

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE
HELD AUGUST 12, 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
Jay Summerson, Town Resident
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.

Accept the July 2021 Meeting Minutes

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

Recognition of Citizens Present

The Board recognized Jay Summerson, Town Resident, who noted the New York State and Municipal (SAM) Facilities Grant appears to be a good fit for Canajoharie's Town Barn project. He further noted that Arkell Hall may be another option for a grant. Mr. Summerson stated the Town should be getting approximately \$69,000.00 in stimulus money and questioned the Town's plans for the funds. Mr. Young made him aware the money has not yet been issued and comes with a list of how it can be used, requiring the Town to draw up plans and submit them to the State. Lastly, Mr. Summerson confirmed that the Town should receive approximately \$100,000.00 from Mohawk Solar when they break ground and an additional \$19,000.00/year.

The Board recognized Ronald Dievendorf, Town Resident, who read the following: "As of today, Montgomery County is listed as High Risk of transmission of COVID-19 Delta variant. Most of the counties surrounding us are High Risk. CDC guidelines for both unvaccinated and vaccinated persons are to reduce the risk of being infected with the Delta variant and possibly spreading it to others by wearing a mask indoors in public if you are in an area of substantial or high transmission. CDC COVID-19 site 081221. I request that the Town Board mandate mask wearing at meetings – it is the responsible thing to do for our constituents and ourselves". Mr. Young noted the Board would take the information under advisement.

The Board then recognized Steven Oarr, Town Employee and Resident, who came to observe.

Town Supervisor

LS Power Grid AC Transmission Line Upgrade Project

Mr. Young stated he spoke with a representative of the Transmission Line Upgrade Project regarding any questions we may have, such as road use and traffic issues. He noted the poles will go from the current 400 feet apart to 600 feet apart, can carry more electricity and should be in our area next fall.

Mohawk Solar

Mr. Young noted we have received \$20,000.00 from Mohawk Solar to go into an account for Barton & Loguidice, to pay for Building Plan Review and Site Inspection Services once ground is broken. The Town of Minden received their \$5,000.00 for the same purpose and both towns will be charged according to whose land is being used.

Montgomery County Snowplow Contract

Mr. Young attended a meeting held by County Executive Matthew Ossenfort for Town Supervisors in Montgomery County regarding a Snowplow Contract, where Mr. Ossenfort mapped out the County expenditures. Following the conclusion of the meeting, Mr. Young advised the Board that County Legislators will be asked to approve a 2.5% increase over last year’s contract (with a 2-year term) and anticipate 2% being approved. Mr. Young noted the Mowing Contract will come up next year and has not been increased in over 10 years.

**Highway Superintendent
Town Highway Job Opening**

Mr. Jones noted a Town Highway employee resigned as of 08.12.21 and that we will be advertising the job opening. He further noted more positions may open up in the Fall.

New Truck

Mr. Jones noted the Town’s oldest truck will be 20 years old next year. If we are going to order a new one now, it will take a year to arrive and will be a 2023 model year with the price locked in. All in favor ayes, carried.

Town Clerk

Resolution #16 of 2021
Building Permits regarding Residents with Unpaid Town/County Taxes

Sponsor: Rodney Young, Supervisor
Second: John Toomey, Councilman

Whereas, the Town of Canajoharie is implementing a policy requiring residents requesting a Building Permit to be current on their Town/County Taxes; and

Whereas, the Town Clerk of Canajoharie will verify taxes are current using the online Tax System and will inform the Town Code Officer, if they are not, that the permit cannot be issued; and

Whereas, a payment plan agreement with the Montgomery County Treasurer will not allow the issuance of a building permit until taxes are paid in full; and

Whereas, proof of paid taxes will be requested if they are current and not yet updated in the Online Tax System; and

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that: this 12th day of August, 2021, that the Town of Canajoharie Board supports the policy of denying building permits for Town of Canajoharie residents with Unpaid Town/County Taxes.

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: July 08, 2021

Ms. Jewell apprised the Board that one of the Town's official papers, the Courier, is no longer in print and that the Town's audit, by the Office of the State Comptroller, Division of Local Government and School Accountability, began on August 6, 2021.

Town Bookkeeper

TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE-8/9/21
CASH REPORT JULY 31, 2021

CHECKING ACCOUNTS		MONEY MARKET ACCOUNTS	
General	\$ 18,224.87	General	\$ 80,246.24
Fire District	\$ 2,712.83	Highway Town Wide	\$144,577.10
Consolidated Health	\$ 35.28	Highway Part Town	<u>\$182,318.88</u>
Highway Town Wide	\$ 195,196.73	Total	\$407,142.22
Highway Part Town	\$ 66,631.05		
Trust & Agency	<u>\$ 12,999.05*</u>		
Total	\$ 295,799.81		

*\$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 #164 through #188, totaling \$24167.84

Highway fund vouchers #106 through #119, totaling \$51135.61

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

Mr. Summerson asked about the status of the well and was told the second one has been drilled and was getting good water at 4 gallons/minute in 120 feet of shale. They drilled another 30 feet and got 5 gallons/minute. It was noted that the creek can be used in an emergency and the possibility of installing a holding tank or pond also exists. Mr. Summerson asked if we will be selling the property of the old Town Barn in Ames and was told we are not yet sure of what will be done.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. Toomey, the meeting was adjourned at 8:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Jewell, Town Clerk