

August 20, 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, the Clerk called the Roll, and Mike Roberts led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council:

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

Absent: None

Department Heads:

Present: Tyson Stiles, Director of Utilities
Rick Pedro, Sole Assessor
Irene Graven, Town Attorney
Michael Roberts, Highway Superintendent
Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk & Tax Receiver

Absent: Phil Baker, Parks Maintenance Supervisor
Bill Carrigg, Planning & Zoning Administrator
Peter Gordon, Town Historian

B. Minutes of the previous meetings -

The minutes of the August 6, 2024 Regular Meeting will submitted for approval at the next meeting.

C. Consideration of bids – none

D. Public Hearings – none

E. Reports of Department Heads –

Tyson Stiles, Director of Utilities – submitted a proposal for underground utility mapping software. It is able to capture, record and visualize precise locations of critical utility and infrastructure data. **Councilmember Marks made a motion to authorize the purchase of PointMan software and subscription services at \$4,600 per year. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hellmers and unanimously carried.**

Rick Pedro, Sole Assessor – no report

Mike Roberts, Highway Superintendent – reported that his department is very busy trying to catch up on projects: they are doing full-depth reclamation on East Beecher Hill Road, touching up Middle Road, and the crane for the Valley Road culvert replacement will be coming Thursday. Next, he stated that he is still trying to get an actual date that Midland Asphalt will complete the Crestview Heights neighborhood, but it should be the first week of September. Lastly, he reported that using the Town’s own millings has saved a lot of money (and is a better product than what they have purchased in the past).

Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk – reported that a standard 30 day advanced notice of application for Liquor License was filed in her office for the new owners of the former Perkins restaurant.

Councilmember Morgan for Bill Carrigg, Planning & Zoning Administrator – reported that the fuel tank behind the Shared Services Building has been filled and that Department Heads should schedule training with Bill. He also stated a need for Attorney/Client privilege after the meeting.

Irene Graven, Town Attorney – no report

Supervisor Castellucci – reported that he has distributed hard copies of budget worksheets to Department Heads. Next, he stated that the bill for emergency work done on Griffin Drive needs to be paid and recommended using ARPA funds. **A motion was made by Councilmember Marks to use ARPA funds in the amount of \$220,225 to pay for emergency work done on Griffin Drive prior to the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hellmers and unanimously carried.** The Supervisor also stated he will make a list of other options to be paid for with the remaining ARPA funds before the end of the year. He then reported that the Chair of the Tioga County Legislature, Marte Sauerbrey, brought the new County Administrator, Jackson Bailey, to the Town Hall for introductions and a tour. Lastly, he stated that he will be on vacation August 23rd through September 3rd.

F. Privilege of the Floor –

Will Wilhelm, Pembroke Drive – asked about the new restaurant in the former Perkins building and if the Town had a role in approving it.

Rich Purtell, Holmes Avenue – spoke about the NYS Equal Rights Amendment Proposal 1, which is to be on this year’s ballot for the November election. He is part of a civil rights group hoping to inform residents that this proposal, if passed, will result in expanded governmental control and increase in taxpayer burden. He encouraged the Board to oppose the bill and recommend the Town of Owego residents to vote “no” in November.

G. Presentation of Petitions, Communications, Notices and Transfers –

This report is on file in the Town Clerk’s office.

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.

A0 - General Fund	27,735.69
B0 - General Fund-Town Outside	12,735.18
DB - Highway-Town Outside	122,688.53
F0 - Water Districts	3,356.61
FA - Route 38 Water	0.55
G0- Sewer Districts	31,044.30
GA – Route 38 Sewer	83.13
L1 – Lighting District 1	90.39
L2 - Lighting District 2	408.74
L3 – Lighting District 3	177.85
L4 - Lighting District 4B	110.97
L5 – Lighting District 5	116.05
L6 - Lighting District 6	478.27
L7 - Lighting District 7	108.14
L8 - Lighting District 8	84.01
L9 - Lighting District #9	30.17
LA – Lighting District 4A	36.47
LX – Lighting District 10	45.57
	<u>45.57</u>
	\$199,330.62

I. Unfinished Business - none

J. Reports of Standing Committees –

Councilmember Hellmers – reported that he is waiting for a price list from ADM for temporary overlay bridges. The two options are 50 foot, and 55 foot hinged. He will report back when he receives the pricing and cost for delivery.

Councilmember Morgan – no report

Councilmember Jochum- reported that Hickories Park was reopened after minor flooding last week. He also stated that some speed bumps were installed in the park after multiple complaints of speeding vehicles.

Councilmember Marks – no report

K. Presentation of Resolutions, Motions and New Business –

1. New Hire – Highway

Supervisor Castellucci reviewed the available position and the details of the hire.

A motion was made by Councilmember Hellmers to adopt the following resolution hiring Cameron Card as an MEO I in the Highway Department. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks and unanimously carried.

WHEREAS, the approved 2024 budget for the Town of Owego Highway Department has budgeted for and includes a full time MEO I position; and

WHEREAS, this full time position is vacant and it is necessary to fill this position; and

WHEREAS, Cameron J. Card has been offered and has accepted such position as of August 26, 2024, at an hourly rate of \$18.18 per hour, 40 hours per week, as a permanent appointment with up to 52 weeks of a probationary period; and

WHEREAS, Cameron J. Card has a CDL permit.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, such full time position shall be filled by Cameron J. Card at an hourly rate of \$18.18 per hour, 40 hours per week, with full time benefits, effective August 26, 2024, with a probationary period of up to 52 weeks from date of hire, subject to satisfactory license/background check and meeting all requirements of pre-employment drug testing.

2. Dump truck change order request

Mike Roberts, Highway Superintendent, reviewed that the truck he was authorized to order this year will at the earliest be delivered two years from now. He would like to cancel that order and get one that will be ready earlier. There was a short discussion on the legalities of the cancellation. **Councilmember Jochum made a motion to authorize the Highway Superintendent to cancel the letter of intent to purchase a tandem dump truck dated January of 2024 pending written notice that the Town will have no liability. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks and unanimously carried.**

A motion was made by Councilmember Marks to authorize the Highway Superintendent to seek bids for a new tandem dump truck with a letter confirming it is not for State bid. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jochum and unanimously carried.

3. Patriotism Week Proclamation

Supervisor Castellucci reviewed that the Elk's Club requested that the Town join them

in promoting September 9-15, 2024 as National Patriotism Week. **Councilmember Hellmers made a motion to adopt the following resolution proclaiming September 9-15, 2024 as National Patriotism Week in the Town of Owego. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Morgan and unanimously carried.**

WHEREAS, The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, through its Constitution, is a Patriotic Order, and

WHEREAS, The Order promotes the ideals that the citizens of this nation live in freedom, won through the great sacrifices and tribulations which have provided the foundation for a free, prosperous and independent life, and

WHEREAS, We realize that each generation must work to maintain this freedom, otherwise, through carelessness or indifference, the rights and liberties enjoyed may vanish, and

WHEREAS, It is fitting and proper to recognize this freedom and to honor the nation, which provides it, now

NOW THEREFORE BE IT, We, the Town Board, of the Town of Owego, do hereby proclaim September 9-15, 2024, as NATIONAL PATRIOTISM WEEK! During this event, we urge all citizens to join with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks in expressing gratitude for the privilege of American Citizenship with appropriate celebrations and observances.

L. Second Privilege of the floor –

There was no one wishing to speak at this time.

M. Executive Session – none

N. Adjournment -

Motion by Councilmember Morgan, the meeting was adjourned at 7:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk