

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE
HELD MAY 14, 2020 VIA TELECONFERENCE AT 7:30 PM**

Present: Peter A. Vroman, Supervisor
John Peruzzi, Sr., Councilman
John Toomey, Jr., Councilman
Rodney Young, Councilman

Absent: William Armitstead, Councilman

Recording Secretary: Christina Jewell, Town Clerk

Others Present: Tim Jones, Highway Superintendent
Amy Kretser, Town Bookkeeper

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Vroman, Supervisor, at 7:30 PM, noting that it was being held via teleconference, as the country is in a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 virus, and the Open Meeting Law has been relaxed during this time.

Accept the April 2020 Meeting Minutes

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

Accept the May 14th Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Vroman, seconded by Mr. Toomey, that the agenda was unanimously approved. All in favor ayes, carried.

Recognition of Citizens Present

None present

Town Supervisor

Teleconference with the Montgomery County Executive and Town Supervisors/Mayors within the County

Mr. Vroman discussed the outcome of the call, noting that Phase 1 will begin May 15th and will include 4 regions in New York (the Town of Canajoharie is included in one of those regions). Regarding Administrative staff, they will reopen in Phase II. A written plan is required to be kept on file as to how the Town will protect employees and the Public.

Mr. Vroman further noted that the Board Assessment Review has relaxed face-to-face meeting rules and all grievances will be discussed via phone this year. He stated that the Sole Assessor commented the 4% increase in assessment has not generated any more negative comments from residents than previous years.

Sales Tax First Quarter – Check Received

Mr. Vroman stated sales tax increased \$15,000 from the same quarter last year; however, COVID-19 virus will affect revenue going forward.

Snow Removal Contract Proceeds – Check received for half

A check in the amount of \$123,344.00, half the amount due, has been received.

Courtroom Bench Sneeze Shield

To date, the Court Room is having protective shields being built. Additionally, the Town Clerk is having the glass removed from her office door and replaced with Plexiglass and the Assessor is purchasing a prefabricated, mobile plexiglass shield.

Resolution #14 of 2020
County Grass/Mowing Contract Approval

Sponsor: Peter Vroman
Second: John Peruzzi

Whereas, the Town of Canajoharie includes 41.60 miles of County Highway (40.97 +0.63 in the Village of Ames;

Whereas, the County of Montgomery Department of Public Works has proposed an agreement for control of grass and brush on County Highways with the Town of Canajoharie beginning June 1, 2020 and ending May 31, 2021; the amount/mile \$400.00, and total 2020/2021 Brush and Grass Control in the amount of \$16,640.00;

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that: that the Town of Canajoharie accepts the proposed 2020/2021 Grass and Brush Control Contract in the total amount of \$16,640.00 and agrees to the terms as set forth in said proposed Agreement, beginning June 1, 2020 and ending May 31, 2021.

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: May 14, 2020

Resolution #15 of 2020
Planning Board Vacancy to be filled by Elam Kaufman, Jr.

Sponsor: Peter Vroman
Second: John Peruzzi

Whereas, an opening exists on the Town of Canajoharie Planning Board;

Whereas, Town resident, Elam Kaufman, Jr., has contacted the Town Board to express his interest in being appointed to the Planning Board;

Whereas, the current opening term ends December 31, 2025;

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that: the Town Board of Canajoharie appoints Elam Kaufman, Jr. to the Town of Canajoharie Planning Board, term to expire December 31, 2025.

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: May 14, 2020

New Business - Happy Hollow Creek Bank Restoration – Ehrenreich Complaint Regarding Bank Restoration in Front of His Residence

Mr. Vroman noted that the Town Highway Superintendent worked with Mr. Ehrenreich to come to agreement on what needs to be done, the town will do the work and the issue will be resolved.

Old Business

Survey and Topography Study for the Town Garage – Status Update

Mr. Young stated the survey & topography study, being completed by William J. Symolon, Jr., Land Surveyor, should be finished the week of May 11th and he is expecting a call any time; however, Mr. Symolon has lost staff help and is a little behind. Mr. Vroman noted that, when received, the survey has to go to the engineers in order to continue as planned and moving forward.

New Truck

A discussion ensued regarding the purchase of a new truck; however, due to the nature of the questions being asked, it was decided to table the matter until the next face-to-face meeting of the Town Councilmen.

Highway Superintendent

Mr. Jones noted the Town is starting a paving project that is expected to take 2-3 weeks to complete and that he is not currently doing temperature checks; however, he may have to in the fall if it is a requirement.

Mr. Young indicated two longtime Town Highway Department employees are planning on retiring by early next year and we should start looking now to replace them.

Mr. Jones noted that the check from Auction International, for equipment sold at auction, should be received shortly.

Town Clerk

Mrs. Jewell stated that, even with COVID-19 virus, it is business as usual in the Clerk’s office.

Town Bookkeeper

TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE-5/10/20
CASH REPORT APRIL 30, 2020

CHECKING ACCOUNTS		MONEY MARKET ACCOUNTS	
General	\$ 45,741.37	General	\$ 75,218.63
Fire District	\$ 39.86	Highway Town Wide	\$ 84,508.05
Consolidated Health	\$ 35.28	Highway Part Town	<u>\$397,090.99</u>
Highway Town Wide	\$ 37,431.29	Total	\$556,817.67
Highway Part Town	\$ 21,895.01		
Trust & Agency	<u>\$ 9,692.29</u> *		
Total	\$114,835.10		

*\$9587.19 Avangrid/Mohawk Solar Project

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

Consolidated Health	\$ 1,484.91
Highway Cap Reserve	\$ 26,798.53
Gen-Cap Reserve-Garage	\$244,840.86
Gen-Cap Reserve-land	<u>\$ 26,421.92</u>
Total	\$299,546.22

Amy S. Kretser, Bookkeeper

Authorization of Vouchers

The Town Clerk presented the following bill vouchers for approval:

General fund vouchers #90 through #104, totaling \$12,260.34;

Highway fund vouchers #63 through #80, totaling \$41,492.70

Adjournment

Mr. Vroman noted that, due to COVID-19 virus and social distancing, he alone would be signing off on this month's vouchers for payment.

On a motion by Mr. Vroman, seconded by Mr. Toomey, the meeting was adjourned at 7:59 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Jewell
Town Clerk