

ORWELL TOWN BOARD
Regular Meeting
Orwell Town Hall
1999 County Route 2, Orwell, NY
April 15, 2021
7:00PM

Members Present:
Supervisor William Potter
Councilmen: Ryan Jones, Jeffrey Graham, David Lake, Jessica Steele
Also Present:
CEO- John Howland
Water operator- Eric Pappa
Oswego County Legislator-Herb Yerdon
Highway Superintendent-Doug Henry
NOCA Representative-Bob Trainham
Water board- David Potter
Town Clerk-Amber Wilson
Public present-Shirley Downes

Supervisor Potter opened the meeting at 7:00pm with the pledge of allegiance.

REPORTS:

A) CEO John Howland had no report. 4 building permits have been issued all year.

B) Oswego County Legislator Herb Yerdon arrived at 7:25 and gave his report

- As of April 13th 185,926 COVID-19 tests were done in Oswego County since March 2020.
 - 7,316 were positive
 - 176,084 were negative
 - 213 are currently still active positive
 - 7,013 have recovered
 - 90 deaths reported by the NYSDOH
 - 499 in mandatory isolation
- This is the second highest daily case count in the last two months. Everyone is encouraged to wear a mask, keep 6 ft apart, and wash your hands frequently
- Detailed information can be found online at health.oswegocounty.com/covid-19 or call the hot-line at 315-349-3330 weekdays from 8:30am-4pm and weekends from 8:30am- noon.
- People age 18 and over are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.
- The Oswego County Youth Bureau is accepting applications for mini grants up to \$1,000 for youth activities for not for profit community organizations. The grants are funded by Oswego County government and the NYS Office of Children and Family services Youth development program. Projects must have clear and measurable goals and address the diverse interests of youth. Applications are being accepted until Tuesday, June 1st. Those interested can call Tiffany

Halstead at the Oswego County Youth Bureau at 315-349-3590.

- Oswego County Suicide Prevention Coalition is spreading awareness about suicide in adults with Autism as April is Autism Awareness month. Adults with Autism Spectrum Conditions are at a significantly higher risk for suicide than the general population. If you would like to join The Oswego County Suicide Prevention Coalition and help spread awareness call 315-529-0360 or email preventioncoalitionstaff@gmail.com
- Oswego County Veterans service agency is currently seeking nominations for Veteran of the year. Completed nominations forms can be mailed or dropped off to Oswego County Veterans Service Agency 200 N. Second St, Fulton NY 13069 or emailed to veterans@oswegocounty.com. Questions can be directed to the email or by phone at 315-591-9100.
- Oswego County Health department is resuming residential well testing. Walk in tests are conducted for coliform bacteria and E. coli only for \$30. For more information call Oswego County Health Department's Environmental Division at 315-349-3557.
- Oswego County is beginning vaccinations for those that are home bound. If you know a home bound person who wants to be vaccinated an appointment can be arranged by calling 315-349-3330

C) Assessor- No report

D) Water Board- Eric Pappa gave his report on the water system. He replaced the pump for chlorine as the old one had been parted out as much as possible. He also re-keyed the door so it is more secure. Currently the water usage is up 4,000 or more gallons than usual to make the daily usage around 19,000 gallons per day. So far the water level is good and holding steady but the area is already below average for rainfall.

E) Highway Superintendent Henry read the bills and repair and maintenance costs for March.

- All truck frames got painted as they were broken down for the season.
- CHIPS money is going to possibly go up this year. The Town budgeted receiving \$93,000 and it is possible the Town will receive around \$107,000. PAVENY and Extreme weather are also projected to increase in amount received.
- The Bennett's Bridges project is projected to be completed by May 28th which is ahead of the original June completion date.
- Superintendent Henry presented to the board a request to purchase with the Town of Parish a blacktop hot box that will hold 4 tons of blacktop for cold patching. The total cost is \$18,000 for a 2016 with a 2 year bumper to bumper warranty leaving the cost to each town at \$9,000. Currently the Town of Orwell is purchasing blacktop patch for \$400/ton but with this machine the Town can get it through Oswego County for only \$80/ ton. Supervisor Potter will have the Town attorney draw up the inter-municipal agreement.
- A motion was made by Councilwoman Jessica Steele and seconded by Councilman Ryan Jones to approve entering into an inter-municipal agreement with the Town of Parish to purchase a 2016 Falcon Fleet rental 4 ton asphalt hotbox dump body trailer. (5 Ayes) Motion carries.

G) Tug Hill Representative Paul Baxter emailed his report and it was read as written. The Tug hill Commission is still operating at 50% capacity and probably will for the foreseeable future. The Governor extended his executive order regarding the allowance of zoom meetings through May 6th 2021. The Tug Hill Commission's next meeting is on Monday April 19th at 10:00 am at the Central Square Village Hall and also via Zoom. NYS passed legislation for adult use cannabis which includes an option for a municipality to opt out for their Town or Village. A model opt-out law was attached to

the email as well as information about upcoming webinars. Supervisor Potter plans to attend two of them.

H) NOCA – March was busier with 195 calls which is 50 higher than March last year. They lost 3 ALS providers and are looking for more providers as well as EMT s. NOCA is looking into a 5 yr plan to become a training center. Currently they are unable to use their finished basement as it is not handicap accessible. NOCA is looking to either somehow make it accessible or to get enough fill to fill in the corner lot and build a training center. It is possible fundraising will be in the future.

DISCUSSION:

A) CHIPS/PAVENY/EWR payments were discussed by Superintendent Henry when he went over his report.

B) NYS burn ban is in effect until May 14th 2021

C) Cogswell Library reopening plan is effective March 23rd, 2021. To use the facility you must make an appointment, your temperature will be taken, a health form must be completed, you must sanitize before touching books or the computer and during the visit as needed. Library staff has the right to refuse services to anyone that is not willing to follow any of the rules outlined above.

D) COVID Recovery/ Reopening Plan Development: Supervisor Potter is going to work with Tug Hill Commission Representative Paul Baxter on this. Councilwoman Jessica Steele asked Supervisor Potter to also speak with him about alternative energy facilities possibly coming to the town and how to limit them.

E) Cannabis retail dispensaries and on-site consumption sites information was presented. More information will follow as available. The board discussed the subject in a broad spectrum and the common consensus is that the Town of Orwell is a dry town and the board would like it to stay that way. No official action was taken at this time.

F) Bond Anticipation Note for Water Project: Everything is still in the works and proceeding as scheduled.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

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

-A motion was made by Councilman Ryan Jones and seconded by Councilman David Lake to approve the regular meeting minutes for March 9th 2021 as written. (5 Ayes) Motion carries.

- A motion was made by Councilman Jeffrey Graham and seconded by Councilwoman Jessica Steele to approve the Town Clerks report for the month of March 2021. (5 Ayes) Motion carries.

-A motion to approve the Supervisor's Monthly Report for March 2021 was tabled.

-A motion was made by Councilman David Lake and seconded by Councilman Ryan Jones to approve payment of the following claims. (5 Ayes) Motion carries.

General Fund Abstract #04	Claims # 45- 61	\$ 6,604.73
Highway Fund Abstract #04	Claims #32-45	\$ 8,253.24
Water Fund Abstract #04	Claims #13-21	\$ 4,442.90

-A motion was made by Councilman Ryan Jones and seconded by Councilwoman Jessica Steele to adjourn the meeting at 8:00PM. (5 Ayes) Motion carries.

Submitted April 15, 2021