

TOWN BOARD

Meeting held via ZOOM due to COVID 19 outbreak
May 13th, 2020

The Oneonta Town Board meeting was held on May 13th, 2020 with ZOOM video conferencing, the following members were present through the video link:

Councilman: Brett Holleran
Councilwoman: Patricia Jacob
Councilman: Randy Mowers
Councilwoman: Patricia Riddell Kent
Supervisor: Robert Wood
Town Clerk: Sara Robinson

Others present: Rob Panasci, Town Attorney; James Hurtubise, Highway Supt

Supervisor Wood called the May meeting of the town board to order. He did not call the roll, as the meeting was being recorded. We will note that this meeting is being conducted via ZOOM due to the COVID 19 virus pandemic. The meeting was posted on the Town website with a link that would allow members of the public to attend if they wished. No others joined the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS- No committees met due to COVID 19 outbreak

MISCELLANEOUS –

Motion was made by Riddell Kent to purchase a ZOOM video conferencing account for the town. The cost is \$14.99/ month. Seconded by Mowers. The account will be shared with Planning Board, ZBA and BAR as necessary.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Motion was made by Jacob. Seconded by Mowers to accept the audit conducted by Mostert, Manzanero & Scott for the year 2019. There were no findings in the audit.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Motion was made by Holleran. Seconded by Mowers to approve new email hosting and archiving from ISD not to exceed \$1,860.00. Supervisor Wood stated that we will continue to use existing email addresses. This gives us the ability to archive governmental emails. \$660 is the annual cost for the Microsoft exchange account. The balance is an estimate of cost for ISD to set up the accounts and get each person up and going.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Motion was made by Jacob to approve a resolution of support for the Otsego County COVID-19 Relief and Recovery Fund. Seconded by Riddell Kent. Wood stated that it is raising money and

donating to needy organizations.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0

Motion Carried

Otsego County COVID-19 Relief and Recovery Fund

WHEREAS, a pandemic caused by COVID-19 novel coronavirus has caused serious illness (including deaths) to spread across the entire globe; and this virus has infected every state in the United States, including New York State; and Otsego County is now experiencing sickness (including death) caused by this virus; and

WHEREAS, to combat this virus, it has been necessary to severely curtail normal, everyday life and work, and to practice social isolation and extreme care to try to control the spread of this virus; and

WHEREAS, such measures to protect the health and safety of the community have resulted in personal hardships to many members of our community including loss of income, shortage of food, and other economic, social, health and psychological impacts; and

WHEREAS, these measures have put severe strains on all our governmental units, our public health facilities, and our nonprofit agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Oneonta desires to support efforts by the nonprofit sector to address the pressing needs created by the virus and responses to its impacts; and

WHEREAS, the Community Foundation of Otsego County has created the COVID-19 Relief and Recovery Fund for Otsego County to provide a way for private foundations, individuals, businesses, and others to support efforts by the nonprofit sector to respond to these needs,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Oneonta endorses and supports the creation of the COVID-19 Relief and Recovery Fund for Otsego County and adds its name to the list of Supporters of the Fund.

Supervisor Wood provided the board with a status report on the financial impacts COVID 19 may have on the town. The report contained anticipated changes in revenue stream for this year and potential ways they losses can be offset. Supervisor Wood stated that it is important that we start having committee meetings so we can go over that information in a more detailed way and decide how COVID is going to affect our budget not just this year but for 2021. Holleran asked if we have received any guidance from our governor regarding potential cuts in funding. Supervisor Wood stated that he has not received them from our governor but has been having conference calls weekly with Allen Ruffles Otsego County Treasurer. All of the towns and cities participate. We are anticipating a 25-30% decrease in sales tax. Sales tax collection from March 22nd to April 22nd was down about 25%. We were in full shut down mode at that point. The actual full reduction was 28%. 3% was because the state withheld their AIM funding which they withhold from the county. We can anticipate sales tax that usually increases during the summer

probably remaining flat. That's where the 25-30% reduction is coming from. Mortgage tax may also be affected.

Jacob asked if we have a timeline on when committees will be meeting again. Supervisor Wood stated that he is anticipating next month. Attorney Panasci and Supervisor Wood discussed it and we cannot hold public hearings at this time.

Change order 2.2 was proposed by McCarthy Electric for the highway garage project. Supervisor Wood expressed concern that there was a change order so early in the project. The proposal included up sizing the generator so that it would run the pumps for the geothermal system in the event of a power outage. That cost was \$6,000. Other changes involved were driven by NYSEG and the length of the service connection to supply the new garage.

Motion made to approve change order 2.2 in the amount of \$21,739.00 by Mowers. Seconded by Jacob.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Motion made by Jacob, seconded by Riddell-Kent to surplus the generator that was used to power the old highway garage as it has been disconnected from the gas service and is insufficient to power the new highway garage.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Supervisor Wood stated that he received in the mail today, an easement from NYSEG for the new gas and power line running down the backside of the building to the transformer pad.

Motion was made for Supervisor Wood to sign the easement to allow for that power line to be run. Motion made by mowers. Seconded by Riddell Kent.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

PETITIONERS- None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES-Motion was made by Jacobs. Seconded by Riddell Kent to approve minutes for April 8th & April 29, 2020

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

BILLS- Motion was made by Jacob to pay bills. Seconded by Mowers.

General	\$67,913.99	272, 273, 275-279, 281-282, 290, 292-299, 301, 303, 308, 310, 313-314, 316, 319-320, 322, 325, 329, 338
Highway	\$8,631.47	303, 324, 326, 330, 334, 336-337, 339-344, 331

Street Lights	\$1,779.19	292, 308
Highway		
Garage	\$68,008.55	318, 321, 331-333, 345-346, 335
Trust &		
Agency	\$1,943.77	268-269, 285-289, 305
DISTRICTS:		
WESD	\$6,331.81	271, 283, 284, 304, 306, 311, 315, 323
WSSD	\$1,902.77	281, 283, 304, 311, 315, 323
SSD	\$2,667.70	271, 283-284, 304, 306, 315, 323
WWD	\$11,774.41	271, 283-284, 304, 306, 309, 315, 323, 327
PWD	\$7,907.89	271, 283, 291, 304, 323
SS Water	\$17,541.80	300, 317

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0

Motion Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 7:27PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Robinson
Town Clerk