

TOWN BOARD
Regular Meeting
November 8, 2017

The regular meeting of the Oneonta Town Board was held on November 8, 2017 with the following members present:

Councilwoman: Patricia Jacob
Councilman: Randal Mowers
Councilwoman: Patricia Riddell Kent
Councilman: Brett Holleran
Supervisor: Robert T. Wood
Town Clerk: Cheryl L. Shackelton

Others present: Rob Panasci, Town Attorney; James Hurtubise, Supt. of Highways; Steve Kent; Bradley Morrell; Andrew Stammel; and Virginia Lee.

Supervisor Wood recognized Bradley Morell, an Eagle Scout from Troop 23 attending the meeting as a requirement toward his government badge.

PUBLIC HEARING – 2018 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

Motion was made by Jacob, seconded by Riddell Kent to open the public hearing.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

No one spoke for or against.

Motion was made by Jacob, seconded by Riddell Kent to close the public hearing.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Supervisor Wood offered the following comments: Town has a strong financial footing; Budget has a 2.5% increase for all employees, other than those who declined it (councilmen); the town is one third of the way to satisfying the expenditure of the projected new highway barn; and the 2018 budget is under the tax cap.

Motion was made by Jacob, seconded by Mowers to adopt the 2018 Budget as presented.

Discussion: Councilwoman Riddell Kent stated that she is in favor of a no tax increase and was hoping something could be taken out of the budget, but on the other hand supports the 2.5% employee increase. She thanked Supervisor Wood for his work as budget officer and for keeping the town in good fiscal standing.

VOTE – Ayes 4, Nays 1 (Riddell Kent) Motion Carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Highway/Water & Sewer - Councilwoman Riddell Kent gave the following update and recommendations:

Furnace proposals – 2 proposals were submitted for a new natural gas unit heater for the highway barn:

- Mirabito Energy Products - \$ 4,125.00
- Winne’s Plumbing & Heating - \$14,330.00

Motion was made by Riddell Kent, seconded by Holleran to accept the \$4,125.00 bid from Mirabito to install a new natural gas unit heater in the highway barn.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Water/Sewer Delinquent accounts Sewer/Water delinquent accounts – Motion was made by Riddell Kent, seconded by Holleran to certify the following sewer and water accounts are delinquent for 2017, and submit to the County Treasurer for collection:

West End Sewer District	\$33,095.92
West Street Sewer District:	\$859.65
Southside Sewer District:	\$30,925.41
Woodland Water District:	\$7,449.29
TOTAL:	\$72,330.27

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Public Safety- Supervisor Wood reported that he met with the County 911 Coordinator, as well as 2 representatives each from the County Sheriff’s Department and the State Police to determine the type of 911 calls the Town Constable would be dispatched to. The committee agreed to not hold a November meeting.

133 Southside Drive – Supervisor Wood explained that Fannie Mae (a federal home loan underwriter) owns 133 Southside Drive, unknowingly to the town, hired a company to demolish the two accessory buildings at that site. In the meantime, the town had awarded a \$7800.00 bid to Hickory Hill Restoration to do this work. Wood stated that the town had followed all required procedures to bring the property into compliance. He had notified the appropriate agencies and they did not respond. The maintenance company began work without a permit coinciding with the town awarding the contract to Hickory Hill. Supervisor Wood went on to say that Keystone Engineering performed the required asbestos testing and found none.

Motion was made by Holleran, seconded by Riddell Kent to reimburse Hickory Hill Restoration for any actual expenditures; and Keystone Engineering \$1644.50 and levy the expenses against the 133 Southside Drive property tax bill.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Facilities, Technology, Parks

Highway Alarm system – Motion was made by Riddell Kent, seconded by Mowers to approve Fyr-Fyter’s quote of \$635.00 to repair the control module on the highway alarm system.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Legislative - Councilwoman Jacob stated that after reviewing many model ‘Complete Streets’ policies the committee liked the Town of Clinton’s best. Attorney Panasci said that addressing ‘Complete Streets’ as a policy would be better than a local law. The Board agreed. Attorney Panasci will have the ‘Complete Streets’ policy ready for the December meeting.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Purchase request – Motion was made by Mowers, seconded by Jacob to authorize the purchase of the ‘Fire Protection’ handbook and ITM Water Based Fire Protection handbook for \$375.00.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

MISCELLANEOUS

OPT Contract – Motion was made by Mowers, seconded by Riddell Kent to enter into a 2-year contract with the City of Oneonta for OPT service.

Discussion: Supervisor Wood said the contract calls for a 2% increase each year. He agreed to ask OPT if they would extend service to OWL in the Fortin Park and Rufrano's Health Center on Route 23 Southside.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Article 47 Health Insurance Consortium – The board was in agreement that a letter of support be sent to the County to explore options to determine if an Article 47 Health Insurance Consortium would be beneficial to the taxpayers of Otsego County.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Casella renewal contract – The Building Committee agreed to get pricing from other garbage haulers for a comparison. In the meantime, the board declined to sign the Casella agreement.

Court training – Motion was made by Riddell Kent, seconded by Jacob to approve court training for Victoria Robbins on Nov. 9th in Binghamton, NY.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Informational:

2018 Training School for Newly Elected Officials – Jan. 10-12th, in Albany. Councilman Mowers expressed interest in attending this training.

PETITIONERS

Virginia Lee congratulated everyone who won their Nov. 7th election, and said she admired their willingness to run and subject themselves to difficult situations. She went on to say that, although she knows that Councilman Holleran and Councilman Mowers are fine people, the Republican material/propaganda that was circulated during the campaign was disgusting and offensive. She said that she hoped it would not have an adverse effect on the functioning of the Town Board. She thanked everyone for their service to the town. Councilman Mowers stated that he had already met with Supervisor Wood and that 'we are a team and we're going to get through this'. Supervisor Wood agreed.

County Representative – Andrew Stammel gave the following county update:

- Is sure someone else will continue the Article 47 Health Insurance Consortium, should County Rep. Len Carson not win his election;
- County budget looking good – healthiest in decades, per County Treasurer – investing more money into highways;
- Enterprise Fleet Management Plan is soon to be adopted – will transition the entire fleet of vehicles to Enterprise – will save money and have safer vehicles;
- Moved forward on the Anti-Nepotism Policy – staffed a Board of Ethics that's been vacant since 1990.

Discussion ensued regarding maintenance of county roads and trimming of trees within the town. Stammel said he would look into the requirement to trim trees and the required distance from

center road. Supervisor Wood said the town likes participating in the ‘County Snow and Ice Removal’ program because we typically receive between \$30,000-\$35,000 from it.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made Riddell Kent, seconded by Jacob to approve the October 11, 2017 minutes.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

BILLS

Motion was made by Jacob, seconded by Mowers to approve the following bills with the addition of a payment to Keystone Engineering in the amount of \$1644.50:

General	\$26,544.91	780-782,785,786,790-794,796-803,805-807,813,814,822-827,831
Highway	\$48,073.42	782,808,809,814-817,820,821,825,829,830
Street Lights	\$3,939.50	801,822
Highway		
Gar.	\$177.00	790
Trust &		
Agency	\$3,305.45	776-779,788,789,795
DISTRICTS:		
WESD	\$3,523.57	775,783,784,787,804,810,818,819,828
WSSD	\$1,393.72	775,783,787,804,810,812,819,828
SSD	\$1,477.17	775,783,787,804,810,818,828
WWD	\$2,255.01	775,783,784,787,804,810-812,818,828
PWD	\$569.13	775,783,787,804,810

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0

Supervisor Wood congratulated Councilwoman Jacob and Councilman Mowers on winning their elections and said he was pleased to continue working with them.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl L. Shackelton
Town Clerk