

October 5, 2021  
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 and led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council

Present: Supervisor Donald Castellucci, Jr., Dean Morgan, Barbara Roberts, and Jonathan Marks

Absent: Craig Jochum

Department Heads

Present: Scott Vasisko, Parks Maintenance Supervisor  
Cheri Grenier, Sole Assessor  
Tyson Stiles, Director of Utilities  
Peter Gordon, Town Historian  
Irene Graven, Town Attorney  
Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk and Tax Receiver

Absent: Mark Clark, Highway Superintendent  
Joann Lindstrom, Planning & Zoning Administrator

B. Minutes of the previous meeting -

The minutes of the September 21, 2021 meeting will stand as presented.

C. Consideration of bids – none

D. Public Hearing –

E. Reports of Department Heads –

Scott Vasisko, Parks Maintenance Supervisor – no report

Cheri Grenier, Sole Assessor – reported that she has a Small Claims Assessment Review tomorrow and it is the only one for this year.

Peter Gordon, Town Historian – no report

Tyson Stiles, Director of Utilities – requested to attend a training seminar. **Councilmember Roberts made a motion to allow Tyson Stiles and Devon Hines to attend the NYWEA Fall Meeting in Skaneateles Falls on October 7, 2021 with all reasonable expenses paid. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks and unanimously carried.** Stiles then reported that the unpaid water/sewer relevely will be run tomorrow. Next, he stated the WIIA Grant application period will be opening soon and Hunt Engineers has prepared some of the documents needed. **A motion was made by Councilmember Morgan to adopt the following resolution regarding Crestview Heights Groundwater House & 434 Water Main Replacement SEQRA and Lead**

**Agency establishment. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Roberts and unanimously carried.**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Owego (hereinafter the “Town”) proposes to undertake improvements to the Town’s drinking water treatment facilities, groundwater well facilities, and distribution system; and

**WHEREAS**, a Preliminary Engineering Report prepared by HUNT Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors, & Landscape Architects, D.P.C. proposes to replace the wellhouse, treatment building, and approximately 2,200 feet of 12” transmission piping along NYS Route 434. These improvements strengthen the Town of Owego’s water system reliability and reduces potential water loss for the residences they serve; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed new improvements consist of a non-agricultural use in one or more Agricultural Districts formed under provisions of NYS Agriculture and Markets law; and

**WHEREAS**, various regulatory, funding and public approvals will be needed in the planning and development of the proposed improvement projects:

**NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The Town Board of the Town of Owego determines pursuant to Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law and the regulations contained in 6 NYCRR Part 617, hereafter called SEQRA, that the proposed project is a Type I action under SEQRA 617.4(b)(9), and therefore a Full Environment Assessment Form (FEAF) must be prepared.
2. The Town Board declares its intent to establish itself as lead agency in the coordinated review of this action;
3. The Town Supervisor or agent of the Town shall notify all Involved Agencies of the Town’s intention to designate itself lead agency.
4. A coordinated review will be performed.
5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

**Councilmember Roberts made a motion to authorize the Supervisor to sign the application on behalf of the Board. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks and unanimously carried.**

Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk – reported on a visit she had with the Town’s representative from General Code. The Town could see some savings should the Board decide to pare down the number of code books currently in print (47) as well as by having General Code perform an analysis and recodification.

Irene Graven, Town Attorney – reported that the Public Hearing regarding amending the Town Code with regards to penalties needs to be rescheduled. **A motion was made by**

**Councilmember Morgan to reschedule the Public Hearing considering amending the Town Code with regarding penalties to November 3, 2021 at 6:30 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks and unanimously carried.**

Supervisor Castellucci – reported that the Planning & Zoning Administrator’s and Town Clerk’s monthly reports are on file in his office. Next, he stated that budget meetings are going well. After thanking Councilmember Morgan and Bill Carrigg for their hard work on the new building, he stated that a meeting will be needed for the employees who will work there. Next, he reported that the dinner to benefit the 9/11 Memorial will be October 7<sup>th</sup>. Lastly, he asked the Board members to consider an intermunicipal agreement to share Ron Schmidt with the Town of Union.

F. Privilege of the floor –

Teresa Dole, Casterline Road, asked if the Supervisor had done anything about her request for a lower speed limit near her house (he did). She also stated there are 2 pitbulls running loose in her neighborhood and they have killed some of her chickens. Although she has reported it to Kyle Fleming (DCO), she hasn’t heard from him.

Several residents from a neighborhood in the Town were present to inquire about any progress on the possible adoption of a noise ordinance (or other options) to resolve the situation with their extremely loud and difficult neighbors.

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

H. Abstracts –

**Councilmember Roberts 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	22,373.00
B0 - General Fund-Town Outside	7,081.91
DB - Highway-Town Outside	45,088.92
F0 - Water Districts	11,808.02
FA - Route 38 Water	841.53
G0 - Sewer Districts	54,232.12
GA – Route 38 Sewer	23,769.03
HN – NY Rising – Shared Services Building	<u>112,671.53</u>
	<b>\$277,866.06</b>

I. Unfinished Business – none

J. Reports of Standing Committees –

Councilmember Roberts – no report

Councilmember Morgan – stated a need for Attorney/Client Privilege

Councilmember Marks – no report

K. Presentation of Resolutions, Motions and New Business –

1. Presentation of the Tentative Budget

Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk, presented the Board with the 2022 Tentative Budget.

2. Request to apply for WIIA Grant -

This was acted on during Tyson Stiles' Department Head report.

3. Request to attend seminar – Utilities

This was acted on during Tyson Stiles' Department Head report.

4. Parks Department hire –

Scott Vasisko, Parks Maintenance Supervisor, reviewed the details of the position he is filling. **Councilmember Marks made a motion to adopt the following resolution hiring Bryan Winters. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Roberts and unanimously carried.**

WHEREAS the approved 2021 budget for the Town of Owego Parks Department has budgeted for and includes a full time Laborer position; and

WHEREAS Bryan Winters is willing, able and qualified to take the full time position as Laborer effective retroactively October 4, 2021, at an hourly rate of \$12.50 as a permanent appointment with benefits, with a probationary period of 52 weeks and subject to satisfactory results of drug testing;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED such full time laborer position with benefits shall be filled by Bryan Winters at an hourly rate of \$12.50 per hour, effective retroactively October 4, 2021, with a probationary period of 52 weeks and subject to satisfactory results of drug testing.

5. SunEast Valley Solar project

Supervisor Castellucci stated this is informational only at this time.

L. Second Privilege of the floor - none

M. Executive Session – none

N. Adjournment

**Councilmember Morgan moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk