

February 1, 2022
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

The Supervisor called the meeting to order, the Town Clerk called the roll Scott Vasisko led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council

Present: Supervisor Donald Castellucci, Jr.
Council: Dean Morgan, Craig Jochum and Jonathan Marks
Absent: None

Department Heads

Present: Irene Graven, Town Attorney
Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk and Tax Receiver
Joann Lindstrom, Planning & Zoning Administrator
Scott Vasisko, Parks Maintenance Supervisor
Cheri Grenier, Sole Assessor
Michael Roberts, Highway Superintendent
Tyson Stiles, Director of Utilities
Peter Gordon, Town Historian

Absent: None

B. Minutes of the previous meeting -

The minutes of the previous meetings will be submitted at the next meeting.

C. Consideration of bids – none

D. Public Hearing - none

E. Reports of Department Heads –

Cheri Grenier, Sole Assessor – reported that the Town’s Equalization Rate for the 2022 Roll will be 62.16%.

Joann Lindstrom, Planning & Zoning Administrator – reported that there is no need for a Zoning Board meeting this month. Next, she stated that the bid documents for the demolition of an unsafe structure on Route 38B are available in the Town Clerk’s office. Lindstrom then reported that the 2022 Tire Cleanup Day will be May 7th. Lastly, she requested permission for Bill Carrigg to attend a conference. **Councilmember Morgan made a motion to allow Bill Carrigg to attend the NYSBOC Annual Conference in Liverpool April 5-7, 2022 with all reasonable expenses paid. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jochum and unanimously carried.**

Tyson Stiles, Director of Utilities – submitted 2 quotes for a sludge pump and recommended approval of the lower proposal. **A motion was made by Councilmember Jochum to purchase a sludge pump from Shrier-Martin at \$7878. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks and unanimously carried.** Lastly, he reported that the Well pump in Water District #3 (Crestview Heights area) is not working well even though it is only a year old. The selling company (Moody) will be coming to check it soon.

Scott Vasisko, Parks Maintenance Supervisor - reported that he met with Cleantec to review their cleaning duties of the new building. He also stated he received a letter from the Historic Owego Marketplace asking to use Hickories Park for Strawberry Festival parking.

Michael Roberts, Highway Superintendent – submitted a proposal for a truck lift and installation. **Councilmember Morgan made a motion to purchase the truck lift from OMNIA at \$38,048.97, hire Ward Pump Service to install the lift for \$3,965, contract ICR Power Co. for the electrical at \$2,218.55 and contract Petcosky for the HVAC work at \$1,800 contingent on: written verification that OMNIA is a verified for State contracting, and written confirmation that the anchor specifications are compatible with the existing floor. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jochum and unanimously carried.** Lastly, Roberts requested Executive Session for Personnel.

Irene Graven, Town Attorney – reported that she is working on signage for the temporary ice rink in Hickories Park.

Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk – reported that her office had a very busy January processing tax payments. They have received almost \$9.5 million in tax payments including about \$750,000 of online payments. Lastly, she commended her deputies Laura Burt and Melinda Gardner for their excellent work during the office’s busiest time.

Supervisor Castellucci – reported that the Town Clerk’s January report is on file in his office. Lastly, he stated that the Parks’ Chevy Blazer is not able to pass inspection anymore. **A motion was made by Councilmember Morgan to declare the 1997 Chevy Blazer used by the Parks Department as surplus to be sold at auction. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jochum and unanimously carried.**

Peter Gordon, Town Historian – stated that the Friends of Evergreen received a grant from Tioga State Bank for replacing the windows in the Evergreen Mortuary, with thanks to Abby Ortu from the County.

F. Privilege of the floor - none

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

H. Abstracts –

Councilmember Jochum made a motion to approve the following abstracts. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks and unanimously carried on a Roll Call Vote after a short discussion.

A0 - General Fund	22,844.89
B0 - General Fund-Town Outside	5232.01
DB - Highway-Town Outside	48,975.17
F0 - Water Districts	8,132.34
FA - Route 38 Water	308.89

G0 - Sewer Districts	13,528.72
GA – Route 38 Sewer	199.94
HN – NY Rising – Shared Services Building	<u>118,045.39</u>
	\$217,267.35

I. Unfinished Business – none

J. Reports of Standing Committees –

Councilmember Morgan – no report

Councilmember Marks – requested Executive Session for Personnel.

Councilmember Jochum – none

K. Presentation of Resolutions, Motions and New Business –

1. New Hire – Assessor’s Office

Cheri Grenier, Sole Assessor, reviewed that she and Rick Pedro, Assistant Assessor, both interviewed Cally and believe she will be a good fit for the office.

Councilmember Morgan made a motion to adopt the following resolution hiring Cally Fruscello as a part time Assessment Clerk. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jochum and unanimously carried.

2. Town Clerk’s Annual Report 2021

Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk, briefly reviewed the report stating that the backside showed 2020’s report for comparison. **A motion was made by Councilmember Jochum to accept the Town Clerk’s Annual Report for 2021. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks and unanimously carried.**

L. Second Privilege of the floor -

Teresa Dole, Casterline Road, gave an article to Councilmember Marks regarding marijuana legalization from a December Pennysaver. Then she requested a 60 minute meeting with the Supervisor.

M. Executive Session –

Councilmember Marks made a motion to enter Executive Session at 6:59 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jochum and unanimously carried.

Councilmember Marks made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 7:34 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jochum and unanimously carried.

N. Adjournment

Councilmember Morgan moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 PM .

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk