

Minutes

8 West Main Street, Gowanda, NY 14070

March 11, 2021

Board Meeting 7:00pm

All stand for the Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Supervisor: John T. Walgus: absent

Councilperson: Theresa A. Girome: present

Councilperson: Gloria J. Tomaszewski: present

Councilperson: Robert O. Dingman: present

Councilperson: Seth H. Howard: present

Others present:

Town Clerk: Denise M. Trumpore

Highway Superintendent: Daniel H. Ackley

Jack Broyles

Supervisor John T. Walgus: * absent

Highway Superintendent Daniel H. Ackley: * Read highway bills. * Highway is working on the single axle dump truck, did some welding the gravel screener and plowed 11 times since the last meeting.

Councilperson Theresa A. Girome: * It is sad to say but Dave Allen and Joe Butera resigned from the Planning & Zoning Board. They did not have the time anymore to devote to the board. Letters thanking them for their years of service were sent to them. Considering this, I would like to appoint Jack Broyles to the Planning & Zoning Board, he has shown great interest and I feel he would be a great asset to have on board. * The Town Clerk Audit was completed on March 2nd.

Councilperson Robert O. Dingman: * Let the record show that the Supervisor is still out of action this month. * Judge Schindler stopped in for a moment and stated he was going to apply for the JCAP grant. * I have paid the pre-pays and have processed payroll. * I ask for a resolution to accept the financial statement from Bahgat & Laurito Bahgat. * In talking with

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Judge Schindler, I would recommend we purchase the security cameras from the lowest bidder. * I also participated in the Town Clerk audit on March 2nd.

Councilperson Seth H. Howard: * Read the General bills. * I read over the contract from Acme Business, and I like our town attorney to look it over before signing it. * I would like a resolution to have a workshop on April 8th at 6:30pm to discuss the Acme Business contract. *

Councilperson Gloria J. Tomaszewski: * I have received notice from Real Property Tax Service that NYS has made additions to the Solar/Wind Exemption (RPTL 487). Considering this, I would like to have a public hearing where we will pass a Local Law which will provide that no exemption under the Real Property Tax Law Section 487 be applicable with respect to any Solar or Wind Energy System or Farm Waste Energy System. * Regarding Grievance Day, I feel we should meet in-person while social distancing and limiting the number of people in the room. * I ask for a resolution to note that the court audit was completed. * Tuesday, March 16th is Election Day for Village Officials. * I ask for a resolution to allow the courts to apply for the JCAP grant.

Assessor Kate Harrington: (by email) * Reminders were mailed to all Agricultural Assessment and Nonprofit Exemption applicants who had not returned their renewal mid-February. This notice reminded applicants that renewals would not be accepted after the March 1st deadline. * I ask that the Town Board, along with the Board of Assessment Review, starts to consider how the town will hold its 2021 Grievance Day on June 1st. Here are some examples of how towns accommodated for COVID-19 last year.

- In-person while maintaining social distancing guidelines and limiting the number of people in the room.
- Telephone conferencing – as grievance forms are received, property owners will be called to make an appointment for a telephone meeting. In some towns board members met in person and called property owners from a central location, in other towns board members conference called from home and called property owners.
- Online video conferencing – The Real Property Office's WebEX subscription is available for towns to use.

Once you give me your decision, I will make sure that the information is posted on the County's website, news feed, and Facebook page, and I will make a sign for your town hall. * We have been in contact with many exemption applicants who have questions, need help with an application, or submitted incorrect/insufficient information. The Assessing Office has also

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corresponded with several property owners about their assessments and tax bills. * Six property transfers were added for the month of January.

Town Clerk Denise M. Trumppore: *

Total transactions for February: 39

Total Collected: \$ 616.00

Towns Portion: \$ **316.88**

*I ask for a resolution to accept the minutes from February 11th.

RESOLUTION # 15 Audit of Claims

On a motion of Councilperson Howard

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

The following was

ADOPTED AYES – 4 Howard, Tomaszewski, Girome, Dingman

NAYS – 0

RESOLVED that the bills contained on Abstract #3 for General and Highway have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts:

Abstract 3 – General Vouchers # 38 to # 48 Total: \$ 2,924.20

Abstract 3– Highway Vouchers # 6 to # 11 Total: \$ 4,871.36

RESOLUTION #16 Approval of Minutes

On a motion of Councilperson Girome

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

ADOPTED AYES – 4 Girome, Tomaszewski, Howard, Dingman

NAYS - 0

RESOLVED to approve the minutes from February 11th.

RESOLUTION # 17 Financial Report

On a motion of Councilperson Girome

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

ADOPTED AYES – 4 Girome, Tomaszewski, Howard, Dingman

NAYS - 0

RESOLVED to accept the financial report for February 2021.

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RESOLUTION # 18 Public Hearing

On a motion of Councilperson Tomaszewski

Seconded by Councilperson Howard

ADOPTED AYES – 4 Tomaszewski, Howard, Girome, Dingman

NAYS - 0

RESOLVED to have a public hearing on April 8th at 7:00pm for comment on proposed Local Law 2021-1 which is providing that no exemption under Real Property Tax Law Section 487, with respect to any Solar or Wind Energy System or Farm Waste System.

RESOLUTION # 19 Completion of Court Audit for 2020.

On a motion of Councilperson Tomaszewski

Seconded by Councilperson Girome

ADOPTED AYES – 4 Tomaszewski, Girome, Howard, Dingman

NAYS – 0

RESOLVED that the Court Audit for 2020 was performed on February 17th.

RESOLUTION # 20 Jack Broyles

On a motion of Councilperson Girome

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

ADOPTED AYES – 4 Girome, Tomaszewski, Howard, Dingman

NAYS – 0

RESOLVED to appoint Jack Broyles to the Planning & Zoning Board.

RESOLUTION # 21 Acme Business Contract

On a motion of Councilperson Howard

Seconded by Councilperson Girome

ADOPTED AYES – 4 Howard, Girome, Tomaszewski, Dingman

NAYS – 0

RESOLVED to have the Town Attorney look over the Acme Business contract.

RESOLUTION # 22 JCAP grant

On a motion of Councilperson Tomaszewski

Seconded by Councilperson Girome

ADOPTED AYES – 4 Tomaszewski, Girome, Howard, Dingman

NAYS – 0

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RESOLVED to allow the courts to apply for the JCAP grant.

RESOLUTION #23 Security cameras

On a motion of Councilperson Howard

Seconded by Councilperson Girome

ADOPTED AYES – 4 Howard, Girome, Tomaszewski, Dingman

NAYS – 0

RESOLVED to purchase security cameras from Direct Security Systems.

RESOLUTION # 24 Workshop

On a motion of Councilperson Howard

Seconded by Councilperson Girome

ADOPTED AYES – 4 Howard, Girome, Tomaszewski, Dingman

NAYS – 0

RESOLVED to have a workshop on April 8th at 6:30pm to discuss the Acme Contract.

Hearing no objection, Deputy Supervisor Dingman closed the meeting at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise M. Trumpore

Town Clerk