

**TOWN OF WHITEHALL
REGULAR MEETING
57 SKENESBOROUGH DRIVE
WHITEHALL, NY 12887
7:00PM**

JANUARY 19, 2022

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

ABSENT: David Hollister, Councilperson

OTHERS PRESENT: Patti Gordon, Town Clerk, Louis D. Pratt, Highway Superintendent; Erika Seller-Ryan, Town Attorney; Caton Deuso, Whitehall Times; Dana Grant, Barbara Spoor, Genevieve Hollis, Rec Leader

Supervisor Rozell called the regular Town Board meeting to order at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments: Barbara Spoor approached the Town Board concerning an accident that occurred on County Route 12 approximately two weeks ago between an Amish buggy and a motor vehicle. She was wondering if we could require the Amish to use more lighting on their buggies or if it were possible to get any street lighting on County Route 12. Supervisor Rozell stated that he does not believe that we have the right to make them do more than they are. The Town did approach the Amish when they first got here and they agreed to use the lights with the batteries and the triangle signs on the back. Supervisor Rozell said he would touch base with the Amish and see if there was anything else that can be done.

Motion to approve the monthly minutes from December 15, 2021 Town Board Meeting & January 3, 2022 Organizational Meeting made by Councilperson Safka and Seconded by Councilperson Kingsley.

ADOPTED **AYES** **4** Rozell, Dudley, Safka, Kingsley
 NAYS **0**

Town Heritage Report by Carol Greenough – No Report

Town Recreation Report – Verbal

-There has not been any parties on the senior side.

-Started a new club quilting club.

-Wrestling mats were removed sometime ago and taken to the high school.

-There has been approximately seven kids on the average using the recreation center a week.

Town Dog Control by Nancy Quell – No Report

Town Compliance Report by Martin Rocque – No Report

-Supervisor Rozell informed Compliance Officer Rocque that he has gotten a couple more complaints on the property on the corner of County Route 12 and Greenmount Cemetery Lane. Supervisor Rozell said he would contact the County regarding them.

Town Clerk Report by Patti Gordon – Written

Town Assessor Report by Roberta Stone – Written

Town Supervisors Report by John Rozell – Verbal

- Free COVID test kits are available in the office along with masks.
- Have ordered additional test kits from the County.

Town Budget Officer and Transfers by Joel Carpenter

Resolution #30 Transfer

Motion to approve Resolution #30 budget transfer made by Councilperson Kingsley and Seconded by Councilperson Safka.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Rozell, Dudley, Safka, Kingsley
NAYS 0

Town Planning Board Report by Gregg Chappell – No Report

Town Highway Report by Louis D. Pratt II – Written

Motion to put the 2009 tandem dump truck valued between \$25,000 to \$30,000 on the surplus list made by Supervisor Rozell and Seconded by Councilperson Dudley.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Rozell, Dudley, Safka, Kingsley
NAYS 0

Motion to amend the last motion to include the plow & wing made by Supervisor Rozell and Seconded by Councilperson Safka.

ADOPTED AYES 4 Rozell, Dudley, Safka, Kingsley
NAYS

Motion to sell the 2009 tandem dump truck with plow and wing to the Town of Fort Ann for the price of \$30,000 made by Councilperson Dudley and Seconded by Councilperson Kingsley

ADOPTED AYES 4 Rozell, Dudley, Safka, Kingsley
NAYS

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

ADOPTED AYES 4 Rozell, Dudley, Safka, Kingsley
NAYS

Incoming Correspondence:

Supervisor Rozell read a letter from Kathy Hall, Easton Town Dog Warden who would like to be considered to serve as the Town’s dog warden.

Supervisor Rozell discussed it with the Board and Supervisor Rozell will contact Kathy Hall and ask her to attend our next board meeting to give a presentation.

Abstract #13 of 2021

General Fund V/# 1-20 \$ 5,911.74
Highway Fund V/#1-12 \$ 7,157.86

Abstract #1 of 2022

General Fund V/#1-9 \$ 1,750.25
Highway Fund V/#1-3 \$ 1,360.95

Motion to approve the monthly vouchers Abstract #13 of 2021 and Abstract #1 of 2022 made by Supervisor Rozell and Seconded by Councilperson Safka.

Motion to go into executive session for personnel at 7:45 pm made by Councilperson Safka and by Supervisor Rozell.

ADOPTED **AYES** **4** **Rozell, Dudley, Safka, Kingsley**
 NAYS **0**

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

ADOPTED **AYES** **4** **Rozell, Dudley, Safka, Kingsley**
 NAYS **0**

Discussed the audit situation and the Town can do an internal audit itself. The Town's books have not been completely audited since 2017. The current auditor, Jeff Beecher, did come in 2021 and audited 2018 & 2019 but has not turned over the audit or billed the Town for those audits. Supervisor Rozell stated that he has tried several times to contact Mr. Beecher as well as the Town Clerk, Patti Gordon and he has not responded. Supervisor Rozell asked the Board if they would like him to sit down with the Budget Officer and begin the process of an in-house audit.

Motion for Supervisor Rozell to work with the Budget Officer Joel Carpenter to begin an inhouse audit made by Councilperson Dudley and Seconded by Councilperson Safka.

ADOPTED **AYES** **4** **Rozell, Dudley, Safka, Kingsley**
 NAYS **0**

Motion to raise the Deputy Clerk and Supervisor's Clerk hourly wage from \$13.36 an hour to \$14.00 and hour made by Supervisor Rozell and Seconded by Councilperson Safka.

ADOPTED **AYES** **4** **Rozell, Hollister, Dudley, Safka,**
 NAYS **0**

Councilperson Kingsley recused himself from the vote.

Motion to adjourn the Town Board meeting at 8:31pm made by Councilperson Dudley and Seconded by Councilperson Safka

ADOPTED **AYES** **4** **Rozell, Dudley, Safka, Kingsley**
 NAYS **0**

Adjourned
Respectfully Submitted

Patti Gordon
Town Clerk

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