

Minutes

Town of Persia Regular Board Meeting

8 West Main Street, Gowanda, NY 14070

February 13, 2020

Workshop 6:30pm

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

Happy Valentine's Day!!

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

Tenley Howard

Jarek Howard

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 a resolution to accept the financial statement from Bahgat & Laurito Bahgat, and just to note that I signed and sent out the engagement letter with Bahgat & Laurito Bahgat with no increase for 2020. * Last month, I received the Initial Boundary Validation Program (BVP) documents from the United States Dept. of Commerce U.S. Census Bureau. I verified our legal boundary, the town name and the status of the town government so they tabulate data for the 2020 Census. I have all the maps and documents if you would like to view them. * The courts copier is up and running and we have the invoice for it as you will see in this abstract, as you are aware, we have funds budgeted for this copier. * The various committees have completed their audits of the Justice Court, Town Clerk, Tax Collector, Town Supervisor and Director of Finance. Many thanks to Councilmen Robert Dingman, Theresa Girome and Gloria Tomaszewski for jobs well done. *

Town of Persia Regular Board Meeting February 13, 2020

8 West Main Street, Gowanda, New York 14070

There will be a resolution tonight for a public hearing to change the date for Grievance Day from the 4th Wednesday in May to the 1st Tuesday in June. Since we are now contracting with Cattaraugus County Real Property Services, this change is necessary because of the number of towns now contracting with the county for assessing services and conflicting dates. * The Town Board received a personal invitation from Village of Gowanda Mayor David Smith to attend a public information poster session about the United States Army Corp of Engineers for the Thatcher Brook diversion channel flood mitigation plan. The public information session will be at the Historic Hollywood Theater on February 20th from 6 to 8pm. * On January 16th the Highway Superintendent, Code Enforcement Officer and the Disaster Coordinator attended the Cattaraugus County Office of Emergency Services Hazardous Mitigation plan update (HMP) which was held at the South Dayton Fire hall. The plan will analyze the hazards faced by the county and its municipality's vulnerabilities. This plan was last updated in 2014. * After 3 years, we finally received the State & Municipal Facilities Program (SAM) grant monies from the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York, for flooding that occurred in the town in 2015. I was advised that they would make a direct deposit into our general fund savings account; after reviewing the bank statements, I found out we were charged a \$15.00 wire transfer fee for the deposit. * this year's Cattaraugus County Farmer/Neighbor dinner which is sponsored by the Cattaraugus County Dept. of Economic Development, Planning & Tourism will be awarding town of Persia resident John Gibbs the Farmer of the Year Award. The dinner will be held at the West Valley Fire Hall in April. * On January 31st, I attended a rally for the Lakeshore Hospital in Irving; as you now know the hospital is closed, including the impatient beds, the mental health unit and the emergency room. * We received a thank-you card from the Gowanda Area Historical Society for our 2020 donation. Our Town Historian declines his stipend, so we now forward the monies directly to the Historical Society. * On February 6th I attended the Catt. Co. Supervisors Association meeting. The next meeting on March 5th will be combined with the Catt. Co. Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board for the purpose of updating the counties farmland protection plan and the agricultural districts. All are welcome to attend. * We received the first sales tax payment from Cattaraugus County, and it was higher than expected. According to the County Administrator Jack Searles, sales tax receipts are expected to grow all thru 2020. * At our reorganizational meeting last month, we appointed Mark Hebner to the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) only to discover that he cannot serve on the ZBA and the BAR at the same time. Therefore, there will be a resolution rescinding his appointment to the ZBA. I ask if anyone knows of a town resident willing to serve on any of our boards or committees to let me know. * Happy birthdays go out this month to Cheryl, Jim and Denise.

Highway Superintendent Daniel H. Ackley: * absent

Town of Persia Regular Board Meeting
February 13, 2020

8 West Main Street, Gowanda, New York 14070

Councilperson Theresa A. Girome: * Gloria and I audited the Court, Tax collector and Town Clerk books for 2019. * We will need a resolution for a budget transfer for the assessor services. * On February 11th I attended the Village board meeting; an update was given on the Waterfront Development Project. The new ambulance building will be in operation by March. A new business is opening on Jamestown Street, and on February 25th at 5:30 there will be a public meeting concerning the Brownfield Opportunity Association.

Councilperson Robert O. Dingman: * I performed an audit on the Director of Finance and Supervisor on February 11th for 2019. * The Village of Gowanda asked property owners to an invitation only meeting to discuss the diversion channel flood mitigation plan; the presentation was to inform the property owners on how they would be impacted by this diversion channel.

Councilperson Seth H. Howard: * read highway bills. * I attended the Gowanda Ambulance Service annual meeting on January 13th. The Gowanda Ambulance Service was dispatched to 1878 calls in 2019. 47 of the 1878 calls were missed - 2 of them were on overnights and the other 45 missed were due to all other ambulances already engaged in life saving matters in other areas. A \$2,000 grant was received by Walmart Community Foundation in order to update all the CPR equipment and has been utilized for that purpose. The 2020 goals for the service include ambulance replacement or addition, developing the training program more, become an ITLS training center, create a critical care transport team and the continuation of working for grants for such things as power load stretchers, mannequins and education equipment and materials. The new hall is moving along smoothly, and it is anticipated that they will be moving in sometime in February. * I attended the Gowanda Ambulance Service special meeting on January 13th immediately following the annual meeting. The purpose of the meeting was regarding purchases of equipment in the new building. * I attended the Gowanda Ambulance Service monthly meeting on January 21st. The Gowanda Ambulance Service was dispatched to 172 calls in December 2019. Dan Gernatt Jr. donated a used Freightliner Ambulance to the Gowanda Ambulance Service; it was added to the insurance policy immediately in an effort to transfer it to Gowanda from Florida. It will be designated GOWANDA 820. The board authorized the immediate purchase of mandatory equipment needed on board, in the event of an inspection. The Gowanda Ambulance Board changed the medical director from UBMD, who offers us nothing more than a signature, to ALYCIA REDLINSKI, a local physician; she will provide training, have reviews with staff one on one, and have designated office hours. The floors are being finished in the new hall and interior doors are being installed. The phones are set to transfer by completion of business on February 20th. The training room will be known as the KURTZ TRAINING ROOM, in memory of Dr. and Mrs. Kurtz, who contributed a large sum of money towards the new building. A

Town of Persia Regular Board Meeting

February 13, 2020

8 West Main Street, Gowanda, New York 14070

plaque, honoring Bill Gugino, and Dennis and Patricia Hills will hang in the building for their donation of 2 acres of land for the building to sit on. * Lastly, I attended the Gowanda Ambulance Service special meeting on January 27th. The purpose of this meeting was to appoint treasurer for the Gowanda Ambulance Service in compliance to a newly adopted by-law. General Manager Mike Shaw was appointed to a one-year term. An update on the new ambulance was also provided. The ambulance that Dan Gernatt Jr. donated to us is currently sitting at the Gernatt Facility on Taylor Hollow, where it is being readied for inspection by Gernatt mechanics. It has been reported as being an amazing machine with lots of good qualities that will serve the residents of Persia well. Some of the reported qualities include bariatric capabilities and an on-board cooling system for medications. After extensive driver training, it will be fitted with the necessary lifesaving equipment and go in service. The next regular meeting is scheduled for February 18th at 7pm. * I ask we have a workshop on March 12th at 6:30 to discuss the diversion flood channel.

Councilperson Gloria J. Tomaszewski: * Read general bills. * Theresa and I audited the Court, Tax Collector and Town Clerk books for 2019. * I make a motion to accept the audit of the court books for 2019. * I attended the Healthy Community Funding Board meeting on January 15th wherein there was a one-bedroom and a two-bedroom apartment available. They were getting a waiver to rent the two-bedroom to a single person, who qualified income wise. Also, in discussion with the Village to have the pilot reduced this coming year, it apparently goes up 3% each year. * I attended the Ambulance Board Annual meeting on January 13th so that I could introduce Seth to the board

. Officers were elected, namely Patricia Volk – President, A. Merkt – Vice President, and Georgia Robbins – Secretary. There were 1878 call for 2019. I have brought in material that was furnished if anyone wants to go over the same. *

Assessor Kate Harrington: * (sent by email) Completed renewal applications for the Senior Citizen Exemption, Agricultural Assessment, and Exemption for Nonprofit organizations are being returned to our office. Because these renewals are due by March 1st, notices will be mailed mid-February to all applicants who have not yet given us a renewal. Property owners should contact our office with any questions about these exemptions or the application process. * The assessing office corresponded with several property owners about their assessments, tax bills, and exemptions. * Ten property transfers were added for the month of December.

Town Clerk Denise M. Trumppore: *

Total transactions for January: 119

Total Collected: \$ 1,297.00

Towns Portion: \$ **712.30**

*I ask for a resolution to accept the minutes from January 9, 2020.

Town of Persia Regular Board Meeting
February 13, 2020
8 West Main Street, Gowanda, New York 14070

RESOLUTION # 14 Audit of Claims

On a motion of Councilperson Girome
Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski
The following was
ADOPTED AYES – 5 Girome, Tomaszewski, Howard, Dingman, Walgus
NAYS – 0

**RESOLVED that the bills contained on Abstract #2 for General and Highway have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts:
Abstract 2 – General Vouchers # 13 to #41 Total: \$48,598.56
Abstract 2 – Highway Vouchers # 5 to #12 Total: \$ 2,630.53**

RESOLUTION #15 Approval of Minutes

On a motion of Councilperson Howard
Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski
ADOPTED AYES – 5 Howard, Tomaszewski, Girome, Dingman, Walgus
NAYS - 0

RESOLVED to approve the minutes from January 9, 2020.

RESOLUTION #16 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 January 2020.

RESOLUTION #17 Financial Report

On a motion of Councilperson Howard
Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski
ADOPTED AYES – 5 Howard, Tomaszewski, Girome, Dingman, Walgus
NAYS - 0

RESOLVED to accept the financial report for January 2020.

Town of Persia Regular Board Meeting
February 13, 2020
8 West Main Street, Gowanda, New York 14070

RESOLUTION #18 Public Hearing

On a motion of Councilperson Dingman

Seconded by Councilperson Girome

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

NAYS – 0

RESOLVED to have a Public Hearing on March 12th at 7:00pm to discuss setting the Annual Date for Grievance Day to the First Tuesday in June.

RESOLUTION #19 Court Audit acknowledgement

On a motion of Councilperson Dingman

Seconded by Councilperson Howard

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

NAYS – 0

RESOLVED that the courts books were audited on February 5th.

RESOLUTION #20 take Mark Hebner off the Zoning Board of Appeals.

On a motion of Councilperson Dingman

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

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

NAYS – 0

RESOLVED to take Mark Hebner off the Zoning Board of Appeals.

RESOLUTION #21 Budget Transfer

On a motion of Councilperson Girome

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

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

NAYS – 0

RESOLVED to transfer \$11,564 from A1355.1 – assessor – personal service to A1355.4 – assessor - Contractual

RESOLUTION #22 Workshop

On a motion of Councilperson Howard

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

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

NAYS – 0

RESOLVED to have a workshop to discuss to diversion flood channel on March 12th at 6:30pm.

Town of Persia Regular Board Meeting

February 13, 2020

8 West Main Street, Gowanda, New York 14070

Hearing no objection, Supervisor Walgus adjourns the meeting in memory of our residents Dorothy Allen, Kenneth Purdy, Jason Klaiber and Adolph Namlik Jr.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise M. Trumpore

Town Clerk