

Town of German Flatts Town Board Budget Workshop, Public Hearing (Tax Cap) &
Monthly Meeting
66 East Main Street Mohawk New York 13407
October, 23, 2019

Present: Peter Rovazzi, Supervisor
Jack Fitzer, Deputy Supervisor
Sam Geloso, Councilman
Denny Mowers, Councilman
John Brewer, Councilman
Scott Hendrix, Councilman
Tony Klimek, Codes Officer
Andy Dutcher, Highway Superintendent
Karl Manne, Attorney
Laura Madore, Deputy Town Clerk
Pam Jones, Town Clerk

See separate sign-in sheet:

The Budget Workshop was called to order by Rovazzi at 4:31. The pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Mowers to enter into executive session at 4:38.
Carried.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Brewer to come out of executive session at 5:41
carried.

Motion by Brewer, seconded by Hendrix to end Budget Workshop. Carried.

The October 23, 2019 monthly Town Board Meeting was called to order at 5:42 by
Rovazzi. Pledge of allegiance was said by all.

MOTION by Mowers, seconded by Geloso to accept the 09/18/2019 minutes. Carried.

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Geloso to accept the 10/2/2019 budget workshop
minutes. Carried.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Mowers to accept the 10/9/2019 budget workshop
minutes with revisions. Carried.

MOTION by Mowers, seconded by Brewer to accept the 10/16/2019 budget workshop
minutes with revisions. Carried.

Town of German Flatts Board Meeting October 23, 2019

Public Hearing

MOTION by Mowers, seconded by Brewer to open Public Hearing on Local Law No. 2, 2019 Authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established General Municipal Law at 5:58 Carried. Jack Fitzer hopes next year the Town can stay under tax cap. Bill Jaquish asked how much over the the cap the Town was, Atty. Manne explained that was unknown till the budget was set.

MOTION by Rovazz, seconded by Brewer to close Public Hearing at 6:05 Carried.

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Mowers to accept the Town Clerk's September 2019 report for \$855.00. Carried.

MOTION by Mowers, seconded by Rovazzi to accept Judge Stone's September 2019 report for \$14,042.00. Carried.

MOTION by Mowers, seconded by Geloso to accept Judge Engert's September 2019 report for \$3,104.50. Carried

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Geloso to approve payment for a GFIM bill of \$402.75. Carried.

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Mowers to accept the September 2019 Treasurer's report. Carried.

Motion by Geloso, seconded by Hendrix to pay bills as audited. Carried.

REPORTS

London Bridge – Rovazzi has someone interested in renting space in the basement of London Bridge for 3 to 5 years. There are needs for repairs before it can be rented and Klimek said there would have to be at least 2 entrances.

Crouch Project Update - Crouch project was finished last week, there was damage after a storm a few days later. Tom Breiten of Templeton said there is money left in grant for repairs.

Assessor Trainee – Amy Cloutier started work Monday October 21, 2019.

Sealed proposal from insurance companies will need to be turned in by the 10/29/2019 meeting.

Town of German Flatts Board Meeting October 23, 2019(revised November 21, 2019)

Trash Day - There were 100 applications turned in for trash day. \$32.00 in tire money and a check for \$124.73 was received from SIMS for scrap metal.

Codes Department Report – Klimek said there was 1 violation still in court that may appeal to a higher court. Pole at Creekside Mobile Home park has been moved . Gave updated Building Permit report to all Board Members and Assessor.

Highway Department Report - Dutcher reported blacktop work is done and department has wrapped up their summer work. Dutcher reported Robert Christensen last day of work will be November 5, 2019. Dutcher thanked Rovazzi for taking time to talk to the Highway employees and listen to their concerns and wished the board members would do the same. Dutcher had 6 employers at start of year and is now down to 4.

Proposed Application for Justice Court Grant - Hendrix asked if the board needs to make a motion on application, approve and or sign paperwork. Atty. Manne said paperwork needed to be turned in the first part of October. Rovazzi will contact Stone to see when this grant is proposed for. (could be next year)

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Rovazzi to open public comment session. Carried.
3 people spoke

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

Creekside Mobile Home Park Presentation – Robert R. Ellison, P.E., of Zangrilli Engineering spoke to the board about putting a Polypropylene Turf Reinforcement Mat to line the 2H:1V backslope to top of wall instead of using stones. Mowers asked Klimek his thoughts on the use of the mat, answering, FEMA does not recommend this product and Town should have their own engineer look into this matter. Mowers asked Mr. Ellison, why drawing was not to scale when it should have been to scale. Mowers asked if a HEC-RAS model was performed by his firm, Mr. Ellison said it was not needed, that he used existing mapping prepared by others. Mowers then asked Mr. Ellison if he knew the depth of the water at its highest level passing over the top of bank. Mr. Ellison said he did not know. Mowers stated that he would have known if he had looked at the watermark lines on the mobile homes. Brewer and Hendrix are prepared to rely on the certification of Mr. Ellison. No other modifications to the proposed work the Jaquishes were ordered to complete were either proposed or approved.

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Hendrix to approve the use of Polypropylene Turf Reinforcement Mat in place of stones. AYES – Brewer, Hendrix, Geloso NAYS- Mowers Rovazzi abstained. Carried. (map, revised section A C-1 of map and turf sample enclosed with minutes)

Town of German Flatts Board Meeting October 23, 2019 (revised November 21, 2019)

Website Upgrade – Rovazzi and Brewer met with Brian Keeler on upgrading website which will cost the Town \$200.00 more per year but all agree that it would be worth the money having website with so many added features.

MOTION by Mowers, seconded by Brewer to upgrade website. Carried

Manion Heights Water Meter Calibration Requirement 2020 – As of now the Town has 18 new meters and will need 18 more at a cost of \$130.00 each to install a new meter at each property. Hendrix want to ask DEC if Town could do half of water district this year and the other half next year. Rovazzi will call DEC .

LS Power Grid Agreement - Atty. Manne has some concerns with some of the wording in agreement on who would be responsible for road damaged during the development and construction of electric transmission lines by LS Power Grid New York LLC. Dutcher said he would take pictures of roads before work starts and will stay on top of things so that the Town will be able to prove any damage caused by LS Power. Based on this, the Board indicated its unanimous approval for the Supervisor to sign the agreement, although no formal motion was made.

2020 Preliminary Budget – The Public Hearing for the 2020 Preliminary Budget will be held on November 6, 2019 at 5:30 pm at the Town Hall.

MOTION by Mowers, seconded by Geloso to approve resolution to authorize all delinquent water account charges in the Manion Heights Water District No. 1 not paid by 10/31/2019 be sent to Herkimer County for collection on the 2020 Town and County Tax bills. Carried.

Dog Licensing – To many dog owners within the Town are not licensing their dogs or renewing their licenses when due. Town Clerk's Office will put notice in Times-Telegram and on website. Dog control officer Hawkins may have to issue more tickets.

Next meeting will be Tuesday October 29, 2019 at 4:00pm at Town Hall for a budget workshop.

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Mowers to adjourn at 7:11pm. Carried./

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Jones Town Clerk
Town of German Flatts