

DECEMBER 13, 2017

The first monthly meeting of the Ellington Town Board was held on December 13, 2017 at 7:00p.m. at the Ellington Town Hall, 813 W. Main Street, Ellington, N.Y.

PRESENT: Laura M. Cronk, Supervisor  
Jeffrey L. Chase, Councilman  
Barbara Beightol, Councilwoman  
Dennis Colvenback, Highway Superintendent  
Karen G. Bifaro, Town Clerk/Recording Secretary  
Sandy Colvenback, resident  
Wesley Johnson III, resident  
Jeff McIntosh & son, Caretakers  
Kevin Colburn, Councilman-elect

ABSENT: Kelly Rhinehart, Councilman  
Tamara Miles, Councilwoman

Supervisor opened the meeting at 7:00p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Wes Johnson spoke to the Town Board about his concerns of the many broken monuments at the cemetery. He has found this of interest and has researched the process of repairing, instead of replacing, these broken pieces of stone with epoxy. Steve Lundsten has fixed some of the monuments previously. Supervisor thanked him for his community interest and said we do have some funding for this and will discuss this in spring.

No one else was present for Public Participation so this part of the meeting was closed.

### **Unfinished Business**

Caretaker bids are on the agenda for tonight but with only 3 Town Board members present and one member abstaining from vote, which only leaves 2 members to vote which is not allowed. Motion made by Beightol, seconded by Chase to table the vote on the Caretaker bid until next meeting on December 27<sup>th</sup>.

VOTE: Chase-aye, Beightol-aye, Cronk-aye Carried.

Flagpole has been set in Town Park by John Jarosynski of Geer Dunn. Decorative blocks for surround have been delivered and stacked in Park waiting for good weather. Councilman Rhinehart tried to remove the concrete from millstone but was unsuccessful. New lamppost lights have been installed at Town Hall by our Hwy. Supt. and they look great!

Cards have been mailed to new Councilmen, Kevin Colburn and Jeff Reynolds that year end meeting is Weds, December 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00p.m., when oaths will be taken by newly elected officers. Organizational meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00p.m.

**New Business**

Paid Family Leave program that is starting January 2018 was discussed. Hwy. Supt. has attended a meeting to help understand how PFL will affect the Town of Ellington. Public employees have an option to opt in or out of the PFL program as the Town still carries Disability through Worker's Comp on employees. Information was read and discussed by the Town Board. Motion made by Beightol, seconded by Chase to have the Town of Ellington opt out of Paid Family Leave Program.

VOTE: Chase-aye, Beightol-aye, Cronk-aye Carried.

Randy Graham from Sloan-Melhuish Insurance met with Supervisor to discuss the Town's Insurance for 2018. He was told by Selective Insurance that insurance premium cost may be up 5%. Received a call from Randy on Tuesday that our Town Insurance will go up 1.6% from \$24,348 to \$24,747 which is covered in the budget.

**Highway Superintendent Report**

Employees are using up all their left over vacation time by end of year but have been available for plowing. Hauling in sand for salt/sand mixture on roads. Ditching has been done on Wade Hill Road and Young Street. Concrete blocks have been dug out and reset on Dean School Rd where it has been washed out. County bulldozer was working on Harris Hollow Road (shared services) where creek is washing shoulder away. While weather was good, chopper was put on excavator to do some brush chopping. New invertor was installed on highway bldg. solar panels and they are back up and running. Of course highway dept. is plowing . . plowing . . . plowing. Councilwoman Beightol commented about the side of road crumbling off by Larkin's on Dean School Road and making the road feel narrow. Supervisor commented and asked the Town Board to read the article in Town Topics magazine about the responsibility of mailboxes.

Motion made by Beightol, seconded by Chase to accept the Highway Supt report as submitted.

VOTE: Chase-aye, Beightol-aye, Cronk-aye Carried.

At this time the Town Board reviewed the bills as follows:

General Fund Claim Nos:	#274 - #295	\$6,500.03
Highway Fund Claim Nos:	#158 - #163	2,505.09
Trust & Agency Fund Claim Nos:	#45 - #46	<u>1,520.02</u>
ABSTRACT NO. 23	TOTAL	\$10,525.14

Motion made by Beightol, seconded by Chase to pay the bills as submitted.

VOTE: Chase-aye, Beightol-aye, Cronk-aye Carried.

Supervisor received the following checks for deposit:

11/30	\$932.39	Charter (Time Warner) franchise fees.(07/01/17-09/30/17)
12/13	592.48	Town Clerk fees-November 2017
12/13	220.00	Town Justice fees-October 2017
12/13	1,137.20	Town Justice fees-November 2017

Motion made by Beightol, seconded by Chase to accept the minutes of November 22,2017 as written.

VOTE: Chase-aye, Beightol-aye, Cronk-aye Carried.

Town Board members received a Library report of each month's activities from the Library Director.

Motion made by Chase, seconded by Beightol to approve the Budget Modifications as reported by Bahgat & Laurito-Bahgat CPAs.

VOTE: Chase-aye, Beightol-aye, Cronk-aye Carried.

Motion made by Chase, seconded by Beightol to accept the Financial Report for November 2017 as prepared by Bahgat & Laurito-Bahgat CPAs.

VOTE: Chase-aye, Beightol-aye, Cronk-aye Carried.

Motion made by Chase to adjourn the meeting at 8:00p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen G. Bifaro  
Town Clerk/Recd Secy