

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

JULY 17, 2024

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Patti Gordon, Town Clerk; Erika Seller-Ryan, Town Attorney, Louis Pratt II, Highway Superintendent; Martin Rocque, Compliance Officer; E.J. Conzola, Whitehall Times.

Supervisor Rozell opened the Town Board meeting at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No public comments.

MOTION to approve the monthly minutes from the June 19th, 2024, Town Board meeting made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Councilperson Safka.

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

MONTHLY REPORTS

Town Recreation Report by Timothy Martindale – Written

Town Dog Control Report by Kathy Hall – No Report

Town Compliance Report by Martin Rocque – Verbal

- Spoke with the asbestos person overseeing the Champlain Beef building regarding the demolition of the burnt-out structure.
- Property located on County Route 12 & Cemetery Lane, Whitehall received the violation that was sent via certified mail.
- The property located on State Route 4 has had no change since the judgement was issued. Town Attorney Seller-Advised to wait until the full 180-day period is over then do a total clean-up and to put the clean-up out to bid to before the September meeting so they can be opened at Town Board meeting scheduled for 9/18/2024. Attorney Seller-Ryan suggested sending a letter to the property owner advising her of the timeline of the judgement requirements.
- Supervisor stated that there was a camper and several vehicles located on a lot on County Route 18 that is not permitted, and another camper located on State Route 4. Attorney Seller-Ryan stated that C/O Rocque should go out to the property(s) and speak with the

owners and give them both applications and a copy of the Local Law and explain if they do not complete them, they will be sent a formal notice to remedy.

Town Clerk Report by Patti Gordon – Written

Town Assessor's Report by Roberta Stone – Written

Town Supervisor Report by John Rozell – Verbal

- New phones were installed in the park and recreation center today.
- Vandalism in the Park has become an issue; it's occurring every few days. Several different law agencies have responded, The Whitehall Police Department, The Washington County's Sheriff's Office and the New York State Police. Damages are in the thousands at this point. The birding kiosk was destroyed, one of the wooden kiosks had the doors broken off, holes kicked in the walls, thermostat covers broken, handicap rail in the men's room was shoved into the wall, the faucet in the women's room removed, the handles removed from all the windows, and a television was brought in and mashed in the bathroom. The list goes on. Attorney Seller-Ryan is going to contact the Law Agencies involved to review their reports.
- Reviewing decommissioning bonds for the current solar farms to make sure they are up to date in value(s).

Town Budget Officer and Transfers by Joel Carpenter – Written

Resolution #40 Budget Transfer

MOTION to approve Resolution #40 Budget Transfer made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Councilperson Safka.

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

Town Planning Board Report by Gregg Chappell - Written

Town Highway Report by Louis Pratt II – Written

BUSINESS TO DISCUSS:

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

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

BUSINESS TO DISCUSS

Champlain Beef building discussed in Compliance Officer Rocque report.

Park/Dock donations \$94.00 + 27.00 = \$121.00 YTD.

Park Requests: Beth Kinne on 8/3/2024, Diane Vight on 8/17/2024 and Jim Leevy from Lake Champlain Lake George Regional Planning Board to set up a table at the Farmers Market on Tuesday(s) of his choice.

MOTION to approve all park requests made by Supervisor Rozell and Seconded by Councilperson Hollister.

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

ABSTRACT #7

**GENERAL FUND V/#1-26 \$14,994.33
HIGHWAY FUND V/# 1-9 \$ 4,296.65**

MOTION to approve the Monthly Abstract #7 of 2024 made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Councilperson Safka.

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

Councilperson Safka had Saratoga Surveillance come up and give an estimate to update the security cameras in the park, both inside the building and in the pavilion area. Attorney Seller-Ryan suggested getting at least two other quotes to compare.

MOTION to go into Executive Session at 7:50pm for personnel and contract negotiations made by Councilperson Dudley and Seconded by Councilperson Hollister.

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

MOTION to come out of Executive Session at 9:30 with action taken on the Historical Society contract for 2024 made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Councilperson Dudley.

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

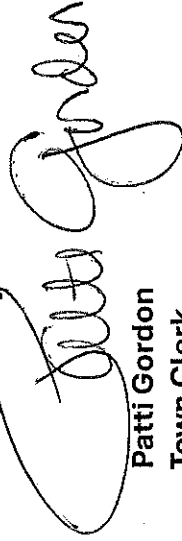
MOTION to pay the Historical Society \$4,500.00 for the year (2024) and not remove the \$500.00 that was already budgeted and carry over to next year so they will have an opportunity to earn that money back if they are open more hours made by Supervisor Rozell and Seconded by Supervisor Rozell.

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

MOTION to adjourn the Town Board meeting at 9:32pm made by Councilperson Hollister and Seconded by Supervisor Rozell.

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

ADJOURNED
Respectfully submitted



Patti Gordon
Town Clerk