

Town of German Flatts Board Meeting
66 E. Main Street, Mohawk, New York 13407
February 24, 2021

Present: Peter Rovazzi, Supervisor
Scott Hendrix, Councilman
John Brewer, Councilman
Penny Watkins, Councilwoman
Ozzie Sterling, Councilman
Jack Fitzer, Deputy Supervisor
Andy Dutcher, Highway Superintendent
Jim Hawkins, Dog Control Officer
Rich Sweeney, Codes Compliance Officer
Karl Manne, Town Attorney
Pam Jones, Town Clerk

Public: 8 people, see separate sign in sheet.

Meeting call to order at 5:30 pm at the Town Community Center due to the coronavirus. Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Brewer to approve January 27, 2021 minutes. Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

MOTION by Watkins, seconded by Hendrix to approve January 2021 Treasurer's report. Carried.

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Watkins to approve December 2020 Town Clerk's report for \$303.50. Carried.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Rovazzi to approve Judge Engert's December 2020 report for \$1,461.00. Carried.

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Hendrix to approve Judge Stone's December 2020 report for \$7,696.00. Brewer abstained. Carried.

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Brewer to approve Town Clerk's January 2021 report for \$646.00. Carried.

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MOTION by Watkins, seconded by Hendrix to approve Judge Engert's January 2021 report for \$565.00.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to approve Judge Stone's January 2021 report for \$12,356.50. Brewer abstained. Carried.

BILLS

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Hendrix to approve payment of December 2020 GFIM bill for \$464.29. Carried.

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Hendrix to approve payment of January 2021 GFIM bill for \$477.90. Carried.

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

OTHER REPORTS

HIGHWAY - Dutcher turned in his mileage reports for January and February 2021 and inform the Board that his pickup truck's decals are on the truck. Dutcher asked the Board what they were looking for with the mileage reports he submitted. Sterling said gas mileage, being unable to get this from the report Dutcher will start to punch in his odometer reading at the pump when he gets gas, by doing this it will appear on monthly bill from Clifford Fuel Company to determine gas mileage. Dutcher said his department does an excellent job and deserve the recognition for doing so.

Dutcher asked the board to notice how there's little room in the parking lot with the snow banks, this is how it will be when the fence is put up, also curbs should be added between sidewalks and parking lot for safety reasons and parking should be at an angle.

DOG CONTROL - Hawkins turned in his February 2021 report showing 6 calls in Illion, 6 days of phone calls and 2 days writing appearance tickets. Jones added owners are coming in who have received the appearance tickets.

CODES - Sweeney turned in report for 2021 permits, 1 new build and 5 builds without permits. New codes email is togfcodes@gmail.com.

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ANNUAL CONFERENCE - Rovazzi and Hendrix attended the annual conference via webinar, both said it was very informative.

PUBLIC COMMENT

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Sterling to open public comment session. Carried.

No one spoke

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Hendrix to close public comment session. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive on March 4, 2021, 1pm -6pm at the Town Community Center. The blood drive in February was cancelled due to bad weather in Syracuse, which is where the workers are from.

OLD BUSINESS

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Brewer to approve both Employee Handbooks revised on 1/25/2021. Carried.

Jack Fitzer reported he has not heard back from FEMA on paper work submitted on 12/21/2020 electronically and 12/22/2020 by mail, for paper work submitted by Bill and Virginia Jaquish on FEMA Flood Plan Mapping Comment & Appeal. Tracking shows it was received by FEMA on 12/28/2020.

NEW BUSINESS

Viking-Cives Check - Viking-Cives issued a check for \$150.00 to pay Dutcher's 2021 Herkimer County Highway Superintendents Association dues, for the inconvenience the Town had with the delay of the delivery of the Freightliner.

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Watkins to accept the gift of \$150.00 from Viking-Cives to pay Dutcher's 2021 Herkimer County Highway Superintendents dues. Carried.

Trail Accessible Restroom - Rovazzi reported he will need approximately \$3800.00 for material only, to install restroom in the basement of the Community Center, which is a condition of the grant. Rovazzi asked the Board for

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acknowledgement to start spending money on this project. Board gave Rovazzi the approval.

Trust & Agency Account - Rovazzi inform the Board that the NYS Comptroller's Office recommend moving the Trust & Agency fund account from a stand alone fund account to the general fund account.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Sterling to move Trust & Agency fund account to general fund account as recommended by NYS Comptroller's Office. Carried.

Justice Court Audit Resolution - Watkins and Hendrix completed the Justice Court Audit on February 10, 2021.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Brewer to accept resolution accepting Justice Court Audit. Carried.

Long Term Rental Security Deposit -

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Brewer to charge long term renters a security deposit at the same rate as all rentals, per contract. Carried.

Atty. Manne will look into if security deposit money should be in separate account (Restricted Reserve Account) and interest.

Dutcher told Board he talked with Little Falls Highway Superintendent about how snowmobilers are using the Canal Trail as a snowmobile trail, going from Little Falls to Amsterdam, adding snowmobilers are also using the trail here even though there are signs which say no motorized vehicles allowed. Rovazzi said local snowmobile clubs are interested in using the trail and Canal Corp. indicated verbally during trail meeting/walk through in the fall, that they would be willing to move forward permitting this activity.

Next meeting March 24,2021, 5:30pm

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Watkins to adjourn meeting at 6:54pm.
Carried.

Respectfully submitted,


Pamela A. Jones, Town Clerk