

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE
HELD SEPTEMBER 10, 2020 VIA TELECONFERENCE AT 7:30 PM**

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

Recording Secretary: Christina Jewell, Town Clerk

Others Present: Tim Jones, Highway Superintendent
Amy Kretser, Town Bookkeeper
Jay Summerson, Resident
Scott McDonald, Mohawk Solar

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Vroman, Supervisor, at 7:30 PM, with the Pledge of Allegiance and after noting that some Town Council members and some members of the public are still utilizing teleconferencing to attend the meetings, 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 (as per Executive Order 202.48 COVID 19 Disaster Emergency).

Accept the August 2020 Meeting Minutes

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

Accept the September 10th Agenda

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

Recognition of Citizens Present

Mr. Vroman recognized Mr. Jay V. Summerson at the meeting; Mr. Summerson stated he wanted to hear what the status of the new Town Garage is. Mr. Vroman noted we would be discussing the Town Garage later in the meeting and invited him to stay until that time.

Town Supervisor

At 7:35 PM, Mr. Vroman made a motion to go into Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Toomey. At 7:40 PM Mr. Vroman made a motion to leave Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Toomey. Mr. Vroman then stated that he had submitted his Letter of Resignation to the Town Clerk on September 1, 2020, as he had accepted a position in the private sector. His last day of service would be September 14th, 2020. Mr. Vroman further noted that Rodney Young, Deputy Town Supervisor, would be taking over the position on that date.

Mr. Vroman addressed the Town Council with a request from Judge Gizzi regarding the position of Town Court Clerk going from hourly to salaried starting January of 2021. The Town Council will take this request into consideration and vote on it at a future date.

Town Garage Department of Health (DOH) Approved Well

At 7:46 PM, Mrs. Jewell opened and submitted the one sealed bid proposal received: American Well Drilling submitted a bid in the amount of \$9010.27. Mrs. Jewell indicated she did not receive any other sealed bid proposals. Mr. Vroman made a motion to accept the bid for the DOH approved well from American Well Drilling, seconded by Mr. Armitstead. All in favor ayes, carried.

Resolution #18 of 2020
Re-Appoint William Smith to the Board of Assessment Review

Sponsor: Peter Vroman

Second: William Armitstead

Whereas, William Smith's term expires September 30, 2020 on the Town of Canajoharie Board of Assessment Review (BAR);

Whereas, The Town of Canajoharie Town Council is interested in William Smith continuing as a member of the BAR;

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that: William Smith is re-appointed to the BAR, term to expire September 30, 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: September 10, 2020			

Mr. Vroman then recognized Scott McDonald regarding the Mohawk Solar project. Mr. McDonald stated the road use agreement would be sent to Terresa Backner, Town Attorney for the project, the next day with all comments and concerns addressed; therefore, it is anticipated we are on track for an end-of-year start date. Mr. McDonald then left the meeting.

Highway Superintendent

Mr. Jones restated the Town's need for a new Gradall. He submitted an estimate to fix the Town's current Gradall for \$27,414.98 from Vantage Equipment, who noted that the cost of this repair exceeds fair market value of the machine in good working condition. Mr. Jones further stated they have already put \$12,000 in repairs into it.

Mr. Jones discussed the open position(s) at the Town Garage and inquired as to how soon he can hire so there can be training with the employee leaving. It was noted he will work with Amy Kretser, Town Bookkeeper, to be sure there is money in the budget to bring 1 or 2 people on in November. When setting interviews, evenings would be best for Mr. Young to attend.


Town Clerk

Mrs. Jewell noted phone system installation at the Town Garage, 530 West Ames Road, is still incomplete but is being worked on.

Town Bookkeeper

Ms. Kretser stated we are rolling along; behind from last year's totals and not as financially set, but doing alright. She noted that Court fines and sales tax revenue are down. Mr. Jones stated that CHIPS money was cut this week; however, he got the Town's submission in early and received the letter of acceptance a month ago so the town

should get the full amount. Lastly, Ms. Kretser distributed notes for the Planning Board Meeting, held on August 24, 2020.

TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE-9/10/20		CASH REPORT AUGUST 31, 2020	
CHECKING ACCOUNTS		MONEY MARKET ACCOUNTS	
General	\$ 27,155.11	General	\$ 50,231.02
Fire District	\$ 39.86	Highway Town Wide	\$ 84,522.17
Consolidated Health	\$ 35.28	Highway Part Town	<u>\$122,199.28</u>
Highway Town Wide	\$ 153,302.37	Total	\$256,952.47
Highway Part Town	\$ 71,588.21		
Trust & Agency	<u>\$ 10,928.83*</u>		
Total	\$ 263,049.66		
* <u>\$8501.09</u> Avangrid/Mohawk Solar Project			
SAVINGS ACCOUNTS			
Consolidated Health	\$ 1,485.05		
Highway Cap Reserve	\$ 26,799.87		
Gen-Cap Reserve-Garage	\$244,853.07		
Gen-Cap Reserve-land	<u>\$ 26,423.24</u>		
Total	\$299,561.23		
Sincerely,			
			
Amy S. Kretser, Bookkeeper			

Authorization of Vouchers

The Town Clerk presented the following bill vouchers for approval:

General fund vouchers #175 through #206, totaling \$45,436.46, which included a drawdown of the intervener fund;
Highway fund vouchers #137 through #156, totaling \$45,395.95

Mr. Vroman noted that, due to COVID-19 and social distancing, the Town Council members present reviewed the month's voucher summary report but he alone would be signing off on this month's vouchers for payment.

Mr. Vroman stated Mr. Young should get the salary of the Town Supervisor while he is taking over the roll. Mr. Peruzzi noted that when the last Town Supervisor left and Mr. Young took over, he was given that salary. Mr. Vroman further stated he would send his passwords to the Town Clerk as well as Mr. Young.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Vroman, seconded by Mr. Toomey, the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Jewell
Town Clerk