

Town of Johnsburg Town Board Meeting March 21, 2023

In Attendance: Mark Smith – Supervisor Justin Gonyo – Councilman
Arnold Stevens – Councilman Pete Hoskins – Councilman
Gene Arsenault – Councilman (via Zoom)
Jean Comstock – Town Clerk

1. Pledge of Allegiance - led by Chris Heidrich
2. Call to Order the Regular Meeting of the Town of Johnsburg Town Board at 7:00PM
3. Approval of March 7, 2023 Town Board Meeting Minutes – Supervisor Smith asked if there was any discussion or concerns?

RESOLUTION # 23 – 71

Mr. Hoskins made a Motion to approve the Minutes from the March 7, 2023 Town Board Meeting and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Gonyo. With the following Board members present voting in favor the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 5 (Hoskins, Gonyo, Stevens, Arsenault, Smith).

4. DOH Letter – Supervisor Smith asked to table this as he needs further discussion and direction from Counsel.

RESOLUTION # 23 – 72

Mr. Arsenault made a Motion to table this topic and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Gonyo. With the following Board members present voting in favor the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 5 (Hoskins, Gonyo, Stevens, Arsenault, Smith).

5. Reorganization of Parks/Recreation/Buildings – Mr. Hoskins - in my mind this is about efficiency, clarity, chain of command; discussing with the committee, there is a need for just one person to oversee five people and have one person to report to; I would like to move forward with this Resolution and feel Mr. Peter Olesheski is the proper person to do this; Supervisor Smith read the Resolution; The new name will be: Department of Public Property and Public Programs. Mr. Gonyo – before we call a vote have all parties been notified of these changes? Mr. Hoskins – I met with them all this morning.

RESOLUTION # 23 – 73

Mr. Hoskins made a Motion to accept and approve the reorganization of the Parks/Rec/Buildings Department with the new name and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Stevens. With the following Board members present voting in favor the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 5 (Hoskins, Gonyo, Stevens, Arsenault, Smith).

6. Approval of attendance at Highway School – Supervisor Smith – training is very important to our staff; spoke with Fred about his training today for MSHA; all training is worthwhile, it can sometimes seem repetitive but you can always pick up something new.

RESOLUTION # 23 – 74

Mr. Gonyo made a Motion to approve Superintendent and Deputy to attend Highway School through Cornell Local Roads Program and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Hoskins. With the following Board members present voting in favor the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 5 (Hoskins, Gonyo, Stevens, Arsenault, Smith).

7. Culvert purchase – Fred has the appropriate procurement paperwork, culverts on Barton Mines Road; Mr. Gonyo – can you explain where these are intended. Fred- 1.64 miles of Barton Mines and the flats – all culverts that haven't been changed with be changed with black plastic, 6 culverts will be ordered; Ms. Brown – when will this start? Fred – depends on paving schedule but we'll let all know ahead of time. Mr. Hoskins – will this affect the tours? Fred – it should not.

RESOLUTION # 23 – 75

Mr. Stevens made a Motion to approve the purchase of the needed culverts and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Gonyo. With the following Board members present voting in favor the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 5 (Hoskins, Gonyo, Stevens, Arsenault, Smith).

8. Creation of Capital Funds for Sewer Project – Supervisor Smith - spoke with OSC and Bookkeeper – we're using Town money on a district that doesn't really exist – not clear who is paying for this; form a Capital Fund so we'll know how much the Town has spent; how it gets paid back from, to? Still waiting for OSC for some direction and if we can do this; Mr. Gonyo –haven't we already formed the Sewer District? Supervisor Smith – we need to form a Fund; Mr. Gonyo – how will the funds spent so far be paid back to the Town? Supervisor Smith – when I looked through the chart of the accounts I didn't see this line; I will get back with the Bookkeeper; Mr. Gonyo – check the Resolutions as well.
9. Loans for the Water District –Supervisor Smith – going back to the Auditor's findings; April billing will go as usual; by October we'll need to reply to OSC with new billing and procedures; Mr. Gonyo – Auditor report is still preliminary, what kind of a loan are we looking at? Supervisor Smith - solid 5 figure, low 6. Supervisor Smith – I'll keep you all abreast of the situation.
10. Peaceful Valley Road – Supervisor Smith - I do not have a start date as of today; thanks to Fred for clearing up the placement of this work; just past Back to Sodom Road; this will make it a little easier; Supervisor Smith – EMS can use Back to Sodom Road; Mr. Williams – I thought this project was 2024? Supervisor Smith – it is. Mr. Stevens – will this affect Cooper Hill? Fred – the lower entrance will be affected by this, but again you can use Back to Sodom Road.
11. Barton Mines – Supervisor Smith – I spoke with Chuck Barton a few times over the last couple of weeks; we discussed where they are and what they're doing; they're responding to the APA, they're working on an outreach presentation for the community and will let us know when that is; too early to write a letter of support as the application isn't in yet, let's wait so the letter will have the most impact it can, if it's sent now it could end up in a dead letter file.
12. Fund Transfers – appropriations –Supervisor Smith - need to close the Capital Project loan for the two trucks; loan transactions – water district under budget, repayment to advance payment to EMS – this will be off the books; any further discussion or questions? Mr. Gonyo – repayment of cash advance from EMS from February, that's a wash? Supervisor Smith – correct? Mr. Gonyo – loan to water district, how are they paying that back? Supervisor Smith – when we get the billing straightened out, in October.

RESOLUTION # 23 – 76

Mr. Stevens made a Motion to approve the Fund Transfers and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Gonyo. With the following Board members present voting in favor the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 5 (Hoskins, Gonyo, Stevens, Arsenault, Smith).

13. Raise for Town Employee – in the newly formed Parks/Recs Department – he’s been under-utilized, we’ll put him to work that has been outsourced can be done in-house; Mr. Gonyo asked what the increase is “from” “to”; it would be an additional .85/hour to make it the same \$1.00/hour that was given to two other Town Employees. we did just pass a Resolution to not give any additional compensation, where is this from? It was a previous raise consideration back in December when two others were given an additional \$1.00/hour and this individual was given .15/hour.

RESOLUTION # 23 – 77

Mr. Hoskins made a Motion to approve the additional .85/hour and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Stevens. With the following Board members present voting in favor the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 5 (Hoskins, Gonyo, Stevens, Arsenault, Smith).

14. Supervisor’s Report – Supervisor Smith - February and March are included I did not want to submit them until I reviewed them; are there any concerns or questions?

RESOLUTION # 23 – 78

Mr. Hoskins made a Motion to approve the Supervisor’s Reports and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Arsenault. With the following Board members present voting in favor the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 5 (Hoskins, Gonyo, Stevens, Arsenault, Smith).

15. Historian’s Report - Supervisor Smith – summarized report for the audience; I will post report on our website for you all to review.

16. Warrants – Supervisor Smith I checked them over; Mr. Gonyo – payments went out to the fire departments, which is great; one thing we need to keep in mind is getting this process going in September and getting checks out in a more timely manner; Supervisor Smith – ideally we want them signed in December; duly noted, these will get done more timely this year.

RESOLUTION # 23 – 79

Mr. Gonyo made a Motion to approve the Warrants and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Hoskins. With the following Board members present voting in favor the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 5 (Hoskins, Gonyo, Stevens, Arsenault, Smith).

GENERAL FUND:	\$ 55,181.80
HIGHWAY FUND:	\$ 38,954.88
LIBRARY FUND:	\$ 2,385.34
FIRE PROECTION DISTRICT:	\$ 216,240.00
WATER DISTRICT:	\$ 6,994.66
TRUST & AGENCY:	\$ <u>519.20</u>
TOTAL	\$ 320,275.88

17. Privilege of the Floor –

- Mr. Williams – what about Committee Reports? Supervisor Smith – we can certainly go down Committee by Committee. Mr. Gonyo – re: the Sewer Committee -Cedarwood is working on the value engineering and design of system overall; conversation continues to push in the direction for ORDA to proceed with their project; Mr. Stevens - you covered it all; Mr. Gonyo – ORDA and Cedarwood need to do some homework; no update since Wednesday of last week.
- Janet Konis – I was trying to get a building permit, Town Supervisor let me know that I didn’t know what I was talking about; how did the Town fall 6 figures behind in the water district; Signage – billboard next to Café Sarah – I’m assuming we’ll do something about that; building that’s up in the air, without a permit – I’m assuming that we’ll do something about it since it’s just around the corner from Town Hall.

- Beth Maher – volunteer Market Manager for the Farmer’s Market – would like to order a sign if I’m allowed; is there a schedule for rotating signs at the Ski Bowl?
18. Motion to Adjourn – Supervisor Smith – with all Town business being addressed, is there a Motion to Adjourn.

RESOLUTION # 23 – 80

Mr. Gonyo made a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:36PM and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Stevens. With the following Board members present voting in favor the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 5 (Hoskins, Gonyo, Stevens, Arsenault, Smith).

Prepared by:

Jean M. Comstock

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Town Clerk

**The Next Town Board Meeting will be held on April 4, 2023 at 7:00PM
at Tannery Pond and via Zoom**