

TOWN OF CATHARINE
TOWN BOARD MEETING
August 15, 2023

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

Public in attendance: Roxanne Leyes, Chris Conolly, Sharon Bradford, Brenda Reynolds, Brett Reynolds.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Supervisor Lewis.

Public Heard: Brett Reynolds and Sharon Bradford discussed their concerns about the proposed noise ordinance with the town board members. The board members answered numerous questions regarding why it was needed and how the noise ordinance would work.

Minutes: Minutes were approved as read.

RESOLUTION 52-2023

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 53-2023

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

RESOLUTION by Glenn Bleiler, seconded by Jamee Mack.

VOTE 5 ayes, 0 noes

RESOLUTION 54-2023

RESOLVE that the July 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: Tony said that he has done twelve inspections in the past month for wiring, foundation, roofs, insulation, waterlines, and gas lines. He has done lots of research on the solar permit application and has been working with Mike Brown from Cornell Cooperative Extension. Tony had a meeting with the lawyer here at the town hall and has been speaking with him on the phone regarding various matters. Tony checked on a pool that was installed and told them they needed to put in a fence, which has now been done. Tony has also been working with a town resident who is fully disabled and has had several code violations since 2019. Adult services will be donating a dumpster and Tony will be donating his time to help the resident get his place cleaned up. Tony has been driving by the locations that had violation letters sent – nothing has been fixed at these locations, so more letters will be sent to start court proceedings. Tony discussed the ongoing

methane digester project, and their request for information on whether the town had discretionary approval on their project. He stated the town should not be handling the SEQRA for that project, and said that the DEC regulates projects of that nature for farming.

RESOLUTION 55-2023

RESOLVE that the July 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: Marty said that they did some shared services with Hector and Soil and Water. The guys also repaired and painted the dugouts. They've been out cutting brush and patching holes and mowing. They've also assembled the new bleachers, but Marty wants to put in anchors to keep them from being easily carried away. Marty said that they've pulled the shoulders on Newtown Road; water had been pooling on the road but now it's running off the road. The new Pete will be in by the end of the month.

Marty asked the board members about the road specifications document he had provided to them at the last meeting. They discussed their concerns about adopting it, and Marty answered their questions and stated it would help protect the town. This will be discussed again at the next board meeting, and the board members will take the specifications home to review before the next meeting.

RESOLUTION 56-2023

RESOLVE that the following bills be paid: G 159 – G 183 in the total sum of \$35,922.41 and H 79 – H 86 in the sum of \$ 473,522.38.

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

VOTE 5 ayes, 0 noes

Unfinished Business:

Zoning Changes – Supervisor Lewis stated that zoning changes are still being discussed. He also stated that all rentals in the town right now are considered "illegal," as no site plan review or fire inspections were done. Tony Nevone stated that the lawyer is working on getting things pulled together and simplified for zoning. Tony added that even if rental regulations aren't included in the town's current zoning, there are state codes/regulations that can be enforced.

Town Hall Paving – Kellie presented the one sealed bid for paving to the town supervisor. The board members discussed the large amount of bills that needed to be paid this month and the need to leave adequate funding for unknown future expenditures. Ronald Hoffman stated that if the parking lot is going to be paved it should be done now, as the prices won't be going down. Jamee Mack asked Marty about maintaining a paved parking lot, and Marty said that it can be sealed in the future as needed and would be easier to maintain than what we have now. C. Michael Learn was absent during the last board meeting and stated that he had a hard time supporting the expenditure. The other board members asked the town clerk to explain some of the reasons for wanting the parking lot paved, including parking and safety issues.

RESOLUTION 57-2023

RESOLVE that the Town of Catharine accept Spencer Paving's bid for paving the area in front of the Town Hall and Court area as presented in their bid at \$24,870.

RESOLUTION by Glenn Bleiler, seconded by Richard Lewis.

VOTE 5 ayes, 0 noes

Ronald Hoffman asked Marty about taking back some of the overflow parking lot area that has become overgrown with weeds to expand the current parking area.

New Business:

Jamee Mack stated that there is a new interim county administrator, and the county will be advertising for the position. Kellie stated that the second quarter sales tax check in the amount of \$32,845.93 was received this month from the county.

Motion to Adjourn by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by Glenn Bleiler.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kellie A. Kretchmer
Town Clerk/Collector

Next Meeting September 19, 2023

