

August 14, 2023
Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Pittstown was held August 14, 2023 at the Town Hall, Tomhannock, New York. Those present included Supervisor, Matthew Curley, Councilpersons, Robert Russell, Tanya Lipinski, and Erin Maxon. Highway Superintendent, Paul Campbell and Town Attorney, Stacey Goldstein were also present. Supv. Curley called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON DISSOLUTION OF TOMHANNOCK FIRE PROTECTION
@ 6:30 P.M.**

Supv. Curley opened the public hearing and asked for comments. There were none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (7/10/23, 7/19/23)

Motion: Maxon, Second: Eddy to accept the July 10th minutes as presented.
Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none. Motion: Eddy, Second: Lipinski to accept the July 19th minutes as presented. Vote: Ayes – Russell, Maxon, Eddy & Curley; Nays – none; Abstains – Lipinski.

PUBLIC ACCESS

No one wished to speak.

VALLEY FALLS FREE LIBRARY – DALE AKIN –

Supv. Curley advised that Dale couldn't make it. It has been postponed until next month.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND CONSULTANTS

Motion: Maxon; Second: Eddy to accept the Town Clerk's report as presented.
Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none. Reports were received from Supervisor/Bookkeeper, Code Enforcement, Town Justices, Dog Control & Highway Superintendent.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVES

ERCSWMA – Russell stated that they are meeting August 28th to discuss their upcoming budget.

Highway – Campbell advised that he has two bridges that are in need of repair. They will need to be put out to bid. Motion: Curley, Second: Eddy to go out to bid for the repairs of the Ford Road & Kautz Hollow Road bridges; bids are to be received no later than September 14th at 1:00 p.m. Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none. Campbell stated that there was damage done to the garage door. He got a quote from Leo's Overhead door for \$4,400. The Board agreed to see if it would be covered under insurance first. Motion: Maxon, Second: Eddy to accept the quote from Leo's Overhead Door at a cost not to exceed \$4,400 contingent upon whether it can be covered by insurance. Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none. Campbell thanked the Board for the new pickup truck. It is well outfitted. He is working on an equipment surplus list.

OLD BUSINESS

Nothing

FILED RESOLUTIONS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Adoption of Local Law #2-2023 – Mobile Home Park Moratorium

Motion: Curley, Second: Eddy to adopt Local Law #2-2023. Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none.

Appointment of Alternate Planning Board Member – Ian Rose

Curley advised that Gordon Bushway, Planning Board Chairman has met with Ian and is recommending him. Motion: Curley, Second: Tanya to appoint Ian Rose as Planning Board Alternate for the unexpired term of Ben Luskin; term expires 12/31/23. Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none.

Hare Property – trail maintenance –

S. Goldstein stated that after the review of the deed there are restrictions for certain uses only one being maintenance of foot trails. She drafted a Preservation of Public Lands for the Board to review that is not area specific so it can be used on any town owned land. They made some adjustments. Motion: Eddy, Second: Lipinski to accept the Preservation of Public Lands as presented but to change the word independent contractor to volunteer, add in the location, scope of the work being done, estimated time frame and a signature line for the volunteer to execute. Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none.

Amendment to Local Law #1-2015 – Dog Control Law

Curley advised that our DCO attended a seminar and found a portion of a law that he would like to incorporate in our local law in regards to impoundment for safe keeping. S. Goldstein prepared a revised law. Motion: Curley, Second: Eddy to hold a public hearing on proposed Local Law #3-2023 to amend Local Law #1-2015 to amend the Dog Licensing, Identification and Control Law in the Town of Pittstown, to include Impoundment for Safe Keeping on September 11, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none.

Members Privilege

Russell – nothing; Lipinski – thanked S. Goldstein for getting everything together and researching; Maxon – nothing; Eddy – e mailed S. Goldstein information on putting together a resolution supporting voter identification; she will get it together for next month. He also would like to support Rensselaer Co.’s executive order to stop asylum seekers from coming into Rensselaer County. Motion: Eddy, Second: Curley to support the Local State of Emergency Proclamation wherein a State of Emergency has been proclaimed to stop the illegal aliens from entering the County of Rensselaer. Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none. Curley – our assessor has a meeting on the 31st with the County and State in regards to the reval. We still have not received an invoice for the street light install of \$35,000 and they want a street light maintenance agreement signed; he will wait for the invoice on the install and follow advice of the town attorney. We are still waiting for the wooden part of the bell to be painted. He received a letter that the teamsters want to have a meeting in regards to salaries. On October 3rd there is a meeting on the 911 emergency action plan on the Brookfield dam; he is looking for someone to attend.

Cont. of Public Hearing on dissolution of Tomhannock Fire District –

Curley asked if anyone wished to speak. Dave Valyou from the Melrose Fire District questioned what the board’s intentions are. Curley advised that the board has been discussing for years the dissolution and distributing to the closest districts. Jane Thrane from Valley Falls Road questioned where she would be placed. Curley advised that they have a map and it will be divided. The Board is looking to place residents where they will be the closest to a fire district. Goldstein advised that by the end of the year it will be distributed. There will be a public hearing. Mark Hubbs from the Pittstown Fire questioned why Pittstown may not be included in the distribution. Curley advised that the board will look at the map and the distances to each district and go from there. No further comments. Motion: Curley, Second: Eddy to close the public hearing on the dissolution of the Tomhannock Fire Protection District at 7:04 p.m. Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none.

PUBLIC ACCESS

Kim Mero stated that they own a campground on Pine Lake. She is concerned because the water is very low. She has reached out to Brookfield several times. Maxon advised that Brookfield opens the gates on the dam to let the water out when there is excess rain; they also make their power by having more water come thru. Curley took her information down and will pass it onto Brookfield.

AUDIT OF BILLS

Motion: Maxon, Second: Lipinski to pay the vouchers on Abstract 8 except for voucher 146. Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none. Motion: Eddy, Second: Maxon to pay voucher 146. Vote: Ayes – Russell, Lipinski, Maxon & Eddy; Nays – none; Abstains – Curley.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Eddy, Second: Maxon to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. Vote: Ayes – all; Nays – none.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle A. Hoag
Town Clerk