

Town of Aurelius
April 13th 2017 Meeting
Approved Minutes

Present: Supervisor Ed Ide, Deputy Supervisor Stephanie Church, Councilor Stan Hoskins,
Councilor Alexander Patterson

Staff: Kent Walter, Highway Superintendent, Deputy Clerk Kim Sincerbeaux, Deputy Highway Superintendent Harold Walter, Assessor Linda Wright, and Planning Board Chairman Jerry Scouten. Town Engineer Matt Schooley arrived at 7:15.

Meeting called to order at 7:05 with the Pledge to the Flag

1. Public Forum:

- A. Maureen Kelly Murphy 6405 St Rt 90N addressed the Board regarding the condition of State Route 90N (Nancy Webster property). She lives next door to this property and has been friends with Mrs. Webster for many years.... this is not personal. Helmut Wetzstein of 6413-6415 St Rt 90N is the neighbor on the other side of the Webster property, and she is speaking on his behalf too. There are rodents in the lawn, the roof is collapsing and there is trash on the porch. She feels her property value is lower because of this situation. Mrs. Murphy said that Code officer Tom Passarello sent a letter to Mrs. Webster last year. He gave her until July 11th, 2016. Another letter was sent on July 12, 2016.

Planning Board Chairman Jerry Scouten said he spoke with Mrs. Murphy on Monday. He understood that Mrs. Webster had sent a letter to Tom that once the sale of part of her property on 5 & 20 was completed, she would begin making repairs on the Rt 90 home. (Copy of letter in Code report)

Deputy Supervisor Stephanie Church explained the Board's hands are tied with regard to condemned property. Supervisor Ed Ide stated that the Board would speak to Code Officer Tom Passarello and see what kind of timetable is involved.

- B. Land Protection Request. Steve Koon- 5738 Bluefield Rd, requested the Board support the Ag Land Protection Application for him, Ken Pearce 6721- Beech Tree Road, Craig Cook – 995 Turnpike Rd, and Mike Burtless-1415 W Genesee St Rd. Discussion - Councilor Stan Hoskins said he believes this is a good program. **Resolution #22-2017 to support this application. Motion by Councilor Stan Hoskins. Seconded by Councilor Alex Patterson. Approved 3/0. Deputy Supervisor Stephanie Church abstained as she is Mr. Koon's cousin.**
- C. Discussion on River Road Leases - waiting for guidance from Attorney Dave Thurston. There is a question on properties with no buildings but campers, since we can't put a camper on the tax roll can we assess and add it to the lease? Councilor Hoskins said we need to get going on this. Attorney Thurston has not responding to any emails. Assessor Linda Wright said we need to make sure we have the ownership of each

property correct. She suggested to Clerk Debbie Pinckney that she get a copy of the bill of sale of each building so we have proof of ownership. Linda said that she has some bill of sales on file but not all of them. She suggests that when we send out the lease agreements we ask for a copy of the bill of sale in a cover letter. There are issues like land contracts that can complicate things. She said the County may have some bill of sales on file. Assessor Wright said she may be able to assess a camper over 400 sq. feet if it is anchored, has steps and a deck. Would the Board like her to contact the State and ask about this? Councilor Hoskins thinks a special meeting is needed to iron out the lease details. The Board agrees that a cover letter asking for a bill of sale and/or copy of a land contract should be in the annual bill to the River Road residents. Supervisor Ide will contact Dave Thurston and set up a meeting.

2. Minutes of the March 9th, 2017 meeting. **Res. #23-2017 Motion by Deputy Supervisor Stephanie Church to approve with changes. Seconded by Councilor Alex Patterson. Approved 4/0**
3. Correspondence
 - a. Resignation e-mail from Board Member Sharon Hayden. The Board regretfully accepts the Resignation of Councilor Sharon Hayden. **Res. #24-2017 Motion by Deputy Supervisor Church to regretfully accept the resignation of Sharon Hayden. Second by Councilor Hoskins. 4/0 approved.**
 - b. Comp Alliance Inspection safety recommendations. For the Garage area - a fire proof cabinet for flammable liquids. A divider between the oxygen and sedaleen tanks. Supervisor Ide sent a letter in response saying that this will be added to next year's budget. For the Town Clerk - the Clerk's door should be closed at all times. (Clerk will comply) For the Court - chains should be anchored to the floor in the Court Room. Supervisor Ide responded that this was a multi-function room and not practical.
 - c. Thank you letter from Mercy Flight for 2017 contribution of \$250.
 - d. Association of Towns sent out list of approved resolutions
 - e. Notice of National Child Abuse Prevention Month.
5. Committee Reports
 - a. Assessor Linda Wright. Equalization rate remains the same (86%). Special franchise values are given to us by the State. Councilor Hoskins said The Citizen is using 95 for equalization rate. Assessor Wright will call them and give them the correct rate. She would also like to be included in the lease meeting for River Road properties. She said many of the complaints from people saying their taxes are too high is not a result of their assessment but of the water and sewer capital costs that were added to the tax bills that are making the bills much higher.
 - b. Zoning and Code enforcement – Tom Passarello was not present - monthly report submitted for review.
 - c. Aurelius/Cayuga Recreation. The programs are running smoothly. The Cayuga Memorial Hall has some serious repair issues. The Village Board will be discussing this at their April Meeting.

d. Highway – Kent Walter

1. Request to consider abandoning the east side of Highbridge Rd. (it is already partially abandoned) Dufco, the gas company has a compressor station that they maintain and plow to. Supervisor Ide feels that it will be beneficial to the property owners as they would have privacy. Councilor Hoskins asked for the matter to be tabled as he would, like Kent to reach out to the property owners on the east side of Highbridge Rd to see if they would like abandon their side also.
2. Bobcat mini-excavator – working well and using it the last couple of weeks
3. Heat in highway garage – contractor had a death in the family so the work has not been
4. completed.
5. Badger sale – no bids received. Kent would like to send it to the Palmyra Auction, as this is a municipality auction. He will reach out to Teitsworth to get a ballpark figure as to what it should bring. Councilor Patterson asked about the Farm Auction. Steve Koon stated that the County Highway Dept. uses Auctions International. Discussion - **Res. #25-2017 Motion by Deputy Supervisor Stephanie Church to declare the Badger as surplus property and send to Palmyra Auction. Seconded by Councilor Stan Hoskins. Approved 4/0**
6. Mowing Roadsides – Kent spoke to County Highway Superintendent George Wethey about paying the Town an hourly rate to mow the county roadsides in Aurelius. They won't agree to pay an hourly wage as Councilor Hoskins had suggested at last month's meeting. The County's offer is to pay \$240.00 per mile for mowing twice a year. Kent stated that the highway staff could do some of the County roadsides, but not all, and still make some money. Councilors Hoskins and Patterson don't think it's worth the wear and tear on the mowers. No action taken.

e. Planning Board – Jerry Scouten. The Board will be meeting as there are 2 new houses going up on the lake.

f. Town Clerk –

1. Water/Sewer adjustments presented for approval. **Res. #26-2017 Motion by Councilor Stan Hoskins to approve the adjustments. Seconded by Deputy Supervisor Stephanie Church. Approved 4/0.**
2. River Road was handled out of order.
3. Monthly report submitted
4. Tax Collection settlement – Collected \$2,447,272.57 – sent to County \$690,115.88.

g. Town Historian – no report

h. IO – Update, there has been approximately 27 acres of hydrilla detected by the floating classroom.

i. Tompkins County Health Consortium. Board must appoint a new representative due to the resignation of Councilor Sharon Hayden. Councilor Alex Patterson volunteered.

5. Old Business.

- a. CMI wastewater Meter – Details being worked out. Supervisor Ide will contact B & L to follow up. Supervisor Ide suggested Kent Walter take a meter over and ask where they want it. Kent also shared that the “acid” treatment has not been effective. They jetted the pipe all the way to the pump station and it was clear.
- b. State Police Barrack Lease – Councilor Hoskins is working with relator John Bouck for assistance with the fair lease agreement. Bookkeeper Martha Russell is also researching lease agreements. Repairs were discussed. Matt Schooley thinks that the Board should look at grant monies for improvements and repairs. Councilor Hoskins would like to get quotes for a new roof and for replacing sidewalks.
- c. Paul Bringewatt recommendation for Sewer 2 flow meter on Clark St Rd. Based on his figures the Board should contact the City of Auburn that the formerly agreed upon usage of 150000 CF is grossly high based upon actual usage. In actuality it should be cut in half. The Town Clerk will have the full report for the May meeting.

6. New Business

- a. Ag Land Protection request – handled out of order
- b. Brian Turner - 6539 Cayuga Road – requests a noise ordinance (disturbing the peace). Neighbor down the road is blaring music beginning at 10am. The Board looked at a copy of the Village’s noise ordinance but most things don’t apply. It was the consensus of the Board that there is not much they can do. Matt Schooley will check with other Towns to see if they have ordinances.
- c. Auditors from Cuddy and Ward will be at the Town next week.
Bookkeeper requests approval to fund an employee’s HSA account. **Res. # 27-2017 Motion by Deputy Supervisor Stephanie Church to approve. Seconded by Councilor Alex Patterson. Approved 4/0**
- d. Joint Water and Sewer Committee rate recommendations beginning June 1, 2017. Deputy Supervisor Stephanie Church looked at usages. She will standardize the process to figure the rates. Water rates will remain at \$7.22 per thousand gallons and Sewer will be lowered to \$13.56 per thousand gallons. The minimum charge will remain at 10,000 gallons. The Town will need to appoint another Joint Committee Member with the resignation of Councilor Sharon Hayden. It would also be beneficial to have representatives from the Village Board included in the Water 3 budget process, and Town Board representatives in the Village sewer budget. **Res#28-2017 Motion by Deputy Supervisor Church to establish a rate of \$7.22 per 1000 gallons of water and \$13.56 for 1000 gallons of sewer for Aurelius Water and Sewer District 3, and the minimum will be based upon 10,000 gallons of usage. Second by Councilor Hoskins. 4/0 approved.**
- e. Deputy Highway Superintendent Harold Walter requested the Board add water and wastewater hookups to the town building permit application. This will ensure that the Water/Sewer Department will be notified to inspect the connections. Agreed.

7. Joint Project Old Business

- a. Request for Supervisor's signature for final pay application for WD Malone. Supervisor Ide Said he didn't think they finished everything on the punch list. Matt Schooley thinks the timeline has passed and we need to move on. He suggests the Board should approve the payment and hold it until he checks it out. **Res. #29-2017 Motion by Deputy Supervisor Stephanie Church to approve and hold the payment. Seconded by Councilor Alex Patterson. Approved 4/0.**

8. Executive Session – **Res. #30-2017 Motion by Deputy Supervisor Church to move to executive session for the purpose of discussion of employment of a particular person at 9:50pm. Seconded by Councilor Patterson. 4/0 approved.**

Board returned from Executive Session at 10:30pm. No action taken.

10. Supervisor's Report – none

11. Transfers - none

12. Pay Bills - **Res. #31-2017 Motion by Deputy Supervisor Church to pay bills as presented. Seconded by Councilor Hoskins. 4/0 approved.**

Code	Fund	Prepays	Unpays	Totals
A	GENERAL FUND	\$6,677.54	\$21,624.48	\$28,302.02
B	GENERAL FUND PART TOWN	\$890.67	\$1,691.53	\$2,582.20
DB	HIGHWAYFUND PART TOWN		\$10,791.92	\$10,791.92
SL1	LIGHTING DISTRICT 1	\$275.31		\$275.31
SL2	LIGHTING DISTRICT 2	\$74.00		\$74.00
SS1	ELMHURST SEWER DISTRICT	\$2,528.63	\$1,922.17	\$4,450.80
SS2	SEWER DISTRICT 2	\$40,264.63	\$4,856.25	\$45,120.88
SS3	SEWER DISTRICT 3	\$46.13		\$46.13
SW1	WATER DISTRICT 1	\$16,106.20	\$602.75	\$16,708.95
SW2	WATER DISTRICT 2	\$33,622.40	\$90.30	\$33,712.70
SW3	WATER DISTRICT 3	\$97.58	\$7,299.68	\$7,397.26
TA	TRUST & AGENCY	\$6,638.71		\$6,638.71
	TOTAL:	\$107,221.80	\$48,879.08	\$156,100.88
HI	CC SEWER			
HK	CC WATER			
	TOTAL:			

13. Adjournment – **Res. #32-2017 Motion by Councilor Hoskins to adjourn at 10:55pm. Seconded by Councilor Patterson. 4/0 approved.**

Next regular meeting will be Thursday May 11, 2017 at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by Deputy Clerk Kim Sincerbeaux, with edits from Clerk Pinckney