

May 3, 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 Deputy Supervisor called the meeting to order, the acting Town Clerk called the roll and Henry Hines led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Present: Deputy Supervisor Dean Morgan
Council: Cheri Grenier, Craig Jochum, Jonathan Marks
Absent: Supervisor Donald Castellucci

Department Heads

Present: Joann Lindstrom, Planning & Zoning Administrator
Scott Vasisko, Park Maintenance Supervisor
Rick Pedro, Assessor
Michael Roberts, Highway Superintendent
Henry Hines, Deputy Highway Superintendent
Irene Graven, Town Attorney

Absent: Tyson Stiles, Director of Utilities
Peter Gordon, Town Historian

B. Minutes of the previous meeting have not been completed.

C. Consideration of bids – none

D. Public Hearings – none

E. Reports of Department Heads

Scott Vasisko, Parks Maintenance Supervisor – reported that he has a request to hold “Ride for Richie” fundraiser at Hickories Park on September 25, 2022. Event will be a motorcycle and hot rod ride, which will start and end at Hickories Park. **A motion was made by Councilman Jochum to approve the Richie Lupo fundraising event on September 25, 2022 in Hickories Park, contingent upon appropriate contract and insurance. Councilman Marks seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.**

He has also received a request from the Tioga County Kennel Club, who would like to conduct dog training classes for show handling at Hickories Park as a club fundraiser. **A motion was made by Councilman Marks to table action on this request so more information could be obtained. Councilwoman Grenier seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.**

Henry Hines, Deputy Highway Superintendent reported that storm cleanup continues, they have started ditching projects and continue with equipment repair.

Joann Lindstrom, Planning & Zoning Administrator reported that the Zoning Board of Appeals will meet on Thursday May 5, 2022.

Rick Pedro, Assessor reported that change of assessment forms have been mailed and that Grievance day is May 24, 2022.

Deputy Supervisor Morgan reported that Tyson Stiles, Director of Utilities has requested permission to attend a course in Syracuse. **A motion was made by Councilman Jochum to allow Tyson Stiles to attend a backflow prevention course in Syracuse on June 13, 2022- June 17, 2022 with all reasonable expenses paid. Councilman Marks seconded this motion and it was unanimously carried.**

Deputy Supervisor Dean Morgan stated a need for Attorney/Client privilege after the meeting to discuss 2 items.

F. Privilege of the floor

Mari Townsend, candidate for Tioga County Court Judge, provided her background and qualifications for the position. She explained that she had invited herself and this was in no way an endorsement of her candidacy by the Town Board. She is visiting all municipalities within Tioga County.

H. Abstracts

Councilman Grenier made a motion to approve the following abstracts, with the exception of Voucher 1201294, payable to Baker's Garage Door Co. for repair of a garage door in the mechanics bay. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jochum and unanimously carried on a Roll Call Vote.

AO-General Fund	17,787.04
BO-General Fund-Town Outside	5,903.97
DB-Highway-Town Outside	5,911.57
FO-Water Districts	12,686.42
FA-Route 38 Water	.57
GO-Sewer Districts	2,458.27
GA-Route 38 Sewer	.57
HN-New York Rising Shared Services Bldg.	<u>166.61</u>
	\$ 44,915.02

I. Unfinished Business-Schedule Public Hearing James & Deborah Wood zoning change **Councilman Jochum made a motion to schedule a Public Hearing regarding a zoning change for James & Deborah Wood on May 17, 2022 at 6:30 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilman Marks and unanimously carried.**

J. Reports of Standing Committees;

Councilman Marks stated a need for Attorney/Client privilege after the meeting.

K. Presentation of Resolutions, Motions and New Business;

1. 2022 Tire Event Update

Joann Lindstrom explained that the 2022 Tire Event that usually occurs in May has been cancelled due to lack of staffing. They hope to reschedule the event in September.

2. Salary resolution –Parks Department

Councilman Jochum made a motion to adopt the following resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Marks and unanimously carried.

WHEREAS the approved 2022 budget for the Town of Owego Parks Department has budgeted for and includes raises for staff upon recommendation of the Park Maintenance Supervisor and upon the approval of the Town Board; and

WHEREAS Park Maintenance Assistant Phillip Baker is currently earning \$17.43 per hour and, upon the recommendation of the Park Maintenance Supervisor, Phillip Baker warrants an increase to \$18.93 per hour;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED that Phillip Baker receive a salary increase of \$1.50 per hour, effective May 9, 2022; thereby increasing his salary to \$18.93 per hour.

3. Resolution-Parks Department Hire

Councilman Jochum made a motion to adopt the following resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Marks and unanimously carried.

WHEREAS the Town Board approved the hiring of a new employee for the position of Laborer working up to 40 hours per two week pay period, with benefits, for the Town of Owego Parks Department; and

WHEREAS Chad Harris has been offered and has accepted such position as of May 9, 2022 at \$15.00 per hour;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED that Chad Harris is hereby hired to fill this position at \$15.00 per hour, working up to 40 hours per week, with benefits, effective May 9, 2022 with a probationary period of up to 52 weeks from date of hire.

4. Resolution-MEO I at Utilities Department

Councilman Jochum made a motion to adopt the following resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Marks and unanimously carried.

WHEREAS the approved 2022 budget for the Town of Owego Utilities Department has budgeted for and includes a full time MEO 1 position; and

WHEREAS Keegan B. Bulger, a new applicant, has been selected to take this full time position, effective April 25, 2022, at an hourly rate of \$16.25 per hour, 40 hours per week, as a permanent appointment with up to 52 weeks probationary period from date of hire;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED that such full time position shall be filled by Keegan B. Bulger at an hourly rate of \$16.25 per hour, 40 hours per week, as a permanent appointment with up to 52 weeks probationary period from date of hire.

5. Floyd Hooker Grant Application

Councilman Jochum made a motion to authorize the Supervisor to submit an application to the Floyd Hooker Foundation for the Town of Owego Waterman Conservation Center Summer Camp. Councilman Grenier seconded this motion and it was unanimously carried.

Deputy Supervisor Morgan explained that he was recently made aware of a grant opportunity through the Floyd Hooker Foundation that could be used for improvements at the Tioga Boulevard Park. **Councilman Grenier made a motion to authorize the Supervisor to submit an application to the Floyd Hooker Foundation for \$25,000 funding for improvements at Tioga Boulevard Park. Councilman Jochum seconded this motion and it was unanimously carried.**

6. Summer intern-Planning & Zoning

Planning & Zoning Administrator Joann Lindstrom explained that she would like to post a summer 2022 internship opportunity at Binghamton University's Master of Public Administration program. Tasks could include preparing archives for inventory and moving to new vault, creating systems for tracking town storm water projects, and preparing for a FEMA/NYSDEC site visit. **Councilman Jochum made a motion to authorize the Planning & Zoning Administrator to post a summer 2022 internship opportunity at Binghamton University's MPA program. Councilman Marks seconded this motion and it was unanimously carried.**

L. Second Privilege of the Floor

Teresa Dole, Casterline Road, expressed her displeasure with the efforts of the highway department when cleaning up storm debris on her road. She also discussed traffic signs on Casterline and North Cafferty Hill Road.

M. Executive Session-none

N. Adjournment

Deputy Supervisor Dean Morgan moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Debra Standing