

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE
HELD OCTOBER 14, 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
Michael Muhlebeck – Town Planning Board Acting Chair & Town Resident
Less Hassan – Town Code Enforcement Officer
Ronald Dievendorf, Town Resident
Steven Oarr, Town Employee & Resident
Harry Morey, Town Resident
Darryl Easton, Town 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 September 2021 Meeting Minutes

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

Recognition of Citizens Present

The Board recognized Harry Morey, who lives on Robwil Drive and has an issue with a neighbor violating the terms of his deed. Mr. Morey submitted pictures of the violation and asked the status of the Town Code Enforcement Officer, Les Hassan, looking into the matter. Mr. Hassan stated he has reviewed the regulations for residential properties and didn't come up with a clear picture of what is and isn't allowed and that the deed isn't clear-cut. Mr. Hassan will provide the Town Clerk with the 7 stipulations listed in the deed to pass along to the Town Attorney for clarification. Mr. Young will contact Mr. Morey with the Attorney findings.

The Board recognized Ronald Dievendorf, who is running for the open position of Town Supervisor and provided those in attendance with his resume, noting he is the best candidate for the position.

The Board recognized Michael Muhlebeck, Planning Board Acting Chair. Mr. Muhlebeck noted he has met with 1 Solar company trying to come into the town and is aware of 2 more, going directly to property owners and by-passing the Town completely. He further noted the cost for these projects is high, with no return for the Town. Mr. Muhlebeck recommends the Town Board extend the moratorium on Solar, thoroughly review our law and determine if we are solar friendly or take a hard stance that we are not, as the Town of Minden has done, and to outline that we will not allow PILOT programs. This matter will be reviewed throughout the month and discussed at the next meeting in November.

The Board recognized Darryl Easton and Steven Oarr, both of whom are running for the open Town Highway Superintendent position and came to observe.

Town Supervisor

Mr. Young noted he spoke with the Town Attorney regarding financing the Town Garage. It is necessary to get bids prior to financing so we can have an accurate idea of actual cost. There should be no problem obtaining a loan/bond.

Mold Remediation

A Post Remediation Assessment from Pitroy Enterprises LLC (NYS Certified Home Inspections and Mold Assessments) was distributed, showing the work area free from all visible mold and that all work had been completed in compliance with the remediation plan and remediation work plan, and meet clearance criteria specified in the plan.

It was noted that during the remediation work, the building alarm went off. We are now looking at a new alarm system that will ring directly to the Police/Fire Departments.

State and Municipal Facilities Capital Program (SAM) Project Information Sheet

The SAM Project Information Sheet, necessary to apply for the Program, was given to the Town Bookkeeper for completion. This funding, which will be in the amount of \$75000, is to be used for the Town Garage and will take up to a year to receive. Mr. Young stated he will be contacting Arkell Hall to see if they can help us with this and other grant applications.

Resolution #17 of 2021

Acting Town Supervisor Authorized to Sign Addendum to the Host Community Benefit Agreement between the Town of Canajoharie and Mohawk Solar

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

Whereas, the Mohawk Solar Project received a certificate of environmental compatibility and public need pursuant to Article 10 of the Public Service Law; and

Whereas, the Town of Canajoharie Board has reviewed and carefully considered the attached ADDENDUM to the Host Community benefit Agreement between the Town of Canajoharie and Mohawk Solar, as well as the Town of Minden; and

Whereas, the review of this project and related actions such as the approval of the Addendum to the HCA is a Type II action pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that: the Town of Canajoharie Board approves the attached Addendum to the Host Community Benefit Agreement and authorized the Acting Town Supervisor to sign the agreement.

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: October 14, 2021

**Highway Superintendent
Seasonal Road Designation**

Mr. Jones noted the following roads are designated as seasonal and provided a letter stating as such: Canyon Road (gravel portion only); Lincoln Road; Old Tavern Road; Budd Road (gravel portion only).

Town Clerk

Year-to-Date Building Permit Report

A report was distributed showing a total of 32 Building Permits have been issued in 2021 for a total of \$1800.00.

Montgomery County Order of Confinement Fee for Dogs

When Montgomery County sends out an “Order of Confinement” for a resident’s dogs that bites or scratches someone, whether they are licensed or not, the Town Dog Control Officer must work with the resident to confine the dog on premises or at a facility. The cost to the Town for this service \$50/dog. Next, a letter goes to the Resident dog owner if the dog is not licensed, stating they have to license that dog and any other on the property within 30 days or face a ticket and fine. In a discussion with Town Justice Gizzi, he stated he can charge a predetermined fee for the confinement and not licensing the dog. The Board will consider charging a \$50 confinement fee, which will be outlined in a letter given to the resident dog owner at the time of confinement, and render a decision at next month’s meeting.

Town Bookkeeper

Tentative Budget

Regarding the Tentative Budget, Mr. Young stated there were no spikes and that it is very close to last year’s budget. The agreement with CSEA resulted in a large increase; however, the negotiations were short and all involved were pleased with the outcome. At this time, Mr. Dievendorf asked for clarification of various budget line items and requested we include money for the Canajoharie Library. A motion was made by Mr. Young, seconded by Mr. Toomey, that the Tentative Budget, which is under the 2% cap, be approved. All in favor ayes, carried. It was decided to hold a public hearing at the next Board meeting on November 11, 2021, to vote on a Preliminary Budget.

**TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE-10/12/21
CASH REPORT SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

CHECKING ACCOUNTS		MONEY MARKET ACCOUNTS	
General	\$ 13,346.12	General	\$ 40,249.81
Fire District	\$ 39.85	Highway Town Wide	\$164,596.88
Consolidated Health	\$ 35.28	Highway Part Town	<u>\$162,340.73</u>
Highway Town Wide	\$ 229,876.71	Total	<u>\$367,187.42</u>
Highway Part Town	\$ 50,428.46		
Trust & Agency	<u>\$ 32,470.20*</u>		
Total	\$ 326,196.62		

*\$32,446.46 Avangrid/Mohawk Solar Project Escrow

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

Consolidated Health	\$ 1,485.40
Highway Cap Reserve	\$ 26,806.58
Gen-Cap Reserve-Garage	\$261,923.24
Gen-Cap Reserve-land	<u>\$ 14,618.79</u>
Total	\$304,834.01

Sincerely,

Amy S. Kretser,
Bookkeeper

Mr. Young made the Board aware that he is looking into forming an Ethics Committee, which will be used to hold elected officials and Town employees accountable. This matter will be discussed further as more research is completed.

Authorization of Vouchers

The Town Clerk presented the following bill vouchers for approval:

General fund vouchers #210 through #236, totaling \$12088.08

Highway fund vouchers #138 through #154, totaling \$43138.16

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. Toomey, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Jewell, Town Clerk