

TOWN OF CATHARINE
TOWN BOARD MEETING
September 19, 2023

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

Public in attendance: Jim & Linda Gilbert, Sharon Bradford, Roxanne Leyes, Howard Cabezas, Barbara Halpin, Chris Conolly, Kristi Allen, Deb Albro, Bill Fearn, Brett Reynolds, Bird Southern, Anne Wilson, Kay Friedlander.

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

Public Heard: Bill Fearn asked to add parking issues on Cottage Road to the agenda.

Minutes: Minutes were approved as read.

RESOLUTION 58-2023

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

RESOLUTION by Jamee Mack, seconded by Ronald Hoffman.

VOTE 5 ayes, 0 noes

RESOLUTION 59-2023

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

RESOLUTION by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by Jamee Mack.

VOTE 5 ayes, 0 noes

RESOLUTION 60-2023

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

RESOLUTION by Glenn Bleiler, seconded by Ronald Hoffman.

VOTE 5 ayes, 0 noes

Zoning Report: Tony said that he has done fifteen inspections in the last six days, and has sent multiple violation letters. A squatter was removed from one structure, and a property adding an addition without a permit will be issued a court appearance date soon. Tony will be donating his time to assist a farm owner in removing an unsafe structure as the owner does not have the funds to have it torn down.

Supervisor's Report: The Town of Catharine's new bookkeeper, Becki Wheeler, introduced herself to the board members. She is enjoying her work for the town, and is still learning the Williamson program.

Highway Superintendent's Report: Marty said that the new Pete is pretty good, but he had to take it back to the dealer for computer adjustments; the PTO shut off on him at 8 mph, and the Jake brake needs adjustments as well. It drives and works well; it just needs a few adjustments. They have also been doing some shared services with Hector and have been hauling in winter materials. Soil and water picked up the new plow and wing for them so there wouldn't be any issues with wide loads and ticketing issues. Chips papers have been turned in, and the chip seal on Oak Hill Road was done on the 11th. The payment for that is in tonight's bills; that's the last one for this year's chips work. They've also been doing office cleanup and mowing.

RESOLUTION 61-2023

RESOLVE that the following bills be paid: G 184 – G 207 in the total sum of \$13,231.63 and H 87 – H 97 in the sum of \$15,915.57.

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

VOTE 5 ayes, 0 noes

Unfinished Business:

Zoning Changes – Supervisor Lewis asked where we are at in regards to the zoning changes and public hearing; it was explained that we are waiting on a new draft from the lawyer with all of the proposed changes applied. Supervisor Lewis will check with the lawyer on the status of the draft. Chris Conolly suggested separating the Noise Control section out of the proposed zoning law changes so that it could be settled more quickly. There was much discussion between the board members and the public present. Tony Nevone offered a printout with state regulations on musical instruments in New York. Supervisor Lewis asked Kellie to pull the noise control section out of the zoning changes draft and put it in local law format to be distributed for review by the board members at the next meeting. After review, a public hearing can be scheduled for the following board meeting and then it can be sent in to the state for approval.

Cottage Road Parking – Bill Fearn explained the many issues the residents of Cottage Road have with parking problems on Cottage Road. The issues were discussed by the board members and public present, and Marty will look into getting a “no on street parking” sign for that road.

Road Specifications – Marty explained that his proposal for Road Specifications for the Town of Catharine would only apply to new roads being turned over to the Town of Catharine, and would not be applied to existing roads already owned by the Town of Catharine.

RESOLUTION 62-2023

RESOLVE that the Town of Catharine adopt the Road Specifications document put forth by Martin Vondracek, Highway Superintendent, for any new roads being added to the Town of Catharine.

RESOLUTION by Jamee Mack, seconded by Glenn Bleiler.

VOTE 5 ayes, 0 noes

Town Assessor – Jessica Ryan has finished her training for the assessor position.

RESOLUTION 63-2023

RESOLVE that the Town of Catharine appoint Jessica Ryan as the sole appointed assessor for the Town of Catharine with a term ending September 30, 2025.

RESOLUTION by Jamee Mack, seconded by Glenn Bleiler.

VOTE 5 ayes, 0 noes

Budget – The board members will meet on October 11, 2023 at 4 pm to start working on next year's budget. A member of the public present asked why a copy of the bills was not posted on the town's website with each month's meeting minutes; it was explained why that would not be feasible. After the bills have been prepared for the monthly board meetings, a summary copy will be available in the town hall for perusal during regular business hours.

Invasive Species Grant Opportunities – Jamee Mack talked about the grants available for invasive species. The board members and members of the public present discussed the many issues our lake is faced with, and county planning will be contacted to see what help might be available.

Executive Session – The members of the public were asked to leave before the town board went into executive session.

Motion by Jamee Mack, seconded by Glenn Bleiler, to enter executive session at 8:21 pm. All in favor, 0 opposed.

Executive Session entered at 8:21 pm.

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

Executive Session exited at 8:54 pm; no resolution.

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 October 17, 2023 at 7:00 pm