

**TOWN OF WINDHAM
TOWN BOARD MEETING
371 State Route 296, Hensonville, NY
Website: www.townofwindhamny.com**

SEPTEMBER 24, 2020

Present: Supervisor: Thomas F. Hoyt
Councilmen: Wayne Van Valin, Ian Peters, Stephen Walker & Kurt Goettsche
Town Clerk: Bonnie Poehmel

Also Present: Highway Superintendent Gary Thorington, Town Attorney Larry Gardner, Police Chief Tor Tryland, Gail Nichol森, Marilla & David-from Hunter, NY and Mike Ryan Mountain Eagle

Absent: Ambulance Administrator Davia Montie & Delaware Engineering John Brust

The Supervisor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 10, 2020 TOWN BOARD MEETING were approved as typed on a motion by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Walker, with 4 in favor, Councilman Van Valin abstained as he was absent from the meeting.

1.DELAWARE ENGINEERING: John Brust was not present. "Our list of current project items includes the following: **Water Project** All project work has been completed. The final pay application from Hubbell Inc. was received yesterday and will be processed over the next few days. Hubbell has performed admirably. Their work has been professional and comprehensive. With the Board permission I would like to author a draft letter from the Board to Hubbell stating how pleased the community has been with their work. A comprehensive summary of the project work...began in 2007...will be provided to the Board at the next Water Board meeting. **Wastewater Treatment Plant** Preparation of an Engineering Report that will provide an overall assessment of the WWTP is in progress and partially, substantially complete. On a parallel track, D.E. staff are preparing engineering plans for the anticipated conversion from the originally installed force main emanating from the Old Rd. pump station to the larger force main also installed back in 2004. **Ambulance/Community Center Building** the Board has been provided with revised site plan, building layout, and profile for the proposed building. A project budget of \$1.85 million has been provided to the Board. The Board will receive a financial model for the repayment of prospective debt for the ambulance/community center project in the next few days. The median cost per property will be approximately \$25 per year...assuming a 25-year payback at 3% interest. Actual interest charges will likely be lower...which will lower the annual payback. **Comprehensive Plan** Helen Budrock and the Comprehensive Plan committee are holding another of a series of meetings next Thursday, October 1st. The topic will be Community Facility's. A survey regarding resident aspirations for the Town has been assembled. To date, we have received 236 responses from the public. The survey is now closed and results are being analyzed. **Madd Brook – CWC Project** Construction work on the Madd Brook project is nearly complete. Topsoil and the erosion control matting is being installed. There will likely be only one change order on the project...for approximately \$200. Delaware Bulldozing has performed well. **C.D. Lane Park** D.E. staff have been supporting the development of a trail map for the proposed enhancements to the park. We are also evaluating options for a pedestrian bridge to be installed over the influent creek. **South Street - New Wastewater Connections** There are two proposed new connections to the wastewater collection system along South Street. Our staff has been working with Kaaterskill Engineering and C.T. Male on an evaluation of options. **Town Hall and Centre Church Improvements** These projects are temporarily on hold. Please let me know if you have any questions or comments about the items detailed in this report." Councilman Walker asked about the side walk quote from Hubbell. Supervisor Hoyt has a phone call into Hubbell, awaiting his response. The CWC-Madd Brook job is completed except for the installation of a couple of trees that will be planted in the beginning of next week. The job looks nice and came out well. Supervisor Hoyt hopes that Anne Brabazon and the Brabazon Family are happy with the work. There was one tree Anne wanted to save, the contractor spoke to her about replacing the tree. There will be a change order for two trees instead of one tree.

2.APPLICATION FOR TOWN SEWER SERVICE: The Norman G. Bunce Revocable Trust (Dianne Bunce), Tax Map #96.00-1-3, State Route 296, residential, new single-family construction. The property is within the Town Sewer District. As a requirement the \$50.00 application fee for the EDU was paid. Supervisor Hoyt stated the main sewer line is on the opposite side of State Route 296. The property owner will have to contact NYS DOT for a permit and they may request a directional drill. Looking out our survey it appears to be probably 7-8 feet down so the routing will work for their project. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Walker, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor. There is currently a new curb-stop on his property for the water system.

3.RE-APPOINTMENT FOR BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW MEMBER: Peter O'Brien's term will expire on September 30, 2020. Mr. O'Brien has expressed his interest in serving for another term. The new renewal term is for 5-years. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Walker, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

4.RIPARIAN BUFFER EDUCATIONAL SIGN FOR WINDHAM PATH: The request comes from Greene County Soil and Water Conservation. The new signs are 9" x 12" and will be provided by Catskill Steams Buffer Initiative Greene County Soil and Water Conservation District. The sign will have the following: "This is a Catskill Streams Buffer Initiative (CSBI) project located within the Schoharie Reservoir watershed. Native trees and shrubs were planted along the stream to create a healthy, diverse riparian buffer. Keeping streamside areas vegetated has many benefits including: Less Streambank Erosion; Improved Water Quality; More Wildlife Habitat". Supervisor Hoyt next Wednesday, September 30 @ 4pm there will be a meeting at the Windham Path for these signs if the Board would like to join. A motion to approve the two signs was made by Supervisor Hoyt, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor.

5.GREENE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING: Ellen Rettus Planning Achievement Awards. Nomination Guidelines-due by October 15, 2020. "The Greene County Planning Board is soliciting nominations for Planning Achievement Awards, which will honor worthwhile planning, community and economic development activities that have taken place in Greene County over the past three years. Awards will be given for outstanding achievement in one or more categories." The Town Board wishes to pass for this year.

6.RESIGNATION LETTER FROM PLANNING BOARD MEMBER: "With regret Supervisor Hoyt will accept the resignation from Edward Shanley". Edward Shanley has served as a member of the Windham Planning Board since January, 2014. His resignation will be effective September 21, 2020. A motion to approve his resignation was made by Supervisor Hoyt, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor. Councilman Walker suggested that a thank you letter should go out to Mr. Shanley for his years of service. Supervisor Hoyt would like the Board to search for someone by the next town board meeting to replace Mr. Shanley's term that expires on December 31, 2022.

7.TOWN JUSTICE REPORT FOR AUGUST: Justice Stevens \$2,963.00. Was noted by the Board.

8.TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION #28 OF 2020: the following resolution was proposed to transfer funds to balance the Sewer District accounts. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor. GENERAL FUND RESOLUTION #17 OF 2020: the following resolution was proposed to transfer funds to balance the General Fund accounts. A motion to approve was made by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

9.GREENE COUNTY RESOLUTION #250-20: Awarding Bid for Abrasives (Dry Screened and Washed) Used in Snow & Ice Control and GREENE COUNTY RESOLUTION #261-20: Amounts Due County Treasurer by Respective Towns.

10.AMBULANCE REPORT: Ambulance Administrator Davia Montie was not present. "There are two new hires for Windham Ambulance that I would like to ask the board to approve at the next meeting. Both have completed their applications and have met with Cindy Nelson, Bookkeeper. One is Barry Rausch Jr. he lives in Cocksackie and has been an EMT for about 10

years. He currently works for Greene County 911 as a dispatcher and is interested in part-time/per diem shifts. The other is Megan Grahon, she lives in Greenville, works as an EMT and just finished the Paramedic Program as well. She is also interested in part time/per diem shifts. I have a variety of open shifts and with winter approaching we will need a few more people to fill openings for second crews. Also, Amanda Rion will be out for the next 8 weeks, she broke her arm yesterday, leaving 24 hours a week for me to fill, as well as the other openings that I currently have. In other news, 96-2 is going to Wes' for servicing this week." Councilman Peters is the liaison for the Ambulance. Councilman Peters Davia has two recommendations for hire. Supervisor Hoyt has stated that Civil Service has changed their requirements. The named above will have to be on the civil service list. Civil Service will have to let us know who is available in the top three for these two open positions. The Supervisor understands that these two named above are on that list; but he is not sure of their placement. The Supervisor will make the motion to fill the two opened positions that are civil service qualified, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor.

11.CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT: September 2020 has been given to the Board for their review. The Supervisor has spoken to Dominick Caropreso regarding different projects going on in town. One project that is very visible is at the old Copper Kettle. He wants to make sure all the I's are dotted and the T's are crossed on this project. His concern is a similar project was being built in the Town of Catskill and the structure collapsed. This structure that is being built in the Town of Windham; he wants to make sure they have a stamped set of plans. This is a commercial business to be opened to the public when completed. Councilman Walker there is a subdivision project at the old Melody Manor on County Route 21. There is an old structure that needs to be removed. He would like Dominick to look into this as well.

12.HIGHWAY REPORT: Highway Superintendent Gary Thorington was present. It is official NYS Reimbursement Highway Programs have been reduced by twenty percent (20%). The Town of Windham can be looking at a \$20,000 reduction in reimbursements. This is not good news and state wide everyone is feeling it. It could stay the same or get worse. There is no certainty for 2021. Gary has officially filed and awaiting the reimbursement. The project at CD Lane Park is in good shape. Doing maintenance for the up coming season. Gary thanked Councilman Peters for his help with his email everything seems to be working better. Supervisor Hoyt the Board may not know this that Gary was away on highway business at a state level; this is a great avenue for the Town to have someone sit on that committee. The Supervisor thanked Gary for attending that meeting.

13.POLICE REPORT: Police Chief Tor Tryland was present. The Chief would like to request permission to purchase four (4) new tires from state bid for car 7F386. A motion to approve the purchase was made by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Walker, with all in favor. Range with Article 35/Use of Force training all has been completed. The Chief would like to thank Durham PD for doing a great job. Radar training, the breathalyzer and taser training have all been completed. All shifts were filled for those dates. One portable radio has to be reprogrammed. Thumb drives for the Police Community Review Board have been ordered by the Town Clerk. Just waiting for that to come in and will then load the drives with copies of our policy and procedure for the review board to start. Supervisor Hoyt has spoken to Mr. Jim Scarey, he will have to decline the position on the Police Community Review Board as his schedule is too busy to give the board the time that is needed. Mr. Scarey thanks the Board for asking him. Supervisor Hoyt asked Chief Tryland for a second patrol to be in the area for the event at CD Lane Park on October 10, 2020 @ 11:00 am-6:00 pm. The Supervisor asked Chief Tryland how everything was going at WAJ School with the drop off of buses and parents, with the limited hours? Chief Tryland, Greene County Sheriff's Deputy Cody Rogers is the SRO for Windham this year. Having him there has been a great help. Supervisor Hoyt has been hearing wonderful comments from the public and they appreciate what the patrol is doing at the school.

14.COMMITTEE REPORTS: **Councilman Walker** one of the Judge's has twelve (12) court classes to complete. Everything else with the court is going well. **Councilman Van Valin** the highway guys have been helping out at the Centre Property. The stone dust and the clean-up went well. It looks like there might have to be a resetting of some of the stones next year. He spoke to Bob Kerns about the front lawn and how it is doing. He seems to think it needs more fertilizing. Councilman Van Valin will have to check if this has been completed. Mrs. Christine

Cepale has called the town and has requested someone to look at the power/communication lines that goes through a tree on the Centre Property. Councilman Van Valin and his Dad actually planted those maples years ago. The trees are finally looking healthy and beautiful. Maple trees were the look of Main Street years ago. He doesn't want to cut the trees. He has asked Ian Powell Tree Surgeon Service to look at this and give his report before any work is actually done. Covid-19 is causing some issues here and there. **Councilman Peters** his focus is on the budget. He has been working on Network IT issues to be upgraded. Ambulance he had a good conversation with Ambulance Administrator Davia Montie on the budget. Councilman Peters is working on an annual draft agreement with the Town of Windham and the Town of Jewett Ambulance Service. He will review this agreement with Town Attorney Larry Gardner. The agreement will be based on a total number of ambulance calls, percentage ambulance calls that are going to Jewett and on a six months basis they will off-set some of our fixed-costs based on that proportion. They do pay for calls now. Calls are just a small portion of what the ambulance does. We have a large amount of fix-costs of what the ambulance does. **Supervisor Hoyt** has already reached out to the Town of Jewett Supervisor. Jewett's Supervisor does realize that they have had a deal for years, Jewett is about ten percent (10%) of the calls. He more than understands he is getting a first-class ambulance service at a fraction of the cost. Councilman Peters last year we did not do a very good job with the ambulance budget, this year we are out of whack. We didn't accurately budget the expenses. Supervisor Hoyt, Councilman Peters and Town Attorney Larry Gardner were present for the grand opening of the Hunter Fly Car Station which is part of the overall ambulance service for the Mountaintop and for Greene County. They had a great turnout. Supervisor Hoyt was told the turnout in Prattsville was as great as the one in Hunter. "All the agencies are working together for the cause of the treatment of people, to help people when they are need assistance." **Supervisor Hoyt** "kudos to everyone in making that happen. He was not on the board at that time but wanted to thank the Board and the Past Supervisor (Robert Pelham) as there where a lot of conversations to make that happen for the residence of the Mountaintop and Greene County." **Town Attorney Larry Gardner** "recognition was given to two individuals who come up with the original concept for a county-wide system naming our late Town of Windham Supervisor Pat Meehan and the late Town of Cairo Supervisor Jim Keefe, they were both mentioned. They started this all that many years ago." **Councilman Goettsche** starting to prepare work that was put on hold due to Covid-19 and hoping this will all stay on track. Trying to finish the SRT's. Will be working on the website as previously discussed and the Police Community Review Board. Councilman Walker asked about Mid-Hudson Cablevision in Maplecrest. **Councilman Peters** has reached out to Mid-Hudson Cablevision. He had been hearing a lot from the Town of Windham residents. "Mid-Hudson Cablevision is being pretty flakey with their commitment as to when the service will be going in." Councilman Peters will be calling them again and remind them of their agreement deadline with the Town. **Supervisor Hoyt** Mid-Hudson Cablevision is blaming the grant process. They are looking to use someone else's money. Supervisor Hoyt has had a discussion with their line-foreman. Mid-Hudson Cablevision has an obligation with the Town of Windham to have service by the Fall of 2020. Mid-Hudson Cablevision agreed to this to get a 15-year franchise. Supervisor Hoyt any concerns or emails the Supervisor has been receiving; he is emailing to Mid-Hudson Cablevision for them to read. **Supervisor Hoyt** to set date for **Special Town Board Meeting for purpose of a Work Session on the Tentative Budget for 2021 will be set for October 14, 2020 @ 7:00 pm.** He has asked Lucas Flachs from Cedarwood Engineering & Environmental to be present to explain their part of the sewer budget to the Board. A motion to approve was made by Supervisor Hoyt, 2nd by Councilman Peters, with all in favor. The park project is moving along. The Supervisor would like to do a "personal shout out" to Van Etten Trucking, Charlie Van Etten donated a load of sand for the expansion of the volley ball court by the beach; Smitty's Nursery, Bob Smith donated work around the gate house and the signage; Bentley Landscaping, Matt & Kyle Bentley worked for four days with two machines, they donated their time and machines for the project. The re-established the beach, re-did the volley ball court, and the play ground with red mulch. Super Kudos for a group of small businesses! The highway guys installed the bases for the new BBQs grills and installed a new 35-foot flag pole with a 6' x10' American Flag. The new proposed ambulance building, John Brust Delaware Engineering sent over a tax analysis. "The analysis of debt repayment is based upon a \$1.85 million dollar borrowing at 25 years at 3% and 2.5 % interest rates. The median valued property will pay \$20/year at 2.5 % interest for 25 years." A copy of this printout is available for the Town of Windham residents to review in the Supervisor's office, Monday through Friday at 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. The Supervisor has applied for two grants, one for the

Windham Path for the engineering of the washout by the Pharmacy with Greene County Soil & Water Committee and the second one for an educational park that is a city funding for a couple of plaques and an over look platform at the park. If we are awarded the grant for at the park, it will be what the flood control dam is and purpose and; the other will be for an educational park, the wildlife and nature. The projects that have been completed at the park so far: flag pole, volley ball court, the backstop has been painted, frisbee golf has been installed, the walking trails have been completed this is still some signage to be installed. Two hundred plus frisbees have been donated by Mike Tricolti. The flowers have been removed by Bob Kerns, Kerns Nursery. That is much appreciated has we have already had an early frost. **Town Attorney Larry Gardner** will review the drafted ambulance contract should it be approved. The real estate market on the Mountaintop and especially in the Town of Windham is unprecedented. The mortgage tax is going to far exceed what has been budgeted.

GENERAL FUND WARRANT #18-G contained vouchers #684-727, totaling \$15,785.79 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

HIGHWAY FUND WARRANT #17 contained vouchers #186-188, totaling \$4,254.30 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

SEWER DISTRICT FUND WARRANT #18 contained vouchers #237-255, totaling \$6,517.50 was audited and approved on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

CD LANE PARK ENHANCEMENT WARRANT #2 contained vouchers #4-5, totaling \$580.00 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

GENERAL FUND PAYROLL WARRANT #20-P for **General** contained 16 claims, totaling \$10,585.66 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor. **Ambulance** payroll contained 18 claims, totaling \$14,241.01 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor. **Police** payroll contained 5 claims, totaling \$5,770.24 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

HIGHWAY PAYROLL WARRANT #20-P contained 4 claims, totaling \$7,135.50 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Van Valin, 2nd by Councilman Goettsche, with all in favor.

SEWER DISTRICT FUND PAYROLL WARRANT #20-P contained 4 claims, totaling \$1,239.85 was audited and approved for payment on a motion by Councilman Goettsche, 2nd by Councilman Van Valin, with all in favor.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: David-from Hunter had a question for Highway Superintendent Gary Thorington concerning the 20% reduction state wide reimbursement. He would like more information on that. Highway Superintendent Gary Thorington will give out his business card for them to make arrangements to speak about this next week.

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m. on a motion by Councilman Peters, 2nd by Councilman Walker, with all in favor.

SUPERVISOR

COUNCILMAN

COUNCILMAN

COUNCILMAN

COUNCILMAN

TOWN CLERK

OFFICIAL