environmental Protection Fund.

On a motion of Councilperson Dingman

Seconded by Councilperson Girome

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Dingman, Girome, Tomaszewski, Howard, Walgus

NAYS – 0

RESOLVED

WHEREAS, GARC has been a dynamic partner in the areas waterfront redevelopment efforts, and

WHEREAS, GARC is applying for funds because they are committed to a natural creek bank restoration that will be a regional treasure for generations to come, and

WHEREAS, these funds will greatly enhance their efforts in to develop an old abandoned industrial site into a world class outdoor destination, and

WHEREAS, GARC has been endeavoring with this undertaking for many years, and

WHEREAS, we believe the awarding of the Environmental Protection Funds (EPF) will create jobs and training opportunities in the town as the redevelopment of the site continues, and

WHEREAS, the regional level of collaboration with public, private and not for profits can fill employment opportunities, and

WHEREAS, the Persia Town Board whole heartily supports the Gowanda Area Redevelopments Corporation efforts in completing the Zoar Valley Gateway Parks design plan, and

NOW, THEREFORE be it resolved the Town of Persia supports GARC's EPF grant application for the creek bank restoration at the ZVGP's Cattaraugus Creek banks.

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RESOLUTION #71 Budget Modification

On a motion of Councilperson Howard

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Howard, Tomaszewski, Girome, Dingman, Walgus

NAYS – 0

RESOLVED to increase the General Fund Town Wide 2019 expenditure budget by \$12,500 which represents NYSEDA grant monies. This will increase the budgeted amounts for accounts A3089.2 – State Aid, Other – NYSEDA by \$12,500. A1620 – Building – Equipment by \$4,700 and A5132.2 – Garage – Equipment by \$7, 800.

RESOLUTION #72 Dog Enumeration

On a motion of Councilperson Girome

Seconded by Councilperson Dingman

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Girome, Dingman, Tomaszewski, Howard, Walgus

NAYS – 0

RESOLVED for the Dog Control Officer to conduct a dog enumeration not to exceed \$1,500.

RESOLUTION #73 Budget Workshop

On a motion of Councilperson Tomaszewski

Seconded by Councilperson Howard

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Tomaszewski, Howard, Girome, Dingman, Walgus

NAYS – 0

RESOLVED to have a budget workshop on August 8th at 6:30.

Hearing no objection, Supervisor Walgus adjourns our meeting in memory of our town resident Leon Szymanski.

Meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise M. Trumpore

Town Clerk

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