

Town of German Flatts Board Meeting  
66 East Main Street Mohawk, New York 13407  
September 18, 2019

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

See Separate sign-in sheet:

Meeting was call to order at 5:36. Pledge of allegiance was said by all.

MOTION by Mowers, seconded by Rovazzi to accept the August 28, 2019 minutes.  
Carried.

MOTION by Rovazzzi, seconded by Mowers to accept the Town Clerk's August 2019 report for \$1,130.50. Carried

MOTION by Mowers, seconded by Geloso to accept Judge Stone's August 2019 report for \$15,373.00. Carried.

MOTION by Mowers, seconded by Rovazzi to accept Judge Engert's August 2019 report for \$1,299.00. Carried.

MOTION by Mowers, seconded by Brewer to approve payment of GFIM bill for \$431.81. Carried.

MOTION by Geloso, seconded by Mowers to accept the August 2019 Treasurer's report.  
Carried.

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

MOTION by Brewer,seconded byMowers to accept Treasurer's report for August 2019 on Lighting, Water,and Trust & Agency Funds. Carried.

## Town of German Flatts Board Meeting 08/18/2019

MOTION by Mowers, seconded by Rovazzi to accept Treasurer's January 2019- June 2019 reports of Judge Stone's & Judge Engert's. Carried.

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Mowers to accept Treasurer's January 2019 – June 2019 report of Tax Receiver. Carried. Brewer abstained.

MOTION by Geloso, seconded by Mowers to accept Treasurer's January 2019- June 2019 report of Town Clerk. Carried.

## REPORTS

Justice Court Board Audit- Geloso and Mowers will meet with Court Clerk Brown on Monday Sept. 23,2019 to do audit on court's books.

London Bridge Update- Carver has sign lease agreement with Town to lease the office at 284 West Main Street Ilion at the sum of \$1600.00 per month, with a month to month lease. Town will pay utilities.

Highway Department Report - Dutcher is waiting on blacktop to finish Kidney Road, blacktop companies very busy.

Codes – Klemik turn in updated Building Permit Report up to 09/13/2019. There will be 2 different home owners in court on Tuesday 09/24/19 for violations

Justice – Work for handicapped accessible doors will start September 30<sup>th</sup>. This is through a grant that Judge Stone received.

Trash Day is October 19, 2019, 8-11 am at Town Highway Garage.

Public Comments – 7 people spoke

During public comment session Jack Fitzer gave board members letter of interest to replace Councilwoman Bennett as Councilman.

Letter From Herkimer County Legislature – Jones has asked board members to return survey from Herkimer County Legislature on the process of updating its 2002 County Agricultural & Farmland Protection Plan, so she can return them to County.

## Town of German Flatts Board Meeting 09/18/2019

FEMA Letter Regarding (NFIP) – Meeting was held with Rovazzi, Brewer & Klemik attending regarding letter received from FEMA. Rovazzi will reply to Scott Duell, Chief of Floodplain Management & Insurance with updates and ask for an extension. Mowers is afraid if this matter is not attended to ASAP Town could lose FEMA.

Manion Heights DOH Letter – Rovazzi has contacted several municipalities to find information on meter calibration, (cost and who can do this work) with no luck. Mowers will contact Mohawk Valley Water Authority. Fitzer will contact Rural Authority.

### Budget Adjustment Transfer -

MOTION by Geloso, seconded by Brewer to increase Expense of Central Print & Mail, Contr Exp. from 2019 budgeted amount of \$1,500.00 to 2019 amended budget amount of \$2561.00. - Decrease expense of Traffic Control, Contr Expend from 2019 budgeted amount of \$500.00 to 2019 Amended Budgeted amount of \$0.00. - Decrease expense of Cemetery, Contr. Expend from 2019 budgeted amount of \$4,061.00 to 2019 Amended Budget amount of \$3,500.00. Carried.

Marriage License Fee – The State of New York has passed a law waiving its fee of \$22.50 for a marriage license for ACTIVE military personal and has asked Towns and Cities to consider waving their fee of \$17.50 as well.

MOTION by Mowers, seconded by Brewer to wave Marriage fees to ACTIVE military personal. Carried.

Town Board Member Resignation – Rovazzi read a letter of resignation from Councilwoman Bennett.

MOTION by Mowers, seconded by Brewer to accept Bennett's resignation. Carried.

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Mowers to enter into executive session at 6:26pm. Carried.

MOTION by Mowers, seconded by Brewer to come out of executive session at 7:19pm. Carried.

Assessor Trainee Employee Position – Rovazzi read a retirement letter from Ann (Loree) Gallagher effected September 20, 2019 after 32+ years of service.

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Mowers to appoint Amy Cloutier as Assessor Trainee to replace Gallagher. Carried. Amy Cloutier will start work on 10/21/2019 as a full time worker with a \$28,000.00 salary.

Town of German Flatts Board Meeting 09/18/2019

Appointment of Council Member to Replace Bennett -  
MOTION by Mowers, seconded by Brewer to appoint Scott Hendrix as Councilman to Board of German Flatts. Carried. AYES – Mowers, Brewer, Geloso. NAY- Rovazzi.

MOTION by Rovazzi to appoint Jack Fitzner as Councilman to Board of German Flatts .  
No second.

2020 Preliminary Budget & Public Hearing Date- The public hearing for the preliminary budget and the Tax Cap will be held on October 23, 2019 during the regular monthly board meeting.

Budget Workshop Dates \_ Dates for budget workshops will be Wednesday, October 2, 9 and 16 all at 1:00 pm at the Town Hall Mohawk, also there will be one held on Wednesday, October 30, 2019 at 1:00pm. At Town Hall.

Rovazzi will ask accountant to print 2018 budget and 2019 budget side by side.

Consolidated Health District – Possibility Town will have to repay back accounting charges back to health fund. NYS Comptroller recommends the District be dissolved.


Klemik asked board for permission to talk with Atty. Manne on abandoned houses to see if Town could pass Local Law to have property cleaned up and or mowed and charge owners for work done or levy charges onto property taxes as a lean on property.

Community Center Monitor Fee - \$15.00 to employee of Town, to be paid by renter. Must go through payroll.

MOTION by Mowers, seconded by Rovazzi to adjourn at 7:36 pm. Carried.

Next meeting October 23, 2019 at 5:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

  
Pamela A. Jones, Town Clerk  
Town German Flatts

Town of German Flatts Town Board Meeting (Budget Workshop)  
66 East Main Street, Mohawk, New York 13407  
October 2, 2019

Present: Peter Rovazzi, Supervisor  
Sam Geloso, Councilman  
Denny Mowers, Councilman  
John Brewer, Councilman  
Jack Fitzer, Deputy Supervisor  
Kim Sanderson, CPA  
Pamela Jones, Town Clerk

Absent: Scott Hendrix, Councilman

See separate sign-in sheet:

Special Town Board meeting was called to order by Rovazzi at 1:02pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

Local Law No. 2, 2019- Rovazzi introduced Local Law No. 2, 2019 authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law 3-C MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Brewer to hold Public Hearing on Local Law No. 2, 2019 on October 23, 2019 at 5:55pm during Board's monthly meeting. Ayes-4, Nays-0. Carried.

RAN Resolution -  
MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Geloso to approve resolution to authorize and empower Supervisor of the Town of German Flatts to issue and sell, in the manner provided by the Local Finance Law , A Revenue Anticipation Note (RAN) in an amount not to exceed \$309,000.00. Said RAN is being authorized in furtherance of a RAN Resolution adopted by the Town Board of German Flatts on May 9, 2019.  
Ayes-4 Nays -0 Carried.

Budget Workshop - Mowers asked how sales tax was divided between the accounts. Sanderson answered was between B-General Town Outside and DB- Highway Part Town.

Mowers took charge by going over Tentative Town of German Flatts Budget line by line. Major question were, Town Clerk's Pers Serv budget line 1410.1 going from \$88,318.00 to \$50,349.00 – Cost of insurance and how to save money. Rovazzi gave some suggestions, Town Attorney single plan only, Town Board Members single plan only, Brewer added having employees contribute to the cost of their insurance and Geloso

wants to look at other insurance companies. - Donation of money to libraries and the need to have more money to cover potential legal fees.

Town of German Flatts Town Board Meeting (Budget Workshop)


66 East Main Street, Mohawk, New York 13407

October 2, 2019

There will be another budget workshop next Wednesday October 9, 2019 at 1:00pm at Town Hall, all employees are asked to attend.

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Rovazzi to adjourn at 3:40pm. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Pamela A. Jones".

Pamela A Jones, Town Clerk  
Town of German Flatts

Town of German Flatts Town Board Meeting (Budget Workshop)  
66 East Main Street, Mohawk, NY 13407  
October 9, 2019 (revised 10/24/19)

Present: Peter Rovazzi, Supervisor  
Sam Geloso, Councilman  
Denny Mowers, Councilman  
Scott Hendrix, Councilman  
Andy Dutcher, Highway Superintendent  
Jack Fitzer, Deputy Supervisor  
Kim Sanderson, Accountant  
Laura Madore, Deputy Town Clerk

Absent: Councilman Brewer and Town Clerk Jones

Public: 3  
See separate sign in sheet

Budget Workshop called to order by Supervisor Rovazzi at 1:00pm

Pledge of Allegiance said by all

All town employees were at the beginning of the meeting to discuss health insurance for the 2020 year. Cindy Bennett, JKB Benefits, Blue Cross/Blue Shield presented to the Board the proposed insurance premium for 2020 and discussed option that will keep the cost down.

Denny Mowers doesn't feel the employees should now pay part of the health insurance premiums. Andy Dutcher said he met with his crew over the budget and Andy stated if the employees didn't get a raise, then health insurance premiums shouldn't be paid for by his employees.

Denny Mowers stated the auditor's suggestions to save the Town money that we should look as a town to raise taxes, charge for health insurance.

Scott Hendrix discussed that all employees should absorb a minimal cost for health insurance; possible set a dollar amount rather than a percentage for health insurance coverage. Scott said everyone has to give a little. Scott asked how many employees currently pay for health insurance.

Judge Stone presented the Board and stated that the Court has applied for a \$30,000 grant to remodel the Court/Board Room to make the room more secure for the court files and also make the room more usable as a Board Room by changing the layout of the court bench. The bench will be used by the Board members during the Board meetings also.

Town of German Flatts Town Board Meeting (Budget Workshop)  
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October 9, 2019 (revised 10/24/19)

Denny Mowers discussed the position in the Clerk's office that is on the proposed budget as a cut and asked Supervisor Rovazzi how he can decide what another department head needs.

Scott Hendrix read of list from Clerk Jones that was emailed to the Board of reasons why she needs the position and what it would do to her department if the position was cut out of her budget.

Scott Hendrix asked the accountant and Supervisor how much income was generated by the London Bridge building and the Community Center and suggested that we sell the one of the properties if we don't make money from them.

The next budget workshop will be held October 16, 2019 at 1:00pm at the Town Hall.

MOTION by Geloso, seconded by Hendrix to adjourn at 3:50, Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Madore, Deputy Clerk  
Town of German Flatts



Town of German Flatts Town Board Meeting (Budget Workshop)  
66 East Main Street, Mohawk, NY 13407  
October 16, 2019 (revised 10/24/19)

Present: Peter Rovazzi, Supervisor  
Sam Geloso, Councilman  
Denny Mowers, Councilman  
John Brewer, Councilman  
Scott Hendrix, Councilman  
Jack Fitzer, Deputy Supervisor  
Kim Sanderson, Accountant  
Laura Madore, Deputy Town Clerk

Absent: Clerk Jones

Public: 9  
See separate sign in sheet

Budget Workshop called to order by Supervisor Rovazzi at 1:00pm

Pledge of Allegiance said by all

RAN (Revenue Anticipation Note) Resolution:

Motion by Mowers, seconded by Brewer to approve resolution dated October 16, 2019, to authorize and empower Supervisor Rovazzi of the Town of German Flatts to issue and sell, in manner provided by the Local Finance law, a Renewal Revenue Anticipation Note of the Town in the amount not to exceed \$150,000, at such rate of interest as the said Supervisor of the Town shall prescribe. Said revenue Anticipation Note is being authorized in furtherance of a Revenue Anticipation Note Resolution adopted by the Town Council of the Town of German Flatts on August 28, 2013 and makes a \$25,000 interest payment due October 18, 2019 for the RAN (Revenue Anticipation Note)

Ayes-5 Nays-0

Budget Workshop – Supervisor Rovazzi reviewed with the Board an email he received from Hendrix relating to issues on the budget offering suggestions to help balance the budget. Hendrix also emailed the same suggestions to the Board members.

Supervisor Rovazzi and the Board went line by line to make any needed adjustments to the budget.

Mowers discussed not wanting to change the health insurance benefits for the employees. Mowers stated the Town employees aren't getting a raise so their health benefits should stay the same if at all possible. Mowers also discussed the clerk's office position and Clerk Madore stated that it was personnel issues which would need to be discussed with the department head in an executive session upon the return of Clerk Jones.

Town of German Flatts Town Board Meeting (Budget Workshop)  
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October 16, 2019 (revised 10/24/19)

Hendrix discussed the two most expensive components for all employees is health care and benefits, stating we need to look at charging all employees for health insurance since the cost of health care has risen drastically. Hendrix discussed charging all employees a dollar amount for health insurance instead of a percentage.

Hendrix discussed reducing the insurance buyout from \$350.00 to \$250.00, putting the savings back into General Fund.

The next budget workshop will be held October 23, 2019 at 4:30pm with the regularly scheduled board meeting to follow at 5:30 at the Town Hall.

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Geloso to adjourn at 2:45; Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Madore, Deputy Clerk  
Town of German Flatts