

June 15, 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 Councilmember Morgan led all in the Pledge of Allegiance,

Council:

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

Absent: None

Department Heads:

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

Absent: Mark Clark, Highway Superintendent

B. Minutes of the previous meetings -

The minutes of the June 1, 2021 regular meeting will stand as presented.

C. Consideration of bids – none

D. Public Hearings – none

E. Reports of Department Heads –

Cheri Grenier, Sole Assessor – no report

Peter Gordon, Town Historian – no report

Scott Vasisko, Parks Maintenance Supervisor – no report

Joann Lindstrom, Planning & Zoning Administrator – reported that due to many tall grass complaints, lawn services for properties in violation of Town Code (greater than 10 inches) are needed. If the property owner doesn't fix the violation after notification, the Town will mow and the cost will be placed on the owner's Town & County tax bill. **Councilmember Morgan made a motion to authorize the Planning & Zoning Administrator to advertise**

**a Request for Proposals for lawn services. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Roberts and unanimously carried.** Lindstrom also requested Attorney/Client Privilege after the meeting.

Tyson Stiles, Director of Utilities – submitted 2 letters to the Board. The first was a notice to homeowners in water district #4 to explain about the high PFAs and disconnection of that well. The second letter was from a customer asking for penalty forgiveness.

Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk & Tax Receiver – reported that the Town Code is now available online for anyone to view. She thanked Joann Lindstrom, Planning & Zoning Administrator, for facilitating that process.

Irene Graven, Town Attorney – no report

\*\*\*At this time, the Board decided to act on agenda item I2. Tioga County IDA PILOT application\*\*\*

Christine Curtis, Tioga County IDA, spoke about a new housing project the County would like the Town to approve with a Payment In Lieu Of Taxes. The project would produce about 100 units for low/moderate income families in the Village of Owego. **A motion was made by Councilmember Morgan to table action on the Tioga County IDA PILOT until the July 6, 2021 meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Roberts and unanimously carried.**

\*\*\*At this time, the Board decided to act on agenda item K3. Delaware River Solar Proposal\*\*\*

Jackie Burke, Delaware River Solar, spoke about the savings the Town could see if they were to subscribe with DRS. **Councilmember Marks made a motion to enter into an agreement with Delaware River Solar. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Roberts and carried with 4 yes votes and 1 no vote (Councilmember Jochum).**

F. Privilege of the Floor-

Meredith Bocek, Glann Road, asked if the Board knew why the State is not fixing Routes 434 and 17, and is repaving lesser used roads like Route 17C instead. The Supervisor stated he would try to find some answers for her.

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

1. Pine Knoll Block Party request

**A motion was made by Councilmember Morgan to approve a Block Party on Pine Knoll Road on September 25<sup>th</sup> from noon to midnight contingent on proper notification to the Highway Department and Emergency Services. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Roberts and unanimously carried.**

H. Abstracts-

**Councilmember Morgan made a motion to approve the following abstracts as amended. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jochum and unanimously carried on a Roll Call Vote.**

|                                |                     |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| A0 - General Fund              | 6,146.50            |
| B0 - General Fund-Town Outside | 23,995.52           |
| DB - Highway-Town Outside      | 181,591.99          |
| F0 - Water Districts           | 25,190.05           |
| FA - Route 38 Water            | 1,187.97            |
| G0- Sewer Districts            | 25,599.91           |
| GA – Route 38 Sewer            | 23,666.96           |
| HN – NY Rising – Shared Serv.  | 4,086.64            |
| L1 – Lighting District 1       | 0.00                |
| L2 - Lighting District 2       | 127.92              |
| L3 – Lighting District 3       | 30.45               |
| L4 - Lighting District 4B      | 35.74               |
| L5 – Lighting District 5       | 19.76               |
| L6 - Lighting District 6       | 141.97              |
| L7 - Lighting District 7       | 2.47                |
| L8 - Lighting District 8       | 24.88               |
| L9 - Lighting District #9      | 10.89               |
| LA – Lighting District 4A      | 12.98               |
| LX - Lighting District 10      | 15.54               |
|                                | <u>15.54</u>        |
|                                | <b>\$291,888.14</b> |

I. Unfinished Business –

1. Special Use Permit Public Hearing (Adjourned from 6-1-21)  
This will be acted on July 20, 2021.
2. Tioga County IDA PILOT application  
This was addressed earlier in the meeting.

J. Reports of Standing Committees –

Councilmember Roberts – **motioned to schedule a workshop regarding Water/Sewer penalty forgiveness and pool charges. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks and unanimously carried,**

Councilmember Marks – no report

Councilmember Jochum – reported for Mark Clark, Highway Superintendent, that one of the bigger trucks has engine problems that may prove to be very costly to repair.

Councilmember Morgan – no report

Supervisor Castellucci – reported that the monthly reports of the Town Clerk and Planning & Zoning administrator are on file in his office. Next, he stated that all purchases for the new building must get preapproval from his office. He then reported that all Covid restrictions have been lifted by the Governor. Lastly, he stated that he met with Tioga Terrace representatives about the Tioga Park improvements.

K. Presentation of Resolutions, Motions and New Business –

1. Secretary to the Supervisor wage increase

**Councilmember Morgan made a motion to adopt the following resolution increasing the Supervisor's Secretary hourly rate as stipulated in the resolution hiring her. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jochum and unanimously carried.**

WHEREAS on January 21, 2020, after motion and vote, the Owego Town Board approved a Temporary Secretary to the Supervisor position; and

WHEREAS per Owego Town Board resolution dated November 17, 2020, Connie Goodison was appointed to this position effective November 23, 2020, at an hourly rate of \$17.50, with benefits and with an increase to \$18.50 per hour upon completion of a six month training period; and

WHEREAS Connie Goodison has completed her six month training period;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED that the rate of pay for Connie Goodison is now \$18.50 per hour effective retroactively to May 23, 2021.

2. Utility Moratorium

Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk & Tax Receiver, reviewed the ramifications of the utility moratorium. She also explained the procedures the Town must take, including naming a contact person. **A motion was made by Councilmember Morgan to appoint Mary Kennedy as the utility moratorium contact person. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Jochum and unanimously carried.**

3. Delaware River Solar Proposal – This was addressed earlier in the meeting.

4. Pool credit – Utilities

It was decided to discuss this during the workshop scheduled for July 20, 2021.

L. Second Privilege of the floor –

Joe Dapolito, West Glann Road, requested a workshop regarding Tioga Park. **Councilmember Jochum made a motion to schedule a workshop regarding Tioga Park on June 22, 2021 at 5 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks and unanimously carried.**

M. Executive Session - none

N. Adjournment -

**Motion by Councilmember Morgan, the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk