

Supervisor Mark Illig called the regular meeting of the Pulteney Town Board to order at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, August 8, 2018, at the Pulteney Town Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were: Supervisor Mark Illig; Councilman Mark Goodwin; Councilman Richard Musso; Councilman Michael Yastremski; Highway Superintendent Terry Gibson; Attorney Jennifer Prossick; Bookkeeper Rebecca Kirch; and Town Clerk Erica Giambra. Absent was Councilman Kathleen Burns.

Bill Weber took a moment of reflection to speak of the recent passing of 2 Town residents Vroman Webster and John Patchen. Bill stated he met Vroman in the late 1980's and he resided on Stone Road in an area well known as "Websterville". Bill knew John quite well and commented he lived in Pulteney north of the lake towards Branchport. In fact, after retiring as a school district administrator, John worked at Branchport Hardware as an "apprentice". They both will be fondly remembered and sadly missed.

Councilman Yastremski made motion seconded by Councilman Goodwin to accept the minutes of the July 11, 2018 regular Board meeting. All in favor. Carried.

Councilman Musso made motion seconded by Councilman Yastremski to pay General Bills in the amount of \$6,469.53 being vouchers No. 18-144 to No. 18-159. Roll call vote: Councilman Goodwin, yes; Councilman Musso, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. Supervisor Illig stated vouchers were overall routine and nothing out of the ordinary this month for General.

Councilman Goodwin made motion seconded by Councilman Musso to pay Highway Bills in the amount of \$18,037.21 being vouchers No. 18-141 to No. 18-162. Roll call vote: Councilman Goodwin, yes; Councilman Musso, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. The main expenses for Highway this month were for salt and gravel.

Councilman Yastremski made motion seconded by Councilman Goodwin to pay Water District #1 Bills in the amount of \$2,559.06 being vouchers No. 18-78 to No. 18-86. Roll call vote: Councilman Goodwin, yes; Councilman Musso, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. Supervisor Illig mentioned one of the vouchers this month was to John Tears for his part-time assistance with various projects within the Water Dept. Supervisor Illig stated we currently pay John \$15.00 per hour and he is recommending we increase his rate to \$20.00 per hour (no benefits included). It is a 30% increase however would only amount to approx. \$200.00/year additional toward the budget. Supervisor Illig made motion seconded by Councilman Musso to increase John Tears rate from \$15.00/hour to \$20.00/hour (no benefits) for his valuable work assisting the Water Dept. Roll call vote: Councilman Goodwin, yes; Councilman Musso, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried.

There are no transfers this month however it is expected there will be next month. Balance sheets and profit & loss reports were available to view.

The Highway, Water Department, Municipal Services, DCO, Historian and Justice reports were all available to review.

Clerk Giambra reported hunting license, including doe permits, went on sale August 1<sup>st</sup>. The lottery for doe permits will be on sale until October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Municipal Services Manager Welch stated the Dept. is very busy especially on the Lake Road, as shown in his monthly report.

Along with the Water Dept. report, Water Operator Dluzak reported 2 years ago we had a company come out to redo the floors in the Water Dept. sites, including the master meter, costing approx. \$8,000-\$9,000. For the last year they have started and continued to increasingly become in despair as if they were never painted to begin with. Several months ago, W.O Dluzak contacted the company, they came out to look at, agreed they were in bad condition, and stated they would get back to us as to what the company was willing to do whether it be redo or reimburse. We have since heard back from them after continued attempts to contact. W.O Dluzak stated he is at a loss as to how to move forward. The Board suggested reviewing the contract with Attorney Prossick and her addressing the company by letter for an end result. W.O Dluzak will update the Board at the September meeting as to any progress.

Supervisor Illig reported the 2018 final assessment roll has been published and he has been notified the Town of Pulteney is at a full tax rate of 100% assessment.

Highway Superintendent Gibson reported the County finished the paving project on Dug Road thru shared services. This should allow the road to stay smooth for approx. 10 years. The Dept. cleaned cattails from the Town pond using a track excavator from Soil & Water. They changed and upsized a culvert on Coryell Road to assist with flooding issues. The new speed limit signs have been posted on Lower Middle Road as recommended by the DOT. No feedback has been heard from the neighborhood as of yet. The Dept. assisted the Town of Prattsburgh stone and oil. Lastly, Highway Supt. Gibson reported he has been having continued problems with the uniform service. Either the guys would not receive their uniforms on time or they would receive and not even be their own clothing. It was made clear to the company the contract will not be renewed. Highway Supt. Gibson suggested to the Board the men have an allotted allowance to purchase what they need and they will launder themselves. The Board agreed and will look at closer when the contract is near end.

Supervisor Illig commented our Historian Ray Emery has recently been hospitalized with a leg infection however the article he had submitted to the Steuben County Historical Society newsletter "Steuben Echoes" has been published. It is a great article and was made available to the public. The Town of Pulteney was featured in the August edition commemorating the 210<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

For the Supervisor report, Librarian Barb Radigan asked for the Pulteney Community Event on Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm at the Town Hall to be mentioned. The Presbyterian Church will be performing an organ recital and there will be a dedication of the Community Garden. Tours of the fire trucks, Ambulance building, and Presbyterian church will also be set up. Mark your calendars.

Regarding the Council report, Councilman Musso pointed out the interesting fact in Ray's newsletter that blacksmiths Obadiah Wheeler and James Early designed and built the first rickshaw in Pulteney in 1869.

As far as the Attorney report, Attorney Prossick stated there will be a need for an executive session.

Supervisor Illig reported the Planning Board does not have any applications to review so there will not be a meeting held on August 13<sup>th</sup>. The next scheduled ZBA meeting is August 21<sup>st</sup> at 7pm with (3) applications to hear.

Under old business, Supervisor Illig stated on July 14<sup>th</sup> there was a joint committee meeting held between the Town and the Fire Dept. Councilman Yastremski

reported himself, Supervisor Illig, Don Ballam, Nick Forenz, Don Radigan and Dan Radigan were in attendance to discuss the future of the Ambulance building. After much discussion, it was the recommendation of all in attendance that the Town turn the building over to the Fire Dept. for \$1.00 to continue to house the Ambulance and the Town employees currently there would move into the Town Hall. The Fire committee stated it would cost over \$600,000 to build a 20' x 20' adjoining or separated garage to move the Ambulance next to the Fire Dept. This in turn would be costly to taxpayers. They are also stating the next Ambulance purchased does not have to be bigger than the one they currently have (anything bigger would not fit in the current Ambulance building). Supervisor Illig asked the Board for their comments/questions. Councilman Musso believes the Ambulance should be with the Fire Dept. As Highway Supt. Gibson stated, that was originally the ultimate goal to have the 2 together. Councilman Musso is requesting an itemized written quote for the \$600,000 garage. He believes it should cost much less to build. Additionally, he commented the current Ambulance building is too small and stifled. Between the Ambulance and Fire Dept., 80% of the calls that come in are for the Ambulance therefore everyone involved should want what's best for the Ambulance Corp. Councilman Goodwin agreed. He stated if the Town kept the building to sell, those funds could help pay for new tennis courts. He also stated consolidation through shared services could happen sooner than later so he questioned long term sustaining of the Fire Dept. Regarding the tax roll, it would be beneficial for the Town to sell the building to someone other than the Fire Dept. If the Fire Dept. owned, the building would not be on the tax roll, therefore either way the impact would affect taxpayers. Supervisor Illig reiterated the Fire committee was convinced it would not be in the best interest of taxpayers to move the Ambulance. Attorney Prossick noted a Resolution could be passed tonight, however the deed transfer would not occur until the spring/summer when the need arises. Also, for a real property transfer the Resolution vote needs to be by majority. Councilman Yastremski made motion seconded by Supervisor Illig to turn over the Ambulance building to the Fire Dept. in the amount of \$1.00 that would be in principal deeded over in 2019. Roll call vote: Councilman Goodwin, no; Councilman Musso, no; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. With Councilman Burns absent, the vote is a tie therefore denied since a majority is needed. Councilman Musso and Councilman Goodwin further discussed firm reservations. They want to review all possible options prior to "giving" the Fire Dept. the Ambulance building. They want to bring in the County and continue discussions with the Fire Commissioners before making a snap decision. Supervisor Illig suggested they research as needed and make their recommendation at the September meeting. The Councilmen agreed. Supervisor Illig stated with a decision not being made this evening, is it reasonable for a decision to be made by the end of the 2018 fiscal year? The Board agreed. Further discussion at the September meeting.

Continuing with old business, at the July meeting it was approved to close the tennis courts for the season due to safety concerns. The nets have been removed, a sign outside has been placed, and Clerk Giambra published a notice in The Shopper for 2 weeks stating they were closed and requesting input from interested Town residents as to the future of the courts. Residents were asked to attend tonight's meeting, however in the meantime Clerk Giambra has not received any negative correspondence directly related to the courts being closed. At the July meeting the possible options discussed were as

follows: 1) To rebuild the courts as is except have (1) tennis court and (1) pickleball court. The Board would bid the work out and hopefully be able to do some of the work ourselves; 2) To rebuild (1) combination court for tennis/pickleball. This would allow the skatepark to remain as is; 3) To tear-out the existing courts and convert the skatepark into a pickleball court. There would be no tennis courts; 4) To have (1) tennis court and where the skatepark currently is build a pickleball court; 5) To tear out both courts and not replace nor have a pickleball court. Without a firm estimate, Supervisor Illig believes to resurface the courts would cost approx. \$50K-\$80K whereas to rebuild the courts would be approx. \$120K. For a pickleball court to be converted the area would need to be 60' x 44' in size. Public concern included the condition of the courts have discouraged people from coming. They have been forced to go to other tennis courts and clubs. For at least 5 years now they have continued to become increasingly dangerous. Pickleball is one of the fastest growing sports, especially among the mid to senior population. With the possibility of having a pickleball court within a tennis court, it is believed to be worthwhile and bring in more residents to access the facility according to the public. It was also mentioned if it was the Boards decision to get rid of the courts completely to consider making the area more family oriented with more picnic tables, BBQ areas, expand the playground equipment, etc. Supervisor Illig commented it might be possible to expand the community garden area to allow for grilling equipment and tables with shade. Supervisor Illig asked the Board for their opinions. Councilman Yastremski recommended to tear both courts out and build 1 usable court. He stated something needs to be done as them sitting there unusable is not doing anyone any good. Councilman Musso agreed. Councilman Goodwin stated the Board needs to get firm estimates. Supervisor Illig stated he will contact a reputable contractor for firm estimates in regards to the options discussed. Along with the estimates, the Board then has to determine financing whichever option ultimately is decided upon. Supervisor Illig stated the Board will continue discussion at the September meeting however the need to balance a fiscal responsibility with the cultural use/need of the courts rightfully has to be taken into consideration.

Under new business, Supervisor Illig stated next month will be time to begin budget discussion and specific numbers. He will provide a tentative budget and will ask for Board direction at the September meeting.

Lastly, Supervisor Illig commented Ken Forenz reached out to him via email and suggested the Town and Fire Dept form a committee in regards to hanging hometown hero flags that have pictures of men and women that have served our Country. Supervisor Illig responded he thinks it's a great idea, as shown in the Town of Bath, and it is his understanding the American Legion oversees the project, each individual family pays for the flag, and the municipality will hang and maintain. Supervisor Illig will work with Ken on the specifics and recommend a formal proposal at the September meeting.

Supervisor Illig asked if there were any further public comments or concerns at this time. None being heard, as stated previously there is a need for an executive session regarding litigation. All are welcome to stay until the executive session is over, however there will be no further business conducted.

Supervisor Illig made motion seconded by Councilman Musso to recess the regular meeting and enter into an executive session. All in favor. Carried.

Once the executive session was completed, Supervisor Illig made motion seconded by Councilman Yastremski to recess the executive session and resume the regular meeting. All in favor. Carried.

Councilman Yastremski made motion seconded by Councilman Musso to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM.

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Town Clerk