

Town of Catharine
Town Board Meeting
September 19, 2017

Member present: Supervisor John VanSoest; Councilmen–Glenn Bleiler, Wayne Chapman, Ronald Hoffman, C. Michael Learn; Highway Superintendent William Morgan; Guests: Larry Reynolds, Bruce Bruckner, Jamee & Heath Mack, Martin Vondracek (deputy highway superintendent), Mack Secord, Barb Halpin, Tom Ruocco

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Supervisor VanSoest

Public Be Heard:

Mack Secord representing the Schuyler County Adult Softball League brought a proposal for the fields in the 10 acre field. The main people involved in the planning/development will be here at the October meeting. They are still involved in Tuesday night leagues so they haven't moved too far on the obtaining of funds or getting the costs calculated. John asked how many cars we could expect at any one time. Mack explained that there would be possibly 150 cars or less on any given Sunday (the 150 would be on days of tournaments). The league has liability insurance for their players. John wants to know if the owners of the property are named as additional insureds. The games start at 9 and could go through to approximately 7 p.m.

Barb Halpin: Congrats to the board for being on the board that researched cost saving measures for the county as directed by the Governor. All the towns voted yes for the idea of combining services to save money, except one Village. All the towns exempted themselves from the actual vote on Code Enforcement consolidation.

Also the Restore NY Grant is available again--might help with Town Park. Carmella will look into it. Also she asked if the highway department is going to do anymore work on Newtown Road--the area where the postal people and the paper people pull off, the road is breaking badly. Bill said that they will take a look at it and see what needs to be done.

Tom Ruocco: Came in to give an estimate of the cost of putting in a handicap ramp across the front of the building and removing the electric lift. John explained the reasoning for the lift versus of the ramp initially. Tom gave reasoning for the ramp and the roof over part of the ramp. Much discussion about whether or not to leave the lift and just put a roof over that or remove it and put in the ramp. Jamee indicated that during the elections she has people who need the lift who won't use it alone because they are afraid of it. It does wobble when it's going up or down and that makes people uncomfortable. Ron said he'd like to see a roof over the entire patio to help during rain/snow events--and that way people could be under cover if they are waiting outside for something.

Additions to the agenda:

BOCES work crew : talked about what possible projects they could do.

RESOLUTION 2017-53

RESOLVE that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as presented to the board

RESOLUTON by Glenn Bleiler seconded by Ronald Hoffman

VOTE 5 ayes no noes

RESOLUTION 2017-54

RESOLVE that the Clerk's report be accepted as submitted to the Supervisor

RESOLUTION by Glenn Bleiler, seconded by C. Michael Learn

VOTE 5 ayes, no noes

Zoning Report: Harold received a list of complaints last month, and appreciates getting the list in writing. We sent out 2 letters to comply and the people haven't responded so the next step is a court invitation.

He had a request from a realtor to give a certificate of occupancy for a place that has been vacant but he would not give that, but he did give them a certificate of compliance for the stuff he could see. The realtor was happy with that. He will bring a paper next month explaining the difference between a CoO and a CoC. Last week he was in Buffalo and got some training hours in will get more shortly. Bad fire in Cayuta caused by a power strip.

RESOLUTION 2017-55

RESOLVE that the Justice report be accepted as submitted to the Supervisor and the State Comptroller

RESOLUTION by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by Wayne Chapman

VOTE 5 ayes, no noes

Supervisor's Report:

We are getting to budget season--John will be working on the budget shortly as he has to have the preliminary to the board by October 5. We are 3/4 of the way through the year and as well through the budget. We are still missing recycling money from the Town of Cayuta and Carmella will send an email to the Supervisor to see when we can expect that money.

RESOLUTION 2017-56

RESOLVE that the Supervisor's report be accepted as submitted to the board

RESOLUTION by Glenn Bleiler, seconded by Ronald Hoffman

VOTE 5 ayes, no noes

Highway Report:

The guys went around **all** the roads with the boom mower including Connecticut Hill Rd. and graded all the roads including VanLoon Rd. They graveled Park Rd. This should be a CHIPS project. The site prep for the Salt Storage is done and approved. They meet with Jerry Verigini and the contractor on Monday morning. The estimates came in a bit higher than planned but it will be covered by Soil and Water. Bill brought up the need for guard rail on Newtown Rd.--he has 2 estimates. Chemung Supply bid \$14,000 and they will do all the work--the guys will haul all the old stuff away, but are using the old rails.

RESOLUTION 2017-57

RESOLVE that the board approve the purchase of guardrails for Newtown Rd.

RESOLUTION by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by Glenn Bleiler

VOTE 5 ayes, no noes

Bill also presented estimates for repairing the old plows, and then estimates for 2 new plows. To repair them it would cost about \$3000 each, to purchase new would be approximately \$6,000 each. Ron asked if it would work to fix the better of the old plows and buy one new one. John would like to sit and look at the financials. He asked what the turnaround time would be--Bill said probably a couple weeks--He could ask the salesman if they can bill in January, which they have done in the past.

RESOLUTION 2017-58

RESOLVE that the town purchase 2 new plows for approximately \$12,000 and put the old plows out for bid through Auctions International

RESOLUTION by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by Glenn Bleiler

VOTE 5 yes, no noes

Landfill Report: A lot has happened with DEC and they have walked through and agreed that they just test some of the wells and supposedly in 2020 they can close the landfill. Now they are taking aim on Dug Rd. landfill. DEC is asking that wells be put in and do testing and mow. Hopefully they can just let it ride until the commission gets it in writing.

RESOLUTON 2017-59

RESOLVE that the following vouchers be paid G156-170 in the sum of \$4109.27 and H92-97 in the sum of \$11,894.85 and TA in the sum of \$41.99 within funds according to the totals.

RESOLUTION by Wayne Chapman, seconded by Glenn Bleiler

VOTE 5 ayes, no noes

Larry suggested that we check with Glen Larison to see if we could put a roadway from the turnaround through to Grant Road if we put the ball fields out in the 10 acre field. This would cut down on the traffic going back down Park Rd. and help to cut down the chance of people getting hit. We will still discuss the ball fields and continue to look for grants to see if we can cover some of the costs.

Handicap ramp access--Tom Ruocco's estimate was \$8900+/- We talked about some of the options--even putting a roof over the lift and the porch. No consensus can be reached at this point. We can check into the price of a new lift--Should look at whatever is the most cost effective. option A would be what he turned in and option B would be to price a new lift and put a roof over the concrete pad. By replacing the lift with a new one, we would still have the problem with bees and the insecurity of people getting in the lift. More discussion to follow.

Budget workshop set for October 10, 2017 at Noon here at the office.

Jamee asked if there is a procedure for Harold to get back to someone who submits a complaint about a code/zoning violation. We do not know if Harold has a procedure for reporting but will check with him.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:21 p.m. made by Glenn Bleiler, seconded by Ron Hoffman. All in agreement

Respectfully submitted

Carmella Hoffman
Town Clerk/Collector