

Town of German Flatts Board Meeting
66 E. Main Street Mohawk, New York 13407
September 30, 2020

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

Absent: John Brewer, Councilman

Public: 6 People, see separate sign in sheet

Meeting was called to order by Rovazzi at 5:39 at the Town Community Center due to the Coronavirus. Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Watkins, seconded by Hendrix to approve the August 19, 2020 minutes. Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to approve the August 2020 Treasurer's report. Carried.

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Hendrix to approve the Town Clerk's August 2020 report for \$1,089.50. Carried.

MOTION by Watkins, seconded by Hendrix to approve Judge Engert's August 2020 report for \$170.00. Carried.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Rovazzi to approve Judge Stones August 2020 report for \$18,370.00. Carried.

BILL & TRANSFERS

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to approve payment of GFIM bill for \$1,667.42. Carried.

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

PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Hendrix to open public hearing for Local Law No. 1, 2020, Property Maintenance within the Town of German Flatts at 5:45pm. Carried.

There were no public comments or questions.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to close public hearing at 5:48. Carried.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Sterling to adopt Local Law No. 1, 2020 establishing minimum requirements for property maintenance within the Town of German Flatts. Carried.

OTHER REPORTS

Rovazzi reported there is a 20% reduction in the State Aid for 2020.

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Highway - Dutcher reported his department has been busy, tree cutting at London Bridge, finishing up road work on Bell Hill Road and McKensy Place, put swale ditch on Casey Road by Mr. Stowell home and getting ready for winter. Trash day will be October 17, 2020 and Dutcher will not have his guys engage as much as usual this year due to the caronavirus.

Dog Control - Hawkins turn in his monthly report. 6 hours on dog calls, 3 1/2 on phone calls and 2 complaints filed at Town Clerk's Office.

Codes - Sweeney turn in his monthly report. 24 to 25 active permits out. Sweeney said he will concentrate on closure of open permits. Had 1 complaint on Pine Bush Road. Sterling asked Sweeney to keep all complaints recorded (both written and oral) and on file in Town Clerk's Office.

Codes Enforcement Certificates - Ex-codes officers Klimek and Aiello contacted Jones to inform her that they would not be able to attend this meeting. Jones mailed them their certificates thanking them for their services.

PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Rovazzi to open Public Hearing on Local Law No.2,2020 regulating the control of dogs in the Town of German Flatts at 6:00pm. Carried.

There were no public comments or questions.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to close Public Hearing at 6:02. Carried.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Rovazzi to adopt Local Law No. 2, 2020 regulating the control of dogs in the Town of German Flatts. Carried.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to enter into executive session to discuss highway personnel at 6:04pm. Carried.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Sterling to exit executive session at 6:41pm. Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Budget Transfer #8 - To adjust principle & interest of loan payment.

Increase expenditures to \$2428.00 from 2020 budgeted amount of \$2423.00 in fund DA-5120.4 account Bridges, Contr Expand.

Decrease expenditures to \$32,393.00 from 2020 budgeted amount of \$33,242.00 in fund DA-9785.6 account Debt Principle, Install Purchase.

Increase expenditures to \$6,495.00 from 2020 budgeted amount of \$5,651.00 in fund DA-9785.7 account Debt. Interest, Install Purchase.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to approve budget transfer #8. Carried.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Sterling to approve the reappointment of Bruce Jennings to the Board of Assessment Review as of October 1, 2020 this is a 5 year term. Carried.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Sterling to approve resolution to have Herkimer County Legislature be induced to resolve and take steps as may be required to rename the 0.05 mile of Spinnerville Gulf Road back to Warren Road. Carried.

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PUBLIC COMMENT

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Hendrix to open public comment session. Carried
1 person spoke

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

NEW BUSINESS

Tentative Budget - Jones presented the board with the 2021 tentative budget to review. Date for budget workshops will be on Wednesday October 14 & 21, 2020 both at 1pm at the Town of German Flatts Community Center.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to hold all remaining Town Board meetings of 2020 at the Town of German Flatts Community Center, 555 State Route 5-S, Mohawk. Carried.

Introductory of Local Law No. 3, 2020 - Local Law No. 3, 2020 authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law 3-c (tax cap)

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to schedule a public hearing on Local Law No. 3, 2020 for October 28, 2020 at 6:00pm at Town of German Flatts Community Center, 555 State Route 5-S, Mohawk. Carried.

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Hendrix to schedule public hearing for 2021 Preliminary Budget for October 28, 2020 at 6:15 at the Town of German Flatts Community Center, 555 State Route 5-S, Mohawk. Carried.

Water District Regulations & Meter Reading Criteria - Town needs to have a written Water District Regulation & Rules for the Manion Heights Water District. Atty. Manne will work on this. The Town is having a problem with a water customer. Looks as if the outdoor reader device meter has been tampered with, the customer will not return calls, answer door or respond to notices left on doors. Rovazzi will contact NYS Police.

Comp Alliance Annual Required Safety Training - All employee of the Town need to take this training. Jones has sent reminders to those who have not yet taken the class.

Blood-Borne Pathogens - Rovazzi will contact NYMIR to see who is required to have immunization for blood borne pathogens.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to authorize Rovazzi to issue a check to Herkimer County for \$21,516.36, the balance of the Town's Health District account, dissolving the Towns Consolidated Health District. Carried.

MOTION by Sterling, seconded by Hendrix to enter into executive session at 7:21 with Fitzer and Sweeney to discuss litigation as it pertains to the Creekside Mobile Home Park. Carried.


MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Hendrix to exit executive session. carried

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MOTION by Sterling, seconded by Watkins to approve variance for Creekside Park #114 submitted by William & Virginia Jaquish. Rovazzi abstained. Carried.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Rovazzi to adjourn Town Board Meeting at 7:35pm. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pamela A. Jones". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P".

Pamela A. Jones, Town Clerk
Town of German Flatts