

ORWELL TOWN BOARD
Regular Meeting
Orwell Town Hall
February 14, 2023
7:00PM

Members Present:
Supervisor William Potter
Council members: Ryan Jones, David Lake, Jessica Steele
Also Present:
Highway Superintendent-Doug Henry
Oswego County Legislator-Herb Yerdon
CEO-John Howland
Water Operator-Eric Pappa
NOCA Representative-Bob Trainham
Tug Hill Commission Representative-Paul Baxter
Town Clerk-Amber Wilson
Public present-Shirley Downes, William Garvin, Christine Abel-Delamater, Cheryl Potts,
Brittnea Bryden

Supervisor Potter opened the regular meeting at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

REPORTS:

A) CEO John Howland gave his report. There was one building permit for the month of January. The property owners of 1951 CO RT 2 went before the judge. If the stuff is covered by a tarp it is not in violation of the junk law. The property owner of 92 & 94 Lester Rd was served and has 30 days to clean up. Anything not cleaned after that will be cleaned by the Town. The Town Board will put the clean up job up to bid when the weather permits, likely in April.

B) Oswego County Legislator Herb Yerdon gave his report. All informational packets are on file in the Town Clerk's office.

- Oswego County Office of the Aging (OFA) will be hosting virtual Medicare 101 sessions via zoom on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 10am. For more information call OFA at 315-349-3484
- List of Oswego County Legislature meeting dates and times as well as committee assignments
- NYS Senator John W. Mannion presented state Senate proclamations to the Oswego County Highway Department crew that assisted Buffalo after winter storm Elliot in December
- 52nd annual spring tree and shrub order form. Anyone interested in ordering should contact the Town Clerk before April 3rd.

C) Water Operator Eric Pappa gave his report. Usage is 16,000 gallons/day. The UV lights have been serviced and filters will be here next week. Assistant water operator Mike Pappa will be attending school in April.

D) Highway Superintendent Henry went over the bills and repairs and maintenance costs for the month of January. Vorea church on Waggoner Rd has requested a pedestrian crossing sign. Superintendent Henry asked Supervisor Potter to ask the Town Attorney on the legality of putting up a sign on a Town road. Superintendent Henry requested an Executive Session.

-A motion was made by Councilwoman Jessica Steele and seconded by Councilman Ryan Jones to move into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. (4 ayes) Motion carries.

Due to an upcoming retirement, Superintendent Henry needs to hire another full-time employee by the end of the month.

-A motion was made by Councilwoman Jessica Steele and seconded by Councilman Ryan Jones to approve the hiring of another full time highway employee. (4 ayes) Motion carries.

E) Tug Hill Representative Paul Baxter read his report as written.

F) NOCA representative Bob Trainham gave his report. NOCA received six calls less in January 2023 than in January 2022. The budget vs actual report for January is a positive \$200.

DISCUSSION:

A. Exercise classes upstairs - Supervisor Potter received an email from the librarian Elizabeth Gondek about a person inquiring about renting the upstairs room for an exercise class. Supervisor Potter asked Town Clerk Amber Wilson her opinion about it as that room is used for record storage. Town Clerk Wilson stated that the records are not able to be put in the locked records vault making it a difficult decision. Brittnea Bryden spoke up as the person requesting to use the space and asked if it would be possible to use if a security camera and or lockable cabinets were donated to the town. Supervisor Potter asked the Town Board's thoughts on it and they unanimously agreed they needed to see the space in question before being able to give a fair decision. Tabled until next meeting.

B. Resolution #3-2023: Appoint William H Garvin to Town Board to fill vacancy through 12/31/23 – Councilwoman Jessica Steele read a statement expressing her opinion on former Councilman Jeffrey Graham's resignation and Mr. Garvin's appointment. Discussion was had. -A motion was made by Councilman Ryan Jones and seconded by Councilman David Lake to approve Resolution #3-2023. (3 ayes, 1 nay) Motion carries.

Resolution #3-2023
Councilman vacancy and appointment
Town of Orwell
Town Board

WHEREAS, the Town of Orwell Town Board has a vacancy due to Councilman Jeffrey Graham resigning effective December 31st, 2022

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Orwell has appointed William H Garvin as Councilman to fill the vacancy through December 31st, 2023 and the remainder of the term (1/1/2024 – 12/31/2025) will be filled via general election held this November

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

Councilman David Lake	AYE
Councilwoman Jessica Steele	NAY
Councilman Ryan Jones	AYE
Supervisor William Potter	AYE

CLERK CERTIFICATION:

I, Amber Wilson, Clerk of the Town of Orwell in the County of Oswego, State of New York, do hereby certify the resolution is duly adapted by the Board Members of the Town of Orwell at an open meeting of such Board held on February 14, 2023.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Town this 14th day of February 2023.

Amber Wilson
Orwell Town Clerk

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Shirley Downes commented on Councilwoman Steele’s statement. She stated that she was not happy with her accusations and felt she did not represent the Town of Orwell positively.

CORRESPONDENCE: Tughill 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 David Lake and seconded by Councilman Ryan Jones to approve the January 10, 2023; Organizational meeting minutes as written. (4 Ayes) Motion carries.

-A motion was made by Councilman Ryan Jones and seconded by Councilman David Lake to approve the January 10, 2023; Regular meeting minutes as written. (4 Ayes) Motion carries.

-A motion was made by Councilman David Lake and seconded by Councilwoman Jessica Steele to approve the Town Clerk’s report for January 2023. (4 Ayes) Motion carries.

-A motion was made by Councilwoman Jessica Steele and seconded by Councilman David Lake to approve the Town Clerk’s annual report for 2022. (4 Ayes) Motion carries.

- A motion was made by Councilman Ryan Jones and seconded by Councilman David Lake to approve Supervisor's Monthly Report for November 2022. (4 Ayes) Motion carries.

- The Supervisor’s Monthly Report for December 2022 was tabled

-A motion was made by Councilman Ryan Jones and seconded by Councilwoman Jessica Steele to approve payment of the following claims. (4 Ayes) Motion carries.

General Fund Abstract #02	Claims # 16-32	\$ 7,396.51
Highway Fund Abstract #02	Claims #09-18	\$ 27,249.94
Water Fund Abstract #02	Claims #03-11	\$ 12,090.58

-A motion was made by Councilman Ryan Jones and seconded by Councilwoman Jessica Steele to adjourn the meeting at 8:23PM. (4 Ayes) Motion carries.

Submitted February 22, 2023