

July 16, 2024
6:30 p.m.
2354 State Route 434
Apalachin, New York

Regular Meeting of the Owego Town Board

A. Call to order, roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance -

Supervisor Donald Castellucci called the meeting to order and led all in the Pledge of Allegiance, after the Clerk called the Roll.

Council:

Present: Supervisor Castellucci, Dean Morgan, Craig Jochum, Gary Hellmers, and Jonathan Marks

Absent: None

Department Heads:

Present: Phil Baker, Parks Maintenance Supervisor
Rick Pedro, Sole Assessor
Bill Carrigg, Planning & Zoning Administrator
Irene Graven, Town Attorney
Peter Gordon, Town Historian
Michael Roberts, Highway Superintendent
Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk & Tax Receiver

Absent: Tyson Stiles, Director of Utilities

B. Minutes of the previous meetings -

The minutes of the July 2, 2024 Regular Meeting will stand as presented.

C. Consideration of bids – none

D. Public Hearings – none

E. Reports of Department Heads –

Phil Baker, Parks Maintenance Supervisor – reported that the recent events at Hickories Park are going well. Lastly, he requested Executive Session after the meeting.

Rick Pedro, Sole Assessor - reported that he is currently working on this year's parcel apportionments. He also stated that he attended an educational seminar in Ithaca for 3 continuing education credits.

Bill Carrigg, Planning & Zoning Administrator – reported that he has received the final payments from the past due SWPPPs. Next, he stated that the windows for the Town Hall have been delivered. Lastly, he reported that Ron Schmidt and some employees from the Highway Department will be installing the Pickle Ball courts in Tioga Park soon.

Mike Roberts, Highway Superintendent – no report

Peter Gordon, Town Historian – reported that the first 3 (of 18) of the Apalachin Cowboy novels have been published. The proceeds will be going to the author’s great grandson’s healthcare costs.

Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk – reported that the countersigned contract for Codification Services has been received and is on file in her office. She then stated that the Postmaster of the Owego Post Office visited her office with a request that the Town advertise that the mailing address for the Town Hall is: Apalachin with a zip code of 13732, not: Owego 13827. She has posted a sign on the Town Clerk Bulletin Board and the Supervisor will make a press release and put a notification on the Town website.

Irene Graven, Town Attorney – no report

Supervisor Castellucci – reported that the Town Clerk’s monthly report is on file in his office.

F. Privilege of the Floor –

Rose Howard, Sequoia Lane, stated that she thought some important information was left out of the minutes the Board approved earlier in the meeting. She then asked some questions about the Agreement to Spend Town Funds that was approved at the last meeting.

Ann Townsend-Pors, Youngs Road, shared concerns about the bridge over Little Nanticoke Creek which is the only way they can access their property. The Supervisor explained that the Town has an engineering firm already working on how to rehabilitate the bridge.

Anthony Olenik, Dorothy Road, shared his displeasure with the paving done in the Tioga Terrace neighborhood two years ago. He also would like to see a list of planned paving projects for 2024-2025.

Joseph Cipollina, West Glann Road – stated he agrees with Mr. Olenik.

Will Wilhelm, Pembroke Drive – stated that he has left voicemail messages for Councilmembers Hellmers and Marks, but did not receive any return calls. The Councilmembers were unaware of his calls. They each gave him their personal cellphone numbers for future questions. Mr. Wilhelm than asked if the paving in Crestview Heights will still be finished in September. He was told that the Highway Superintendent is waiting for the vendor scheduled to pave that neighborhood to be available.

Anthony Olenik, Dorothy Road – asked if the Town was utilizing State and Federal grants for infrastructure projects. The answer was yes.

G. Presentation of Petitions, Communications, Notices and Transfers – none

H. Abstracts-

Councilmember Morgan made a motion to approve the following abstracts as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks and unanimously carried on a Roll Call. Prior to the Roll Call Vote, Supervisor Castellucci stated that he wished to correct a statement he made about drug counseling being no cost to the Town. There was a charge in this abstract for services rendered.

A0 - General Fund	91,924.51	
B0 - General Fund-Town Outside	52,049.59	
CM – CM Fund	8,000.00	
DB - Highway-Town Outside	58,080.15	
F0 - Water Districts	29,082.85	
FA - Route 38 Water	1,289.34	
G0- Sewer Districts	22,813.42	
GA – Route 38 Sewer	544.40	
HN – NY Rising – Shared Services Building	208,184.39	
L1 – Lighting District 1	48.15	
L2 - Lighting District 2	210.18	
L3 – Lighting District 3	93.84	
L4 - Lighting District 4B	56.91	I.
L5 – Lighting District 5	61.26	
L6 - Lighting District 6	246.55	
L7 - Lighting District 7	55.27	
L8 - Lighting District 8	43.36	
L9 - Lighting District #9	15.37	
LA – Lighting District 4A	18.53	
LX – Lighting District 10	<u>23.27</u>	
	\$472,841.34	

Unfinished Business -

1. Agreement to Spend Town Funds

Supervisor Castellucci reviewed that this agreement was tabled at the last meeting because some of the Board members were concerned it would put the Highway Superintendent over his budget for spending. Mike Roberts, Highway Superintendent, shared the spreadsheet he uses to track spending on each of his projects. After a long discussion, there was no one wishing to act on this item. The Supervisor stated for the record that these roads are not going to be paved this year because a majority of the Board refuses to pass the Agreement to Spend. He also stated that he feels their refusal is not about protecting taxpayer money but is politically motivated. He then shared many instances of transfers and Agreements to Spend throughout the past 30 years. He stated that these examples showed different Town Boards working together with the Highway Superintendent to maintain Town roads effectively. Some of his examples are attached to the end of these minutes. Councilmember Morgan suggested scheduling a Special Meeting to reach a resolution to this issue, but a majority of the Board Members were not interested in doing that.

J. Reports of Standing Committees –

Councilmember Morgan – reported that the Deferred Compensation Committee has received 2 proposals which will be reviewed and interviewed in September. Next, he stated that the fire pump/alarm system in the Shared Services Building will be tested next week. He then reported for Tyson Stiles, Director of Utilities, that fencing is necessary at the 3 new generator sites. This was not included in the original bid. **Councilmember Morgan made a motion to approve an additional \$20,331.35 (from the G fund) to install fencing around the 3 new generators. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jochum and unanimously carried.** Next, he stated that the fuel tank at the Shared Services Building will be filled next week. Training for any employees that will be using it will follow. Lastly, the Councilmember reported that the easement for the wastewater pump station behind the Wendy's restaurant (part of a FEMA grant) is being finalized.

Councilmember Hellmers – no report

Councilmember Jochum- no report

Councilmember Marks – no report

K. Presentation of Resolutions, Motions and New Business – none

L. Second Privilege of the floor –

Beth Saroney Paro, Debra Lee Drive, thinks it is imperative to find a Highway Superintendent that will represent the residents of this town and has a firm handle on how the Highway Budget is spent. She questioned what other Department Heads are submitting that the Highway Superintendent is not. She then thanked the Board for questioning the Highway Superintendent's plans.

Anthony Olenik, Dorothy Road, also thanked the Board for asking questions about spending.

Carolyn Wilhelm, Pembroke Drive, stated that the Board is not communicating well and that is keeping roads from being fixed.

Rose Howard, Sequoia Lane, shared her opinion that the current Highway Superintendent is rude and not doing his job right. She again referred to the paving projects done in Tioga Terrace 2 years ago as being unsatisfactory and a safety hazard. She also stated that she feels the Highway Superintendent should not be an elected position and should have specific qualifications. Lastly, she stated that GPS shows delivery drivers that the speed limit at the top of their neighborhood is 55 mph.

Lou Townsend-Pors, Youngs Road, thanked the Board for their questions and debates.

Anthony Olenik, Dorothy Road, asked questions about the terms of elected official in New York State.

M. Executive Session –

Councilmember Morgan made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 7:56 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hellmers and unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Councilmember Morgan to exit Executive Session at 8:06 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks and unanimously carried.

N. Adjournment -

Motion by Councilmember Morgan, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk

Some of the examples submitted by Supervisor Castellucci of past Highway transfers and Agreement to Spend follow on the next page.

From the August 18, 1992 Town Board Meeting:

\$4,000 from DB.5110.4835 Highway Repairs – Pipes
To: DB.5110.4825 Highway Repairs – Curbs & Catch Basins

\$13,800 from DB.5110.100 Highway Repairs – Patch
To: DB.5140.1000 – Highway Miscellaneous – Personal Services

\$3,000 from DB.5110.4830 Highway Repairs – Patch
To: DB.5110.4850 – Highway Repairs – Screening Plant Rental

\$18,665.20 from DB.5110.5001 – Highway Repairs – Resurfacing
To: DB.5110.5002 – Highway Repairs – Paving

From the May 5, 2020 Town Board Meeting:

Mark Clark, Highway Superintendent, submitted the following paving projects for 2020:

Davis Hill Road (partial) – \$33,000

Lisle Road (partial) - \$24,410

Deerfield Drive - \$56,000

Sunnyside Drive - \$66,466

Sunnyside South - \$15,185

Oakland Drive - \$26,845

Larchmont Road - \$42,860

Courtly Circle - \$36,845

South Apalachin Road - \$264,125

Scope, amount and distance subject to change.

A motion was made by Councilmember Morgan to approve the above agreement to spend Town Funds. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jochum and unanimously carried.

From the June 2, 2020 Town Board Meeting:

Councilman Jochum made a motion to accept the agreement to spent town funds in 2020 submitted by Town of Owego Highway Superintendent Mark Clark, with total estimated costs \$278,782 (Whittemore Hill Road, Foster Valley Road, and New Street). Councilman Marks seconded this motion and it was unanimously carried.

From the June 16, 2020 Town Board Meeting:

After a short discussion regarding CHIPs funding, **a motion was made by Councilmember Jochum to approve the following agreement to spend Town funds. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks and unanimously carried.**

The following is an updated list of paving projects to be completed for the year 2020:

Waits Road – partial paving - \$137,000

Harnick Road – reclamation and chip - \$110,000

TO: Town of Owego Board
FROM: David J. Ferris, Town of Owego Highway Superintendent
DATE: April 14, 2009
RE: Agreement to Spend Town Funds in 2009

The following are projects for the year 2009

Carmichael Road - from Bingham Road to E. Beecher Road

Pave

1.3 mile @ \$60/ton x 1296 tons \$ 78,000.00

E. Beecher Road - from Village Line to Gaskill Road

Inplace recycle and chip seal

4.1 miles x 4"

\$5.15/yd² x 48,105/yd² \$250,000.00

E. Campville Road - from Route 17C to Bornt Hill Road

Pave

2.13 miles @ \$60/ton x 2130 tons \$127,800.00

Holmes Road - from State Route 434 to Beach Road

Pave

1.55 miles @ \$60/ton x 1545 tons \$ 93,000.00

Jewitt Hill Road - from Forest Hill to Barton Road

Pave

1.47 miles @ \$60/ton x 1466 tons \$ 88,000.00

Azalea Drive, Gatewood Drive & Cherry Court

.53 miles x 30' x 2" overlay and mill off 2"

450' curb replacement

Curbs \$12,000.00

Mill (machine) 5,000.00

Pave © \$60/ton x 1050 tons 63,000.00

Total \$80,000.00

Cornell Hollow Road

From Foster Valley Road to Teeter Road

1.96 miles x 20' full depth base stabilization and
double chip seal

a. 22,000 gal calcium @ \$1.00/gal \$22,000.00

b. grinder for three (3) days @\$5,000/day 15,000.00

c. double chip seal © \$15,000/mile x 1.96 x 2" 58,800.00

Total \$95,800.00

Gary Hunt Road

From Lisle Road to McHenry Road

1.65 miles x 20' full depth base stabilization and
double chip seal

a. 19,360 gal calcium © \$1.00/gal \$19,360.00

b. machine for two (2) days @ \$5,000/day 10,000.00

c. double chip seal @ \$15,000/mile x 1.65 x 2" 49,500.00

Total \$78,860.00

TOTAL: \$891,460.00

Tentative funds from DB.5110.5001 (Resurfacing & Paving): \$575,000.00

CHIPS — 2009 allocation 340,000.00

Funds Total: \$915,000.00