

ORWELL TOWN BOARD
Regular Meeting
Orwell Town Hall
1999 County Route 2, Orwell New York
September 12, 2017
7:00 PM

Members Present:
Supervisor William Potter
Councilmen: Nicholas Marshall, David Lake, Jeffrey Graham, Robert Martin
Also Present:
Water Operator-Marvin LeVack
Oswego County Legislator-Milferd Potter
Highway Superintendent-Doug Henry
CEO-John Howland
Tug Hill Representative-Paul Baxter
NOCA Representative-Robert Trainham
Town Clerk-Traci LaVeck
Public Present:
Shirley Downes, Ryan Jones, Mark Graham

Supervisor William Potter opened the meeting at 7:01 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

REPORTS:

A) CEO Howland gave his report for August, four building permits were issued totaling \$218.00. The CEO's report is on file in the town clerk's office.

B) Oswego County Legislator Potter went over the September Legislator's Report, the entire agenda can be found on the County Website.

- Resolution adopting County of Oswego Local Law No.5 of 2017, A Local Law Amending Local Law No.1 of 1995 Reducing the Redemption period of Residential Real Property Subject to Tax Lien to two (2) Years after Lien Date.

C) Water Operator LeVack gave his report for August:

- The latest bacteria test came back satisfactory.
- All of the equipment is working properly.
- There continues to be a substantial amount of water in the system. When the tower is full there is still plenty of water in the wet well under the pump house.
- Usage is approximately 18,000 gallons a day.

- No leaks have been reported so far this year.

D) Highway Superintendent Henry went over the equipment repair cost report and bills for August.

- 2012 Chevy Pickup has needed more repairs. Councilman Graham thinks that because it has needed so many costly repairs it is time to either sell or trade in the Chevy for a new one, there was money figured into the budget last year to purchase a new one this year. Supervisor Potter thinks that there is not enough money left in the highway budget for a new one, and the money that was figured in for the new pickup has been spent already, it was anticipated that the pickup would be paid for out of CHIPS money. Councilman Graham would still like to look into the possibility of replacing it. Councilman Graham asked how much the 2012 Chevy might be worth if it was listed on Auction International, Supt Henry thinks that it might be worth \$15,000-\$16,000.

-A motion was made by Councilman Nicholas Marshall and seconded by Supervisor William Potter to list the 2012 Chevrolet pickup truck on Auction International until October 9th to be reviewed at the October 10th Regular Meeting. (5 Ayes) Motion carries.

- 2014 International is still running hot, it needed an overhaul on the cooling and emissions system.
- Superintendent Henry stated that he has a bill from Stadium that he hasn't paid yet because he is still waiting on the \$1,900.00 credit that is supposed to be coming from them.
- Pine Meadows Road has been sealed for a second time.
- Hwy Supt Henry said that they are getting ready to start hauling sand soon.

E) Tug Hill Commission Representative Baxter gave his report for September:

- Mr. Baxter attended the Oswego County Shared Services panel meeting on Thursday, September 7th. The group decided to proceed by creating sub-groups to work on particular topics rather than meeting routinely as a group with the complete panel membership.
- The next THC meeting has been scheduled for Monday, September 18th at 10:00 AM at the Orwell Town Hall.
- THC's annual meeting and dinner will be held on Thursday, November 2nd at the Boonville VFW.
- Ryan Jones asked about creating a link to Facebook for the Town of Orwell Website, Mr. Baxter said that he would work on that.

F) NOCA Representative Trainham gave his report for August. The 2018 Budget for NOCA will be turned in soon, no increase.

DISCUSSION:

A) Playground Update/Request for Benches: A request has been made to have a bench and trash can installed under the pavilion. Cost for a 6-foot bench would be \$645.00 and cost for

the trash can would be \$395.00, both would be bolted to the concrete. There is money left in the Grant to cover the cost of the bench and trash can. Ryan Jones has offered to bolt down the bench and trash can, and he is going to look into an LED streetlight that would face the playground, it would be on from dusk to dawn for security reasons. Mr. Jones also thanked everyone involved in the project for their help.

-A motion was made by Councilman Nicholas Marshall and seconded by Councilman David Lake to approve purchase of the 6 foot bench (\$645.00) as well as the trash can (\$395.00) to be paid for out of the left over Grant money. (5 Ayes) Motion carries.

B) Schedule 2018 Budget Workshop Meetings: Tuesday, October 3rd and Tuesday, October 17th at 6:30 PM. Town Clerk will run Public Notice.

C) Schedule Public Hearing for **Local Law #1-2017** to Exceed the Tax Cap of 1.84% for 2018 Budget: Tuesday, October 10th at 6:45 PM, the Town Board Regular Meeting will follow. Public Notice will be posted.

D) Oswego County Ice & Snow Agreement for 2017-2018: Highway Superintendent Henry brought up the subject that Orwell is not getting paid the full labor costs from the County that it should be for plowing county roads. It is written under services to local governments that this should come at no cost to the tax payers and yet the tax payers are having to pay part of it because the County is not covering the full labor costs. Supervisor Potter will calculate total hourly cost per hour per employee and provide that information to the highway superintendent.

-A motion was made by Councilman Nicholas Marshall and seconded by Councilman Jeffrey Graham authorizing Highway Superintendent Henry to sign the Oswego County Highway Department Snow Removal and Ice Control Agreement for 2017-2018.

Motion carries with 4 Ayes-1Nay:

Councilman Nicholas Marshall	Aye
Councilman David Lake	Aye
Supervisor William Potter	Aye
Councilman Jeffrey Graham	Aye
Councilman Robert Martin	Nay

E) Letter of Support for the Oswego County Well/Septic Repair Replacement Grant Program: The Funds have been depleted and the County needs to reapply to the State for additional funding.

-A motion was made by Councilman Nicholas Marshall and seconded by Councilman Robert Martin authorizing Supervisor Potter to offer a letter of support to Oswego County for the Well/Septic Repair Replacement Grant Program. (5 Ayes) Motion carries.

F) The Cogswell Library will be holding an open house on Thursday, October 12, 2017 from 7:00-9:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Public present questioned the re-assessment numbers, why did some

go up over 30% while others only went up 8-10%, and school taxes went up over 45%. Assessor David Roach entered the meeting to address the question. Assessor Roach stated that it was not a uniform percentage of increase, it was figured according to individual property value based on what he saw and sales comparable that he had on hand (NYS Fair Market Estimate of Value). Assessor Roach also made the point that he has nothing to do with taxes, his only job is to place a value on properties. It was suggested to the property owner that if he/she still has an issue with their assessment next year to follow the proper grievance process. They need to speak with Assessor Roach about their grievance, if they are not satisfied then they will need to go before the Board of Assessment Review panel at the end of May, if they still have an issue they can file a grievance with Small Claims Assessment Review.

CORRESPONDENCE: Supervisor Potter read the correspondence received since last month's meeting. NYS Equalization Rate is now at 100% for Orwell.

Approval of Minutes, Monthly Reports, Budget Adjustments, and Payment of Claims: all are on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

-A motion was made by Councilman Robert Martin and seconded by Councilman Nicholas Marshall to approve the August Regular Meeting Minutes with the following addition under the Public Comment discussion: Supervisor Potter stated that he had received complaints this past winter from residents stating that the highway workers were plowing too much and Highway Supt Henry stated that he had received calls from residents stating that the hwy workers had not been plowing enough. (5 Ayes) Motion carries

-A motion was made by Councilman Jeffrey Graham and seconded by Supervisor William Potter to approve the Town Clerk's Monthly Report for August. (5 Ayes) Motion carries

-A motion was made by Councilman Jeffrey Graham and seconded by Councilman Nicholas Marshall to approve the Supervisor's Monthly Report for August. (5 Ayes) Motion carries

-A motion was made by Councilman Robert Martin and seconded by Councilman David Lake to approve the following Budget Adjustments for August: (5 Ayes) Motion carries:

General			
Add	A1355.4	Assessor CE	\$ 158.02
Deduct	A1990.4	Contingent CE	\$ 158.02
Highway			
Add	DA5110.1	General Repairs PS	\$ 2,851.50
Deduct	DA5140.1	Brush Removal PS	\$ 2,851.50
Add	DA5112.4	Improvements CE	\$42,993.00
Deduct	DA5110.41	General Repairs CE	\$30,279.88

Deduct	DA5120.4	Bridges CE	\$ 3,000.00
Deduct	DA5130.2	Machinery EQ	\$ 9,713.12
Add	DA5130.4	Machinery CE	\$ 2,812.63
Deduct	DA5130.2	Machinery EQ	\$ 2,812.63

-A motion was made by Councilman Nicholas Marshall and seconded by Councilman Jeffrey Graham to approve payment of the following claims: (5 Ayes) Motion carries

General Fund Abstract #9	Claims #86-95C	Amount \$	3,970.62
Highway Fund Abstract #9	Claims #88-95B	Amount \$	35,133.20
Water District Fund Abstract #9	Claims #21-23B	Amount \$	732.81

-A motion was made by Councilman Nicholas Marshall and seconded by Supervisor William Potter to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 PM. (5 Ayes) Motion carries

Submitted
September 25, 2017

Traci S LaVeck
Orwell Town Clerk