

October 11, 2021 the regular Town Board Meeting was held in the town hall beginning at 7:00 p.m. with all members in attendance. Sup. Ferguson led the pledge to the flag. A motion to accept the previous month's minutes was made by Coun. Raymond and was seconded by Coun. Wilbur and all were in favor. A motion to pay the audited bills was made by Coun. Greenough and was seconded by Coun. Barber and all were in favor.

Old Business: Sup. Ferguson held a conversation with Tony Moore about the transfer of the deed to acquire the properties and Mr. Moore has agreed to use the town attorney for the transaction. A discussion also took place about the forgotten roads that are not being serviced by SLIC. Sup. Ferguson talked with Laura Oswald about another grant to cover the residents that do not have SLIC and seeing if they can be hooked up to them. There is currently no time frame on when this could happen. Sup. Ferguson responded that the covid relief monies will be used to help pick up the forgotten roads.

Coun. Wilbur continues asking Sup. Ferguson for a written letter from the Department of Environmental Conservation stating that we have waterfront access from Chubb's Dock to move forward with the pavilion project to which no answer was given. During the previous month's meeting Sup. Ferguson requested that the town road crew begin to bring the road up leading to the landing on Chubb's Dock and a discussion ensued about what is expected. The DEC painted lines along the roadside that the improvement must not go outside of the lines. Currently the town road crew is busy getting ready for the winter season as well as completing projects from the summer and fall agenda. Mr. Hobus didn't have an exact time frame that he can get to the roadside improvement but speculated that he will be able to do it before springtime. The board discussed that if the road crew cannot complete it by March that the project of bringing the road up with material be completed by a contractor. It was agreed that 3 bids be taken when and if it is necessary to complete but only if the road crew can't get to it. Sup. Ferguson announced during the meeting that the pavilion was purchased from The Shed Shop in Fort Ann. Sup. Ferguson was able to obtain one quote for a similar structure but did not inquire of the third that was requested. At this time the Town Clerk spoke up about using a family member of the Supervisor for a town project and that there is a conflict of interest and that there should be a discussion about the Code of Ethics and that the town doesn't have an adopted resolution outlining the proper protocol of such circumstances and requested there be a discussion included on the next town board meeting agenda. Mr. Hobus asked for clarity on how to build up the road to Chubb's Dock and a discussion ensued.

New Business: Financials were given to the board and are on file in the Clerk's office. Prior to the regular Town Board Meeting there was a budget workshop was held. The budget officer presented to the board his tentative copy of the budget using similar numbers from the previous year's budget with some changes to the salaries of town officials and employees. The public hearing for the Preliminary Budget will be held on October 25, 2021 beginning at 7:00 p.m. and the vote to adopt the Budget will be held during the regular Town Board Meeting on November 8, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. There will be one more budget workshop held prior to the adoption. James Corby and Pat Gorman had a discussion with Mr. Hobus about taking over Eichler Way, Beach Way and Lakeview Way roads located in Hulett's Landing. The water runs downhill to the houses located at the bottom of the roads and floods their properties and wondered if the town could take over the roads and make improvements. A meeting was held by the association and it was determined that they didn't want the town to take over the roads because they would no longer be private and the public could travel on them. Mr. Hobus advised the board that the town should not take on the additional roads at this time. However, he advised the town that the road crew will keep the roads passable for emergency situations so if there is a call the pathways will be clear.

Resolution #14-2021 titled **Revenue Budget Code Change**, to change the accounts for which money is counted as revenue for the Highway Department to move money around. A motion was made by Coun. Wilbur and was seconded by Coun. Greenough and all were in favor.

Sup. Ferguson announced that the town is interested in pursuing the cannon house located next to the Dresden Volunteer Fire House to be used as a future highway department building. He has been in discussions with Linda Barber who has been talking with the current owners of the house. The owners will accept a \$40,000 offer from the town. The members of the board were concerned about the asbestos siding and who will be responsible for the removal prior to the demolition of the house. Sup. Ferguson stated that Goodspeeds Services can drop a dumpster at the site and will haul it away. He also stated that the asbestos siding can be deposited into the dumpster and the town not be held responsible for the disposal. Sup. Ferguson asked for the board's approval to proceed with the purchase and to have the town attorney schedule the closing with Ms. Barber. He stated that money will be moved from the highway department to the general for the purchase. Sup. Ferguson made a motion to proceed and was seconded by Coun. Greenough. Coun. Barber abstained from the vote due to the realtor being his Mother, and the rest of the board members were in favor. A bathroom sink and vanity have been donated to the town hall to replace the unit in the bathroom and all members are in favor.

Due to the rise in online sales taking place, a portion of the sales tax is distributed to the towns in Washington County.

Highway Superintendent's Report: Mr. Hobus had a discussion with the members of the board about a purchase of a new truck for the town. Our tandem truck is 7 years old and it still has some value that will result in getting a good price at Auction International towards the new truck. There isn't much life left in them as they approach 10 years and he is recommending that the town consider selling it and using the money to pay down the load for the new one. The purchase price of a new tandem truck can cost as much as \$264,000. There is an extended amount of time to receive a new one. It could be expected to take as long as springtime in 2023. The board decided that Mr. Hobus should begin the process of purchasing a new tandem truck and selling the old one by a motion made by Coun. Wilbur and was seconded by Coun. Raymond and all were in favor.

The monthly expenditures are as follows:

GEN-\$7,460.94; HWY-\$23,742.05; SD1-\$1,105.55; SD2-\$1,498.20

Public Comment: None

A motion to adjourn was unanimous. Respectfully submitted, Marcinda Wilbur, Town Clerk

Attendance: Christine Diekel, Barb Bennett, Jeannie Ferguson, Caton Deuso-Whitehall Times