

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

**JUNE 16,2021**

**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, Louis D. Pratt II, Superintendent of Highways; Martin Rocque, Compliance Officer; Julie Eagan, Rec Leader; Patty Neddo, Heather Michaud, Tyler Michaud, Penny Hollister, Barbara Spoor Whitehall Chamber of Commerce, “Big Foot” and Caton Deuso, Whitehall Times.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Patty Neddo would like to introduce the idea of a splash pad for the community, local children and disabled possibly at the playground. She isn't sure where the funds would come from but there are possible grants available to pay for it. She stated that there are several local communities that currently have them. The Town Board members had several questions such as cost, who would pay for it, over see it and maintain it. Ms. Neddo could not answer those questions at this time. The Board asked Ms. Neddo to gather more information and when she has it present it to the Board.

Heath Michaud came to represent her brother Tyler Michaud who currently works at the rec Center. His is currently working there through L.E.AP. which will end in September 2021 when he turns 21. She would to know if he can apply because he does not and can not ever have a driver's license due to his disability. Supervisor Rozell told Ms. Michaud we would accept his application. Penny Hollister also came as Tylers advocate and stated that he currently works approximately 15 hours a week at the rec center. Councilperson Kingsley asked about transportation and Ms. Hollister said that wasn't an issue.

Barabra Spoor from the Whitehall Chamber of Commerce came to ask the Town Board to revisit her request for the Sasquatch Festival on September 25, 2021. Last month the discussion was tabled due to two requests for the same date. The first party to request the park decided to not use it at that time, so that made it available for the Sasquatch Festival.

**Motion** for the Chamber of Commerce to use the park for the Sasquatch Festival on September 25, 2021 made by Supervisor Rozell and Seconded by Councilperson Safka.

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

Barbra Spoor asked if it was possibly to block off the last Saturday in September indefinitely. After discussing it the Town Board decided to let the Chamber of Commerce put in an application for the next five years and the Board will check with the Canal Corporation to make sure it is okay with them to reserve the park that far in advance.

Patty Neddo asked about the medical van that is suppose to be coming to Town. Supervisor Rozell stated that the Town has done what it is supposed to do other than hooking up the water source at the rec center but received a call from Hudson Headwaters Health Network saying everything was on hold on this time. Rutland Regional Medical Center has to sign a waiver for them to come into the area due to the proximity of the hospital and they have not. It is federally okayed and can by-pass Rutland Regional Medical Center but it is in litigation so we do not know how long it will take.

**Motion** to approve the monthly minutes from the May 19, 2021 Town Board meeting made by Councilperson Safka and Seconded by Councilperson Hollister.

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

**Town Heritage Report** by Carol Greenough – No Report

**Town Recreation Report** by Julie Eagan – Verbal

-Rec. Leader Eagan said the recreation center is currently working with limited staff. Baseball and T-Ball and currently going on. The Whitehall School district will be providing lunch this year instead of the YMCA and it will be at the recreation center this year instead of at the school. The program will provide fifty lunches for the child who are enrolled in the summer program only. The recreation center is trying to come up with something possibly bag lunches later in the day for the children that are not enrolled in the summer program. Supervisor Rozell informed Rec Leader Eagan that the Town had received a donation for the recreation center from Larry and Susan Martin for \$25.00 in memory of Anna V. “Jean” Carey. Also, Supervisor stated that an employee of the recreation center reported to him that nails were found on the softball field during a pee wee girls’ game. Rec. Leader is not sure where they would have come from because they clean after every bon-fire and there was not even a bonfire last year. They have however since been cleaned up. The field was raked up and a magnet was run over the area.

**Town Dog Control Report** by Nancy Quell – No Report

**Town Compliance Report** by Martin Rocque – Verbal

- Received a call from a resident in the Village concerning putting a camper in the Village, he referred them to the Village office.

-Spoke with the property owner on County Route 12. The sixty-day notice was up May 27<sup>th</sup>. No progress has been made on the clean and is now currently encroaching on the county road. Supervisor Rozell stated he would speak with someone in the Highway Department concerning the matter.

-Property located on State Route 4’s sixty-days will be up June 21, 2021. No change in condition of property as far as clean up. Cars are currently be sold there. Supervisor Rozell stated has notified the County concerning that issue. Supervisor Rozell stated nothing is currently in litigation on the property.

-The property on County Route 12 is becoming a big hazard concerning where he has his vehicle parked, it is very close to the white line. Town attorney Seller-Ryan said that it should be a ticketed offense from the Sheriff for encroachment. Also, the brush on the property needs to be cut back for safety reasons.

**Town Clerk Report** by Patti Gordon - Written

**Town Assessor Report** by Bruce Caza – No Report

-Town Assessor Bruce Caza retirement letter; Supervisor Rozell read Mr. Caza letter and it will be included with the minutes.

**Resolution #37** to appoint Roberta Stone as Action Sole Town Assessor for the Town of Whitehall

**Motion** made to appoint Roberta Stone as Action Sole Town Assessor for the Town of Whitehall for a period of 6 months beginning July 1,2021 to December 31, 2021 made by Councilperson Kingsley and Seconded by Councilperson.

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

Resolution will be filed with the minutes, website and resolution book.

### **Town Supervisors Report**

- Spoke with representative concerning the Hudson Headwaters medical van.
- County Level: Currently having issues with Code Enforcement at the county level. Residents are having issues with the permit process even though they have whether or not stamped plans are required. There is a meeting scheduled next Monday with Washington County Code Enforcement and other Town Supervisors do discuss these matters.
- Constellation will be dropping us in 2022 due to regulations.
- Contacted American Power and Gas, after going through the monthly statements notice they were charging us almost twice as much as we were quoted when the Town originally signed on with them. Apparently, you need to call each to month to get this lower rate, so we will be looking for a new supplier again in the future.

### **Town Budget Officer and Transfers by Joel Carpenter**

#### **Resolution #38 Budget Transfer**

**Motion** to approve Resolution #38 budget transfer made by Supervisor Rozell and Seconded by Councilperson Hollister.

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

Resolution will be filed with the minutes, website, and resolution book.

#### **Resolution #39 Budget Transfer**

**Motion** to approve Resolution #39 budget transfer made by Councilperson Dudley and Seconded by Councilperson Hollister.

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

Resolution will be filed with the minutes, website, and resolution book.

#### **Resolution #40 Budget Transfer**

**Motion** to approve Resolution # 40 budget transfer to purchase a 2021 International Tandem Dump Truck made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Councilperson Kingsley

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

Resolution will be filed with the minutes, website, and resolution book.

### **Town Planning Board Report** by Gregg Chappell – No Report

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

- The 284 agreement needs to be amended because of the CHIPS increase. It went from \$154,515.67 to \$320,806.06.
- Black topping will begin the last week of June.
- Will be doing culverts in July.
- Will be paving Lamphere Lane.
- Currently working on Upper Turnpike.

**Motion** to approve the amended 284 agreement made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Councilperson Dudley.

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

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

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

**Motion** to approve the following park request: Gail Manney on 6/27/2021, Misty LaRose on 7/3/2021, AA on 9/12/2021 and the Whitehall Library on 7/15, 7/22, 7/29, 8/12, 8/19 20121 made by Supervisor Rozell and Seconded by Councilperson Dudley.

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

**Town Heritage Report Continued**

Councilperson Safka stated she is concerned about the Museum not being open as it should be. She is very concerned it is just sitting there. Town money goes toward it and it should be open. Supervisor Rozell stated that he has spoken with Carol Greenough and that it will be open on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday along with the Skene Manor. Councilperson Dudley also ask why it is not open. Supervisor Rozell stated It did not open last year due to pandemic (COVID) and social distancing and this year there just isn't any staff according to Carol Greenough. Supervisor Rozell will discuss with Carol opening it more than just the weekends. Councilperson Safka asked what are the responsibilities for the Heritage Director, Supervisor Rozell read the list of duties. The Town Board members discussed other possibilities to find people to work or volunteer at the Museum.

**ABSTRACT #6 OF 2021**

**General Fund V# 1/19**      **\$ 3,535.68**  
**Highway Fund V#1/12**    **\$ 144,019.63**

**Motion** to approve the monthly vouchers for Abstract #6 of 2021 made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Councilperson Kingsley.

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

**Motion** made to go into Executive Session for personnel made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Supervisor Rozell

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

**Motion** to come out of Executive Session made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Councilperson Dudley.

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

**Motion** to hire Timothy Scribner as grounds keeper contingent upon doing a back ground check made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Councilperson Dudley.

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

Supervisor Rozell will notify Mr. Scribner concerning his appointment pending his satisfactory background check.

Supervisor Rozell will look over his calendar and will decide when to schedule and emergency meeting in order to interview applicants for the recreation center positions. Attorney Seller-Ryan will compile a list of questions to ask the applicants that are going to be interviewed for those positions.

**Motion** to adjourn the Town Board meeting made by Councilperson Kingsley and Seconded by Councilperson Safka

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

**Adjourned**  
**Respectfully Submitted**

**Patti Gordon**  
**Town Clerk**