

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE AND
HEARING FOR LOCAL LAW #1, ENTITLED “A LOCAL LAW ENACTING A TEMPORARY
MORATORIUM ON SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS AUTHORIZED UNDER LOCAL LAW #2 OF 2017”
HELD JUNE 10, 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: Amy Kretser, Town Bookkeeper
Ronald Dievendorf, Town Resident
Steven Oarr, Town Employee & Resident

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 for Local Law #1 of 2021 – 7:31 PM

A public hearing of all persons interested in the adoption of Local Law #1 entitled “A Local Law enacting a temporary moratorium on Solar Energy Systems Authorized under Local Law #2 of 2017”. The proposed revised and reintroduced local law would establish a 6-month moratorium on the review of Solar facilities to give the Town Board sufficient time to evaluate the existing law to make changes to that law if warranted. Mr. Young noted there were no citizens present or on the phone that had interest in speaking about this matter.

Public Hearing Closed – 7:35 PM

Resolution #12 of 2021

**HEARING FOR LOCAL LAW #1 of 2021, ENTITLED “A LOCAL LAW ENACTING A TEMPORARY
MORATORIUM ON SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS AUTHORIZED UNDER LOCAL LAW #2 OF 2017”**

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

Whereas, a public hearing was held June 10, 2021 to hear arguments for and/or against proposed Local Law 1 of 2021, which would extend a moratorium on solar energy systems for a period of six (6) months,

Whereas, such local law would temporarily prohibit constructions, installation, approval and processing of applications for solar energy systems (installation of rooftop panels would not be subject to the moratorium),

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that: Local Law #1 of 2021 is passed, thereby putting a moratorium on solar energy systems for a period of six (6) months.

VOTING	AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
William Armitstead, Councilman	X		
John Peruzzi, Sr., Councilman	X		
John Toomey, Jr., Councilman	X		
Rodney Young, Councilman	X		
Christina Jewell, Town Clerk			

Dated: June 10, 2021

Regular Board Meeting Commences – 7:35 PM

Accept the May 2021 Meeting Minutes

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

Recognition of Citizens Present

The Board recognized Mr. Ronald Dievendorf, running for the open seat of Town Supervisor, and Mr. Steven Oarr, running for the open seat of Highway Superintendent, both of whom stated they are attending to observe and have nothing to discuss.

Town Supervisor

Board of Assessment Review Open Seat/Compensation

Resolution #13 of 2021

APPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL COLE TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW (BAR)

Sponsor: Rodney Young, Acting Supervisor

Second: John Toomey, Jr., Councilman

Whereas, the Town of Canajoharie Board of Assessment Review has a vacancy,

Whereas, Michael Cole filled all the requirements of the position and has expressed interest in becoming a member of the BAR,

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that: Michael Cole is appointed to the Board of Assessment Review, term to expire October 2025.

VOTING	AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
William Armitstead, Councilman	X		
John Peruzzi, Sr., Councilman	X		
John Toomey, Jr., Councilman	X		
Rodney Young, Councilman	X		
Christina Jewell, Town Clerk			

Date: June 10, 2021

Ms. Ruszkowski, Sole Assessor, requested via email that the Board consider an increase in compensation for all BAR members for 2022. Mr. Young tabled the subject as it is a budget matter and will ask Ms. Ruszkowski to bring the matter up again when working on 2022's budget.

Barton & Loguidice Agreement

Mr. Stephen Le Fevre of Barton & Loguidice forwarded a copy of the agreement for Building Plan Review and Site Inspection Services during construction of the proposed 90.5-megawatt Solar Facility. Mr. Scott McDonald of Avangrid Renewables reviewed the Scope of Services from Barton & Loguidice and recommends that the Town include, as part of the resolution, the Scope of Services from the Host Agreement to ensure all parties are on the same page regarding Barton & Loguidice level of review. His concern is that some of the language in their reviewed scope is broad and, without a cross reference to the Host Agreement, the Town could be in a position whereby Barton & Loguidice performs work not covered under the Host Agreement, and; therefore, not covered by the Host Agreement escrow. Mr. Le Fevre will be notified of the matter.

Final 2021 State and/or Class Equalization Rate of the Town of Canajoharie

Mr. Young noted that on June 7, 2021, a final 2021 State and/or Class Equalization Rate for the Town of Canajoharie was established; the final rate is 100%.

Salt Shed

Mr. Young stated he is working with Karl Gustafson Jr., Economic Development Grant Assistant for Montgomery County Business Development Center, regarding a grant for the Salt Shed under the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Program (a competitive, reimbursement grant program that funds projects that directly address documented water quality impairments or protect a drinking water source – Salt Storage 50%). The Town needs to determine, and provide to Mr. Gustafson Jr., the size and cost of the shed in order for him to proceed. Mr. Young will reach out to Tim Jones, Highway Superintendent, to see what his desired requirements are.

Mr. Young concluded by letting Council Members know he working to set up a meeting with Congressman Delgado to discuss financial assistance with the Town Barn.

Highway Superintendent

Mr. Young distributed an invoice from Metro Ford for the purchase of a Small Dump Truck at state pricing. The truck with plow costs \$70,721.60, less \$36,500.00 for a trade-in, for a total of \$34,221.60. It was noted that the money is in the budget and that we need to order ASAP in order to be received by October/November. All in favor ayes, carried.

Town Clerk

Nothing to report

Town Bookkeeper

Ms. Kretser noted that the Town is doing well with cash levels as sales tax money is coming in. She further noted there will not be a Planning Committee meeting this month.

TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE-6/10/21
CASH REPORT MAY 31, 2021

CHECKING ACCOUNTS

General	\$ 32,012.48
Fire District	\$ 39.86
Consolidated Health	\$ 35.28
Highway Town Wide	\$ 260,985.35
Highway Part Town	\$ 126,439.69
Trust & Agency	<u>\$ 15,310.52*</u>
Total	\$ 434,823.18

MONEY MARKET ACCOUNTS

General	\$ 85,239.53
Highway Town Wide	\$164,562.45
Highway Part Town	<u>\$222,299.47</u>
Total	\$472,101.45

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

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

Consolidated Health	\$ 1,485.26
Highway Cap Reserve	\$ 26,803.89
Gen-Cap Reserve-Garage	\$261,896.98
Gen-Cap Reserve-land	<u>\$ 14,617.32</u>
Total	\$304,803.45

Sincerely,
Amy S. Kretser,
Bookkeeper

Authorization of Vouchers

The Town Clerk presented the following bill vouchers for approval:

General fund vouchers #124 through #143, totaling \$8338.94

Highway fund vouchers #75 through #88, totaling \$103914.08

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. Toomey, the meeting was adjourned at 7:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Jewell, Town Clerk