Town of Johnsburg Minutes of the Town Board Meeting -March 1, 2022

PRESENT:

Andrea Hogan – Supervisor

Arnold Stevens – Councilman Peter Olesheski – Councilman Eugene Arsenault – Councilman Jean Comstock – Town Clerk Justin Gonyo – Councilman

- 1. Supervisor Hogan called the Meeting to order at 7:01PM and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Karen Dunkley.
- 2. Approval of February 15, 2022 Meeting Minutes

RESOLUTION #22-40 - Mr. Arsenault presented the following Resolution and moved its passage with a Second Motion by Mr. Olesheski – to accept the Meeting Minutes from February 15, 2022.

With all Town Board Members present voting in favor, the Resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 5 (Hogan, Stevens, Arsenault, Gonyo, Olesheski); nays – 0.

- 3. Correspondence Town Clerk indicated that is a Yearly Safety Report and a letter from the Highway Superintendent in the packets.
- 4. New Business:
- a. Mindy Preuninger gave a presentation of the Kiosk services; could have regional, medical, local businesses, etc. on it. It would be located at TPCC under cover and would be handicap accessible; it is weather resistant; it's a touch screen; can have maps, menus, etc. it would be a direct connect to business websites; Supervisor Hogan noted it would be like a virtual Chamber of Commerce; Mr. Olesheski asked if not-for-profits could be on it? Mindy noted as long as they have a website, absolutely. Mr. Stevens asked who would maintain and update it? Mindy noted that whatever is on each website would be updated by the business; NCBA could potentially be the "point" for updating maps and such; Mr. Olesheski noted he's concerned about vandalism; Mindy stated there is a 2-year warranty to cover the Kiosk, but doesn't believe it would cover vandalism; Mindy also noted that they are designed to be outside and are used all over the Country; Mr. Olesheski asked if there are any close by we could go see? Mindy is getting the nearest location and will let us know. Possibly putting one at Gore Mountain, an additional Kiosk would be about \$9,500. Mr. Olesheski asked if we could insure it, Supervisor Hogan noted she would check on that. Mindy noted that we should know about the \$10,000 grant soon and would be great to have in before summer; Mr. Stevens indicated that no General Funds should be used for this project; Supervisor Hogan noted that there are more grants out there as well and will try to get the additional \$15,000 in occ tax from the County; Mr. Olesheski asked if it could be moved? Mindy – yes. Let's start with it at TPCC and Gore and move if necessary. Let's go with \$20,00 in occ tax, grant and ask NCBA if they could help out financially as well.

RESOLUTION #22-41

Mr. Stevens presented the Resolution and moved its passage with a Second Motion by Mr. Arsenault to purchase the Kiosk with occ tax monies and grant.

- With all Town Board Members present voting in favor, the Resolution is declared carried Ayes -5. (Hogan, Stevens, Arsenault, Gonyo, Olesheski); nays -0.
- b. Supervisor Hogan gave a brief description of the work the students are doing; it's free design work, it's conceptual; no land has been purchased, it will be a public process if it goes through; we are no where near ready to move forward; this discussion is about the work the Clarkson students have done and are doing; Mrs. Nessle noted that there have been about five meetings with the students; they will hand in their schematics to their professor; it's very conceptual right now and it's going well; the students working on the Park design are having a little communication glitch and I'll speak with the Professor; Mr. Stevens noted that this is all just preliminary work; Mr. Arsenault stated that more information is needed and more discussions need to happen before anything can move further; Mr. Gonyo indicated he echoes Mr. Arsenault's concerns and that a lot of questions need to be answered. Mrs. Dunkley asked if the Board has seen any plans for the 70 acre parcel that is being looked at and also asked why the Town Garage needed to be moved; Mrs. Nessle noted that back in 1990's it was discussed and there was an agreement with ORDA and Front Street; 2015 a group of concerned citizens noted that the Town is in need of more outdoor activities for destination travelers, need to develop more trails, hiking, biking, etc. there was a study on the roads for people coming into North Creek; in 2016 Mike Pratt wanted to bring summer venues to the Town and needs a place to have this happen; the Town needs to get a handle on ORDA's control of the Park; residents want and need a community park; Mrs. Dunkley asked if it was because people felt it was an "eye sore"? the community needs to be involved and what do you feel the priorities are? Supervisor Hogan noted that "if" we're ever ready, we'll have an open discussion; Beverly Hudnut suggested that there be a stakeholder survey as part of the planning process with the students; Mrs. Nessle noted that criteria was given to the students to work with; the students will present their work to the community when it's done; Senator Clarkson asked what is the purpose of the move and what exactly is being moved; Mrs. Nessle gave a scope of the project; Senator Clarkson asked about remediation of gas pumps, oil, etc. Mrs. Nessle indicated that the students were putting that into their process; Mr. Dunkely asked who the "we" are? Mrs. Nessle stated that "we" is the Friends of Johnsburg Park Committee – Peter Horvath, Jane Peter, Chuck Barton, Pete Hoskins, Bob Nessle and myself; Mrs. Dunkley asked if this "core group" has been recognized by the Town Board? Supervisor Hogan indicated that if there are people in the community that want to volunteer their time for projects we're not going to say no. Senator Clarkson – best to keep all informed; Supervisor Hogan noted that it will be on the agenda and the public will be notified.
- c. Letter from Highway Superintendent asking for a permanent resolution to post roads: "To Supervisor and Town Board Members: I would like to request the Board's approval to make a permanent resolution that the roads in the Town of Johnsburg be "posted" each year no earlier than March 15th and removed no later than May 1st. Making this a permanent resolution would eliminate the need to do this each year at a Board Meeting. Thank you for your consideration. Fred Comstock, Highway Superintendent"

RESOLUTION #22 -42 -

Mr. Olesheski presented the Resolution and moved its passage with a Second Motion by Mr. Gonyo to approve the road posting request.

With all Town Board Members present voting in favor, the Resolution is declared carried Ayes -5. (Hogan, Stevens, Arsenault, Gonyo, Olesheski); nays -0.

- d. Ernie Dunkley, Safety Officer, reviewed his yearly report; 2021 was a good year at \$1,600 in payouts; we have 88 days accident free; the training that we continue to do with the County is extremely helpful. Supervisor Hogan noted that Mr. Ernie Dunkley is being very humble and has done a great job; Mr. Stevens asked if this training was on line or in person? Mr. Ernie Dunkley noted that 90% of it is in person, hands on.
- e. Supervisor Hogan asked for approval for membership to EDC they work well with the Town, it would be \$1,000; we have worked with Adirondack Towns & Park, but haven't heard of any meetings or events, we approved this previously; Mr. Olesheski asked if this approval for EDC would negate the past resolution? Supervisor Hogan indicated that this would be a new resolution and would like to table the previous resolution for now for further discussion.

RESOLUTION #22-43 -

Mr. Stevens presented the Resolution and moved its passage with a Second Motion by Mr. Olesheski for approval of membership to EDC.

With all Town Board Members present voting in favor, the Resolution is declared carried Ayes – 5 (Hogan, Stevens, Arsenault, Gonyo, Olesheski); nays – 0.

- f. Defensive Driving Class Joann Morehouse as the Administrative Clerk is our HR contact; Ms. Morehouse looked into a defensive driving class, it would save on Town and personal insurance; it's \$25 per person and is totally voluntary; Mr. Ernie Dunkley added that he thought it was a great idea and possibly open it to family members as well, with them paying their own \$25; Mr. Olesheski noted that the County used to do this, but the level of training did not qualify for reduced insurance rates, it was just mandatory training; Mr. Ernie Dunkley stated he would look into this and get information for the next Board Meeting; Mr. Arsenault asked if it was in-person or online training; it was noted that it was on-line; Mr. Olesheski noted it would be beneficial and let's see what information Mr. Ernie Dunkley can provide us.
- 5. Committee Reports Mr. Olesheski I need to meet with the Highway Superintendent and Mr. Arsenault to get up to speed; also will be meeting with the Bargaining Committee, after speaking with Mr. Mike Dunkley they have one more go-through before presenting to the Board. Mr. Gonyo indicated that Joe Connelly, Johnsburg EMS, asked if there was a safety plan for the entire community? Supervisor Hogan indicated that we do have a template and will need to schedule a meeting to discuss.
- 6. Supervisor's Report Supervisor Hogan asked if all Board Members had read the Supervisor's Report and if there were any questions or concerns?

RESOLUTION #22-44

Mr. Stevens presented the Resolution and moved its passage with a Second Motion by Mr. Olesheski to accept the Supervisor's Report.

With all Town Board Members present voting in favor, the Resolution is declared carried Ayes – 5 (Hogan, Stevens, Arsenault, Gonyo, Olesheski); nays – 0.

7. Warrants – Supervisor Hogan asked if all Board Members reviewed the Warrants and if there were any questions?

RESOLUTION #22-45

Mr. Arsenault presented the Resolution and moved its passage with a Second Motion by Mr. Stevens to approve the Warrants.

With all Town Board Members present voting in favor, the Resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 5 (Hogan, Stevens, Arsenault, Gonyo, Olesheski); Nays – 0.

GENERAL FUND: \$ 91,373.93
WATER: 8,176.30
HIGHWAY: 14,368.64
LIBRARY: 558.72
TRUST & AGENCY 216.00
TOTAL \$114,693.59

- 8. Privilege of the Floor Mr. Dean wanted to note that the assessments are too high and the timing of this is bad. With inflation high, real estate high, just seems like bad timing for people; Mr. Dean indicated he did speak with Assessor Williams. Mr. Olesheski indicated that we all still have questions and are in the same boat and it's not falling on deaf ears; Assessor Williams will be at the March 15, 2022 Board Meeting to address any questions. Mrs. Nessle noted that kudos to Assessor Williams for all her hard work and time. Mr. Williams added we need to be more cognizant of the bigger homes and assessments; there needs to be a clear plan so we don't become a Lake Placid, housing shortage, jobs; be careful not to lose our Town; Supervisor Hogan noted that the new ZEO Officer is addressing this.
- 9. Motion to Adjourn at 8:45PM.

RESOLUTION #22-46 - Mr. Gonyo presented the Resolution and moved its passage with a Second Motion by Mr. Stevens to adjourn the Town Board Meeting. With all Town Board Members present voting in favor, the Resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 5 (Hogan, Stevens, Arsenault, Gonyo, Olesheski); Nays – 0

Next Town Board Meeting will be Tuesday, March 15, 2022 at 7:00PM at the Tannery Pond Center and Zoom – link can be found on the Town Website at https://www.johnsburgny.com

Prepared by:

Jean M. Comstock Town Clerk