

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE
HELD June 09, 2022 AT THE TOWN HALL COMMENCING AT 7:30 PM**

Present: Benny Goldstein, Town Supervisor
John Peruzzi, Sr., Councilman
John Toomey, Jr., Councilman
William Armitstead, Councilman

Recording Secretary: Erica Hayes, Town Clerk

Also Present: Steve Oare, Town Highway Superintendent
Amy Kretser, Town Bookkeeper
Les Hassan, Town Code Officer
Charlene Ruszkowski, Town Sole Assessor
Robert Teixeira, Deputy Town Supervisor
Matt Stanley, Canajoharie-Palatine Bridge Chamber of Commerce Secretary
Eddie Watt, Village Clerk of Nelliston
Michael O'Connell, Town Resident
Philip Gizzi, Jr., Town Judge
Sheldon Roberts, E29 Co-Founder

Absent: Rodney Young, Councilman

Call to Order

The Public Hearing was called to order by Mr. Goldstein, Town Supervisor, at 7:27 PM, with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Accept the May 2022 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Goldstein, seconded by Mr. Peruzzi, that the minutes of the May 2022 meeting, as submitted by the Town Clerk, be approved. All in favor ayes, carried.

Recognition of Citizens Present

The Board recognized Matt Stanley, the secretary of the Canajoharie-Palatine Bridge Chamber of Commerce. He attended the meeting to thank the Town of Canajoharie for their support of the Chamber. The topic of the dummy light was mentioned, in an initiative to restore the iconic light, he asked for the boards support in their efforts to bring it back.

The Board recognized Eddie Watt, Village Clerk of Nelliston, and his valiant efforts to unite the board members of his and neighboring towns/villages to discuss grant applications, local resources, government support and more, by hosting local roundtable discussions.

The Board also recognized resident Michael O'Connell and his concern with a neighbor who isn't adhering to the guidelines of Robwil Drive. This has been an ongoing issue that was presented to the board in the past. Michael was advised to seek legal action as this isn't something that the Town handles.

The Honorable Judge Philip Gizzi was also recognized by the board. He has served our community for the last 10.5 years as the Town Judge and has asked that the board consider giving him a raise by the end of his term (December 31, 2023). This topic was mentioned due to the fact that he is one of the lowest paid judges in the area.

Lastly, Sheldon Roberts, E29 Co-Founder, was also recognized by the board. Sheldon would like to start building modular homes on his father's 100-acre farm (Blaine Road) to provide housing for individuals moving to the area due to the anticipated influx in jobs at the E29 facilities. He attended the board meeting to see if this was a possibility, and if so, what the restrictions were. He was advised to attend the next Planning Board meeting to discuss farther.

Town Supervisor

Mohawk Solar has been in contact with the Town Supervisor, and wants to know if they can delay our payment since they have yet to break ground. In turn the Supervisor asked if they had delayed payment to any other township, and they said no. They were advised that we will not accept a lack of payment either, regardless of our Moratorium which doesn't allow ground to be broken.

Deputy Town Supervisor

The Town will sponsor a meeting, which will be open to the public, to discuss large scale solar projects with local landowners. Called "Farmers Talk Solar", this meeting will be one of many to discuss and hear from our residents. Given the success of Eddie Watt's roundtable discussions, we will be joining his group as well as a representative of the county at this meeting. Dates are to be announced at a later date.

Robert brought it to the attention of the board that the exterior trim of the Town Municipal building needs to be scraped and painted. That cost wasn't considered in the 2022 budget, but will be considered for next year. Robert has volunteered to donate the paint.

Highway Superintendent

A resident of Happy Hollow Drive brought it to Steve's attention that there needs to be two "Children in Area" signs installed on his street, as a lot of drivers cut through that road. The highway department will obtain and install these signs.

Town Clerk

Took a vote on the DPW Grass & Brush contract for 2022:

RESOLUTION #9 of 2022

Montgomery County DPW Agreement for Control of Grass and Brush on County Highways

Sponsor: Benny Goldstein, Supervisor

Second: John Toomey, Councilman

Whereas, the Town of Canajoharie includes 41.60 miles of County Highway (40.97 +0.63 in the Village of Ames;

Whereas, the County of Montgomery Department of Public Works has proposed an agreement for control of grass and brush on County Highways with the Town of Canajoharie beginning June 1, 2022 and ending May 31, 2023 the amount/mile \$400.00, and total 2022/2023 Brush and Grass Control in the amount of \$16,640.00;

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that: that the Town of Canajoharie accepts the proposed 2022/2023 Grass and Brush Control Contract in the total amount of \$16,640.00 and agrees to the terms as set forth in said proposed Agreement, beginning June 1, 2022 and ending May 31, 2023.

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

Town Bookkeeper

Ms. Kretser submitted her books for auditing by the board, all in favor ayes, carried.


TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE-6/9/22
CASH REPORT MAY 31, 2022

CHECKING ACCOUNTS		MONEY MARKET ACCOUNTS	
General	\$ 182,797.48	General	\$ 5,257.16
Fire District	\$ 39.85	Highway Town Wide	\$164,644.68
Consolidated Health	\$ 0.00	Highway Part Town	<u>\$142,382.60</u>
Highway Town Wide	\$ 376,822.52	Total	\$312,284.44
Highway Part Town	\$ 371,947.58		
Trust & Agency	<u>\$ 41,582.57</u>		
Total	\$ 973,190.00		

*\$31,859.96 Avangrid/Mohawk Solar Project Escrow

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS	
Highway Cap Reserve	\$ 36,809.86
Gen-Cap Reserve-Garage	\$247,191.02
Gen-Cap Reserve-land	<u>\$ 14,620.25</u>
Total	\$300,106.67

Sincerely,


Amy S. Kretser,
Bookkeeper

Authorization of Vouchers

The Town Clerk presented the following bill vouchers for approval:

General fund vouchers #145 through #176, totaling \$13,489.02

Highway fund vouchers #88 through #90, totaling \$20,011.40

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

Councilman

Councilman John Toomey, Jr. submitted his letter of resignation, leaving an open seat on the Board. We thank you for your 40 years of service.

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Goldstein, seconded by Mr. Toomey, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Erica Hayes
Town Clerk