

January 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 Castellucci called the meeting to order, the Clerk called the Roll Peter Gordon led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council:

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

Absent: Jonathan Marks

Department Heads:

Present: Joann Lindstrom, Planning and Zoning Administrator

Rick Pedro, Sole Assessor

Peter Gordon, Town Historian

Michael Roberts, Highway Superintendent

Phil Baker, Parks Maintenance Supervisor

Irene Graven, Town Attorney

Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk & Tax Receiver

Absent: Tyson Stiles, Director of Utilities

B. Minutes of the previous meetings -

Due to the large amount of taxes to post, the minutes of the Organizational Meeting will be submitted for approval at the next meeting.

C. Consideration of bids – none

D. Public Hearings – none

E. Reports of Department Heads –

Peter Gordon, Town Historian – reported that the seventh book he has edited on local history was just published. He thanked Councilmember Morgan for introducing him to the great grandson of the original author.

Mike Roberts, Highway Superintendent – no report

Joann Lindstrom, Planning and Zoning Administrator – reported that the Planning Board will not be meeting next week. Next, she stated that the draft of the Hazard Mitigation Plan is coming along nicely. She then stated that Brenda Burrell began as a Code Enforcement Officer Trainee on January 3rd. Lastly, she reported that the State has issued an updated General Stormwater Permit which will require training for her staff next month.

Phil Baker, Parks Maintenance Supervisor – reported that the temporary ice rink in Hickories Park will hopefully be ready for use next week. Next, he stated that a large tree fell in the Park, and he was grateful to the Highway Department for their help in removing it.

Rick Pedro, Sole Assessor – reported that many exemption renewals are being submitted and his office is busy applying them to those who qualify.

Irene Graven, Town Attorney – reported a need for Attorney/Client privilege after the meeting.

Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk – reported that in the first two weeks of January, her office has posted over \$3.5 million of tax payments. This amount is 17% of her total 2024 Warrant, and included over a quarter of a million dollars in online payments.

Supervisor Castellucci – reported that the speed limit request for Lisle Road was granted by the State. He also stated that the original salary resolution did not reflect the proper amount for Mike Roberts. Councilmember Jochum made a motion to amend the 2024 Salary Resolution showing the amount for Mike Roberts as \$76,805. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hellmers and unanimously carried.

F. Privilege of the Floor -

Aaron Dodge, Valley Road, spoke about the difficulties the closed Valley Road bridge causes him both as a resident and an EMT.

Teresa Dole, Casterline Road, spoke about her rezoning request, and also stated that there is a house on Bornt Hill Road that should be declared as an unsafe structure.

Joann Lindstrom, Planning & Zoning Administrator, added to her report that Bill Carrigg, Code Enforcement Officer, has been accepted to FEMA's Emergency Management Institute in Maryland for training to become a Certified Floodplain Manager. A motion was made by Councilmember Morgan to allow Bill Carrigg to attend training in Emmitsburg, Maryland on February 12-15, 2024 with all reasonable expenses paid. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hellmers and unanimously carried.

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

1. Monthly report of the Supervisor

Councilmember Morgan made a motion to table action on the Monthly Supervisor's Report. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hellmers and unanimously carried.

H. Abstracts-

Councilmember Morgan made a motion to approve the following abstracts as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hellmers and unanimously carried on a Roll Call.

A0 - General Fund	8,666.13
B0 - General Fund-Town Outside	11,019.85
DB - Highway-Town Outside	54,263.32
F0 - Water Districts	11,204.94
FA - Route 38 Water	5.52
G0- Sewer Districts	20,725.53
GA – Route 38 Sewer	232.42
L1 – Lighting District 1	19.07
L2 - Lighting District 2	55.53
L3 – Lighting District 3	42.68
L4 - Lighting District 4B	14.20
L5 – Lighting District 5	27.76
L6 - Lighting District 6	338.58
L7 - Lighting District 7	12.62
L8 - Lighting District 8	12.47
L9 - Lighting District #9	2.94
LA – Lighting District 4A	3.87
LX – Lighting District 10	<u>5.27</u>
	\$106,652.70

I. Unfinished Business – none

- J. Reports of Standing Committees –
Councilmember Hellmers – no report
Councilmember Morgan – no report
Councilmember Jochum – no report

K. Presentation of Resolutions, Motions and New Business –

1. Planning & Zoning Department Annual Statement

Joann Lindstrom, Planning & Zoning Administrator, reviewed the statement, noting that nothing really stands out in comparison to last year. A motion was made by Councilmember Hellmers to accept the Planning & Zoning 2023 Annual Statement as presented. The statement is on file in the office of the Town Clerk.

2. Town Clerk's Annual Report

Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk, reviewed the report that details her sales and disbursements. Councilmember Hellmers made a motion to accept the Town Clerk's Annual Report for 2023 as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jochum and unanimously carried. The report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

3. Proposed changes to the Planning & Zoning Fee Schedule

Joann Lindstrom, Planning & Zoning Administrator, reviewed her recommendations for changes. A motion was made by Councilmember Morgan to approve the updated fee schedule for the Planning & Zoning Department as submitted. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hellmers and unanimously carried.

4. Appoint Alternate member to the Zoning Board

Councilmember Morgan made a motion to adopt the following resolution appointing Paula Wilcox as alternate member of the Planning Board. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jochum and unanimously carried.

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Owego has adopted a local law permitting the appointment of alternate members of the Town of Owego Zoning Board of Appeals; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Owego wishes to appoint an alternate member of the Town of Owego Zoning Board of Appeals for a term of one year expiring December 31, 2024;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Owego appoints Paula Wilcox to serve as an alternate member of the Town of Owego Zoning Board of Appeals, to serve in the event a regular member of the Zoning Board of Appeals is unable to participate in an application due to a conflict of interest; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Paula Wilcox shall serve as such alternate member of the Town of Owego Zoning Board of Appeals for a term of one year and to be compensated at a rate of \$66.00 per meeting attended.

5. Farmer Brown Solar Decommissioning Plan

The Board decided to wait until after Attorney/Client Privilege before acting on this item.

6. Farmer Brown PILOT

The Board decided to wait until after Attorney/Client Privilege before acting on this item.

7. Change meeting date from 2-20-24 to 2-22-24

This change is necessary due to the Association of Towns Annual Meeting. **A motion was made by Councilmember Jochum to change the Town Board Meeting from February 20, 2024 to February 22, 2024. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hellmers and unanimously carried.**

L. Second Privilege of the floor –

Teresa Dole, Casterline Road, would like to have the Abstracts amounts listed on the agenda.

At this time the Board entered into Attorney/Client Privilege.

Meeting reconvened at 7:59. On motion of Councilman Jochum, action on Farmer Brown Solar Decommissioning Plan and Farmer Brown Solar PILOT was tabled. Councilman Hellmers seconded this motion and it was unanimously carried.

ICG 1/17/24

M. Executive Session - none

N. Adjournment -

Motion by Councilmember Morgan, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk