

Supervisor Mark Illig called the regular meeting of the Pulteney Town Board to order at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, June 9, 2021, at the Pulteney Town Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call: Supervisor Mark Illig; Councilman Elizabeth White; Councilman Michael Yastremski; Councilman Tammy Tones; Councilman Kathleen Burns; Highway Superintendent Terry Gibson; Attorney Mark Schlechter; Bookkeeper Rebecca Welch; and Town Clerk Erica Giambra.

Bill Weber took a moment to speak of the recent passing of Donald Hults. Bill did not know Don, but mentioned he was 66 years old, had moved to Bath, and drove truck accumulating millions of miles. Supervisor Illig did in fact know Don, and he was a great guy and father. He recently got engaged this past October and unexpectedly passed of a heart attack. He will be fondly remembered and sadly missed.

Councilman White made motion seconded by Councilman Tones to accept the minutes of the May 12, 2021 regular Board meeting. All in favor. Carried.

There are no transfers for this month. The balance sheets and profit & loss reports were available to review. Supervisor Illig pointed out there is a summary sheet included describing how Bookkeeper Welch dictates which line items get assessed which codes. This numerical system is based on the NYS Office of State Comptroller (OSC). There is a copy of the current budget in the Board packets as well. Councilman White had asked in the past for the line items to be amended to allow for a more concise description of the expenses. Bookkeeper Welch is stating the system cannot be amended as it is a State controlled coding system. Councilman Burns asked if there have been any updates on when the Town will receive ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funding? Supervisor Illig stated he has not heard, nor has there been any guidance from the County on when we could expect to receive. When he and Assessor Dave Oliver last checked, it appears the Town will receive \$140,000.00 over 2 years. Exactly how this funding must be spent, is questionable at this point as well. Updates to come when available.

Councilman Tones made motion seconded by Councilman Burns to authorize to pay General Bills in the amount of \$10,735.81 being vouchers No. 21-91 to No. 21-214. Roll call vote: Councilman Tones, yes; Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Councilman White, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. Supervisor Illig noted voucher No. 21-99 to Hamm's Landscaping, as authorized last fall, for the rebuilding of the community garden beds. Supervisor Illig made motion seconded by Councilman White to authorize to pay General Bills in the amount of \$100.00 being voucher No. 21-90 to the Southern Tier Central Regional Planning & Development Board. Roll call vote: Councilman Tones, yes; Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Councilman White, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. This was for an optional virtual training conference that was offered to all Board members including Planning and Zoning.

Councilman Yastremski made motion seconded by Councilman Burns to pay Highway Bills in the amount of \$35,088.86 being vouchers No. 21-90 to No. 21-102. Roll call vote: Councilman Tones, yes; Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Councilman White, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. Voucher No. 21-92 was the main expense to Chemung Supply Corp for a new guard rail on Dug Rd that we will be reimbursed through CHIPS funding. Remaining vouchers are routine.

Councilman White made motion seconded by Councilman Tones to pay Water District #1 Bills in the amount of \$14,716.27 being vouchers No. 21-44 to No. 21-53. Roll call vote: Councilman Tones, yes; Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Councilman White, yes. Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. Main expenses being the contractual water payment to the Village of Penn Yan and voucher No. 21-44 for required tank inspections involving divers. The tank inspections passed and all is well.

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

Clerk Giambra reported the Pulteney rabies clinic was held Thursday, June 3rd from 5-7PM at the Town Highway barn in a drive-thru style similar to last year. The clinic went very well. We vaccinated 23 dogs and 11 cats. She thanked Highway Supt. Gibson, Bookkeeper Welch, and Supervisor Illig for assisting with the clinic.

As seen in the Municipal Services report, Lauren relayed he has been busy, building permits have increased more than he thought. There have been some issues on the lake with OGS (Office of General Services) getting involved. Otherwise, business as usual.

As mentioned under finances, the water tanks were inspected with no issues.

Supervisor Illig reported DCO Matthews was in attendance assisting at the rabies clinic. As discussed last month, there was a dangerous dog hearing on May 14th that resulted in a fine and re-check order within 30 days.

Highway Supt. Gibson commented the Dept. has been grading and starting to mow roadsides. The County assisted with their grinder on a couple of our roads. With the assistance of Soil & Water and the Town of Prattsburgh, the new pipe on Gay Road has been installed. Highway Supt. Gibson was thankful the Board approved for him to purchase at the end of last year as prices have gone up 40%. Unfortunately, with the price of steel rising, we need to purchase cutting edges and shoes for the plows and stock is limited. He has looked into buying approx. 6 carp for the Town pond through the DEC and an individual who runs the hatchery.

As mentioned with the dangerous dog hearing on May 14th, Court has returned to in person sessions. Court was recently held June 2nd.

Supervisor Illig reported he spoke with Historian Ray Emery and he fortunately is home from the hospital after quite a long stay. Once recovered, he will be back to working. We wish him the best and a speedy recovery!

For the Supervisor report, Supervisor Illig has received positive comments regarding the Memorial Day celebration. He thanked Councilman Burns for chairing the event again this year. All went well, however there was a smaller turn out than usual. Hopefully next year the celebration will be fully back to normal.

Regarding a Council report, Councilman Burns stated the community garden policies have been updated and are in the Board packets to review. She added the pavilion use into the policy. She noted it is \$25.00 to sponsor a bed and all but one bed is occupied. If a bed is not rented, the bed is up for grabs for any resident to use at no cost. After reviewing, Councilman Burns made motion seconded by Councilman White to adopt the Town of Pulteney community garden policies and guidelines as presented. All in favor. Carried. Clerk Giambra will send the approved document to our webmaster Don Radigan to update on the Town website. Councilman White is going to start a face book page for the garden.

The Planning Board has a meeting on June 14th with 1 special use permit hearing scheduled and 1 sub-division application to review. The Zoning Board of Appeals does not have a meeting scheduled for June, however will have a meeting in July.

Under old business, a preliminary draft report of findings related to the Town of Pulteney financial condition and IT audits were sent to Supervisor Illig, Board members, and Clerk Giambra on May 6th. As discussed last month, Supervisor Illig asked Councilman White, with her IT background, to take the lead in responding to the IT findings and recommendations. Supervisor Illig will work on the financial condition response. The responses were sent to the Board members for review prior to being sent to the regional office of OSC in Rochester before the deadline of June 7th. After reviewing, Councilman White noted in Supervisor Illig's financial response, there is a line stating "Based on our error in procedures, the Town Board has decided that the overpayment error rests with the previous Town Board and will not pursue reimbursement from the employees." Councilman White made motion seconded by Supervisor Illig to approve this decision of the wage error falling on the previous Town Board and this Town Board will not pursue overpayment. All in favor. Carried. Once the final report is released from Albany, the Board will have 90 days to respond with corrective action plans. Supervisor Illig thanked Councilman White for her efforts and willingness to assist with the IT portion of the audit. Supervisor Illig spoke with our IT admin and he is willing to review the final results and discuss necessary policies and procedures that will need to be enacted in the near future. He has already, as a volunteer, replaced necessary outdated computers and performed software updates that will be a valid point in moving forward regarding an action plan. Due to his IT admin position being volunteer, and to recognize the amount of time and effort he has spent, Councilman White made motion seconded by Councilman Yastremski for Clerk Giambra to order a gift card in the amount of \$75.00 to our IT admin, Fred Schulte, to show our appreciation. All in favor. Carried. Since the audit findings are preliminary and subject to change, all information contained in their report will remain confidential until a formal report of examination is released from Albany. Once able, further updates to come.

Continuing with old business, last month the Board approved a Host Community Benefit Agreement with Delaware River Solar (DRS), however there was still pending discussion regarding the solar decommissioning plan. Since last meeting, Annie McQuillan from DRS has since left the company. As discussed last month, Annie was to send Atty. Schlechter an updated plan reflecting a 30-year lease rather than 25-year along with the proper calculations of such. Also, she was to discuss with her financial team if they would be willing to enter into an agreement with a rolling rate set at what the actual inflation rate is at the time per year rather than their proposed set 2.5% inflation rate. She did send an updated 30-year plan with new calculations, however at this point she had stated DRS was not willing to agree to a variable rate keeping with the set 2.5% rate. Atty. Schlechter asked the Board if they were prepared and willing to approve with the set rate or if they would like him to seek out the new individual handling this case to negotiate a possible variable rate or if they too were set at 2.5%? The Board agreed for him to investigate and report back. They will make a decision and approve next month one way or another dependent on findings.

Under new business, Supervisor Illig reported the pickleball community has approached him asking the Town to pay to have lines sprayed allowing for 2 more courts

so they are able to have tournaments. The players would provide the additional nets. Supervisor Illig stated the original lines were approx. \$800.00 going on 3 years ago. He is expecting the cost would be approx. \$1500.00-\$2000.00 to add the lines. The funding would come out of contingency. Supervisor Illig asked the Board if they would be opposed if he contacted the company that sprayed the original lines asking for quote and time frame? The Board agreed for him to move forward and contact. Councilman White mentioned this brings up a good time to discuss updating our Town procurement policy. The policy has not been updated since 2006. Clerk Giambra will place on the agenda for the July meeting.

Lastly, under new business it was noted the Board agreed, in going along with NYS guidelines and lifting of restrictions, all fully vaccinated individuals will not be mandated to wear a mask or practice social distancing at Town meetings. It will be asked that unvaccinated individuals continue to wear masks and practice social distancing, however will use the honor system in determining. It was also agreed next month the Board will revert to pre-COVID seating arrangements. Atty. Schlechter noted NYS Unified Court system is still requiring masks be worn and social distancing practiced.

Supervisor Illig stated there is no need for an executive session and asked if the public/Board has any comments or questions at this time. Bill Weber thanked those who were involved in putting on the rabies clinic. It went very well and the drive-thru style was smooth and efficient.

With nothing further heard, Supervisor Illig made motion seconded by Councilman Yastremski to adjourn the regular meeting. All in favor. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03PM.

Erica Giambra, Town Clerk

