

August 17, 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 Deputy Supervisor called the meeting to order, the Town Clerk called the roll, and Cheri Grenier led all in the Pledge of Allegiance,

Council:

Present: Dean Morgan, Craig Jochum, and Jonathan Marks

Absent: Supervisor Castellucci, Barbara Roberts

Department Heads:

Present: Scott Vasisko, Parks Maintenance Supervisor

Cheri Grenier, Sole Assessor

Joann Lindstrom, Planning & Zoning Administrator

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 August 3, 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

Tyson Stiles, Director of Utilities – reported that the New York Rural Water Association (NRWA) has filed a lawsuit on behalf of its members against manufacturers of products that developed, marketed and sold products containing PFAs. This may allow the Town to recover some money spent on testing, treatment and/or remediation.

Peter Gordon, Town Historian – no report

Scott Vasisko, Parks Maintenance Supervisor – reported that he met with a paving contractor regarding the park in the Tioga Terrace neighborhood, and that the Apalachin Lions Club is

ready to install their shed in Muth Park. Next, he stated that 2 members of his crew are leaving. He then reported on upcoming events: Dog Daze of Summer, 9/11 Memorial Event, Catfish Derby and Alzheimer’s Awareness Walk. Lastly, he stated that after a time of Covid related absences, everyone is healthy again.

Joann Lindstrom, Planning & Zoning Administrator – reported that the Zoning Board approved another solar farm for Delaware River Solar. She also stated she completed a training session on Storm Water and Sediment Control.

Irene Graven, Town Attorney – no report

Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk & Tax Receiver – reported that hunting licenses are now available.

Deputy Supervisor Morgan – stated that the Supervisor has been in contact with some other Agencies in efforts to form a plan for the difficult situation in the Ridgewood development.

F. Privilege of the Floor-

David Foote, Sunnyside Drive, reported that while the noise level near his home has lowered somewhat, he doesn’t want the Board to forget about this issue. He also requested that the Supervisor contact him.

Abbey Ortu, Rural Economic Area Partnership (REAP), was present to announce that Keenan Miller will become the Town of Owego’s REAP representative. She also distributed some information about him and the organization.

Meredith Bocek, Glann Road, asked about the Well Head Protection Permit application that was not approved at the last meeting. She was confused because the local paper had reported that application was granted.

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

1. Apalachin Library Report

Deputy Supervisor Morgan stated this report is informational only and no action is needed by the Board.

H. Abstracts-

Councilmember Jochum made a motion to approve the following abstracts as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks. After a short discussion, a new motion to pay the following abstracts as presented contingent on a satisfactory explanation for the 3 desks from Staples. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks and unanimously carried on a Roll Call Vote.

A0 - General Fund	29,141.77
B0 - General Fund-Town Outside	79,568.49
DB - Highway-Town Outside	120,732.62
F0 - Water Districts	49,314.61
FA - Route 38 Water	165.29
G0- Sewer Districts	60,749.25
GA – Route 38 Sewer	51.27
HN – NY Rising – Shared Serv.	1,459.26

L1 – Lighting District 1	158.49
L2 - Lighting District 2	132.83
L3 – Lighting District 3	34.28
L4 - Lighting District 4B	37.04
L5 – Lighting District 5	22.25
L6 - Lighting District 6	148.35
L7 - Lighting District 7	3.81
L8 - Lighting District 8	25.96
L9 - Lighting District #9	11.17
LA – Lighting District 4A	13.35
LX - Lighting District 10	16.00
	<u> </u>
	\$341,786.09

I. Unfinished Business – none

J. Reports of Standing Committees –

Councilmember Jochum – reported that the Highway Department is focusing on equipment repairs and replacing personnel that have left their positions.

Councilmember Marks – no report

Councilmember Morgan – no report

K. Presentation of Resolutions, Motions and New Business –

1. Resolution to accept online payments

Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk & Tax Receiver, stated that the Board has already approved online payments for tax and utility bills. This resolution is to put that authorization in writing. **Councilmember Jochum made a motion to adopt the following resolution authorizing the acceptance of online payments. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Marks and unanimously carried.**

WHEREAS New York State General Municipal Law Section 5-b authorizes the Town to provide for the acceptance of taxes, water rents and fees, including penalties, special assessments or interest via a municipal internet website or the website of a third-party vendor that has contracted with the Town to receive such payments on its behalf; and

WHEREAS the payment processing agreement between FORTE, Logics and the Town of Owego has been presented to the Town of Owego Board with policies and procedures for the acceptance of such payments via the internet; and

WHEREAS the Town of Owego Board has reviewed the policy and procedures for the acceptance of such payments via the internet and wishes to designate the Town Tax Receiver as the person authorized to collect or receive moneys on behalf of the Town; and

WHEREAS the Town of Owego Board having determined that it is in the best interest of the Town of Owego to accept payment of Town taxes and fees via the internet;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED the Town of Owego Board does hereby approve the policy for the acceptance of taxes, water rents and fees, including penalties, special assessments or interest via a municipal internet website or the internet website of a third party vendor that has contracted with the Town to receive such payments on its behalf; and it is further

RESOLVED that the Town Tax Receiver is hereby authorized to accept such payments via the internet retroactive to January 1, 2017.

L. Second Privilege of the floor –

Meredith Bocek, Glann Road, stated that after listening to others during the earlier Privilege of the Floor, she thinks the Town should adopt a noise ordinance.

David Foote, Sunnyside Drive, asked who he could speak to regarding a noise ordinance.

M. Executive Session - none

N. Adjournment -

Motion by Councilmember Morgan, the meeting was adjourned at 7:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kennedy, Town Clerk