

TOWN OF WAYNE  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
April 9, 2019

The April monthly meeting commenced at 6:30pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilperson Haff conducted the meeting as Deputy Supervisor.

Present: Councilperson Haar  
Councilperson Haff  
Councilperson Freeman  
Councilperson Dunbar  
Town Clerk Mahr

Absent: Supervisor Butchko

Also present: Doug & Megan Howard, Jeff & Lulu Martin, Pat Gray, Chris Curry, and Les Reimsnyder.

**Approval of Minutes**

The March 12 Board Minutes were reviewed. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Councilperson Freeman, seconded by Councilperson Dunbar with all in favor except for Councilperson Haar who abstained.

**Supervisors Report**

The supervisor's report was presented and reviewed. A discussion ensued regarding the \$600,000 in cash in the General Account and the status of its allocation. Councilperson Dunbar made a motion that the Board approve moving \$200,000 dollars out of the funds in General to the Highway budget for the road projects at Silsbee and Coryell. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Haar. Deputy Supervisor Haff stated that the \$600K represented the 2019 budget which included multiple expense such as salaries. In addition Deputy Supervisor Haff voiced his concern that since no invoice has been received for the Keuka Hill Road project there was not an immediate need to take this action now and that the motion should wait until the May board meeting when Supervisor Butchko was back. A roll call was taken on the motion with the following voting:

|                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| Councilperson Haar     | Yes |
| Councilperson Dunbar   | Yes |
| Deputy Supervisor Haff | No  |
| Councilperson Freeman  | No  |

A motion to approve the Supervisor's Report was never made.

**Clerks Report**

The clerk's report was presented and reviewed. Clerk Mahr noted that revenues in March were up due to building permits and real property transfers. Motion to approve the clerk's report was made by Councilperson Freeman and seconded by Councilperson Dunbar with all in favor.

Vouchers of Abstract 4 were submitted and discussed. Councilperson Dunbar asked for more detail clarification on the legal services performed on the Harter, Secret & Emery voucher (#128). Motion to approve the vouchers with exception of the Harter, Secret & Emery voucher was made by Councilperson Haar, seconded by Councilperson Dunbar and all in favor.

Abstract 4 Vouchers submitted were broken down by:

|                   |                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| • General Account | Vouchers 94 - 128 | \$19,885.43 |
| • Highway Account | Vouchers 31 - 43  | \$ 9,313.10 |
| • TA Account      | Voucher 8 - 12    | \$ 5,856.59 |
| • SL Account      | Voucher 4         | \$231.45    |

### **Tax Update**

Clerk Mahr reviewed the current tax collection position as of March 30th. The taxes collected are approximately \$71,000 less than a comparable period in 2018. It appears that February and March payments were less than 2018. The taxes outstanding as of the 30<sup>th</sup> is \$128,202. The Highway and General Funds were paid on March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Clerk Mahr also informed the board that the meeting to settle taxes with Steuben County is Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **Justice Report**

Justice reports was reviewed with no discussion.

### **Assessor**

No report.

### **Highway Superintendent Report**

Highway Superintendent Doug Howard stated activities in the month of March included repairs to the 2013 1- Ton truck and the engine on the 2013 Western Star. The pipe under the Keuka Hill Road was successfully installed. The Keuka Hill road project is scheduled to begin on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. It was uncertain as to whether the road would need to be closed for construction.

The compost site has been cleaned up and is scheduled to open on Friday April 19<sup>th</sup>. Road sweeping will begin in April. New signs have been installed at the boat launch. The highway staff have also completed their 2019 safety training.

Superintendent Howard also noted that the West Waneta Lake Road improvements may be impacted by the reduction in CHIPS monies. Councilperson Dunbar asked if the road project has to be completed before the Town can apply for CHIPS reimbursement. Superintendent Howard will research.

### **Code & Zoning Officer**

Review of monthly report was presented with no discussion.

Planning Board Meetings minutes for February & March have been approved. The first Planning Board Land Use Regulation subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday April 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. The meeting will be held in the Town Supervisor's office because the Democratic Caucus has reserved the main meeting room for the same night. Councilperson Dunbar noted that the LUR map on the Town website needs to be updated due to reflect proper hamlet mixed use. The Wright property, south of Turner Road, needs to be included.

### **Watershed**

March watershed report was presented with no discussion. Septic inspection notices are being sent out on schedule.

### **Dog Control Officer**

Monthly report was reviewed with no discussion. Dog Control Officer Megan Howard stated she is looking at alternative options to the Four Winds Kennel due to reductions in their staff and Betty Walden's injury.

### **History Group**

Monthly report was presented with no discussion. A seminar entitled "A Perfect Storm: The Influenza Pandemic of 1918-1919 A Danger Greater Than War" is scheduled for 2PM Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup> at the Town Hall.

### **Other Business**

A Verizon booster is to be installed within the next week to strengthen wireless communication.

The Town clean up day is scheduled for Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. Discussion centered around the following points:

- Proof of Town of Wayne residency will be required (ie. Driver's license, bills such as tax or utilities)
- List of items that are unacceptable is being worked on. Items such as paint cans, hazardous chemicals and possibly mattresses have been identified as unacceptable.
- Potential limit may be placed on how many tires per participant will be allowed.
- Reduced amount of advertising for the event this year versus 2018.

Clerk Mahr presented an estimated cost from Corning Investigative Services for policing the Town Barn site after hours to prevent excess trash disposal. Depending on the number of hours required the rate would range between \$58 to \$75 per hour. The Board felt that the cost was too prohibitive to pursue. Councilperson Dunbar suggested in the future possibly combining the event with the Town of Tyrone if it could save on costs.

A motion was made by Councilperson Haar and seconded by Councilperson Freeman to adopt a Resolution to reduce the Board of Assessment for tax grievances from 5 members to 3. Though this motion was approved by the Board in August of 2018 Steuben County requested a formal resolution be passed to document the change. The resolution was passed with all in favor.

## **Public Comments**

Mr. Jeff Martin voiced his concern that there is a potential financial management problem in the Town of Wayne. Mr. Martin questioned the Town's budget process and stated that no mid year budget review was conducted in 2018. Mr. Martin indicated that no executable plans are communicated to the Town on how the unallocated budgeted money will be spent. Alternatively, Mr. Martin said if the Town does not have executable plans for the monies there should be a refund to the tax payers.

Mr. Les Reimsnyder concurred with Jeff Martin's comments and questioned if there has been an updated proposal for the Town to acquire the NYSEG hydro plant located In Keuka Village. All the Board Members indicated they were not aware of any recent discussions on this subject. Councilperson Dunbar proposed a motion that any future discussions being made by any officials representing the Town of Wayne with NYSEG needs Board knowledge and approval. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Haar with all in favor. Councilperson Dunbar also asked to review a history of the negotiations that have taken place between the Town and NYSEG.

Mr. Chris Curry asked if Coryell Road was still on the list for roads to be improved in 2019. Councilperson Freeman concurred that it was.

The next Town Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>.

Board of Assessment Review date for tax grievances is Wednesday May 29<sup>th</sup>

Rabies clinic is Saturday June 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn the Town Board meeting was made by Councilperson Haar, seconded by Councilperson Freeman and all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55PM .

Respectfully Submitted,

William Mahr Town Clerk  
May 14, 2019