

Town of Aurelius  
Approved Minutes  
September 14, 2017

**Members present: Supervisor Edward Ide, Deputy Supervisor Stephanie Church, Councilor Alexander Patterson. Councilor Stanley Hoskins arrived at 7:06.**

**Staff Present: Planning Board Chairman Jerry Scouten, Clerk Debbie Pinckney, Highway Superintendent Kent Walter, Bookkeeper Martha Russell, and Code Officer Howard Tanner**

1. Supervisor Ide opened the meeting at 7:00pm with the pledge to the flag.

A. Notice is hereby given that the Town Board of the Town of Aurelius, Cayuga County, New York, at a regular meeting held on August 10, 2017, duly adopted, subject to a permissive referendum, a resolution, an abstract of which is as follows:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN SUPERVISOR TO EXPEND FUNDS FROM THE TROOPER BARRACKS RESERVE OF THE TOWN OF AURELIUS, SUBJECT TO PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM.

The Town Board of the Town of Aurelius, duly convened in regular session, does hereby resolve pursuant to the provisions of General Municipal Law § 6-C of the State of New York that the Town Supervisor of said Town be and he hereby is authorized and directed to transfer from the Trooper Barracks Reserve Fund of the Town of Aurelius, duly established on December 29, 2014, **\$10,044.29** of the principal and accumulated interest in said Reserve Fund for the repair of the NYS Police Barracks.

This resolution shall be subject to a permissive referendum, as permitted by law.

B. RFP Results for surveying River Road.

Storino Geomatics, PLLC -	Services A-G \$74,100.00 (\$950/parcel)
	Optional H - \$3,900.00
KeyStone Associates –	Lump Sum Fee \$80,730.00
	Optional \$4,000.00

Supervisor Ide will work with the Attorney Thurston before making any decisions on awarding the contract.

Some discussion that the cost is a lot higher than expected. The Town paid \$147,000.00 for the canal lands.

Jerry Scouten Planning Board Chairman explained that he met with the representative from the Army Corps of Engineers, Maggie Crawford and she explained that the east side of the lots there are wet lands and the Army Corps would have to do a review of anything on the east side of the road. She would rather have the Town recognize that should anyone want to do something, the Town will have to include the Army Corps of Engineers for the east side for work done on the east side. Any work proposed on the river side would require all four agencies, the Town, the DEC, the Army Corp and

Canals. Canal Corps told me that the elevation is 384.7” along the shoreline. There is roughly 5 feet of difference between the shoreline and the high water flood plain mark. We need to determine the four corners in order to establish setbacks, then Codes will have to deal with the flood plain. Canals would like the Town to consider determining a 20 foot set back from the shore line. The Army Corps will issue a document to the individual parcel and/or property owner, once they have signed off individual parcels. The Army Corps wants approval on both sides as they come up. The West side Flood Plain is higher than the shore line, which is equal to the road

Jerry stated that the flood plain level is higher than the shoreline by approximately 5 feet.

And she also noted that there are many areas that have fill that is not in compliance.

Mr. Rex spoke that he has a dock that was approved by the Army Corps of Engineers and he wonders if he has to get the Town to approve. Jerry Scouten stated it is the Planning Board’s intent that every application must have the appropriate authority sign off before anything can be built or filled. It’s possible that you may have a problem with one of the other authorities but as of now it is unclear.

Mr. Rhodes also has a dock, the former owner had a letter that went to Canals and Army Corps, but he is not sure if there was any response or approval. Board suggested any paperwork with regard to docks should be copied and placed in the Town file.

## 2. Public Forum

3. Minutes of August 10, 2017 – **Resolution #68-2017 Motion by Church to approve with corrections, Second by Hoskins. 4/0 approved.**

## 4. Correspondence –

- a. Doug Selby invited Supervisor Ide and/or the Board to attend the Kick off Meeting for the Regional Master Plan for efficient delivery of water and sewer services to Cayuga County. This project is being funded by the grant Mr. Selby acquired to complete a feasibility study in Cayuga County. It’s September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 1:00pm at Cayuga County Water and Sewer Authority office at 7413 County House Rd, Auburn, NY 13021. Some discussion that the idea is not really feasible when the County is long and sparsely populated, finding an alternative source of water that could serve the people, it would be difficult to keep the water fresh.
- b. Equalization Rate is at 86% - Bookkeeper asked if the Board is considering a revaluation. Supervisor Ide is thinking that once Linda fully retires he would lean toward giving the job to the County as in reality there is no real benefit to the Town, (the school tax is twice the town tax and we bear all the expense and all the headaches.) Councilor Hoskins suggested the Board should be keeping a close eye on it.

## 5. Committee reports

### a. Budget Officer’s report on Special Districts

- Budget Officer provided a report for Water 2. The fund balance is \$116,000 and she predicts a shortage of \$12,000.00.
- The Beech Tree Road water extension came in under what we borrowed and we have an additional \$20,000.00. She had asked Generations Bank if we could pay down on principal. They declined so she will look to the Comptroller’s office to create a debt reserve. It’s about \$12,000 that we will have to pay in interest and principal. In

doing the 2018 budget she will need guidance in how to allocate the money for the loan payments.

- Martha attended a NYS Retirement System seminar. She will be working with the Clerk to ensure we are in compliance.
- She is also working with the NYS Comptroller's Office with the 2016 AUD. She has some resolutions that she will submit for approval tonight per their suggestions. She does have 2 escrow accounts which may need to go to unclaimed funds. Hilton Garden Inn and Cheese factory.
- Meter head on Experimental Road was broken for 3 weeks, it has now been replaced. But Martha felt it is not correct, she will work with Jeanine at CCWSA to ensure accuracy. Water 1 has so much water going through their pipes and it seems that Water 1 is feeding Water 3 more than what we thought.
- Supervisor Ide asked if it is possible to gather how much water is going through Water 1 through those master meters. Get the County Water Authority Contract to see the details as maybe there should be a transportation fee to CCWSA and Water III.
- CMI did make a payment for the July Engineering Fees, but not the back billing so Martha will be billing them for approximately \$4800.00.
- If the Board is considering funding a new recycling building you should consider how that will be funded.
- Our current Health Insurance Consortium premium is going up about 4.5%, our previous company Blue Cross/Blue Shield is estimated an increase of 8-12%.
- Retirement contribution is about the same for 2017 and 2018.
- Consumer Price Index is 1.9%, so she is thinking about a 2% raise, the comment she heard was 2% keeps you the same and 3% would get you a bit ahead.
- Wish list for DB Fund, a zero turn mower and a sewer truck.
- There is also a NYS Paid Family Leave Program, but if we are going to participate then we would need to let the employees know by October 1, 2017. But from what she has read, this will be funded by the employees, and would increase her bookkeeping. Discussion that the same thing could be done by setting up your own payroll deduction into a savings account in case you need to take time off for a family emergency. Not sure if it's a use it or lose it type. Do you want more information? No! **Resolution #69-2017 by Church to decline participating in the NYS Paid Family Leave Program. Second by Patterson. 4/0 approved.**
- And also one of the accounts that concerned the Webster Road Bridge, as Marge had money set aside for this particular bridge and the State Comptroller would like the money transferred, so the Highway Part Town owes the money to the Highway. That will get rid of the due to – due from.
- Councilor Hoskins asked if there was a small project at the NYS Police Barracks for \$30,000.00, where would the money come from. You would have to take it out of the General Funds fund balance which is about \$100,000.00 but you also have to think about where the money would come for the River Road Survey?
- And if the State Police Barracks were to be sold in the future, that money would go into the General Fund. Reminder that once the lease is up, we won't get paid until a new lease is agreed upon. The current rent is about \$40,000 a year. Councilor Hoskins presented a timeline for the State Police Barracks improvements/renegeotiate lease; go out to bid, get a price, we present this to the State Police, and Bouck goes to the State for renegotiating the lease, we won't go out to bid until they agree to the lease. Ide, basically we would run a deficit that first year, but that's based on the old

rate. \$11 -\$12 a square foot could increase the lease. It's a win-win and could yield a saleable lease.

- b. Assessor – Linda Wright - continuing education class is November 17, 2017
  - c. Zoning & Code Enforcement – see report Howard Tanner explained he can do whatever the Board prefers with regard to the report format. Deputy Supervisor Stephanie Church - The Williamson Law report is ok, but adding a running update of the condemned or problem buildings and a list of what correspondence he has sent out. .
- c. Aurelius/Cayuga Recreation – September 18, 2017 will begin the Winter Rec program.
- d. Highway Department – Kent Walter
  - PESH came in August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Inspected building, water tower and recycling. Corrected the items.
  - Have some items for Auctions International. Need Board permission. **Resolution #70-2017 Motion by Hoskins to declare surplus equipment, chipping box, patch pan, York rake, air conditioner, chain saw, and weed eater. Second by Church. 4/0 approved.**
  - One-way Plow was repainted, it could be used on 10 wheeler if needed
  - Hoskins and Kent met with RLS for preliminary ideas to build a new recycling building. Discussion with the pros and cons of a pole barn as opposed to a steel frame building. No action taken.
  - Ellis Drive Pump station has dropped to being pumped out every 6 weeks - whatever CMI is doing seems to be working better than before, but it is still a problem.
  - Hydrant by Erie Materials was replaced, took about 3 hours to install, did it in the early morning hours.
  - Tapped the water main for Half Acre Church. City assisted.
  - Heat in the garage – Councilor Patterson had looked at the grant, but too many hoops to jump through. Kent explained he was leaning toward the HALCO bid to repair as they could find a pump. All Air - \$7,866 for replacing the south end heater. Halco - \$2250.00 each to replace all of the burners – E & V no bid. Board has concerns with money from A fund stretched thin with River Road and the State Police Barracks. Is it possible to replace the one heater and budget for the other ones next year? Discussion and consensus to put in a new heat run and burner at the south end and budget next year to replace the other heater. **Resolution #71-2017 Motion by Hoskins to replace the one heater and budget for replacing the other. Board suggested Kent gets a quote for next year's budget. Second by Patterson. 4/0 approved.**
- f. Planning Board – Jerry Scouten
  - Met with Madison Properties – former FL Crossing, they are opening Ollie's in the old Circuit City and they have some potential for new clients.
  - Heard that west end McDonald's will not be renovating until next year.
  - Questions about the former GE – at this time, they are drilling a new well. Concerns about the poor grounds maintenance, the parking lot is overrun with trees, the lawn and weeds are poorly maintained. Used to have updates every three months but nothing lately. Supervisor Ide recalls that they cannot do anything with the property until all is clear with the EPA.

g. Town Clerk – Debbie Pinckney

- Monthly report
- Water/Sewer Adjustments — resolution requested - **Resolution #72-2017 Motion by Patterson to approve the adjustments as presented. Second by Hoskins. 3/0 approved. Church abstained.**
- Grinder Pump power on River Road and NYSEG
- River Road – Sent out the eviction notices.
- Elmhurst Lightning - we can remove those that are not served
- WWTP Operator Bob Kneaskern will be meeting with me to verify hook ups on Rt 90N.

Harold Rex asked if there was any update on the travel trailers. Jerry Scouten explained they will be allowed until 2018, as it has already been determined that the Army Corps of Engineers do not allow travel trailers and current the Town Zoning law does not allow travel trailers.

6. Old Business

- a. CMI payments – discussed under the Bookkeeper report.
- b. Security Systems – tabled, Clerk is waiting for a price for the wall monitors.

7. New Business

- a. Permissive Referendum for Trooper’s Barracks Reserve – no petition, no objection
- b. Resolution to establish a Capital Reserve fund to finance an Asset Replacement Reserve per USDA/RD Grant Conditions. \$3,547 will be transferred from Fund Balance for 2017. This will be done annually for the life of the loan 6/3/2045. **Resolution #73-2017 Motion Church to transfer \$3547.00 from Fund Balance for 2017, Second by Patterson. 4/0 approved.**
- c. Resolution for the Standard Workday – **Resolution #74-2017 Motion Hoskins to approve the Standard Work Day resolution, Second by Patterson. 4/0 approved.**
- d. Resolution to pay over \$8983.83 from Highway Part-Town - DB to Highway Town wide - DA.
- e. Resolution to pay over \$44,000.00 from SS# Sewer 3 to General Fund for expenses not reimbursed by the Capital project. **Resolution #75-2017 Motion Church, Second Hoskins 4/0 approved.**
- f. Councilor Hoskins shared the drawings from Architect Mike Palmieri for the State Police Barracks improvements, estimated cost of \$23,000.00 - \$30,000.00. Church suggested one minor change for bathroom access for both male and female in the basement meeting room. Discussion and consensus that this will be a good selling point for renegotiating the lease, and should the State decline the lease agreement we would only be out the cost of the drawing and bid package, and we would not complete the improvements. Talked about the lockers, how initially the Town purchased them for the original lease, and we would do the same with the new lease. **Resolution #76-2017 Motion by Patterson to instruct Mike Palmieri to move forward with a bid package for the State Police Barracks updates, Second by Church. 4/0 approved.**

8. Executive Session – none

9. Supervisor report – none

10. Transfers – none

11. Pay Bills – Abstract #9-2017, Joint Committee Bills #9-2017 Resolution **#77-2017 Motion by Church to approve Abstract #9-2017 and Joint Committee Bills. Second by Hoskins. 4/0 approved.**

12. Adjourn - **Resolution #78-2017 Motion by Church to adjourn at 10:15. Second by Hoskins. 4/0 approved.**

Next meeting will be the Budget work session October 2, 2017 at 6:00pm.

Next regular meeting will be October 13, 2017 at 7:00pm. Respectfully submitted by Clerk Pinckney