

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

Present: Rodney Young, Acting Town Supervisor
William Armitstead, Councilman
John Peruzzi, Sr., Councilman
Recording Secretary: Christina Jewell, Town Clerk
Others Present: Tim Jones, Highway Superintendent
Amy Kretser, Town Bookkeeper
Jay Summerson, Town Resident
Mark Fowler, Town Resident
Absent: John Toomey, Jr., Councilman

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Young, Acting Town Supervisor, at 7:33 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 February 2021 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. Armitstead, that the minutes of the February 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 noted he read in the paper that the Town will be getting \$390,000.00 from a pending stimulus bill. He wanted to know what the town intended to do with the funds and was told the Town has not yet been contacted nor have they discussed how the funds will be spent.

Regarding the Town Garage, Mr. Summerson stated we should go bigger than needed for future expansion. He asked if there will be solar on the building or property and was notified the Town is currently looking into the prospect as there is funding available. In conclusion, Mr. Summerson asked if the town citizens can afford the Town Garage and Mr. Young stated he is currently in discussions with the Bank on how long a term the loan can be for but nothing has been finalized yet.

The Board recognized Mark Fowler, who was attending to observe and not take part in the meeting.

Town Supervisor

RESOLUTION #5 of 2021
Approval of Host Community Benefit Agreement
and Authorizing the Town Supervisor to Sign

This resolution was tabled as there are anticipated changes.

RESOLUTION #6 of 2021
**Authorizing the Electronic Filing of Complaints for the
Administrative Review of Real Property Assessments for the year 2021**

Sponsor: Rodney Young, Acting Supervisor
Second: William Armitstead, Councilman

Whereas, the Town Board of the Town of Canajoharie; Under section 104 of the Real Property Tax Law, an assessing unit is authorizing the electronic filing of complaints for the administrative review of real property assessments must comply with the standards listed below. The Town of Canajoharie is authorizing the e-filing of complaints by resolution. The town must publish instructions for e-filing complaints by a method reasonably calculated to reach complainants. Pursuant to the Department's authority under RPTL § 104(1)(b), the following standards are hereby established for the electronic filing of complaints for administrative review of assessments:

- I. Assessing units may opt to allow the electronic filing of complaints by local law, ordinance, or resolution, as authorized by RPTL § 104(3)(b).
- II. Assessing units that opt to allow the electronic filing of complaints must publish instructions for filing such a complaint by a method reasonably calculated to reach complainants who wish to e-file.
- III. Assessing units that opt to allow the electronic filing of complaints may accept electronically filed complaints directly via email or other electronic method established by the assessing unit, or indirectly via a vendor or contractor hired by the assessing unit for such purpose.
- IV. Any person aggrieved by an assessment (e.g., an owner, purchaser or tenant who is required to pay the taxes pursuant to a lease or written agreement) may electronically file a complaint (RP-524) if their property is located within an assessing unit that has opted to accept e-filing. Property owners may e-file a complaint themselves or an authorized representative or attorney may e-file a complaint on behalf of the property owner. If a complaint is being e-filed by a representative or attorney, it must include a fully completed power of attorney or designation of representative or the e-filed complaint may be rejected.
- V. Assessing units may opt to allow the electronic filing of complaints by local law, ordinance, or resolution, as authorized by RPTL § 104(3)(b).
- VI. Assessing units that opt to allow the electronic filing of complaints must publish instructions for filing such a complaint by a method reasonably calculated to reach complainants who wish to e-file.
- VII. Assessing units that opt to allow the electronic filing of complaints may accept electronically filed complaints directly via email or other electronic method established by the assessing unit, or indirectly via a vendor or contractor hired by the assessing unit for such purpose.
- VIII. Any person aggrieved by an assessment (e.g., an owner, purchaser or tenant who is required to pay the taxes pursuant to a lease or written agreement) may electronically file a complaint (RP-524) if their property is located within an assessing unit that has opted to accept e-filing. Property owners may e-file a complaint themselves or an authorized representative or attorney may e-file a complaint on behalf of the property owner. If a complaint is being e-filed by a representative or attorney, it must include a fully completed power of attorney or designation of representative or the e-filed complaint may be rejected.

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that: the town Board of the Town of Canajoharie does hereby authorize the electronic filing of complaints for the administrative review of real property assessments for the year 2021 complying with the standards listed above.

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: March 11, 2021

RESOLUTION #7 of 2021
Approval of Town Court Financial Books and Records for 2020

Sponsor: Rodney Young, Supervisor
Second: William Armitstead, Councilman

Whereas, the Canajoharie Town Council was presented with the 2020 financial books and other records of the Town Court of Canajoharie during the Town meeting on March 11, 2021 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 2021.

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: March 11, 2021

Mr. Young stated he has met with Jim Sullivan of NBT Bank for a Town Garage loan, noting that it should not be a problem to obtain. Mr. Young will reach out to Town Attorney, Doug Landon, regarding a bond resolution for a year or two, which will roll over into a money market account and be sold. We will then make payments.

Mr. Young noted, in discussion with Attorney Backner for the Mohawk Solar project, it was suggested we hire a financial advisor. It was stated we should go with whomever they suggest or reach out to Arkell Hall. Bond resolution is the next step in the process and Mr. Young will discuss this with Lamont Engineering, additionally noting that anything already paid for cannot go into the Bond funding.

Highway Superintendent

Mr. Jones stated we are in disparate need of a Gradall and that the money is in the budget to purchase one. Mr. Young asked if we could purchase a lessor one than originally suggested (next size smaller with a single axel)/used. Mr. Jones is against buying used as this is a complex piece of equipment. Mr. Armitstead suggested renting with a warranty may be more affordable. Mr. Young noted that even though there is money in the budget, if something breaks down in the near future, there will be a shortage of funds. A motion was made by Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. Armitstead, approving the purchase of the Gradall, as suggested by Mr. Jones. All in favor Ayes, none; Opposed Nays, unanimous. The Nays have it, the motion is defeated and the Gradall purchase is not approved.

Town Bookkeeper

Ms. Kretser stated she has submitted the annual report and has not received any comments back as of yet.

TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE-3/18/21 CASH REPORT FEBRUARY 28, 2021

CHECKING ACCOUNTS		MONEY MARKET ACCOUNTS	
General	\$ 169,439.63	General	\$ 5,235.60
Fire District	\$ 39.86	Highway Town Wide	\$ 64,542.98
Consolidated Health	\$ 35.28	Highway Part Town	<u>\$122,260.89</u>
Highway Town Wide	\$ 312,929.09	Total	\$192,039.47
Highway Part Town	\$ 310,257.11		
Trust & Agency	<u>\$ 13,459.31*</u>		
Total	\$ 806,160.28		

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

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

Sincerely,
Amy S. Kretser,
Bookkeeper

Authorization of Vouchers

The Town Clerk presented the following bill vouchers for approval:

General fund vouchers #52 through #77, totaling \$16,875.75

Highway fund vouchers #30 through #42, totaling \$17,412.30

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

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. Peruzzi, the meeting was adjourned at 9:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Jewell, Town Clerk