

Town of German Flatts Town Board Meeting
January 22, 2020

Present: Peter Rovazzi, Supervisor
Jack Fitzer, Deputy Supervisor
Scott Hendrix, Councilman
Penny Watkins, Councilwoman
Ozzie Sterling, Councilman
Karl Manne, Town Attorney
Andy Dutcher, Highway Superintendent
Tony Klimek, Codes Officer
Joseph Aiello, Deputy Codes Officer
Pam Jones, Town Clerk
Laura Madore, Deputy Town Clerk

Absent: John Brewer

Public: 24
See separate sign in sheet

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Rovazzi at 5: 32 pm

Pledge of Allegiance said by all

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Rovazzi to accept December 18, 2019 minutes,
Carried

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Sterling to accept January 2, 2020 minutes, Carried

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Hendrix to accept the Town Clerk's December 2019
report for \$527.00, Carried

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Hendrix to accept Judge Stone's December 2019
report for \$12,890.00, Carried

MOTION by Watkins, seconded by Rovazzi to accept Judge Engert's December 2019
report for \$3,420.00, Carried

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to approve payment for the GFIM bill for
December 2019 in the amount of \$408.16, Carried

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MOTION by Watkins, seconded by Hendrix to approve the Treasurer's Report for Clerk's Account and Tax Collector Account for July 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019, Carried

MOTION by Watkins, seconded by Hendrix to pay audited bills, Carried

Reports:

Other Reports

Cable Line Extension Request

Supervisor Rovazzi and Councilman Brewer met with a resident over concerns for better internet services. Rovazzi will reach out to the local assemblymen to see if they can help get better internet in the rural areas.

Employee Handbook

Kathy Cloutier has been working on an updated handbook and will be ready with a draft to be sent to the Board for review soon.

2nd Amendment Sanctuary

Trevor Judson and Fran Madore discussed the 2nd amendment with the Board and asked the Town if they will support this going forward. There is a petition going around for signatures now. The Town had received a resolution prior to tonight's meeting and was prepared to approve and sign but Judson and Madore informed to board that a new resolution was being distributed very soon and they would prefer the Town to wait and consider signing the revised version. There will be a public meeting on February 22, 2020 at a location soon to be announced.

Department Head Reports

Town Council Report

Ozzie Sterling offered to become the Town Board liaison for the Friends of the Town of German Flatts Community Center. A motion was made by Hendrix and seconded by Watkins to approve Sterling to be the liaison for the Friends of the Town of German Flatts Community Center.

Highway Dept. Report

Codes Dept. Report

T. Klimek went over his 2019 report and answer questions from the Board in regards to resident complaints and violations.

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Public Comment – 4

Correspondence

John Piseck – Herkimer County IDA – Duofold Site Pilot

J. Piseck, Director of the Herkimer County IDA presented to the Board the progress with the old Duofold site in Ilion and how each phase of the project is going. He stated that no tax dollars are being used for these studies, all money is coming from government funding. He asked the Board to approve a resolution for zero (0) property tax for 10 years. This deviation in PILOT is necessary to support the development of Brownfields in Herkimer County.

A motion was made by Hendrix and seconded by Sterling to authorize Supervisor Rovazzi to sign and certify the necessary documents in support of the IDA entering into an agreement with any prospective owner/developer a 10-year no property tax PILOT for the property known as the Duofold site at 7 Spruce St. Ilion, Town of German Flatts, County of Herkimer, State of New York, Carried

Connor Mack – CVA Robotic Team

The CVA robotics team presented to the Board their project for a racetrack to be developed within the Town of German Flatts to bring income to the Town. They presented drawings, graphics and a model racetrack in their presentation. They stated the project would cost around \$75M to build, but could potentially bring in over \$90M per year in income. Hendrix commended to the robotics team for such a wonderful idea and presentation.

Old Business:

2020 Boundary & Annexation Survey

There have been no changes to the Town boundaries. A motion was made by Hendrix and seconded by Sterling to authorize Rovazzi to file the Boundary Annexed Survey.

Cable Franchise Audit – Troy & Banks

The board agreed to sign a franchise agreement to Troy & Banks to determine the cost of the audit.

New Business:

Town Park Grant Funding Contract Extension Resolution

The Town of German Flatts applied for financial assistance from the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) under the Title 9 of the

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Environmental Protection Act of 1993, for the purpose of funding for the Fort Herkimer Church – German Flatts Town Park Development.

A motion was made by Hendrix and seconded by Sterling to approve Clerk Jones to sign a resolution for the Town of German Flatts to accept the terms and conditions of the

Master Contract with OPRHP for such Fort Herkimer Church – Town of German Flatts Town Park Development, Carried

Borrowed Proceeds Bank Account

A new bank account needs to be set up for any borrowed proceeds; all funds need to be separate for the funds to go through. A motion was made by Watkins and seconded by Hendrix for Supervisor Rovazzi to open a new account for this purpose.

Response Letter to Draft Audit Report

A letter of response to the audit needs to be completed by February 8, 2020. A motion was made by Hendrix and seconded by Sterling for Supervisor Rovazzi to draft a letter for the audit report and send by February 8, 2020, carried

Bridge Right of Way Authorization

DOT acquired a piece of property from a property owner, now the Town of German Flatts will make an offer of the remaining uneconomic remainder of the property.

A motion was made by Hendrix and seconded by Watkins for Supervisor Rovazzi and the Town attorney to carry out the purchase offer and finalize the paperwork for the said property. Carried

CDW-G Internet Security Appliance Purchase

Brain Keeler, IT Computer Tech has suggested that the Town purchase a professional router for an extra layer of security against cyber theft on the Town's computers. A motion was made by Hendrix and seconded by Watkins for Keeler to purchase and install the professional router.

Next Board Meeting, February 26, 2020 at 5:30 held in the Town Offices.

MOTION by Watkins, seconded by Sterling to adjourn at 8:05, Carried

Respectfully submitted by,

Laura Madore
Deputy Town Clerk