# MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2021 PRELIMINARY BUDGET AND THE REGULAR MONTLY MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE HELD NOVEMBER 12, 2020 VIA TELECONFERENCE AT 7:30 PM

**Present:** Rodney Young, Acting Town Supervisor

William Armitstead, Councilman John Peruzzi, Sr.., Councilman John Toomey, Jr., Councilman Christina Jewell, Town Clerk

Recording Secretary: Christina Jewell, Town Clerk

Others Present: Tim Jones, Highway Superintendent

Amy Kretser, Town Bookkeeper Scott McDonald, Mohawk Solar

### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Young, Acting Town 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).

## Public Hearing on the 2021 Preliminary Budget

At 7:31 PM the Public Hearing on the 20201 Budget was opened for comments; there were no comments from the public. At 7:33 PM the public hearing was closed.

# Accept the September 2020 Meeting Minutes

At 7:33 PM the regular monthly meeting of the Town Board commenced. A motion was made by Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. Peruzzi, that the minutes of the October 2020 meeting, as submitted by the Town Clerk, be approved. All in favor ayes, carried.

## Recognition of Citizens Present

Mr. McDonald provided the Town Council members with an update on the Mohawk Solar project. The following anticipated milestones were presented:

November 19, 2020 Article 10 Certificate Award
 December 2020 Interconnection Agreement

• March 2021 Siting Board Approval of Compliance Filings

March 2021 Resolution #14 of 2019 – Building Permit Fees Payment

April 2021 Construction Start (Tree Clearing)

1st Quarter 2021 Town Road Use Agreement/UG Crossing & Driveway Permits Approvals

• 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2021 Full Construction Mobilization

• 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2021 Utility Crossing Approvals (National Grid/LS Power/Dominion/Iroquois)

• 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2022 PV Module Delivery Start/End

November 30, 2022 Commercial Operation

Mr. McDonald also provided a map of the proposed locations of planting modules, noting that 3 have been removed due to either the category of soil or wetlands.

### Solar Permit Fees

Mr. Young noted that subcontractors are contacting the Town regarding permits for the solar project. Mr. McDonald stated Mohawk Solar will take care of getting the permits and will look at who is responsible to pay for them, as the Town was under the assumption Mohawk Solar was responsible as this project was not to cost any Town funds.

## **Town Supervisor**

# Resolution #21 of 2020 Adopt the Preliminary Budget as the 2021 Final Budget Approval

Sponsor: Rodney Young Second: John Peruzzi

Whereas, a public hearing was held on November 12, 2020 at 7:30 PM for members of the public to speak for and/or against the 2021 preliminary budget prepared by the Canajoharie Town Board,

**Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that:** the Canajoharie Town Board adopts the Preliminary Budget as the 2021 Final Budget.

VOTING	AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
Rodney Young, Acting Town Supervisor	X		
William Armitstead, Councilman	X		
John Peruzzi, Sr., Councilman	X		
John Toomey, Jr., Councilman	X		

Christina Jewell, Town Clerk Dated: November 12, 2020

# Resolution #22 of 2020 Control of Snow and Ice on County Highways Agreement Approval

Sponsor: Rodney Young Second: John Peruzzi

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

**Whereas**, the County of Montgomery Department of Public Works has proposed an agreement for control of snow and ice on County Highways with the Town of Canajoharie as follows:

• 2021 Winter Amount/Mile: \$5,930.00 - Total 2021 Snow/Ice Removal Contract: \$246,688.00,

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED: that the Town of Canajoharie accepts the proposed Snow/Ice Removal Contract as stated above and agrees to the terms as set forth in said proposed Agreement for Control of Snow and Ice on County Highways, beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021.

VOTING	AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
Rodney Young, Acting Town Supervisor	X		
William Armitstead, Councilman	X		
John Peruzzi, Sr., Councilman	X		
John Toomey, Jr., Councilman	X		

Christina Jewell, Town Clerk Dated: November 12, 2020

# Resolution #23 of 2020 Mohawk Solar, LLC Road Use Agreement Approval

Sponsor: Rodney Young Second: John Peruzzi, Sr.

Whereas, Mohawk Solar, LLC (the "Applicant") has proposed to construct a 90.5 megawatt (MW) solar energy facility (the "Project") in the Towns of Canajoharie and Minden (the "Towns"), Montgomery County (the "County"), and has applied to the New York State Board on Electric Generation Siting and the Environment (the "Siting Board") for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need Pursuant to Article 10 of the Public Service Law to allow the Applicant to construct and operate the Project;

Whereas, the Towns are responsible for the maintenance of certain roads and highways within their respective jurisdictions;

Whereas, in connection with the development, construction, operation and maintenance of the Project, it may be necessary for the Applicant and its contractors and subcontractors or designees to transport materials across the Towns' roads and highways; and

Whereas, the Town of Canajoharie and the Applicant wish to enter into an agreement for the use, repair, and improvement of Town roads and highways in the form attached hereto at Exhibit A (the "Road Use Agreement").

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that: after reviewing the Road Use Agreement the Town Board of the Town of Canajoharie hereby approves the Road Use Agreement and authorizes the Town Supervisor to execute the same.

VOTING	AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
Rodney Young, Acting Town Supervisor	X		
William Armitstead, Councilman	X		
John Peruzzi, Sr., Councilman	X		
John Toomey, Jr., Councilman	X		

Christina Jewell, Town Clerk Dated: November 12, 2020

#### Probation Held at the Town Hall

Mr. Young discussed the fact that, in the past, Montgomery County Probation Department used the Town Hall on Wednesdays to meet with probationers from across the County. The cost associated with having them in the building, along with the COVID pandemic, prompting the Town to have as few people in the building as possible, has resulted in asking them not to return. All in favor ayes, carried.

#### **Highway Superintendent**

Mr. Jones submitted a letter to the Town Board, designating the following town roads as seasonal:

- Canyon Road (Gravel Portion Only)
- Lincoln Road
- Old Tavern Road

Mr. Jones noted that he would like to purchase a sander for the small truck, as the old one has been used for the last 6 winters and he has money in his budget. All in favor ayes, carried.

Mr. Jones further noted that, when looking to purchase a Gradall, he was offered a 'no payment for one year' lease agreement that will be forwarded to the Town Attorney for his review.

#### Town Clerk

Ms. Jewell distributed a report of year-to-date Building Permit Applications, totaling 22 for a grand total of \$1120.00.

## Town Bookkeeper

Ms. Kretser stated the General Fund is very tight with only \$8000.00 left, which may result in borrowing from the Highway Fund.

# TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE-11/11/20 CASH REPORT OCTOBER 31, 2020

CHECKING ACCOUNTS		MONEY MARKET ACCOUNTS		
General	\$ 3,431.08	General	\$ 5,234.58	
Fire District	\$ 39.86	Highway Town Wide	\$ 84,529.23	
Consolidated Health	\$ 35.28	Highway Part Town	\$122,219.70	
Highway Town Wide	\$ 92,057.45	Total	\$211,983.51	
Highway Part Town	\$ 129,305.09			
Trust & Agency	<u>\$ 15,764.07</u> *			
Total	\$ 240,632.83			
*\$12,849.48 Avangrid/Mohawk Solar Project				

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

Consolidated Health \$ 1,485.12

Highway Cap Reserve \$ 26,799.87

Gen-Cap Reserve-Garage \$244,865.41 Gen-Cap Reserve-land \$26,424.57 Total \$299,574.97

Amy S. Kretser, Bookkeeper

## **Authorization of Vouchers**

The Town Clerk presented the following bill vouchers for approval:

General fund vouchers #232 through #259, totaling \$19,117.39

Highway fund vouchers #174 through #194, totaling \$42,648.16

On a motion by Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. Toomey, Jr., the bill vouchers were unanimously approved for payment.

## Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. Peruzzi, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Jewell Town Clerk