

**TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

August 9, 2019

The Town Council met for a regular monthly meeting, 12 Mitchell Street, Canajoharie, New York.

Present: Supervisor Peter Vroman, Councilpersons: William Armitstead, Rodney Young, John Peruzzi, Sr [arrives at 7:50pm].; Highway Superintendent Timothy Jones; Zoning Board of Appeals Chairman Michael Ehrenreich; Bookkeeper Amy Kretser not present; Councilman John Toomey, Jr. not present

The meeting was opened by the Town Supervisor at 7:34pm, and the evening's agenda was presented

On a **motion** by Supervisor Vroman, **seconded** by Councilman Armitstead, the **agenda** was **unanimously approved**

On a **motion** by Supervisor Vroman, **seconded** by Councilman Armitstead, the July meeting minutes were **unanimously approved**

Public Comment- Anne Norman on Conway Road-has concerns and questions re: Invenergy Solar Project—she and her neighbors received proposed contracts from Invenergy with no introduction letter or explanation from the company; She has concerns as to where it will be located, can a landowner be forced to have solar panels on their property, do solar farms reduce property values

-Supervisor and members of the Board explain that from prior experience with the Mohawk Solar Article 10 project, it appears that this new solar company is in its very initial stage of scoping landowners who are/are not interested in leasing land for their proposed project; The Board briefly explains the Article 10 process experienced by the Town ie: how the NYS Public Service Commission is deeply involved, numerous studies are involved, intervenor attorneys and intervenor engineers representing the interests of the Town are involved, that there is a Town law with guidelines such as set-backs and screenings that the solar company should abide by, and explains other factors involved regarding re-zoning the proposed lands from agricultural to commercial

-Councilman Young and the Board stress to Ms. Norman and the gallery present that the proposed land lease contracts are solely the responsibility of the landowner and between the landowner and the solar company, and highly recommend review by a trusted attorney before a landowner makes any decision upon the matter

-Supervisor Vroman requests that the landowners approached by Invenergy keep the Town posted of any new information/concerns that they may receive/have

-Zoning Board of Appeals Chairman- Michael Ehrenreich gives brief report to the Board; He had a meet and greet powerpoint meeting with representatives from Mohawk Solar; The company needs variances for issues such as underground transmission lines and set-backs

Supervisor Vroman recommends Francis Avery for the ZBA—he has spoken with the Town Attorney who indicates there is no conflict of interest with Mr. Avery also being on the Village of Canajoharie planning board

RESOLUTION #17 OF 2019
Appointment of Francis Avery to Zoning Board of Appeals

WHEREAS, the Town of Canajoharie Zoning Board of Appeals has a vacancy,

WHEREAS, Francis Avery has expressed interest in becoming a member of the ZBA,

RESOLVED: Francis Avery is appointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals, term to expire December 31, 2021.

SPONSOR: Supervisor Peter Vroman

SECOND: Councilman John Peruzzi, Sr.

<u>VOTING:</u>	<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Supervisor Peter Vroman	X		
Councilman William Armitstead	X		
Councilman John Toomey			X
Councilman Rodney Young	X		
Councilman John Peruzzi, Sr.	X		

Laurie M. Vroman
Town Clerk
August 8, 2019

Supervisor Vroman informs the Board that he received correspondence from Barton & Loguidice re: NYS has granted additional intervenor funding in the amount of \$45,250.00 to be divided between the two Towns and again between B & L and the intervenor attorneys, therefore, the amount to be allocated to the Town of Canajoharie for B & L services is \$22,625.00

Motion to sign Barton & Loguidice's contract for continued intervenor services by Supervisor Vroman, seconded by Councilman Armitstead, all in favor, ayes, carried

Supervisor Vroman reports: that the Town received \$120,825.47 in 2nd Quarter Sales Tax

-that he met with the County and other Town Supervisors re: shared services

-that Congressman DelGado met at the Town Hall with the Fulton Montgomery Community Action Agency and the County Executive

- discusses the dog kennel complaint received via email and which was posted on a Facebook page

-Supervisor will be asking all department heads to submit to him by the end of August their proposed budgets; He will also discuss with the Town

Bookkeeper the possibility of direct deposit paychecks;

-Supervisor Vroman will be conducting NYS mandated workplace sexual harassment training by October; He will conduct the training for the Town Board after the regular Board meeting in September

-Supervisor Vroman received correspondence from the Town Assessor that the Town is currently assessed at 93.87% but is working to getting it back up to 100%

-Planning Board member, Wayne Conard, term expires December 31st

-Superintendent Jones and Supervisor met with Jason Humphrey re: turnaround agreement on Budd Street, on the upper side of his property will be 50' x 50' square as stated in the settlement agreement; Plowing does not involve his private driveway

Old Business- the Fire Contracts expire December 31st; Still one opening on the Zoning Board of Appeals; Still one opening on the Board of Assessment Review; Current BAR member, Catherine Smith, term expires September 30, 2019; Sole Assessor's term expires September 30, 2019

Highway Superintendent- nose plow not in good shape, it's 17 years old and would like to replace it for \$7,000.00

-Motion to replace and purchase new nose plow by Councilman Armitstead, **seconded** by Supervisor Vroman, **all in favor ayes, carried**

-Superintendent Jones discusses the garage addition—he believes the construction work can be done in-house with the guidance of Councilman Young; The Board agrees to do the construction in-house on the garage bay

-Superintendent Jones discusses the proposed new Town garage: he would like to start putting in driveways on the property; He also will keep the edge mowed and find out who hays the field

-Councilman Young has invited Chris Yacobucci from Lamont Engineers to come to Sept. meeting to discuss site plan for the garage

Town Clerk- Follow up on Town Zoning Map v. Town Zoning Map created by the County discrepancies: According to the County, the zoning map created by the County was labelled incorrectly as “Zoning Map” for the Town of Canajoharie; It should have been labelled “Land Use” map

Bookkeeper- not present, however, submitted copies of monthly report to the Board and Town Clerk prior to meeting

TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE-7/08/19
CASH REPORT JULY 31, 2019

CHECKING ACCOUNTS	
General	\$ 6,831.98
Fire District	\$ 39.86
Consolidated Health	\$ 35.28
Highway Town Wide	\$192,797.53
Highway Part Town	\$ 53,656.21
Trust & Agency	<u>\$ 15,119.04</u> *

MONEY MARKET ACCOUNTS	
General	\$ 4,215.69
Highway Town Wide	\$ 44,446.65
Highway Part Town	<u>\$266,222.66</u>
Total	\$314,885.00

Total \$268,479.90
*\$15000.00 Avangrid -Solar Project

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

Consolidated Health	\$ 1,484.77
Highway Cap Reserve	\$ 26,794.49
Gen-Cap Reserve-Garage	\$244,803.97
Gen-Cap Reserve-land	<u>\$ 26,417.94</u>
Total	\$299,501.17

BUDGET AMENDMENT

Increase Revenue	Increase Expenditure	Amount
A3089 State Aid	A.8989.4 Consultants	\$5427.25
This increase's budget for Intervenor Funds received/spent		

DA2665 Sale of Equipment	DA5130.4 Machinery Cont	\$5000.00
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This increases the budget line for revenue - money received for sale of grader and expenses for Machinery expenses.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy S. Kretser

BILLS

The clerk presented the following bill vouchers for approval:

General fund vouchers #177 through #198, totaling \$4,940.44;

Highway fund vouchers #122 through #139, totaling \$78,000.08

On a **motion** by Supervisor Vroman, **seconded** by Councilman Peruzzi, the bills were **unanimously approved** for payment

Adjournment

On a **motion** by Supervisor Vroman, **seconded** by Councilman Armitstead, all in favor, ayes, the meeting was adjourned at 9:27PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie M. Vroman, Town Clerk