

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE
HELD MARCH 12, 2020 AT THE TOWN HALL COMMENCING AT 7:30 PM**

Present: Peter A. Vroman, Supervisor
William Armitstead, Councilman
John Peruzzi, Sr., Councilman
John Toomey, Jr., Councilman
Rodney Young, Councilman
Absent: Tim Jones, Highway Superintendent
Recording Secretary: Christina Jewell, Town Clerk
Others Present: Amy Kretser, Town Bookkeeper
Adam Ellis, Avangrid
Kurtis Hohensheldt, Town Resident

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Vroman, Supervisor, at 7:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Mr. Vroman, seconded by Mr. Young, that the minutes of February 13, 2020 meeting, as submitted by the Town Clerk, are approved. All in favor ayes, carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Vroman, seconded by Mr. Peruzzi, that the agenda was unanimously approved.

Public Comment – Adam Ellis, Avangrid, was in attendance to provide an update on the solar project. He stated they are working on Permit issues and are in discussions with National Grid. They anticipate breaking ground the first quarter of 2021. He further commented that the Governor is working on changing Article 10, designed for oil and gas drilling, to Article 23, a platform for renewables.

**RESOLUTION #6 of 2020
Approval of Town Court Financial Books and Records for 2019**

Sponsor: Peter Vroman, Supervisor
Second: John Toomey, Councilman

Whereas, the Canajoharie Town Council was presented with the 2019 financial books and other records of the Town Court of Canajoharie during the Town meeting on March 12, 2020 and,

Whereas, the Town Council found these books satisfactory and complete,

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that: the Town Council hereby approves the financial books and records of the Town Court for the year 2019.

VOTING	AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
Peter A. Vroman, Supervisor	X		
William Armitstead, Councilman	X		
John Peruzzi, Sr., Councilman	X		
John Toomey, Jr., Councilman	X		
Rodney Young, Councilman	X		

Christina Jewell, Town Clerk
Dated: March 12, 2020

The Supervisor and Councilmen agreed to table reviewing the Town Bookkeeper Financial Books and Records for 2019 until the April 9, 2020 meeting.

Survey and Topography Study

Mr. Young stated that William J. Symolon, Jr. has said he would begin the survey and topography study as soon as the weather will allow. Mr. Armitstead commented that he saw Mr. Symolon, Jr. at the site on Monday, March 9th; therefore, the process has begun.

Montgomery County Economic Development Water Quality Improvement Program Grant for the New Town Garage

Mr. Vroman stated that, once the Survey and Topography Study is complete, the location of the Salt Shed will be noted and then the process of applying for the Grant (50% of the cost of the salt shed) can commence.

Power Line Upgrade Update

Mr. Vroman noted he had a meeting in Fonda regarding the power line upgrade. He stated they have decided to begin in the East and work toward the West; therefore, work in the Town of Canajoharie is a long way off – most likely 2021.

RESOLUTION #7 of 2020
Updated Building Permit Fees

Sponsor: Peter Vroman, Supervisor
Second: John Peruzzi, Councilman

Whereas, the Canajoharie Town Council reviewed proposed increases to the Town of Canajoharie Building Permit Fees, including Solar, and,

Whereas, the Town Council found the proposed rates to be fair and consistent with other Towns in Montgomery County,

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that: the Town Council hereby approves the following change in Building Permit Fees:

<u>Estimated Cost of Project</u>	<u>Old Permit Fee</u>	<u>Current Permit Fee</u>
Under \$500	\$20.00	\$25.00
\$500 - \$25,000	\$25.00	\$50.00
\$25,000+	\$40.00	\$75.00
Demolition Permit	\$5.00	\$10.00
Permit Renewal	\$5.00	\$10.00
Solar (Residential) Under \$500	\$20.00	\$25.00
Solar (Residential) \$500 - \$25,000	\$25.00	\$50.00
Solar (Residential) \$25,000+	\$40.00	\$75.00

VOTING	AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
Peter A. Vroman, Supervisor	X		
William Armitstead, Councilman	X		
John Peruzzi, Sr., Councilman	X		
John Toomey, Jr., Councilman	X		
Rodney Young, Councilman	X		

Christina Jewell, Town Clerk
Dated: March 12, 2020

Kurtis Hohensheldt, a resident of the Town, was recognized by Mr. Vroman as having entered the meeting and was asked the nature of his business. After a brief discussion, it was determined that he should attend the upcoming Planning Board meeting as the Town Board meeting is not the place to obtain the answers to his questions.

Snow and Ice Contract for 2020

Mr. Vroman stated he met with Eric Mead, Montgomery County Public Works Commissioner, regarding the renewal of the Snow and Ice Contract for 2020. All Town Highway Superintendents are being asked to provide information to aid in the negotiations.

Mohawk Solar Historical Grant

Mr. Vroman noted that Mohawk Solar likes to provide historic restoration in the towns they are doing business in. To that end, he has asked that money they provide go to restoring the Town Hall at 12 Mitchell Street, as it is in need of a roof, boiler, paint and shutter replacement. It was also noted that there are small, unattended cemeteries within the footprint of the Town. The Town Clerk will research the location of these cemeteries and provide the Town Supervisor with a list.

Planning Board

Mr. Vroman stated he attended the last Planning Board meeting and that it is working well without a Chairman, which, at this point, has saved the Town 2 months of salary on the position.

Highway Superintendent – New Truck

In Tim Jones, Superintendent of Highways, absence, Mr. Vroman presented the Councilmen with information regarding trading in two smaller trucks owned by the Town and purchasing new ones. It was determined that we should focus on the smaller pick-up truck only and revisit trading in the dump truck next year at, the earliest. The Councilmen asked for more information (i.e., current trade-in value of the old pick-up, does the trade-in include the plow, how long will the new truck take to arrive) before proceeding with this matter.

Town Clerk

RESOLUTION #8 of 2020
Town Hall Internet and Phone System Upgrade

Sponsor: Peter Vroman, Supervisor

Second: John Toomey, Councilman

Whereas, the Canajoharie Town Hall phone system is outdated and inefficient, and,

Whereas, TPX Communications has provided the Town of Canajoharie with a Service Agreement to provide the Town with internet-based phone service, HD phones and a system that provides auto attendant, extension dialing, voicemail, caller ID, call transfer, do-not-disturb, electronic faxing, and disaster recovery (in the event of a power outage, a 4G wireless, automatic backup ensures both computers and phones will continue to work) and,

Whereas, savings to the Town is anticipated to be \$1948.28 the first year and \$2762.28 each year after,

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that: Town of Canajoharie Councilmen authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the Service Agreement, entering the Town into a 60-month contract with TPX Communications.

VOTING	AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
Peter A. Vroman, Supervisor	X		
William Armitstead, Councilman	X		
John Peruzzi, Sr., Councilman	X		

John Toomey, Jr., Councilman X

Rodney Young, Councilman X

Christina Jewell, Town Clerk

Dated: March 12, 2020

RESOLUTION #9 of 2020
Housekeeping Increased Hours

Sponsor: Peter Vroman, Supervisor

Second: John Peruzzi, Councilman

Whereas, Housekeeping currently works 5-6 hours per week, and,

Whereas, the amount of time does not allow the building to be cleaned satisfactorily and,

Whereas, the Montgomery County Probation Department occupies the Courtroom on Wednesdays, requiring an hour of Housekeeping time after they leave, they have been asked to pay for the time it takes to clean courtroom,

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that: Town of Canajoharie Councilmen authorize additional hours worked by Housekeeping, not to exceed 9 hours per week, paid by the Town.

VOTING	AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
Peter A. Vroman, Supervisor	X		
William Armitstead, Councilman	X		
John Peruzzi, Sr., Councilman	X		
John Toomey, Jr., Councilman	X		
Rodney Young, Councilman	X		

Christina Jewell, Town Clerk

Dated: March 12, 2020

Town Bookkeeper

Ms. Kretser presented the monthly Cash Report, noting that we have reimbursed the Highway Fund \$15,000, leaving a balance of \$32,000 owed. She stated the books are closed, for the most part, noting that the Court System takes in the most money for the Town.

TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE-3/12/20
CASH REPORT FEBRUARY 29, 2020

CHECKING ACCOUNTS		MONEY MARKET ACCOUNTS	
General	\$ 189,336.98**	General	\$ 217.63
Fire District	\$ 39.86	Highway Town Wide	\$ 4,505.44
Consolidated Health	\$ 35.28	Highway Part Town	<u>\$216,929.62</u>
Highway Town Wide	\$ 249,111.94	Total	\$221,652.69
Highway Part Town	\$ 201,889.82		
Trust & Agency	<u>\$ 9,688.80 *</u>		
Total	\$479,702.68		

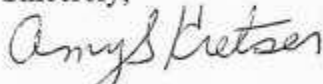
*\$9587.19 Avangrid/Mohawk Solar Project

** General owes Highway Town Wide \$42,000.00

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

Consolidated Health	\$ 1,484.91
Highway Cap Reserve	\$ 26,797.19
Gen-Cap Reserve-Garage	\$244,828.65
Gen-Cap Reserve-land	<u>\$ 26,420.60</u>
Total	\$299,531.35

Sincerely,



Amy S. Kretser,
Bookkeeper

Pay Bills

The Town Clerk presented the following bill vouchers for approval:

General fund vouchers #51 through #72, totaling \$27,072.69;

Highway fund vouchers #39 through #54, totaling \$38,584.27

Motion to pay bills was made by Mr. Vroman, seconded by Mr. Peruzzi, all in favor ayes, carried.

Resolution #13 of 2020

Approval of Town Court 2019 Financial Books and Records

Sponsor: Peter Vroman, Supervisor

Second: John Peruzzi, Councilman

Whereas, the Town Council of the Town of Canajoharie was presented with the 2019 Financial Books and other records of the Town Court of Canajoharie during the Town meeting on March 12, 2020 and,

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VOTING	AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
Peter A. Vroman, Supervisor	X		
William Armitstead, Councilman	X		
John Peruzzi, Sr., Councilman	X		
John Toomey, Jr., Councilman	X		
Rodney Young, Councilman	X		
Christina Jewell, Town Clerk			

Dated: March 12, 2020

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Vroman, seconded by Mr. Peruzzi, the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Jewell
Town Clerk