

**Town Board Meeting
November 15, 2022
At Tannery Pond & Via Zoom**

In Attendance: Andrea Hogan – Town Supervisor Justin Gonyo – Councilman
 Pete Olesheski – Town Councilman Arnold Stevens – Councilman
 Jean Comstock – Town Clerk Gene Arsenault – Councilman (via Zoom at 7:22PM)

1. Pledge of Allegiance led by Justin Gonyo
2. Public Hearing called to order at 7:00PM – Local Law #4 to rescind Local Law #3. Supervisor Hogan asked if there were any questions or concerns from the Board or public? Public Hearing closed at 7:04PM.
3. Regular Meeting called to order at 7:04PM
4. Minutes – Supervisor Hogan asked if all had a chance to review the November 1, 2022 Minutes and if there were any questions?

RESOLUTION # 22 - 219

Mr. Gonyo made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the November 1, 2022 Meeting 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 (Olesheski, Gonyo, Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens); Nays - 0.

5. New/Old Business
 - a. Water District Repairs – Jonathan and Charlie Rawson (from Cedarwood); three projects being prepped to bid; water main replacement from bridge to Route 28; detailed description of options for pipe; 8” water main; hydrants – replacing older ones to conserve money; anticipating costs and lead times \$1,000,000 at this time; water tank behind Basil & Wick 200,000 tank with corrosion issues and leaks; looking at a direct replacement adjacent to current tank; demolish existing tank; long lead times to hire Geotech report for foundation; possibly December/January; trying other options; booster station upgrade which feeds the south tank, it’s all below grade and confined space entry, it’s a risk to go down there; having some electrical issues; bringing it above grade would eliminate electrical issues; will also be bidding a mobile generator; those are the three main projects that we’re working on for a bid package; tying up loose ends; construction completed at the end of next year; Supervisor Hogan – what do you need from the Board at this time? Typically, no Resolution until awarded; maybe December 20th Board Meeting; Mr. Gonyo asked if water main itself is \$1.4 ? Jonathan – will send an e-mail to Board when I have more definitive numbers; Supervisor Hogan – grant is 60/40 Town has to come up with the 40%; Mr. Gonyo – are we getting what we need on that end of Town: Charlie Rawson – yes. Jonathan – you’ll be able to control; please listen to audio for further details to questions and comments; Mr. Gonyo – I look forward to seeing the engineers cost report; landowner – do I have a copy of the plans and how much more land is going to be disturbed? Jonathan – it will be disturbed but it will be better; landowner – do you have a drawing of current pipes? Jonathan – it will be disturbed, but will be put back better; landowner – we’re planning on selling this property, do you have any plans/drawings; with the Town’s permission I’m happy to provide that; we’ve only paid taxes on this property; Supervisor Hogan – we should do a Resolution to put out to bid?

RESOLUTION # 22 – 220

Mr. Gonyo made a Motion to approve the Water District Repairs to go out to bid and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Olesheski. With the following Board Members present voting in favor the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 5 (Olesheski, Gonyo, Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens); Nays - 0.

- b. Beaver Dam Mitigation – Supervisor Hogan indicated that there is an issue in the Ski Bowl Park; DEC has issued a permit for nuisance beavers; we'd like to get this taken care of through a trapper; asking for a Resolution not to exceed \$2,500.

RESOLUTION # 22 – 221

Mr. Gonyo made a Motion to approve the Beaver Dam Mitigation not to exceed \$2,500 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 (Olesheski, Gonyo, Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens); Nays – 0.

- c. Supervisor Hogan noted that we need to approve and accept the Intermunicipal Agreement with the County for Waste Hauling Bids. Mr. Gonyo asked if there were any outstanding concerns and if all were approved by Warren County? Supervisor Hogan indicated it was approved by Warren County.

RESOLUTION # 22 – 222

Mr. Stevens made a Motion to approve and accept the Waste Hauling Agreement with Warren County 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 (Olesheski, Gonyo, Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens); Nays – 0.

- d. Supervisor Hogan noted that we need approval for the Ski Bowl Connector Trail Lease; this is something we do for \$1.00 each year with Front Street and that we are working on getting it on Town Land.

RESOLUTION #22 – 223

Mr. Gonyo made a Motion to accept and approve the Ski Bowl Connector Trail Lease 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 (Olesheski, Gonyo, Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens); Nays – 0

- e. Ski Program – Supervisor Hogan indicated each year kids are offered alpine and ski programs through ORDA; we do have a new Parks & Rec Directo and ; we've asked Ann Dingman to help out with Mr. Olesheski with him being new; \$300 to Ann. Supervisor Hogan would also like the Town to help with the additional \$10 rise in cost for the ski program as it's not a good year to pass along any additional costs to families. Mr. Gonyo noted it's a nominal cost and asked if it would be taken from the Youth Program line? Supervisor Hogan noted it is budgeted in the Youth Program line; all Board Members agreed.

RESOLUTION # 22 -224

Mr. Gonyo made a Motion to approve a \$300 payment to Ms. Dingman 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 – 4 (Gonyo, Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens); Nays – 0; Abstain – 1 (Olesheski).

- f. NBRC Notice to Proceed - Supervisor Hogan that the \$750,000 for sewer project is going to require a lot of paperwork as we move forward; typically the Supervisor is authorized to sign this paperwork; looking for approval of the Notice to Proceed and the Supervisor signing all paperwork.

RESOLUTION #22 – 225

Mr. Gonyo made a Motion to approve the Town Supervisor to sign the NBRC paperwork 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 (Olesheski, Gonyo, Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens); Nays – 0.

- g. Contract for Landfill Monitoring – Supervisor Hogan noted this is a yearly contract with Cedarwood and she’s asking for the Board’s approval. Mr. Gonyo asked what the total cost was and if there were any increases; Supervisor Hogan noted that the testing prices were increased for this year.

RESOLUTION # 22 – 226

Mr. Gonyo made a Motion to approve the Contract with Cedarwood for the Landfill Monitoring and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Olesheski. With the following Board Members present voting in favor, the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 5 (Olesheski, Gonyo, Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens); Nays – 0.

- h. Cancel December 6th Meeting – Supervisor Hogan noted that there will not be a quorum for the December 6, 2022 Town Board Meeting and is requesting a Motion to cancel this meeting.

RESOLUTION # 22 - 227

Mr. Gonyo made a Motion to approve the cancellation of the December 6, 2022 Town Board Meeting 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 (Olesheski, Gonyo, Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens); Nays – 0.

- i. Amendment to Employee Handbook – Supervisor Hogan noted Safety Allotment Program – went through Town Attorney, some language changes; there is an Appendix for businesses that are currently working with us and this can be added to without coming back for any additional resolutions; Supervisor Hogan is looking for final approval on this. Mr. Gonyo noted that there is insurance contribution noted – Supervisor Hogan, we’re still working on this and that the DEI Training – this was already approved; looking for a motion to approve the Safety Allotment changes only.

RESOLUTION # 22 – 228

Mr. Gonyo made a Motion to approve the Safety Allotment Program 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 – 4 (Gonyo, Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens); Nays – 0; Abstain – 1 (Olesheski).

- j. 911 Road changes – Town Clerk noted that there are three roads at the airport, which was just purchased, and the County is looking for actual road names for 911 purposes. Mr. Ryan Whitson, new owner, has asked for the following names: Airport Road, Skytrain Road, Maverick Road. Looking for Town Board approval of this.

RESOLUTION # 22 – 229

Mr. Gonyo made a Motion to accept the new road names and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Olesheski. With the following Board Members present voting in favor, the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 5 (Olesheski, Gonyo, Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens); Nays – 0.

- k. Bond Financing & Resolution – Supervisor Hogan noted that the Final Order for the North Creek Sewer District needed to be adopted.

RESOLUTION # 22 – 230

Mr. Stevens made a Motion to Adopt the Final Order for the North Creek Sewer District and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Olesheski. With the following Board Members present voting in favor, the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 5 (Olesheski, Gonyo, Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens); Nays – 0.

The Bond Resolution will also need to be accepted and approved. Supervisor Hogan noted that we have to spend the money to get it back. Mr. Gonyo asked if all was in place with the USDA with the grants/loans/bonds? Supervisor Hogan indicated that all was in place.

RESOLUTION # 22 -231

Mr. Olesheski made a Motion to approve and accept the Bond Resolution 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 (Olesheski, Gonyo, Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens); Nays – 0.

6. The Town Supervisor was approved to negotiate the package with new Parks & Rec Director; Mr. Olesheski would like to take advantage of Health Insurance; Supervisor Hogan noted that the Town has had several employees recently that went from part-time to full-time and the Town took into consideration their time and gave credit for this time; with Mr. Olesheski' s time with the Town Board & coaching I am asking for the Board's approval for the Town pay full benefits for Mr. Olesheski.

RESOLUTION # 22 – 232

Supervisor Hogan made a Motion to approve the payment of full benefits for Mr. Olesheski as the New Director of Parks and Recreation 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 – 4 (Gonyo, Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens); Nays – 0; Abstain – 1 (Olesheski).

7. Historian Report – Supervisor Hogan noted that the Historian's Report is in the packet.
8. Supervisor's Report – will be getting this Report from the Bookkeeper later in the week. Supervisor Hogan –I just need to make somethings very clear - I am very much a resident of Johnsbury, I live here; I do have another job as do other Town Supervisors; a lot misinterpretations, yet not one person reached out to me to talk to me about this; I am not running again; this new job came along and it was perfect for me and I had to take it; I've been open and honest; with the threats and stalking I've endured I did not feel it appropriate to share this part of my personal life; I've attended 104 County Meetings; wherever the numbers came from, they were incorrect.

9. Committee Reports:

- a. Mr. Gonyo: water committee – conversation with Gore Village, they want to tap into our water system; I have a couple of drawings they've shared; I think it would be appropriate to get them in touch with Chris Belden at Warren County for possibly help; hookup fees for ORDA will need to be discussed (Supervisor Hogan); Mr. Stevens asked – capacity? Mr. Gonyo – they've had conversations with Charlie Rawson; we can get their engineer here to answer any specific questions; Supervisor Hogan asked if there was a sense of urgency? Mr. Gonyo noted that there are reasons to move forward quickly.

10. Warrants – Supervisor Hogan asked if all had a chance to view the warrants, any questions or concerns?

GENERAL FUND:	37,590.69
HIGHWAY FUND:	65,166.87
LIBRARY FUND:	1,180.05
WATER DISTRICT:	2,218.86
TRUST & AGENCY:	<u>257.28</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 106,413.75

RESOLUTION # 22 – 233

Mr. Stevens made a Motion to accept the Warrants and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Olesheski. With the following Board Members present voting in favor, the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 4 (Olesheski, Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens); Nays – 0; Abstain -1 (Gonyo – did not get a chance to review).

11. Privilege of the Floor:

- Mr. Olesheski – very thankful for my new appointment; very excited to get started; all details worked out; 11/28/22 official start date; Town Board resignation effective as of 11/27/22; I did not make this decision lightly; need to separate myself from the Board to avoid any potential conflicts; I will continue to serve in my new role; thank you all for your support over the last 9 years; Mr. Stevens - thank you for your years up until this point and for the years to come.
- Supervisor Hogan – the Town Board appoints or leaves the position open; it is the intent of the Board to replace the position being vacated by Mr. Olesheski for 1 year and then up for Election; we will be accepting letters of interest – please send to the Town Clerk – no interviews will be conducted; a decision will be made at the December 20, 2022 Board Meeting.
- Ms. Konis – I’m the big mouth on the Assessment; I resigned as the Chair as I didn’t think it was fair; asked for an investigation; and it never happened; I was told they were instructed by the attorney to do nothing unless I sued; I have been called a liar by the Assessor and the Town Supervisor; I have asked for this to stop; I contested our assessment, I know they wanted to win; I’m happy to say our assessment was dropped almost \$100,000; obviously this assessment was not right; the Town saved money at the people’s expense; need to have assessment done again.
- Mr. Williams – formation of sewer district – Bond was previously approved was it for the Town or the Sewer District? Supervisor Hogan – for the Sewer District.
- Ms. Sponable – the mitigation for the old barn behind Town Hall; when will it be removed; Supervisor Hogan - I’ll be happy to answer, but Privilege of the Floor is just for statements; Supervisor Hogan – we have to treat it as asbestos, Dept. of Labor is unresponsive to us as well as the Town Attorney; we now have Matt Simpson involved; 23 negative asbestos tests, still can’t move forward.
- Mr. Fallon – with the job in Maine – full time? County positions? 104 meetings; it was reported that you attended ½ of the Supervisor Meetings; any Federal funds or grants being done with your new position?
- Supervisor Hogan – any further statements?
- Ms. Pratt – sewer district – business letters? When can we expect responses? Mr. Gonyo – you’ll have an answer this week.

12. Motion to adjourn:

RESOLUTION # 22 – 234

Mr. Olesheski made a Motion to Adjourn the Regular Town Board Meeting at 8:06PM 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 (Olesheski, Gonyo, Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens); Nays – 0.

Prepared by:

Jean M. Comstock

Jean M. Comstock
Town Clerk

**THE NEXT REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD:
DECEMBER 20, 2022 AT 7:00PM AT TANNERY POND
AND VIA ZOOM**