

**ORWELL TOWN BOARD**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Orwell Town Hall**  
**December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**7:00PM**

Members Present:  
Supervisor William Potter  
Council members: William Garvin, David Lake, Jessica Steele, Ryan Jones  
Also Present:  
Highway Superintendent-Doug Henry  
CEO- John Howland  
Water Operator-Eric Pappa  
Assessor- David Roach  
Oswego County Legislator-Herb Yerdon  
Tug Hill Commission Representative-Heidi Tompkins  
NOCA Representative-Bob Trainham  
Town Clerk-Amber Wilson  
Public present-Jerit Steele, David Potter

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

**REPORTS:**

A) Water Operator Eric Pappa arrived at 7:25pm and gave his report. Usage is around 17,000 gallons/day.

B) CEO John Howland submitted a list of building permits for the month of November.

C) Highway Superintendent Henry went over the bills, repairs, and maintenance costs for the month of November.

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

E) NOCA representative Bob Trainham gave his report. NOCA has three ambulances that have high miles on them. They are worried about replacing them and the cost to do so. They are in decent shape financially. NOCA had their annual meeting on December 11<sup>th</sup> and had a board member resign. Mark Palmer has taken the position.

F) Tug Hill Representative Heidi Tompkins read Paul Baxter's report as written.

**DISCUSSION:**

A. Revisit Local Law #2-2022 Senior Citizen Exemptions for updates: Assessor David Roach went over the changes that were made at the County level to Local Law #2-2022. He encouraged the Town Board to adopt the same changes.

-A motion was made by Councilman William Garvin and seconded by Councilwoman Jessica Steele to approve making the changes to Local Law #2-2022. (5 ayes) motion carries.

B. Intermunicipal Agreement with Town of Mexico: The Town of Mexico sent an intermunicipal agreement to be signed by the Town of Orwell.

-A motion was made by Councilman Ryan Jones and seconded by Councilman William Garvin to approve the Supervisor to sign the agreement. (5 ayes) motion carries.

C. Water rate increase: The Town of Orwell has had some unexpected expenses in the water department this year. The UV lights and filters will need to be replaced before the new system is implemented as well as an increased operating budget for 2025. The water rates will need to be raised before then. Surrounding towns are paying \$450.00 or more a month for water. Supervisor Potter proposed raising the water rates \$100.00 this year. Discussion was had about moving to quarterly billing, but the board agreed to keep it semiannual.

-A motion was made by Councilwoman Jessica Steele and seconded by Councilman David Lake to approve raising water rates \$100.00 in 2024. (5 ayes) motion carries.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

-A special meeting will be held November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023, to go over and award the bids for the water project.

**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 Ryan Jones and seconded by Councilman William Garvin to approve the November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023; Regular meeting minutes as written. (5 Ayes) Motion carries.

-A motion was made by Councilman David Lake and seconded by Councilman William Garvin to approve the November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023; Special meeting minutes as written. (5 Ayes) Motion carries.

-A motion was made by Councilwoman Jessica Steele and seconded by Councilman Ryan Jones to approve the Town Clerk's report for November 2023. (5 Ayes) Motion carries.

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

General Fund Abstract #12	Claims # 190-212	\$ 12,859.63
Highway Fund Abstract #12	Claims # 117-126	\$ 24,595.12
Water Fund Abstract #12	Claims # 67-68	\$ 72,487.63

-A motion was made by Councilman Ryan Jones and seconded by Councilman William Garvin to adjourn the meeting at 8:09PM. (5 Ayes) Motion carries.

Submitted December 21, 2023