

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE
HELD FEBRUARY 11, 2021 AT THE TOWN HALL COMMENCING AT 7:30 PM**

Present: Rodney Young, Acting Town Supervisor
William Armitstead, Councilman
John Peruzzi, Sr., Councilman
John Toomey, Jr., 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. Young, Acting Town Supervisor, at 7:34 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 January 2021 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. Toomey, that the minutes of the January 2021 meeting, as submitted by the Town Clerk, be approved. All in favor ayes, carried.

Recognition of Citizens Present

The Board recognized Jay Summerson, attending via phone, who asked about the progress on the Town Barn. It was noted we are researching funding through NBT Bank and will have more definitive information at next months meeting. Regarding the well, it was noted we are waiting for the water analysis results before we make any decisions and that we are looking at all options, such as using the creek, if need be. In conclusion, signature needed for upcoming elections were discussed, stating that they can't begin to collect them until March and the number needed is still unknown.

Town Supervisor

Mr. Young stated he has looked into options for purchasing a Gradall and will send the Board his findings prior to the next Board meeting, so they are prepared for a discussion.

Mr. Young discussed the Solar project, noting the Town will get \$127,000 in permit fees and \$20,000 for historical preservation, to be used on the Town Hall. He commented that we will have to hire an overseer and have to put \$25,000 in escrow (Town of Minden will have to put \$5000 in escrow) for payment; however, if the cost goes over the escrow amount, we will not be responsible for payment, and if there is anything left at the end of the project, the Towns will get the money back. It was noted that the clearing of trees will start soon.

**RESOLUTION #4 of 2021
Senior Citizens STAR Exemption**

Sponsor: Rodney Young, Acting Supervisor
Second: John Toomey, Jr., Councilman

Whereas, on March 7, 2020, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo issued Executive Order Number 202, declaring a State disaster emergency for the entire State of New York, and

Whereas, on December 18, 2020 said declaration was extended to include: Subdivisions 7, 7-a and 8 of section 459-c of the Real Property Tax Law, and subdivisions 5, 5-a, 5-b, 5-c and 6 of section 467 of the Real Property Tax Law,

which permits the governing body of an assessing unit to adopt a resolution directing the assessor to grant exemptions pursuant to such section on the 2021 assessment roll to all property owners who received that exemption on the 2020 assessment roll, thereby dispensing with the need for renewal application for such persons, and further dispensing with the requirement for assessors to mail renewal applications to such persons, and

Whereas, the Town is desirous in adopting such resolution while also allowing the assessor to require a renewal application to be filed when he or she has reason to believe that an owner who qualified for the exemption on the 2020 assessment roll may have since changed his or her primary residence, added another owner to the deed, transferred the property to a new owner, or died,

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that: the Town Board is authorized to pass such resolution, and that the assessor is instructed to take any such necessary actions in the above-described directives.

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

Christina Jewell, Town Clerk
Dated: February 11, 2021

Highway Superintendent

Mr. Jones stated we cannot get the transmission needed for the Town pick-up and it will be weeks before they come in. No more orders are being taken for 2021 and 2022 orders cannot be placed until the end of March under State Contracts. This has caused the need to rent a truck for a month, as the county is unable to provide any assistance nor are surrounding towns. Regarding salt and sand, usage is down for the year and we are in good shape.

Town Clerk

Mrs. Jewell discussed issues with having snow removal at the Town Hall prior to opening at 9:00 AM. Ms. Kretser stated she has names of people who may be able to help and will get them to the Town Clerk. In the meantime, Mr. Young will help out.

Town Bookkeeper

Ms. Kretser stated she is working on the annual report and that sales tax for the month was up. She commented that the Planning Board met on January 25, 2021 and approved the subdivision by Richard Dodson, located on Old maple Town Road.

It was noted that the Planning Board is still running without a Chairperson, relying on Michael Muhlebeck as Acting Chair. Mr. Young stated he would look into the members of all Town Boards to be sure seats are filled.

TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE-2/10/21
CASH REPORT JANUARY 31, 2021

CHECKING ACCOUNTS

General	\$ 203,953.08**
Fire District	\$ 39.86
Consolidated Health	\$ 35.28
Highway Town Wide	\$ 192,811.69
Highway Part Town	\$ 230,033.40
Trust & Agency	<u>\$ 18,203.97*</u>
Total	\$645,077.28

MONEY MARKET ACCOUNTS

General	\$ 5,235.38
Highway Town Wide	\$ 84,539.88
Highway Part Town	<u>\$122,253.70</u>
Total	\$212,028.96

*\$12,849.48 Avangrid/Mohawk Solar Project Escrow

** Owes Highway Town Wide \$15,000.00

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

Consolidated Health	\$ 1,485.19
Highway Cap Reserve	\$ 26,802.57
Gen-Cap Reserve-Garage	\$241,885.03
Gen-Cap Reserve-land	<u>\$ 14,616.60</u>
Total	\$284,789.39

2020 Budget Amendment

Increase Revenue	Increase Expense	Amount
State Aid A3089.4	Consultants A8989.4	\$61,532.55
State Aid received for Solar Project and Expenses for same.		

2020 General Budget Transfers

From	To	Amount
A1110.4 Justice Contractual	A1110.1 Justice Personal	\$ 1152.54
A1010.1 Town Board Personal	A1220.4 Supervisor Contr	\$ 203.44
A1010.1 Town Board Personal	A1340.1 Budget Officer Pers	\$ 169.00
A1355.1 Assessor Personal	A1410.4 Clerk Contractual	\$ 1234.20
A1410.1 Clerk Personal	A4020.4 Registrar Contr	\$ 402.02
A1420.4 Attorney Contractual	A5132.4 Garage Contractual	\$13298.89
A1420.4 Attorney Contractual	A5010.4 Hgwy Supt Contr	\$ 281.97
A1420.4 Attorney Contractual	A6772.4 Office of the Ageing	\$ 500.00
A1420.4 Attorney Contractual	A9010.8 Emp Ben-Retirement	\$ 51.23
A9060.8 Emp Ben-Health Ins	A9030.8 Emp Ben-Soc Sec	\$ 22.46

2020 Highway Budget Transfers

From	To	Amount
DA5148.1 Serv Other Govt Pers	DA5130.4 Machinery Contr	\$14163.80
DA5130.2 Machinery Equip	DA5130.4 Machinery Contr	\$ 1887.33
DA5140.4 Misc Brush/weeds Cont	DA5140.1 Misc B/W Pers	\$ 1878.99
DA5148.4 Serv Other Govt Contr	DA5142.1 Snow Remov Pers	\$ 332.80
DA5148.4 Serv Other Govt Contr	DA9055.8 Emp Ben-Disabil	\$ 16.56
DB5110.4 General Reprs Contr	DB5112.2 CHIPS	\$ 18287.11
DB5110.1 Gen Repairs Personal	DB5112.2 CHIPS	\$ 6852.08
DB9030.8 Emp Ben-Soc Sec	DB9055.8 Emp Ben-Disabil	\$ 16.56

2020 Highway Budget Amendment

Increase Revenue	Increase Expense	Amount
DB3501 CHIPS	DB5112.2 CHIPS	\$36811.94

State Aid received for CHIPS and Expenses for same.

2020 Fire Protection Budget Amendment

Increase Revenue	Increase Expense	Amount
SF2680 Insurance (Fire Tax)	SF8989.4 Fire Tax Exp	\$669.09

More Fire Tax money was received than budgeted/expended.

Sincerely,
Amy S. Kretser
Town Bookkeeper

Authorization of Vouchers

The Town Clerk presented the following bill vouchers for approval:

General fund vouchers #31 through #51, totaling \$16,485.76

Highway fund vouchers #17 through #29, totaling \$24,547.98

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

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. Armitstead, the meeting was adjourned at 9:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Jewell
Town Clerk