

ORWELL TOWN BOARD
Regular Meeting
Orwell Town Hall
December 15, 2022
7:00 PM

Members Present:
Supervisor William Potter
Council Members: Jeffrey Graham, David Lake, Jessica Steele, Ryan Jones
Also Present:
CEO-John Howland
Highway Superintendent- Doug Henry
Water Operator-Eric Pappa
Tug Hill Commission-Paul Baxter
NOCA-Bob Trainham
Town Clerk-Amber Wilson
Public present-Shirley Downes

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

REPORTS:

A) CEO John Howland submitted his report of building permits for the month. CEO Howland reported that the Town of Orwell won the court case against 92 and 94 Lester Rd for up to \$80,000 in clean up fees. Councilman Graham voiced his opinion on 1951 CO RT 2. Councilman Graham feels the property is in violation of the Town of Orwell's junk law and would like Mr. Howland to pursue it further. Mr. Howland agreed to send them an appearance ticket.

B) County Legislator Yerdon was unable to attend the meeting.

C) Highway Superintendent Henry went over the bills and repairs and maintenance costs for the month of November. Superintendent Henry is looking into purchasing an additive to add to the diesel tank at the Town barn. Traditionally Superintendent Henry would mix kerosene and diesel 60/40 for the winter months however the price of kerosene is over \$6/gallon.

D) Tug Hill Representative Paul Baxter arrived at 7:55pm and read his report as written

E) NOCA- NOCA Representative Bob Trainham gave his report. Last year was the busiest year in history for NOCA and this year is within 3 calls of last year. NOCA is running 5 ambulances to be able to sanitize between calls and still have ambulances to respond to calls. Since switching to the new billing company, billing is up and although it cost more in the beginning is saving NOCA money in the long run.

F) Water Operator Eric Pappa read his report. Usage is around 13,000 gallons a day. A lead and copper test were previously left off the testing list and needs to be done. Mr. Pappa has someone interested in the Assistant Water Operator position and is currently working on completing the required schooling.

Updates/Discussion:

A. Highway Contract for full time employees- The Town Highway full time employees have agreed to the terms of the contract. They will receive a \$2/hr raise this year and \$1/hr raise next year as well as an increase in their boot allowance to \$175.00.

- A motion was made by Councilman Ryan Jones and seconded by Councilman Jeffrey Graham to sign the 2-year highway contract. (4 ayes, Councilwoman Steele is recused) motion carries.

B. Part time/Seasonal highway wages- Currently part time/seasonal highway employees earn \$15.15/ hr with no CDL and \$17.15/hr with a CDL. Supervisor Potter proposed increasing the wage \$1/ hr. The board agrees.

-A motion was made by Councilman Jeffrey Graham and seconded by Councilman David Lake to approve increasing the part time/seasonal wage from \$15.15 and \$17.15 by \$1.00/ hour to \$16.15 and \$18.15. (4 ayes, Councilwoman Steele is recused) motion carries.

C. 45 MPH speed limit on all town roads- Supervisor Potter spoke with AOT, DOT, Tug Hill Commission, and Supervisor Wilkinson from the town of Amboy who is also looking to lower the speed limit on all roads in their town. The process is lengthy and expensive. The cost of signs alone for the 75 miles of town roads in the Town of Orwell will be \$10,000. Councilwoman Steele suggested the project be tabled for now due to lack of interest from more Town residents. The board agreed.

D. The year end meeting is scheduled for Thursday December 29th, 2022, at 7pm

Public Comment: Shirley Downes thanked the Town and the Town Board for all their hard work this year. Regarding the speed reduction, Bob Trainham commented that there is no enforcement of the current speed limit so spending time and money reducing it would be a waste.

CORRESPONDENCE: Tug Hill times

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 Jeffrey Graham and seconded by Councilwoman Jessica Steele to approve the November 10, 2022; Public Hearing meeting minutes as written. (5 Ayes) Motion carries.

-A motion was made by Councilman David Lake and seconded by Councilman Ryan Jones to approve the November 10, 2022; Regular meeting minutes as written. (5 Ayes) Motion carries.

-A motion was made by Councilwoman Jessica Steele and seconded by Councilman David Lake to approve the Town Clerk's report for November 2022. (5 Ayes) Motion carries.

- The Supervisor's report for November 2022 will be available at the December 29th, 2022, year-end meeting.

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

General Fund Abstract #12	Claims # 185-203	\$	24,751.53
Highway Fund Abstract #12	Claims # 118-128	\$	19,771.49
Water Fund Abstract #12	Claims # 60-61	\$	11,079.70

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

Submitted December 15, 2022