

**TOWN OF WHITEHALL
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
57 SKENESBOROUGH DRIVE
WHITEHALL, NY 12887**

MAY 19, 2021

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: John Rozell, Supervisor
David Hollister, Councilperson
Christopher Dudley, Councilperson
Stephanie Safka, Councilperson
Timothy Kingsley, Councilperson**

OTHERS PRESENT: Patti Gordon, Town Clerk; Erica Seller-Ryan, Town Attorney; Julie Eagan, Rec Leader; Caton Deuso, Whitehall Times; Brian Brooks Sr., WVFD; Barbara Spoor, Sasquatch Festival Committee.

Supervisor Rozell opened the meeting at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Barbara Spoor from the Sasquatch Festival Committee came to request the use of the park for the Festival on September 25, 2021. Supervisor Rozell informed Barbara Spoor that someone has already requested the use of park on that day for a wedding. The Board members discussed other alternatives for both the Sasquatch Festival and the wedding. The Board agreed to table the decision of the use of the two park requests until Councilperson Dudley contacts Mr. Watson about a possible compromise of the use of the park. If a compromise cannot be reached the Town will honor Mr. Watson's request since it was received by the town first.

Motion made to table the two requests to use the park on September 25, 2021 until more information can be gathered from both parties made by Supervisor Rozell and Seconded by Councilperson Kingsley.

ADOPTED **AYES** **5 Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Kingsley**
NAYS **0**

President Brian Brooks Sr. from the Whitehall Volunteer Fire Department would like to reserve the park the first full week in August for Fire Camp.

Motion to approve the use of the park for Fire Camp the first full week in August (2nd thru 6th) made by Supervisor Rozell and Seconded by Councilperson Dudley.

ADOPTED **AYES** **5 Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Kingsley**
NAYS **0**

President Brian Brooks Sr. from the Whitehall Volunteer Fire Department came to ask the Town Board for their support. He would like to be able to speak at the Washington County Supervisors monthly board meeting about Benetech Inc. but told he was not welcome due to the current litigation. Supervisor Rozell stated that he would bring it to committee about President Brooks speaking to the Washington County Board of Supervisors and see what rights he has and they have to refuse him to speak.

Motion to approve the monthly minutes from April 21, 2021 Town Board meeting made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Councilperson Dudley.

ADOPTED **AYES** **5 Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Kingsley**
NAYS

Town Heritage Report by Carol Greenough – No report

Town Recreation Report by Julie Eagan – Verbal

-Every is running smoothly. Baseball, softball and T-ball are up and running.

Town Dog Control Report by Nancy Quell – No report

Town Compliance Report by Martin Rocque – Verbal given by Supervisor Rozell

-Compliance Officer Rocque has gone by both properties discussed last month and there has been no change on either properties. Both properties were sent violations via certified mail and only one receipt was received back as of 5/19/2020. The party that did accept the certified letter came in and spoke with Supervisor personally and picked up an application for a junk yard permit and wants to work with the Town.

Town Clerks Report by Patti Gordon – Written

Town Assessors Report by Bruce Caza – No report

Town Supervisors Report by John Rozell – Verbal

-The Town received a letter from Constellation, our energy supplier stating that due to restrictions they will no longer be able to serve residential and small commercial customers. At the end of our term contract in 2022, they will be required to return the Town back to standard offer service.

-Update on the Hudson Headwaters Mobile Health Unit

The electric breaker has been installed at the Recreation center for the Mobile Health Unit, there will be a lock installed on it. The water source still needs to be installed. The contract with the Hudson Headwaters Health Network for the mobile health unit site agreement has been updated. The contract no holds each other equally responsible not just the town.

Supervisor Rozell asked the Board if they wanted to move forward with the contract Hudson Headwaters Health Network for the mobile health unit. Councilperson Kingsley asked if we were required to do anything else other than the water and electric. Supervisor Rozell stated that we are required to plow and salt it as well. The mobile unit will only be here two days a week from approximately 9:00am to 4:00pm.

Motion to approve the contract from Hudson Headwaters Health Network for the mobile health unit site agreement made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Councilperson Dudley.

ADOPTED **AYES** **5 Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Kingsley**
NAYS **0**

Town Budget Officer and Transfers by Joel Carpenter – Written

Town Planning Board Report by Gregg Chappell – No report

Town Highway Report by Louis D. Pratt II – Written and Verbal

-Deb Donahue should be contacting Supervisor Rozell to sign the memorandum of agreement for the \$50,000.00 grant project through Lake Champlain and the County because the County is the lead agency. Next month the Town will have to do a budget resolution for it. It will be approximately 90 days before we get our money back. Hollister Road Extension will be closed completely with a two-day minimum to put the culverts in. It will take approximately a week to do the complete project. There will be an ad in the Whitehall Times notifying of the road closure.

-Supervisor Rozell signed the mowing contract to mow the road sides for the County. The contract total was for a lump sum of \$7,281.89 (\$269.50 per centerline mile) for the 27.02 centerline miles of county highways to be mowed. The contract is included with the minutes.

-Will be amending the 284 agreement at next months board meeting because we are receiving money back. A copy of the letter from NYS Department of Transportation of the funding is included with the minutes

-The 2009 dump truck has engine problems and other issues. It is not schedule to be replaced until 2023 which puts us a year and a half ahead of schedule. Superintendent Pratt spoke with Councilperson Hollister and Councilperson Dudley of the Highway Committee as well as Supervisor Rozell concerning the necessary repairs. Pratt stated that value of the truck in good working condition would be between \$40,000 to \$45,00000. Right now, it's value is \$25,000.00 to \$30,000.00. It will take approximately \$20,000. To \$25,000 to bring it up to the \$45,000.00 in value. Superintendent Pratt stated he spoke with Delurey's and they have the cab and chassis on site for \$140,875 and they will need to order the body with plow & wing which will be \$113,125 for a total of \$254,000.00; the \$140, 875 will be a June payment. As far as the money, \$50,000.00 would come from the highway, \$15,000.00 was budgeted and \$189,000.00 would come from the general fund with a payback schedule ending in 2024. 2025 will be a free year instead of 2022 being a free year (not having not purchase anything). The truck should be ready the end of October or the first of November of this year. Supervisor asked about the truck going to auction, he asked if we were depending on any of the money we receive from the auction going toward the truck and Superintendent Pratt said no. That money will go back into his fund balance. Supervisor Rozell asked Councilperson Dudley what he thought about the truck and he felt it was inevitable and that they needed to move forward and replace the truck. The original truck that was scheduled to be replaced is the 2001 single axle which Superintendent Pratt plans on keeping at this time.

Motion to approve Resolution #35 authorizing the proposal to purchase a new 2021 International model HX620 SBA 6 X 4 heavy duty tandem axel truck cab & chassis for \$140, 875.00made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Councilperson Safka.

ADOPTED **AYES 5 Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Kingsley**
NAYS 0

Resolution will be filed with the minutes, website, and Resolution Book.

Motion to approve Resolution #36 authorizing the proposal to purchase a 2021 heavy duty tandem dump body & sander and plow & wing for \$113,125.00 made by Councilperson Hollister and Councilperson Safka.

ADOPTED **AYES 5 Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Kingsley**
NAYS 0

Resolution will be filed with the minutes, website, and Resolution Book.

Motion to approve the monthly reports made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Councilperson Dudley.

ADOPTED **AYES 5 Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Kingsley**
NAYS 0

Incoming Correspondence

The Town received a letter of resignation from Bruce Wescott from the Recreation Center.

ABSTRACT #5 OF 2021

General Fund V# 1/20 \$4,386.00
Highway Fund V# 1/18 \$12,105.94

Motion to approve the monthly vouchers for Abstract #5 of 2021 made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Councilperson Safka.

ADOPTED **AYES 5 Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Kingsley**
NAYS 0

Motion to go into executive session for personnel reasons made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Councilperson Dudley.

ADOPTED **AYES 5 Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Kingsley**
NAYS 0

Motion to come out of executive session made by Supervisor Rozell and Seconded by Councilperson Hollister.

ADOPTED **AYES 5 Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Kingsley**
NAYS 0

Motion to call an emergency Town board meeting to interview for the Sole Assessor position on a Monday as soon as possible made by Supervisor Rozell and Seconded by Councilperson Hollister.

ADOPTED **AYES 5 Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Kingsley**
NAYS 0

Motion to adjourn the Town Board meeting made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Councilperson Safka.

ADOPTED **AYES 5 Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka, Kingsley**
NAYS 0

Adjourned
Respectfully Submitted

Patti Gordon
Town Clerk