

FEBRUARY 13, 2024

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The February 13, 2024 commenced at 6 p.m.

On Zoom; Councilmember Freeman, Chuck Bell, Steve Ferris, Karen Ducette

In attendance; Joe Serphillips, Patricia Horton, County Legislator Jeff Horton, Mary Ellen Hamm, Daniel Hamm, Ron McIntire

Present: Councilmember Bauer Councilmember Haar

Councilmember Freeman on Zoom, Councilmember Kenyon arrived at 6:18

Supervisor Mahr, Clerk Serphillips

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Guest Speakers;

Chuck Bell, Steve Ferris, Legislator Jeff Horton

Chuck Bell and Steve Ferris spoke on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds for Economic Development, Administered by NY State Office of Community Renewal (NYSOCR).

Municipalities in NY state with a population of under 50,000 are eligible to apply for CDBG funds on economic development projects that will create job opportunities, to low, and, moderate income job seekers. If the funds are granted the Town benefits by supporting commercial investment and job creation, and the grants come with the administrative and program delivery funds, so there is no out-of-pocket cost and there is funding to offset administrative burden.

The Town of Wayne will hold a public hearing on Community Development Block Grant Application, on February 27, 2024 at 6 pm at the Town Hall, 9772 Silsbee Rd. This is initiate the application process given Town Board approval.

Legislator Horton gave a 2023 Review of Steuben County. He stated that sales tax increased by 3%, which gives the Town a larger share. Legislator Horton state that it is difficult to fill vacancies at the Sheriff's department. There are 16 openings at the present time in the Sheriff's department for guards at the jail. He stated that all of the line items in the 2023 budget were able to be closed without going back to the general budget, except for assigned council. The rate increased from \$75.00 an hour to

\$158.00 an hour in April. \$75.00 an hour was budgeted, so that they had to go into the contingency fund.

Legislator Horton stated that the Internet, (Empire Access) now has a map and the easement for the poles are now being filed. Fleet Rd from the intersection of throughout 96 to the County line. Reinhart Rd, Ridge Rd from the Town Line Rd from Bradford to the intersection 114. Those are guaranteed build outs. Once they get there and do the site work they can see if they can connect more spots that are not covered.

Approval of January Organizational meeting minutes;

A motion to approve the January 2024 Organizational minutes was made by Councilmember Haar, seconded by Councilmember Kenyon. All are in favor

Regarding the December minutes, Supervisor Mahr stated that changes were made, after which the Clerk received more input from Councilmember Bauer. Supervisor Mahr stated the minutes are not required to be recorded verbatim. What we will do in the future, is to include copies of any Resolutions approved along with the minutes.

Supervisor's report;

Supervisor Mahr stated that the Town did receive money from the tax account to pay the fire department, and to pay Keuka lighting.

We have the monies as well for the General and Highway funds, that came in the first week in February, and will be reflected in the Supervisor's report presented in the March meeting.

There was one budget modification for \$21.00. We were given an estimate from Williamson Law that was \$21.00 more than we budgeted for.

A motion to approve the Supervisor's report was made by Councilmember Haar, seconded by Councilmember Kenyon, all are in favor.

A motion to approve Resolution 2, for the budget modifications, was made by Councilmember Kenyon, seconded by Councilmember Haar. Voting as follows;

Councilmember Freeman, no vote, on zoom Councilmember Haar, yes

Councilmember Bauer, yes Councilmember Kenyon, yes Supervisor Mahr, yes

Clerk's report;

Disbursements follows;

\$3,730.00 paid to the general fund. \$7.00 paid to the NYS Animal Population Control program.

A motion to approve the Clerk's report made by Councilmember Kenyon, seconded by Councilmember Bauer, all are in favor

A motion to approve of the vouchers was made by Councilmember Haar, seconded by Councilmember Kenyon, all are in favor

Kat Sutton, the tax collector, put together a chart, which shows that she has collected 2.1 million dollars of taxes, through January 31st.

The Justice report;

Supervisor Mahr did an audit with Justice Freeman. We have to file a motion with the State that we reviewed the Judicial audit.

A motion to approve Resolution 3, authorizing a Judicial audit was made by Councilmember Kenyon, seconded by Councilmember Haar.

Voting as follows;

Councilmember Haar, yes Councilmember Bauer, yes

Councilmember Kenyon, Yes Councilmember Freeman, no vote, on zoom Supervisor Mahr, yes

Assessor;

Cherokee Mitchell has taken over for Dave Oliver as the Town Assessor on the Shared Service Contract with Urbana.

Highway Superintendent report;

Highway Superintendent Starkweather stated that he sent e-mails to the board members, including articles and interviews on the Keuka Village Road regarding the flooding in January. The Highway is working with homeowners on both sides of the creek. They will reassess the culvert, looking to change it out, in the future.

The State engineers are looking at looking to change the culvert under Rt 54, after the flooding.

The Highway is working with Jeff Parker from Soil and Water. They will bring in equipment to go up the channel and clear it out to avoid future potential problems. That is included in the power points in the Highway report. There are grants available for possible funding if needed.

It was suggested that engineering students from Cornell look at the area, to evaluate the area ,address concerns and propose solutions.

Superintendent Starkweather stated that there are policies that will be put into place, Work place policies, updating policies, alcohol and drug policy, risk management p

Code officer report;

Monthly report was reviewed with no discussion.

Planning and Zoning Boards report;

Minutes were reviewed with no discussion.

Watershed report;

Monthly report was reviewed with no discussion

Ethics report;

Financial Disclosures were sent out.

Dog Control report;

The Healer mix that has been loose, has been found, and does have a person who wants to adopt her.

A motion was made by Councilmember Kenyon, seconded by Councilmember to approve Heather Swarthout as Deputy DCO. All are in favor.

History report;

Monthly report was reviewed with no discussion.

Web statistics;

Monthly report reviewed with no discussion.

A motion to approve Resolution 4, for submitting LUR definition changed to Steuben County, for input for adopting a local Town Law, was made by Councilmember Haar, seconded by Councilmember Kenyon. Voting as follows;

Councilmember Haar, yes Councilmember Kenyon, yes

Councilmember Bauer, yes Councilmember Freeman, no vote, on zoom

Supervisor Mahr, yes

The Code assessor has told Short-Term Rental owners that they can apply for a variance on maximum occupancy. After reviewing with our Town Attorney, 12 is the maximum occupancy. No variances, and, or, exception can be granted.

New business;

The Highway superintendent, Bryan Starkweather will compose a request for a bid to repair the parking lot. By the end of this month, we should know what the county is doing for bids.

We are also looking into generators for the Town Hall and Town Barn, and an air conditioner for the Town Hall. We do have money in the fund balance.

We are also looking into options to add office space.

Another project that we will work on is job description updates, for appointed paid positions.

Public comments;

A resident, Mary Ellen Hamm, voiced her concerns regarding the Short-term rental occupancy limit. The resident was under the impression that she could get a variance for a 16 person occupancy.

She was in attendance for the Short-term rental hearing. She is asking for consideration for an occupancy for 16 people.

Announcements;

The next Town Board meeting will be on March 12, 2024 at 6 pm at the Town Hall.

The next KWIC/KLOC meeting will be on March 25, 2024 at 6:30 pm at the Town Hall.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Haar, seconded by Councilmember Kenyon. All are in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:46 pm

Respectfully submitted by

Angie Serphillips

Clerk