

JANUARY 24, 2018

The meeting of the Ellington Town Board was held on January 24, 2018 at 7:00p.m.at the Ellington Town Hall, 813 W. Main Street, Ellington, N.Y.

PRESENT: Laura M. Cronk, Supervisor  
Barbara Beightol, Councilwoman  
Kelly Rhinehart, Councilman  
Kevin D. Colburn, Councilman  
Jeffrey Reynolds, Councilman (7:08pm)  
Dennis Colvenback, Highway Superintendent  
Karen G. Bifaro, Town Clerk/Recording Secretary  
Rodney Lind, Building Code Enforcement Officer  
Sandy Colvenback, Resident

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

Jonathan Mayr from Southern Tier West met with Supervisor Cronk, Councilwoman Beightol and Building Code Officer Lind on the 16<sup>th</sup> of January to discuss compliance for becoming a Clean Energy Community. Rod Lind was present to discuss the grant for Clean Energy Communities and what requirements we will need to follow to receive this grant funding. Majority of towns in the County have already become Clean Energy Communities and received this grant. Other opportunities will be available for us by becoming a Clean Energy Community. Councilman Reynolds interjected that he had missed the beginning of the presentation due to being a few minutes late and requested the Supervisor wait to start meeting and show the same respect to him as has been done for other Board members.

Motion made by Beightol, seconded by Rhinehart to register and proceed with Town of Ellington becoming a Clean Energy Community. Councilwoman Beightol will volunteer to do the benchmarking part of the grant requirement.

VOTE: Beightol-aye, Rhinehart-aye, Colburn-aye, Reynolds-nay, Cronk-aye Carried.

No one was in attendance from the public so this portion of the meeting was closed.

### **Unfinished Business**

The annual requirement to sign the "Agreement to Spend Highway Funds" was discussed and signed by Town Board members, Supervisor and Highway Supt. This will be sent to the County.

The Supervisor met with the new Assessor, Roxanne Aucoin, and discussed her hours. She will be in the office on Tuesdays from 4:00p.m. to 7:30p.m.

Concerning the appointment of an Tax Assessor, Councilman Reynolds commented that he was in Mayville and spoke with James Caflisch, Chaut. Co. Real Property Tax Service, and was told there was no deadline for STAR applications. Mr. Caflisch will be called to verify his information as all paperwork for Enhanced STAR and Ag Exemptions say the deadline is March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Supervisor read Resolution No.1 - 2018, "Contract With Other Municipalities Through Shared Services". Town Clerk called a roll call vote of Town Board Members as follows:  
POLL VOTE: Beightol-aye, Rhinehart-aye, Colburn-aye, Reynolds-aye. Carried.

Franchise agreement from Time Warner was discussed as it reads: "cable will be hooked up to Town Hall and Hwy. Bldg." The company is not honoring this agreement. This will be discussed with the Attorney.

### **New Business**

#### Annual Reports

Motion made by Rhinehart, seconded by Beightol to accept the Town Clerk's 2017 annual report as submitted.

VOTE: Beightol-aye, Rhinehart-aye, Colburn-aye, Reynolds-aye, Cronk-aye Carried.

Motion made by Beightol, seconded by Reynolds to accept the Town Justice's 2017 annual report as submitted.

VOTE: Beightol-aye, Rhinehart-aye, Colburn-aye, Reynolds-aye, Cronk-aye Carried.

Motion made by Beightol, seconded by Rhinehart to accept Town Historian's annual report as submitted.

VOTE: Beightol-aye, Rhinehart-aye, Colburn-aye, Reynolds-aye, Cronk-aye Carried.

Audit Committee met twice in January to audit the 2017 financial books of Town Supervisor, Town Justice, and Town Clerk. Councilman Reynolds noted that the description of a journal needs to be clarified for next year's audit.

Supervisor suggests we change the meeting date to the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of a month on a Wednesday or Tuesday so as she is not paying bills without the Town Board's approval. Also financial statement will be a month behind when having meetings late in month.

Motion made by Rhinehart, seconded by Reynolds to hold Town Board meeting on Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00p.m.

VOTE: Beightol-aye, Rhinehart-aye, Colburn-aye, Reynolds-aye, Cronk-aye Carried.

At organizational meeting, Councilman Rhinehart suggested we look over our sexual harassment policy and sent a copy of the County's policy to the Supervisor. Supervisor appointed Councilwoman Beightol and Hwy. Supt. to form a committee to look over policy and make sure it is the same as employee handbook policy, bringing back recommendations to the Town Board at next meeting.

Conewango Valley Park Use Application was submitted by Linda Millspaw for Conewango Valley United Methodist Church for an Easter Egg Hunt on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Motion made by Beightol, seconded by Reynolds to approve the C.V. Park use application.

VOTE: Beightol-aye, Rhinehart-aye, Colburn-aye, Reynolds-aye, Cronk-aye Carried.

Discussed spraying the building for flies, also the bugs in the front of the building get really bad in summer. Building was sprayed years ago. Supervisor called Orkin, they will spray twice a year and dust windowsills for \$399.00/yr. Southern Tier Pest Control would spray in April and again in Sept. for \$200. each. Would also spray light fixtures to keep insects off also they will do a midseason touch up.

Motion made by Beightol, seconded by Colburn to have either company spray the entire building.

VOTE: Beightol-aye, Rhinehart-aye, Colburn-aye, Reynolds-aye, Cronk-aye Carried.

Supervisor read a notice of the Assoc. of Towns training in NYC in February. There is also a training of Powers & Duties for Elected and Incumbent Local Officials at Southern Tier West on February 27<sup>th</sup> from 6-8p.m.

Town Board members received a newsletter with schedule of Library events from the Librarian.

### **Highway Superintendent Report**

Flood damage repairs have been completed. Used all our millings to do the repairs. Hauled in sand from Corbett Hill and salt from the County. Truck #10 had a radiator problem. Will take pictures for warranty and let Mack Truck know if radiator is replaced or repaired. Replaced rear wheel hubs and rims on Truck #4 (1994). The "winter project" of making a Back-blade for blacktopping the road is continuing but should be done before winter is over.

Motion made by Beightol, seconded by Reynolds to accept the Hwy. Supt. report as submitted.

VOTE: Beightol-aye, Rhinehart-aye, Colburn-aye, Reynolds-aye, Cronk-aye Carried.

Councilman Rhinehart asked about the wrecker on Wolcott Road, Hwy Supt. said one the trucks went in the ditch and needed to be pulled out. Councilman Rhinehart also stated that apparently a highway truck had turned around on his property and left big ruts on his yard and he is concerned about his drywell being collapsed.

Hwy. Supt. assured him this will be fixed this in the spring and that the plowing schedule on Mill Street has been change. Councilman Rhinehart also told the Hwy Supt. that he had received a text on January 1<sup>st</sup> that a highway truck had pulled down a wire on 28 Creek Road on the Carpenter residence on December 31st. Hwy Supt commented that he was not informed of this incident and this was the first he had known about this. He will check into it.

**Audit & Payment of Claims**

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

|                                |          |                  |
|--------------------------------|----------|------------------|
| General Fund Claim Nos:        | #1 - #34 | \$70,308.63      |
| Highway Fund Claim Nos:        | #1 - #20 | 37,799.03        |
| Trust & Agency Fund Claim Nos: | #1 - #6  | <u>34,423.34</u> |
| ABSTRACT NO. 1                 | TOTAL    | \$142,531.00     |

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

VOTE: Beightol-aye, Rhinehart-aye, Colburn-aye, Reynolds-aye, Cronk-aye Carried.

Supervisor received the following checks for deposit:

\$1,663.66 Town Clerk December 2017 fees

No funds from the Justice court for December 2017

Motion made by Beightol, seconded by Rhinehart to accept the minute of December 27, 2017 as submitted.

VOTE: Beightol-aye, Rhinehart-aye, Colburn-aye, Reynolds-aye, Cronk-aye Carried.

Motion made by Beightol, seconded by Colburn to accept the minutes of January 3, 2018 with the correction made.

VOTE: Beightol-aye, Rhinehart-aye, Colburn-aye, Reynolds-aye, Cronk-aye Carried.

**Committee Reports**

Christmas decorations and tree have been removed from the Town Park. Councilman

Rhinehart will contact the Boy Scout Council to see if they want to earn merits by cleaning up the Veterans millstone. Councilwoman Beightol asks that Councilman Rhinehart continue to get estimate for the concrete in the Park and to be given permission to continue with a grant for improvements in the Park. Suggestion to place ad in paper for bid proposals for electric upgrade and concrete.

Motion made by Rhinehart, seconded by Colburn to place Legal Notice in Post Journal for bid proposals for electric upgrade and concrete work in the Town Park.

VOTE: Beightol-aye, Rhinehart-aye, Colburn-aye, Reynolds-aye, Cronk-aye Carried.

Motion made by Rhinehart, seconded by Colburn to approve Councilwoman Beightol to apply for a grant for playground equipment.

VOTE: Beightol-aye, Rhinehart-aye, Colburn-aye, Reynolds-aye, Cronk-aye Carried.

### **Monthly Reports**

Motion made by Beightol, seconded by Reynolds to accept the Town Clerk monthly report as submitted.

VOTE: Beightol-aye, Rhinehart-aye, Colburn-aye, Reynolds-aye, Cronk-aye Carried.

Motion made by Rhinehart, seconded by Beightol to accept the Building Code Officer's monthly report as submitted.

VOTE: Beightol-aye, Rhinehart-aye, Colburn-aye, Reynolds-aye, Cronk-aye Carried.

Justice report submitted for information only.

Motion made by Beightol, seconded by Rhinehart to accept the Financial Report for December 2017 as submitted by Bahgat & Laurito-Bahgat CPAs.

VOTE: Beightol-aye, Rhinehart-aye, Colburn-aye, Reynolds-aye, Cronk-aye Carried.

Motion made by Rhinehart to adjourn the meeting at 9:15p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen G. Bifaro  
Town Clerk/Recd Secy.