

TOWN OF CATHARINE  
TOWN BOARD MEETING  
August 16, 2022

Members Present: Supervisor, Richard Lewis; Councilmen: Glenn Bleiler, Ronald Hoffman, C. Michael Learn, Jamee Mack; Highway Superintendent, Marty Vondracek; Code Enforcement / Building Inspector Rick Carroll

Public in attendance: Barbara Halpin, Thomas Ruocco, William Fearn

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm by Supervisor Lewis.

Public Heard: Barbara Halpin came in to discuss the State's denial of the request to reduce the speed limit on Newtown Road. She will be going forward with asking the state to reconsider their decision. She also wanted to know what the town uses on the roads during the winter for ice and snow control as it is dirty and the particles get into everything. Marty told her that it is unwashed sand with small stones, as that is what we can afford with the current budget. She wanted the town to see about getting estimates for different materials to use in place of the unwashed sand etc. Marty said that the town will be switching to using washed sand when our current supply of unwashed sand is depleted.

Thomas Ruocco wanted to know which property in the hamlet of Alpine was being referenced in last month's meeting minutes.

Minutes: Minutes were approved as read, with one typographical correction.

RESOLUTION 57-2022

RESOLVE that the minutes of the July board meeting be accepted.

RESOLUTION by Jamee Mack, seconded by Ronald Hoffman.

VOTE 5 ayes, 0 noes

RESOLUTION 58-2022

RESOLVE that the July Clerk's Report be accepted as submitted to the Supervisor.

RESOLUTION by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by C. Michael Learn.

VOTE 5 ayes, 0 noes

RESOLUTION 59-2022

RESOLVE that the July Justice Report be accepted as submitted to the State Comptroller and the Supervisor.

RESOLUTION by Jamee Mack, seconded by Glenn Bleiler.

VOTE 5 ayes, 0 noes

Zoning Report:

Rick Carroll said that he has had a busy month. He worked three weeks and took one week off for vacation. Three building permits were issued with two coming from Zoning Board of

Appeals approvals. One permit was issued for a house addition. He did 13 inspections; 8 were for construction, 3 were final, and 2 were for follow-ups on violations. One violation has been resolved, and the other was issued and extension as the homeowner is on disability. Rick issued one certificate of completion and compliance, one certificate of occupancy, and one stop work order. He will be meeting with the contractor for the stop work order project on Monday to point out areas needing correction. There are three pending building permit applications. Rick has done an additional four hours of continuing education training for a total of 17 hours so far this year.

#### RESOLUTION 60-2022

RESOLVE that the May Supervisor's Report be accepted as submitted to the Supervisor.

RESOLUTION by Glenn Bleiler, seconded by Ronald Hoffman.

VOTE 5 ayes, 0 noes

#### RESOLUTION 61-2022

RESOLVE that the June Supervisor's Report be accepted as submitted to the Supervisor.

RESOLUTION by Glenn Bleiler, seconded by Jamee Mack.

VOTE 5 ayes, 0 noes

#### Highway Superintendent's Report:

During the storm on July 24, Marty received a call for a tree down on Swan Hill Road. It was a good size tree that broke half-way up. The highway department went off for vacation for two weeks. They've been cleaning up loose stone on Pertl Road and hauling in millings to trade for 1B's. They've also been hauling in washed sand, which will hopefully help to keep the dust down.

Marty had to take the Peterbilt to Owego for repairs. There is a bad spot on Pertl Road that they will have to dig out; it acts like there is trapped water under the road because the road is moving. He is hoping to dig 5 ft wide over to the ditch and cover it with crusher run and top with millings.

The Ram had a recall for the fuel pump putting metal into system. The parts are on backorder, and the repair place is only allowed to order 1 per week. They will call when it comes in to them.

Marty got new prices for a crew cab truck. Chevy hasn't picked up the order yet for the other truck. He was offered \$28,000 for trade-in value that is subject to change. The estimate for a new crew cab pickup truck from Maguire is \$52,779.43. Marty needs approval from the board to proceed with the order.

RESOLUTION 62-2022

RESOLVE that the Town of Catharine purchase a new crew cab pickup truck from Maguire at \$52,779.43. Both orders will be kept in place at this time, and the Town will accept the first order that is accepted by the company.

RESOLUTION by Jamee Mack, seconded by Ronald Hoffman.

VOTE 5 ayes, 0 noes

RESOLUTION 63-2022

RESOLVE that the June Supervisor's Report be accepted as submitted to the Supervisor.

RESOLUTION by Glenn Bleiler, seconded by Jamee Mack.

VOTE 5 ayes, 0 noes

RESOLUTION 64-2022

RESOLVE that the following bills be paid G 159 – G 175 in the total sum of \$12,563.14 and H79 – H 85 in the sum of \$4,850.02.

RESOLUTION by Jamee Mack, seconded by Glenn Bleiler.

VOTE 5 ayes, 0 noes

Unfinished Business:

Bookkeeper – the Town bookkeeper has agreed to stay on at this time as long as the Town Board is patient with her limited availability.

Rental Law – all of the board members have received a copy of the draft of the proposed rental registration law. Rick Carroll has been invited to assist with the process, and the proposed law will be discussed at the first budget workshop meeting in September.

Town Hall back steps – the steps have been fully repaired and sealed.

New Business:

Paving estimates – The Town Board has decided to put off considering paving the parking lot at the Town Hall until next year, with the hope that prices will come down.

Budget schedule – A budget workshop has been scheduled for: Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup> from 6 – 8 pm.

Cottage Road concerns – William Fearn came in to discuss a property on Cottage Road with multiple property owners who have deeded lake access. Real Property has not been able to tell him who owns the parcel. One of the residents wants to put in a dock, and some of the neighbors have concerns about liability issues with the property. Jamee Mack suggested that he should talk to Kelly Anderson regarding this matter, and she will also see if she can find any other information to help him.

Schuyler county Planning – Jamee Mack brought to the board’s attention a shared service agreement the Town had with the Schuyler County Planning Commission from 2012.

Cool Lea Campground – Jamee Mack discussed her concerns regarding an advertisement she saw on Facebook regarding a dump station at the campground. Rick Carroll will check with the appropriate department on the status of the dump station and any required inspections or usage restrictions.

Cayuta Creek – Jamee Mack contacted Jerry Verrigni at Schuyler County Soil and Water regarding the creek behind her property. There is a 4-to-6-foot gravel berm that has built up almost completely across the creek; hopefully Jerry and the DEC will get permits to possibly clean it up, or possibly assist her with getting a permit to have it done herself.

A motion to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation was made by Jamee Mack, seconded by Glenn Bleiler at 8:38 pm.

Motion to exit executive session made by Jamee Mack at 8:54 pm, seconded by Glenn Bleiler.

Motion to Adjourn by Jamee Mack, seconded by Glenn Bleiler.

Meeting adjourned at 8:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Kellie Kretchmer  
Town Clerk/Collector

**Next meeting September 20, 2022 at 7:00pm**