

TOWN OF CATHARINE
TOWN BOARD MEETING following
Public Hearings for Noise Control Law and 2024 Budget
November 21, 2023

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

Absent: C. Michael Learn

Public in attendance: Adam Mahnke, Sharon Bradford, Cheyenne Bradford, Devin Perry, Bob Grover, David Burke, Roxanne Leyes, David M. Reed, Chris Conolly, Jonah Conolly, Brenda Reynolds, Brett Reynolds, April Mann, Rosa Rice, Kristi Allen.

Noise Control Public Hearing

The Public Hearing for the proposed Noise Control Law was called to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Lewis.

Various members of the public present gave their opinions for and against the proposed noise control law. Concerns were raised about whether this proposed law would be enforceable, and Supervisor Lewis and Code Enforcement Officer Tony Nevone responded that it would be enforceable. Various members of the public present explained why they were for or against the proposed draft as it is currently written. Suggestions for changes were noted, and the members of the public present were encouraged to give suggestions for changes to the town clerk. Supervisor Lewis stated that the town will work on changes to the current draft and submit it to the public as soon as possible. Public Hearing ended at 8:15 pm.

2024 Budget Public Hearing

The Public Hearing for the 2024 Budget for the Town of Catharine was called to order at 8:15 pm by Supervisor Lewis. Members of the public present were asked for their comments. Chris Conolly asked about a possible error on page 13, and Glenn Bleiler addressed his concerns. There was no error found. Public Hearing ended at 8:22 pm.

Town Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 8:24 pm by Supervisor Lewis.
Public Heard: Fire Chief Adam Mahnke from Odessa came in to ask questions regarding the permitting process for special events. Supervisor Lewis explained the process, and the town clerk will email him a copy of the event application form.

Minutes: Minutes were approved as read.

RESOLUTION 69-2023

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

RESOLUTION by Jamee Mack, seconded by Glenn Bleiler.

VOTE 4 ayes, 0 noes

RESOLUTION 70-2023

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

RESOLUTION by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by Glenn Bleiler.

VOTE 4 ayes, 0 noes

RESOLUTION 71-2023

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

RESOLUTION by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by Jamee Mack.

VOTE 4 ayes, 0 noes

Zoning Report: Tony reported that he wrote 22 code violation letters and did 35 house inspections. Three properties are scheduled for demolition, and he is working on removing people from unsafe/unsanitary buildings. There will be several more coming soon. One property in the hamlet of Alpine was issued a "do not occupy" notice, and the watershed department stated that the septic on that property is not good. The septic is within 50 feet of the well, and should be 100 feet away.

Supervisor's Report – None at this time. The new bookkeeper is hoping to have the outstanding Supervisor's Reports ready for the next board meeting.

Highway Superintendent's Report: Marty said that they have finished some grading, but the weather turned. They've been hauling 1B's and sand, and will be doing ditching on Steam Mill Road until the snow flies. Marty said that they've also been doing some shared services work in Cayuta on Varney Hill Road. The trucks are ready for winter, and they've done one run already this afternoon. All of the trucks are working now, including the new one that needed adjustments to the computers.

RESOLUTION 72-2023

RESOLVE that the following bills be paid: G 228 – G 249 in the total sum of \$6,572.30 and H 108 – H 121 in the sum of \$8,289.61.

RESOLUTION by Jamee Mack, seconded by Glenn Bleiler.

VOTE 4 ayes, 0 noes

Unfinished Business:

Noise Control Law – The members of the board will work on a new draft to present to the public as soon as possible.

2024 Budget – Glenn Bleiler talked about inflation, and the need to increase employee salaries to reflect this increase. Adam Mahnke from the Odessa Fire Department stated that the cost for the fire district protection will also be increasing next year.

RESOLUTION 73-2023

RESOLVE that the Town of Catharine approve the 2024 Budget as presented to the Town Board.

RESOLUTION by Glenn Bleiler, seconded by Jamee Mack.

VOTE 4 ayes, 0 noes

New Business:

Humane Society of Schuyler County – The town received a renewal notice for dog sheltering services from the Humane Society, along with a letter explaining possible price increases for 2025.

RESOLUTION 74-2023

RESOLVE that the Town of Catharine renew the contract with the Humane Society of Schuyler County for dog sheltering services for 2024.

RESOLUTION by Ronald Hoffman, seconded by Glenn Bleiler.

VOTE 4 ayes, 0 noes

NYSERDA Grant – The Town of Catharine was awarded a \$5,000 grant from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority's Clean Energy Communities program. The Town of Catharine was named a Clean Energy Community, and a list of possible uses for the grant was provided by the program.

Correspondence – Jamee Mack presented information to the board from an email she received regarding the creation of a lake district. Other options for obtaining funding for treating the lake were discussed.

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 Ronald Hoffman, to enter executive session to discuss a personnel matter at 8:58 pm. All in favor, 0 opposed.

Executive Session entered at 8:58 pm.

Motion by Jamee Mack, seconded by Glenn Bleiler, to exit executive session at 9:33 pm. All in favor, 0 opposed.

Executive Session exited at 9:33 pm; no resolution.

Motion to Adjourn by Jamee Mack, seconded by Glenn Bleiler.
Meeting adjourned at 9:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kellie Kretchmer
Town Clerk/Collector

Next meeting December 19, 23023 at 7:00pm

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