

**TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

November 7, 2019

The Town Council met for a public hearing on the preliminary budget for 2020 and regular monthly meeting, 12 Mitchell Street, Canajoharie, New York.

Present: Supervisor Peter Vroman, Councilpersons: William Armitstead, Rodney Young, John Peruzzi, Sr.; Highway Superintendent Timothy Jones; Bookkeeper Amy Kretser; Councilman John Toomey, Jr. not present

The hearing/meeting was opened by the Town Supervisor at 7:30pm, and the evening's agenda was presented

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

7:32pm- Public Hearing on the 2020 Preliminary Budget; no comments from the public in attendance

7:35pm-Public hearing closed

7:35pm-regular Board meeting commences

On a **motion** by Supervisor Vroman, **seconded** by Councilman Peruzzi, the October regular meeting minutes **were unanimously approved**

Public Comment- Jay Summerson questions the Board as to when the last time the Board and Town Supervisor received a raise in salary; he states that the Board and Supervisor are underpaid

-The Supervisor and the Board responds indicating that the Town's budget is always very tight, and raises are given to other Town employees before they receive any; The Board sincerely thanks Mr. Summerson for his comments

-Mr. Summerson then has questions re: Mohawk Solar Article 10 project

-Supervisor Vroman responds explaining that the process is being watched very carefully by numerous NYS and Federal government agencies pursuant to the Article 10 process; Currently, Mohawk Solar has its' variance applications before the Town's Zoning Board of Appeals, the next ZBA hearing on their variance applications is scheduled for November 13th

-Mr. Summerson asks about the upcoming new Town Garage building project, how much it will cost, etc.

-Councilman Armitstead explains that new Town Garage project is in its' infancy and not sure of the cost as of yet; Board explains that they are in the process of signing an agreement with Lamont Engineers to start the preliminary stages of the project

Supervisor Vroman- asks the Board if more discussion is needed regarding the preliminary budget; No further discussion

RESOLUTION #24 OF 2019
Adopting Preliminary Budget as 2020 Final Town Budget

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on November 7, 2019 at 7:30pm for members of the public to speak for and/or against the 2020 preliminary budget prepared by the Canajoharie Town Board,

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED:

That the Canajoharie Town Board adopts the preliminary budget as the Final Budget for the year 2020.

SPONSOR: Supervisor Peter A. Vroman

SECOND: Councilman William Armitstead

<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
November 7, 2019

SUMMARY OF ADOPTED TOWN BUDGET

<u>Code</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Appropriations And Provisions For Other Uses</u>	<u>Less Estimated Revenues</u>	<u>Less Unexpended Balance</u>	<u>Amount to Be Raised By Tax</u>
A	General	<u>\$385,722.00</u>	<u>\$116,755.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$268,967.00</u>
B	General- Outside Village	<u>\$31,490.00</u>	<u>\$22,555.00</u>	<u>\$5,000.00</u>	<u>\$3,935.00</u>
DA	Highway- Townwide	<u>\$618,545.00</u>	<u>\$376,740.00</u>	<u>\$65,000.00</u>	<u>\$176,805.00</u>
DB	Highway- Outside Village	<u>\$447,736.00</u>	<u>\$302,346.00</u>	<u>\$95,000.00</u>	<u>\$50,390.00</u>
S	Special Districts:				
	Village of Ames	<u>\$38,650.00</u>	<u>\$38,650.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
	Village of Canajoharie	<u>\$38,650.00</u>	<u>\$38,650.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
	South Minden	<u>\$4,100.00</u>	<u>\$4,100.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
	Consolidated Health District	<u>\$1,300.00</u>	<u>\$5.00</u>	<u>\$1,295.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
	<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>\$1,566,193.00</u>	<u>\$899,801.00</u>	<u>\$166,295.00</u>	<u>\$500,097.00</u>

SCHEDULE OF SALARIES OF ELECTED TOWN OFFICERS

Article 8 of the Town Law

<u>Officer</u>	<u>Salary</u>
<u>Supervisor/Budget Officer</u>	\$6,680.00
<u>Town Clerk/RMO</u>	\$19,105.00
<u>Highway Superintendent</u>	\$41,743.00
<u>Councilmen (4), each</u>	\$1,700.00

Supervisor Vroman- Forest Preserve Users Inc. (Snowmobile Club) makes their yearly request the Town to grant them permission to use a strip of land owned by National Grid for the purpose of a snowmobile trail

-Motion to grant the Forest Preserve Users Inc. permission to use a strip of land owned by National Grid for the purpose of a snowmobile trail by Supervisor Vroman, **seconded** by Councilman Peruzzi, **all in favor, ayes, carried**

Supervisor Vroman informs **the Board** that he has received the resignation of the Town Clerk effective November 18th [her last day]. She is taking a position with the Montgomery County Clerk's office
-on the agenda is proposed resolution #25 to appoint a replacement for the Town Clerk in the event the Board agreed to decide upon an appointment during the Board meeting, however the proposed resolution was not brought to the table

-Supervisor Vroman received proposal from Lamont Engineering re: construction of new Town Garage; Board members discuss payment will come from building fund, discusses fess, etc.

Resolution #25 of 2019

TO AUTHORIZE TOWN SUPERVISOR TO SIGN A PROPOSAL TO PERFORM PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING AND PLANNING SERVICES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW HIGHWAY GARAGE BETWEEN LAMONT ENGINEERS AND THE TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE FOR

WHEREAS, the Town of Canajoharie desires to replace the existing, deteriorating highway garage facility located at 530 West Ames Road with a new highway garage,

WHEREAS, Lamont Engineers has presented the Town of Canajoharie Town Board with a proposal to perform (or furnish under subcontract) Professional Engineering and Planning Services for planning, design, and development of a new highway garage located on a lot which fronts South Buel Road and NYS Rts. 163 (Sprout Brook Rd.),

WHEREAS, Lamont Engineers scope of services shall include the preparation of conceptual floor plans, preliminary site plan, a preliminary project budget, final design and related details, a project manual and specifications to be used by the Town for Public Bidding,

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Canajoharie Town Board accepts Lamont Engineering's proposal and authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign the letter form of agreement.

Sponsor: Supervisor Peter A. Vroman

Second: Councilman Rodney Young

VOTING:	<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Supervisor Peter Vroman	X		
Councilman William Armitstead	X		
Councilman John Toomey, Jr.			X
Councilman Rodney Young	X		
Councilman John Peruzzi	X		

Dated: November 7, 2019

Laurie M. Vroman

Town Clerk

-Supervisor Vroman- reminds the Board that the fire contracts expire December 31st; Town Clerk has prepared draft contracts for Councilman Young and Town Bookkeeper to add the proposed contract amounts to and will return to Town Clerk for mailing to the fire departments

-Supervisor Vroman met with the Canajoharie School Superintendent re: possibility of shared serviced ie: IT assistance, ordering office supplies, civics class, etc.; Superintendent seemed receptive

-Supervisor was able to negotiate lower bill for the vermiculate abatement at the highway garage

-Supervisor Vroman in contact with intervenor attorneys Town of Minden is using for the Article 7 powerline upgrade, Young/Sommer LLP—will find clarification of the \$2,000.00 retainer fee mentioned in the proposed contract

-Supervisor hoping to attend next meeting being held in December re: former Beech Nut site

Mohawk Solar Updates- ZBA is holding an additional public hearing/meeting on November 13 regarding Mohawk Solar variance application

Highway Superintendent- the extension to the Town garage to fit the new truck and plow complete, the project cost \$8,000.00 with most of that cost being for the vermiculite abatement

-the Town Highway Dept. is all set for winter

-working on the Happy Hollow Road bridge

-asks the Board for permission to replace the 25 year old sweepers, not worth putting money into repairing it; Replacement sweeper would cost \$6,800.00, be 8 feet wide, would like to purchase out of 2019 budget, and sell old sweeper on Auctions International

-Motion to purchase new sweeper as requested by the Highway Superintendent by Supervisor Vroman, **seconded** by Councilman Peruzzi, **all in favor, ayes, carried**

Town Clerk- restates to the Board her resignation, last day as Clerk November 18th; Expresses her gratitude to the Board and pleasure working with them during her terms

Town Bookkeeper- Town books are keeping afloat

TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE-11/6/19
CASH REPORT OCTOBER 31, 2019

CHECKING ACCOUNTS

General	\$ 8,755.19 **
Fire District	\$ 39.86
Consolidated Health	\$ 35.28
Highway Town Wide	\$ 95,981.30
Highway Part Town	\$ 41,329.07
Trust & Agency	<u>\$ 14,268.60 *</u>
Total	\$160,409.30

*\$14007.67 Avangrid -Solar Project

** General owes Highway Town Wide \$47000.00

MONEY MARKET ACCOUNTS

General	\$ 217.44
Highway Town Wide	\$ 44,474.67
Highway Part Town	<u>\$216,564.49</u>
Total	\$261,256.60

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

Consolidated Health	\$ 1,484.84
Highway Cap Reserve	\$ 26,795.84
Gen-Cap Reserve-Garage	\$244,816.31
Gen-Cap Reserve-land	<u>\$ 26,419.27</u>
Total	\$299,616.26

Respectfully submitted,
Amy S. Kretser

Councilman Peruzzi- raises concern regarding talk about possibility of the former Beech Nut plant being used for a hemp plant, it is a huge concern for the downtown village business owners and residents, inquires if the Town has any say in what is placed in the former factory

-Supervisor Vroman responds indicating he is not aware if the Town has any say in what goes into a village property, however, he realizes the concerns of the village business owners as he received copy of a letter from Mr. John McGlone which expresses his concerns and opposition to the proposed hemp plant; The Town Supervisor will attend any future meetings that he is aware of regarding this issue and keep apprised of the issue

-Mr. McGlone briefly speaks to the Board re: where the County is at with the process of the hemp issue

BILLS

The clerk presented the following bill vouchers for approval:

General fund vouchers #244 through #269 totaling \$17,121.51;

Highway fund vouchers #178 through #194, totaling \$32,553.56

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

Supervisor Vroman- Invites current Deputy Clerk, Marigrace Hoag, to speak to the Board re: her interest in the position of Town Clerk

-Ms. Hoag introduces herself to the Board

8:39pm Motion to Enter Executive Session by Supervisor Vroman, **seconded** by Councilman Peruzzi, **all in favor ayes, carried;** Discussion of Town Clerk resignation

9:05pm Motion to Exit Executive Session by Supervisor Vroman, **seconded** by Councilman Armitstead, **all in favor, ayes, carried;** No decision made upon appointment of replacement Town Clerk

Adjournment

On a **motion** by Supervisor Vroman, **seconded** by Councilman Armitstead, all in favor, ayes, the **meeting was adjourned at 9:10PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie M. Vroman, Town Clerk