

October 19, 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 and led all in the Pledge of Allegiance after the Town Clerk called the roll.

Council:

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

Absent: Craig Jochum

Department Heads:

Present: Scott Vasisko, Parks Maintenance Supervisor

Cheri Grenier, Sole Assessor

Joann Lindstrom, Planning & Zoning Administrator

Peter Gordon, Town Historian

Irene Graven, Town Attorney

Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk & Tax Receiver

Absent: Mark Clark, Highway Superintendent

Tyson Stiles, Director of Utilities

B. Minutes of the previous meetings -

The minutes of the October 5, 2021 regular meeting will stand as presented.

C. Consideration of bids – none

D. Public Hearings – none

E. Reports of Department Heads –

Peter Gordon, Town Historian – no report

Joann Lindstrom, Planning & Zoning Administrator – none

Scott Vasisko, Parks Maintenance Supervisor – reported that they are still busy maintaining the parks. Next, he stated the campground will be closing November 5th. Lastly, he reported that his new hire is working out well so far.

Cheri Grenier, Sole Assessor – reported that she received the relevy report from Tyson Stiles, Director of Utilities and it is higher than normal. She will be working to have the amounts added to the proper tax bills.

Irene Graven, Town Attorney – stated that the Public Hearing to consider amending the Town Code regarding penalty amounts will be next meeting and the Board members should review their final packet for the local law prior to the meeting.

Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk & Tax Receiver – reported that the next Board meeting will have several Public Hearings (2022 Budget, water/sewer extensions, and amending the Code).

Supervisor Castellucci – reported that he sent an email to the Board regarding the possibility of refinancing bonds. The potential savings is \$456,000. He asked them to review the email in order to consider acting on it soon.

F. Privilege of the Floor-

Jim Malone, Deerfield Drive, thanked the Board for extending the brush drop-off hours and days. He also asked if there has been any progress on a possible noise ordinance.

Teresa Dole, Casterline Road, stated she hasn't heard from the Dog Control Officer regarding the complaint she submitted about 2 dogs eating some of her chickens.

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 Roberts and unanimously carried on a Roll Call Vote after a short discussion.

A0 - General Fund	33,544.71
B0 - General Fund-Town Outside	21,168.26
CM – CM Fund	3,226.30
DB - Highway-Town Outside	497,310.67
F0 - Water Districts	36,361.08
FA - Route 38 Water	267.45
G0- Sewer Districts	40,339.64
GA – Route 38 Sewer	30.53
HN – NY Rising – Shared Serv.	273,087.55
L1 – Lighting District 1	0.00
L2 - Lighting District 2	160.37
L3 – Lighting District 3	55.49
L4 - Lighting District 4B	44.10
L5 – Lighting District 5	36.13
L6 - Lighting District 6	183.38
L7 - Lighting District 7	6.18
L8 - Lighting District 8	32.19
L9 - Lighting District #9	12.67
LA – Lighting District 4A	15.21
LX - Lighting District 10	18.59
	<u>18.59</u>
	\$905,900.50

I. Unfinished Business – none

J. Reports of Standing Committees –

Councilmember Marks– no report

Councilmember Morgan – reported a need for Attorney/Client Privilege after the meeting

Councilmember Roberts – no report

K. Presentation of Resolutions, Motions and New Business –

1. Operation Green Light

Supervisor Castellucci stated that this is to honor Veterans and their sacrifice for our Country. He also stated the County will be participating in this tribute. **Councilmember Morgan made a motion to join, via resolution and action, Operation Green Light to honor our Veterans. The motion was unanimously seconded and carried.**

2. Resolution of Intent – 2021 WIIA Grant for Consolidated Eater District #1

Attorney Graven reviewed that the Town (with the help of Hunt Engineers) has applied for this grant in 2018 and 2019, and is doing so again this year. **A motion was made by Councilmember Roberts to adopt the following resolution stipulating the Town’s intent to apply for the 2021 WIIA Grant. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks and unanimously carried.**

WHEREAS, the Town of Owego (hereinafter the “Owego”) maintains the Owego Municipal Water System; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Owego proposes to undertake Town of Owego Crestview Heights Groundwater House and 434 Water Transmission Main Replacement Project; and

WHEREAS, the Preliminary Engineering Report prepared by Hunt Engineers recommends securing a new water source and watermain replacement, with a total project cost estimate of \$1,687,545; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Owego is seeking financial assistance through the 2021 NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation’s Water Infrastructure Improvement Act Program; and

WHEREAS, the grant application requires that the applicant adopt a resolution that authorizes: the undertaking of the project and the maximum total cost of the project; expenditures for the project, including identification of any non-municipal source of funds; obligation of funds necessary to meet any required local match, including any cash and/or in-kind services; and when applicable, the submission of an application for financial assistance. The resolution must also designate a representative of the applicant who is authorized to sign the funding agreement with EFC and any associated documents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT:

RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Owego authorizes the undertaking of the Project and the maximum total cost of the project \$1,687,545; and when applicable, the submission of an application for financial assistance; and

RESOLVED that the Town of Owego authorizes preparation and submission of an application for grant funding under the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation's Water Infrastructure Improvement Act Program on behalf of the Town of Owego; and

RESOLVED that the Town Supervisor is authorized to execute a Grant Agreement with the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation and any and all other contracts, documents and instruments necessary to bring about the Project and to fulfill the Town's obligations under the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act Grant Agreement; and

RESOLVED that the Town Supervisor is authorized to execute expenditures for the Project under the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation's Water Infrastructure Improvement Act Program on behalf of the Town of Owego.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

3. Order calling for Public Hearing to improve Consolidated Water District #1

Attorney Graven explained that the grant application process requires securing a bond to pay for the project (with the grant money to reimburse some/all of the cost). Since the project cost has increased from 2018, the bond must increase as well (by \$92,545) which necessitates a Public Hearing. **Councilmember Morgan made a motion to adopt the following resolution calling for a Public Hearing on November 3, 2021 to consider increasing the bond funding the increase and improvement of facilities of Consolidated Water District #1. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Roberts and unanimously carried.**

WHEREAS, pursuant to proceedings heretofore had and taken by the Town Board of the Town of Owego, Tioga County, New York, pursuant to the provisions of Section 202-b of the Town Law, it has been determined to be in the public interest to provide for a certain increase and improvement of the facilities of Consolidated Water District No. 1 in the Town of Owego, Tioga County, New York, at a maximum estimated cost of \$1,595,000, consisting of the reconstruction of and construction of improvements to the Crestview Heights well house and treatment facility, provision of a new water source, and reconstruction of approximately 2,200 linear feet of 12" water transmission mains, including original furnishings, machinery, equipment, apparatus, appurtenances, and incidental improvements and expenses in connection therewith, at said maximum estimated cost of \$1,595,000; and

WHEREAS, a map, plan and report including an estimate of cost has heretofore been prepared in connection therewith and is on file in the office of the Town Clerk of such Town; and

WHEREAS, said capital project, as proposed, is expected to be determined to be a Type I Action pursuant to the regulations of the New York State Department of

Environmental Conservation promulgated pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act, which will not have any significant adverse impact on the environment; and

WHEREAS, in order to undertake the improvements to the aforesaid facilities as described therein, it will be necessary to expend the sum of \$1,687,545, an increase of \$92,545 over that previously authorized; and

WHEREAS, it is now desired to call a public hearing on the question of authorizing such increase and improvement of facilities of Consolidated Water District No. 1 at the revised maximum estimated cost;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY

ORDERED, by the Town Board of the Town of Owego, Tioga County, New York, as follows

:

Section 1. A public hearing will be held at the Town Hall, in Apalachin, New York, in said Town, on the 3rd day of November, 2021, at 6:30 o'clock P.M., Prevailing Time, on the question of increasing and improving the facilities of Consolidated Water District No. 1 in the manner described in the preambles hereof, and to hear all persons interested in the subject thereof, concerning the same, and to take such action thereon as is required or authorized by law.

Section 2. The Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause a copy of the Notice of Public Hearing hereinafter provided to be published once in the official newspaper designated for this purpose, and also to cause a copy thereof to be posted on the sign board of the Town, such publication and posting to be made not less than ten, nor more than twenty, days before the date designated for the hearing.

Section 3. The notice of public hearing shall be in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit A and hereby made a part hereof.

Section 4. This Order shall take effect immediately.

4. SunEast Valley Solar

Supervisor Castellucci stated that a PILOT for this project is in the works at the County level; and if the Town does agree with the PILOT, then SunEast won't pay any Town taxes. **A motion was made by Councilmember Marks to authorize agreement with Tioga County IDA for a SunEast Valley Solar PILOT. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Morgan and unanimously carried.**

5. Schedule Public Hearings for Water Ext. 13, 15 & 20 and Sewer Ext. 14 & 15

Cheri Grenier, Sole Assessor, reviewed that these water and sewer extensions need Public Hearings each year before she can add the amounts to the tax bills. **Councilmember Roberts made a motion to schedule Public Hearings for Water Extensions: 13, 15 and 20, and Sewer Extensions 14 and 15 on November 3, 2021 at 6:30 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks and unanimously carried.**

6. Highway Department hire – Valentine

Supervisor Castellucci stated that the proper paperwork wasn't ready for this item. **A motion was made by Councilmember Roberts to table the Highway Department hire of Tim Valentine until the November 3, 2021 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks and unanimously carried.**

7. EFPR – Contract Growth Calculation

The Supervisor reported that the Town's accounting firm will help navigate the State's stipulations for spending ARPA funds for a flat fee of \$2,000. **Councilmember Marks made a motion to authorize an agreement with EFPR for ARPA funding consultation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Roberts and unanimously carried.**

L. Second Privilege of the floor –

Teresa Dole, Casterline Road, asked about "write-in" voting and also stated that she would like a noise ordinance adopted for the Town.

M. Executive Session - none

N. Adjournment -

Motion by Councilmember Morgan, the meeting was adjourned at 7:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk