

TOWN OF CATHARINE  
TOWN BOARD MEETING  
February 21, 2023

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

Public in attendance: William Fearn, Deb Albro, Howard Cabezas, Roxanne Leyes, Chris Conolly, Taylor Peck.

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 pm by Supervisor Lewis.

Public Heard: Deb Albro discussed her concerns regarding safety issues with Cayutaville Road; a speed study of the road would need to be requested through the state department of transportation.

Additions to the Agenda: Jamee Mack told the board members about a potential property tax exemption local law that the county is proposing, which would involve volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers. It is a two-month process that would take effect next year.

Minutes: Minutes were approved as read.

RESOLUTION 10-2022

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

RESOLUTION by Jamee Mack, seconded by Ronald Hoffman.

VOTE 5 ayes, 0 noes

RESOLUTION 11-2022

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

RESOLUTION by Jamee Mack, seconded by Ronald Hoffman.

VOTE 5 ayes, 0 noes

RESOLUTION 12-2022

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

RESOLUTION by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by Glenn Bleiler.

VOTE 5 ayes, 0 noes

Zoning Report: Rick Carroll stated that it has been a busy month; he had one permit for renovations to an existing residence, and did two inspections for framing and plumbing. Rick talked with the owner of a property on State Route 224 regarding an apartment that the previous owner had built in the barn. There is currently no water or sewer hooked up, and the owner would like to bring the apartment up to code. Rick is looking to find a permit on file for that apartment and told the current owners not to do anything until they hear back from him.

Rick attended a ZBA meeting this month, and a code officers round table meeting. He got a lot of good information from that meeting. He also did some energy code research and extensive research on building planning for a resident with a lot of questions. He has been in contact with the new owner for the Havens Mobile Home Park. The inspection failed, but the sale will still go through as planned. The owner will have to work with an engineer to address issues at the park. Rick also did four hours of code training and spent lots of time in correspondence with the town attorney regarding matters ready for legal proceedings. He will have more information on those matters at next month's town board meeting.

#### RESOLUTION 13-2022

RESOLVE that the December Year-End Supervisor's Report be accepted as submitted to the Supervisor, with the knowledge that DB 2401 E has expended more than budgeted with the approval of the Town Board.

RESOLUTION by Jamee Mack, seconded by Glenn Bleiler.

VOTE 5 ayes, 0 noes

Highway Superintendent's Report: Marty told the board that the '04 International steering box was leaking fluid; he called Fleet Pride and was told to bring it down. They had it back within a week – the next day they did an early morning run and discovered oil leaking from the Pete. They pulled it into the shop and found the plow hitch had broken, and it slammed onto the pump. Marty took it to Wilbri for repair, and they discovered that when the plow was first installed, the installation company notched the frame to avoid the pump instead of moving the pump.

New rear brake pads were installed on the Ram. The front spring on the '79 autocar broke; they took it to Fleet Pride. They've been servicing equipment and put new teeth on the yard rake; all that's left to service is the grader.

Marty said that Vincent Turner will be retiring at the end of May. Marty wants to hire someone with at least three years of plow experience. After discussion, it was decided to advertise for the position for two weeks. Marty will provide Kellie with the information for the advertisement, and she will have it put into the papers and websites.

#### RESOLUTION 14-2022

RESOLVE that the following bills be paid: G22 – G48 in the total sum of \$11,390.43 and H11 – H19 in the sum of \$15,771.10.

RESOLUTION by Jamee Mack, seconded by C. Michael Learn.

VOTE 5 ayes, 0 noes

Unfinished Business: The Catharine Town Board members and members of the public discussed the proposed changes to the town's zoning ordinance, and the town attorney's

suggestion that it be changed into a local law. Members of the Planning Board present stated that they had not finalized any suggestions for the town board regarding the proposed changes, and would like time to do that. The Planning Board will meet in March to work on their input for the proposed changes.

New Business:

Security Cameras – Highway Garage: An estimate from SCT Computers was offered to the board members for installing a security camera system at the Highway Garage.

RESOLUTION 15-2022

RESOLVE that the estimate from SCT Computers for a security camera system for the highway garage be accepted.

RESOLUTION by Glenn Bleiler, seconded by Jamee Mack.

VOTE 5 ayes, 0 noes

Village of Odessa – The Village of Odessa inquired about joining with the Town of Catharine for recycling purposes. Richard Lewis will talk with the Mayor of Odessa regarding the estimated cost for an additional dumpster for the village residents, and their share of monitoring fees.

Recycling Monitoring Fee Increase – Richard Lewis discussed the need to increase the fee for monitoring by \$300 due to the increase to New York State's minimum wage. Glenn Bleiler said there is money in the budget line for recycling, so the increase is already covered by the amount that was budgeted.

Correspondence – A letter was received from the Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization regarding this year's dues; the board members approved payment for this at a previous meeting.

Motion to Adjourn by Glenn Bleiler, seconded by Ronald Hoffman.  
Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kellie Kretchmer  
Town Clerk/Collector

**Next meeting March 21, 2023 at 7:00pm**