

WJ

Town of German Flatts Board Meeting
66 E. Main Street, Mohawk, New York 13407
November 14, 2023

Present: Peter Rovazzi, Supervisor
Penny Watkins, Councilwoman
Scott Hendrix, Councilman
John Brewer, Councilman
Jack Fitzer, Deputy Supervisor
Carman Newtown, Highway Superintendent
Karl Manne, Town Attorney
Pam Jones, Town Clerk
Absent: Ozzie Sterling, Councilman
Rich Sweeney, Codes
Dave Moynihan, Dog Control
Public: 8 people attended, see sign-in sheet.

MEETING was called to order by Rovazzi at 5:30, at the Town Community Center.
Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Rovazzi to postpone the approval of October's minutes till next meeting due to lack of a quorum. Carried

FINANCIAL REPORTS

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Hendrix to approve the October 2023 Treasurer's report. Carried.

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Rovazzi to approve the Town Clerk's October 2023 report for \$1,360.00. Carried.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to approve Judge Engert's October 2023 report for \$950.00. Brewer abstained. Carried.

MOTION by Watkins, seconded by Hendrix to approve Judge Stone's October 2023 report for \$7,654.00. Brewer abstained. Carried.

BILLS

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Hendrix to pay GFIM bill for \$416.55. Carried

MOTION by Watkins, seconded by Brewer to pay bills as audited. Carried.

Town of German Flatts Board Meeting
November 14, 2023

OTHER REPORTS

HIGHWAY – Newtown gave Board his Town of German Flatts Highway Department 2023 yearly report. 2004 Mack truck is down, waiting on parts. Rest of equipment is in good shape. Newtown will hold his last CDL class for the year. Classes this year has given the Town a revenue of \$6,000. to \$7,000.00. Newtown would like to sell the 1982 ford dump truck on Auction International.

MOTION by Watkins, seconded by Hendrix to sell 1982 ford dump truck on Auction International. Carried.

Newtown would also like to sell finish mower which his department does not use any more.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to sell finish mower on Auction International. Carried.

Newtown reported LS Power has given the Town 15 loads of cedar poles (200 to 300 poles) more than he can use, would like to sell what he does not need on Auction International.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to sell cedar poles on Auction International. Carried.

Mark Walts hired as of 10/31/2023 as MEO at \$21.54 probationary rate

Tyler Coolidge hired as of 11/06/2023 as MEO at \$21.54 probationary rate.

HIGHWAY PROPOSED NEGOTIATION ITEMS – Newtown would like his guys to get comp time and also have all (Vacation, sick, personal days) go by employee’s hire date.

CODES – Sweeney was absent due to being at training but did turn in an updated report.

CORRESPONDENCE

BRIAN LOPER from Empower Energies introduced himself as the new Solar Project Manager for the 316 Warren Road solar project.

NEW BUSINESS

2024 BUDGET ADOPTION –

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to approve the Preliminary Budget as the Town of German Flatts adopted 2024 Town Budget. Carried.

HC
Town of German Flatt Board Meeting
November 14, 2023

WHEREAS this board has met at the time and place as specified in the Legal Notice of a public hearing on the 2024 Preliminary Budget and heard all persons desiring to be heard:

THEREFORE be it resolved that this town Board does hereby adopt such Preliminary Budget pursuant to Section 109 of the Town Law as changed, altered and revised as the Annual Budget of this Town of German Flatts for this fiscal year beginning on the first day of January 2024 and that such 2024 budget as adopted be entered in the minutes of the Town Board, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk prepare duplicate copies of said budget pursuant of Section subd. 2 of the Town Law and deliver one copy to the Supervisor of the Town to be presented to the County Board of Legislators of this County.

The foregoing was approved with voting as follows:

AYES: Councilman Brewer, Councilman Hendrix, Councilwoman Watkins and Supervisor Rovazzi

NAYS: 0

MOTION CARRIED.

BUDGET TRANSFER #12, 2023 – To record additional allocation for payroll.
INCREASE expenditures to \$2,500.00 from 2023 budgeted amount of \$1500.00 in fund A-8810.1, account Cemetery, Pers Serv.

INCREASE expenditures to \$40,239.00 from 2023 budgeted amount of \$40,162.00 in fund A-9030.8, account Social Security, Employer Contr.

DECREASE expenditures to \$59,440.00 from 2023 budgeted amount of \$60,517.00 in fund A-1990.4, account Contingent, Contr Expend.

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Hendrix to approve Budget Transfer #12, 2023.
Carried.

BUDGET TRANSFER #13, 2023 – To reallocation payroll.
INCREASE expenditures to \$8,500.00 from 2023 budgeted amount of \$8,000.00 in fund DB-5140.1 account Brush & Weeds, Pers Serv.
DECREASE expenditures to \$113,500.00 from 2023 budgeted amount of \$114,000.00 in fund DB-5110.1, account Maint of Streets, Pers Serv.

Town of German Flatts Board Meeting
November 14, 2023

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Hendrix to approve Budget Transfer # 13,2023.
Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Brewer at 6pm to open Public Hearing on Local Law 2, 2023 establishing a six month moratorium on applications, approvals and/or construction or installation of solar energy systems and/or solar farms within the Town of German Flatts.

Rovazzi open the floor for comments. There were no comments.

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Hendrix to close Public Hearing at 6:03. Carried.

PILOT & HOST AGREEMENT US LIGHT SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT –

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to counter propose to US Light Pilot & Host agreement at \$1800.00/MW. Carried.

ADIRONDACK BANK CD – Rovazzi reported Adirondack Bank has offered a CD at a 5.3% rate. Board will look further into this.

DELEGATE & ALTERNATE FOR 2024 ANNUAL MEETING & TRAINING –

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Brewer to appoint Rovazzi as delegate and Watkins as alternate. Carried.

DECEMBER 2023 INTERIM MEETING DATES –

December 12, 2023, December 27, 2023 both at 5:30pm. Organizational meeting will be held on January 2, 2024 at 5:30pm. All 3 meeting will be at the Town Community Center.

ASSESSORS POSITION –

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Watkins to enter into executive session at 6:15 for Assessor position and Highway proposed negotiation items. Carried.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Rovazzi to exit executive session at 7:02. Carried.
Assessors position No action taken. Highway Negotiation No action taken.

18
Town of German Flatts Board Meeting
November 14, 2023

BREWER informed the board at the end of the day on December 31, 2023 he will be stepping down as a councilman of the Town of German Flatts Board, due to his newly elected office as a Herkimer County Legislator.

The board will conduct interviews on December 12, 2023 for Brewer's seat on the Town Board. Information will be posted on Town's webpage and Town Office Bulletin Board.

Motion by Brewer, seconded by Watkins to adjourn at 7:07pm. Carried.

Respectfully submitted.


Pamela A. Jones, Town Clerk

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