

Supervisor Mark Illig called the regular meeting of the Pulteney Town Board to order at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, November 10, 2021, at the Pulteney Town Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Supervisor Illig congratulated Councilman Burns, Highway Supt. Gibson, and Clerk Giambra on their re-election. In addition, congratulations and welcome to Rich Rees who was in attendance and elected as Councilman effective January 1st replacing Councilman Yastremski’s seat on the Town Board. All congratulated Supervisor Illig as well on his re-election.

Bill Weber took a moment to speak of the recent passing of 2 delightful, interesting Town residents. Bill first met Beverly Gordon in the mid 1980’s and enjoyed talking to her, her husband Ken, and children. Bev and Ken ran the Vintage Restaurant, which later became the Waterfront Restaurant. After Ken passed, Bev enjoyed traveling in her motor home. Bill recently learned, and wishes he would have been able to discuss their common interest, as they both had sailed on the ocean liner, Queen Mary.

Supervisor Illig added he was fortunate to get to know Bev the last several years as a neighbor and friend. Even once her health started to decline from diabetes, she remained optimistic and determined to fight. Joan Hafer, Bill had recently seen at Tops in Penn Yan and helped load her groceries as her back problems were evident. He remembers well on campaign visits, when discovering that she and husband, Leo, were of different parties; however, he does not remember whether Joan was the Democrat or Republican! Another fond memory of Joan, was on a night in July when he and Bonnie joined Joan and Leo on their porch to watch the Keuka boat parade celebration for the Fourth of July. Both ladies will be fondly remembered and sadly missed by many.

Councilman Yastremski made motion seconded by Councilman Burns to accept the minutes of the October 13, 2021 regular Board meeting. All in favor. Carried.

The balance sheets and profit & loss reports were available to review. There are transfers in all 3 accounts this month.

2021

BUDGET
TRANSFERS

11/10/21

GENERAL	Increase Budget Line	Amount	Decrease Budget Line	Amount
	A1450.4 - Contr		A1420.1 - Personal Svcs. -	\$
	Exp - Elections	\$ 700.00	Atty.	700.00
	A1620.41 -		A1420.1 - Personal Svcs. -	\$
	Telephone	\$ 600.00	Atty.	600.00
	A1620.42 -			\$
	Repair/Maintenance	\$ 500.00	A1620.51 - Contingency	500.00

A1670.44 - Computer	\$ 600.00	A1620.51 - Contingency	\$ 600.00
Total	\$2,400.00	Total	\$2,400.00

HIGHWAY	Increase Budget Line	Amount	Decrease Budget Line	Amount
	D5130.42 - Truck Repair	\$2,000.00	D5120.4 - Bridges Contr Exp	\$2,000.00
	Total	\$2,000.00	Total	\$2,000.00

WATER	Increase Budget Line	Amount	Decrease Budget Line	Amount
	SW8310.8 - Meter Replacement	\$2,000.00	SW8310.7 - Emergency Repair	\$2,000.00
	SW8330.44 - Chlor Master	\$200.00	SW8340.2 - Equipment (Transmission/Distribution)	\$200.00
	Total	\$2,200.00	Total	\$2,200.00

Councilman White made motion seconded by Councilman Tones to approve the General Account transfer of \$2,400.00. Roll call vote: Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Councilman White, yes; Councilman Tones, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried.

Councilman Yastremski made motion seconded by Councilman Burns to approve the Highway Account transfer of \$2,000.00. Roll call vote: Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Councilman White, yes; Councilman Tones, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried.

Councilman Burns made motion seconded by Councilman White to approve the Water Account transfer of \$2,200.00. Roll call vote: Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Councilman White, yes; Councilman Tones, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried.

Councilman White made motion seconded by Councilman Tones to authorize to pay General Bills in the amount of \$7,179.57 being vouchers No. 21-177, No. 21-194, and No. 21-195 to No. 21-214. Roll call vote: Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Councilman White, yes; Councilman Tones, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. Supervisor Illig noted voucher No. 21-177 is for a cemetery plot refund, No. 21-194 is the \$500.00 stipend to Don Strzepek that was approved at the October meeting, and No. 21-203 to Larry's Latrines that we are now finished with their service for the season. Other vouchers mentioned were to Highway employees for their boot allowance. After discussing, the Board agreed the boot allowance should not come out of the

General Account next year, rather come out of the Highway Account in moving forward. The boot allowance is \$1000.00 total, \$200.00 per Highway worker.

Councilman Yastremski made motion seconded by Councilman Tones to pay Highway Bills in the amount of \$20,480.57 being vouchers No. 21-174 to No. 21-195. Roll call vote: Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Councilman White, yes; Councilman Tones, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. The main expenses being for gravel and salt, in addition, the recently purchased pressure washer which will be reimbursed through CHIPS funding.

Councilman White made motion seconded by Councilman Burns to pay Water District #1 Bills in the amount of \$5,354.37 being vouchers No. 21-93 to No. 21-101. Roll call vote: Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Councilman White, yes; Councilman Tones, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. Supervisor Illig commented there recently was a complicated construction project of a retaining wall on the lake road. Water Operator Dluzak marked out where the water main approx. is located going by maps, however needed Marchionda Excavating Inc. to assist further ensuring the contractors didn't drill into the water main. Fortunately, all went well with the proper assistance.

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

Clerk Giambra reported the Town and County tax bills are now being printed and mailed out from a different vendor than in the past. Previously, she would need to pick up the tax bills from the County once printed, stamp, and mail them prior to January 1st. She is optimistic the process will run smooth this year and in turn be beneficial and cost savings for the Town and County both.

Lauren commented he has been busy taking State mandated training and classes for his 2022 license renewal. Otherwise, the Dept has been running routinely. Lauren mentioned the on-going culvert construction project that the DOT has had a portion of the lake road closed since the beginning of October. It is unknown exactly when the road will reopen. Rich Rees expressed the poor communication DOT has had with business and property owners near where the construction has been. He stated the DOT took over his parking lot at the Lakeside Restaurant for their equipment needs. He can justify them using the right-of-way for their needs, otherwise they should not have the right to use his property, especially without permission. The experience has been very frustrating, again particularly due to the lack of communication.

Along with the Water report, Supervisor Illig stated the meter replacement project is winding down and has worked out well. The meters left to be replaced are mostly due to the Dept. having trouble contacting residents, specifically seasonal residents, if needing to enter into the residence. They will continue to work through and has been a great effort collectively.

For the Assessor report, Supervisor Illig noted it should be interesting with the Town undergoing a revaluation year in 2022, that part of the data Assessor Oliver uses in revaluation are sale prices, considering in the last year, sales have been startling with properties selling for well over the assessed value. Stay tuned.

In the DCO report, Deb Matthews relayed she is continuing to attempt to contact dog owners that are delinquent in renewing their dog licenses that were due June 30, 2021. She has been working to contact by phone or in-person.

Highway Supt. Gibson commented the Dept. has been ditching and cleaning out culvert pipes as well as some fall grading. They plan to finish mowing roadsides this week. Trucks are getting inspected and ready for plow season. They did grader patching on Armstrong Road but the grader needs repaired again. Highway Supt. Gibson is hopeful it can be fixed for the time being. The new grader has been ordered and we expect to receive it around April 1, 2022. John Deere employees have been on strike so we hope this does not affect delivery in anyway moving forward. Supervisor Illig added he spoke with Five Star Bank to lock in the quoted rate for the grader, however was told the quote is only good for 90 days and will need to contact them again near the time of delivery to lock in the current rate at that time. Highway Supt. Gibson continued reporting the CHIPS paperwork has been submitted. We should receive the next reimbursement around December 15th. Lastly, he suggested there is a tree in Glen View Cemetery that he believes needs to be taken down. It is on our side of the property line, but close to the neighbors, with limbs hanging over the line. It was agreed to move forward in taking down if needed.

At this time, 7:30PM, Supervisor Illig made motion seconded by Councilman Burns to recess the regular meeting and enter into the scheduled public hearing regarding the proposed 2022 Town of Pulteney preliminary budget. All in favor. Carried. Clerk Giambra published a legal notice of public hearing in the Corning Leader and advertised as needed. Supervisor Illig explained the Board has been working on the budget process for months now. They held a budget workshop in August creating the tentative budget, adopting such in September, adopting the preliminary in October, and bringing us to this evening. Supervisor Illig asked if the public had any comments or questions at this time? Bill Weber congratulated the Board for creating this budget and asked what the increase in tax levy and estimated tax rate will be? Supervisor Illig reported the tax levy will be increased by 2% and the estimated tax rate is going from \$3.39 per thousand to \$3.46 per thousand in 2022. The revenue from taxes will increase by \$24,656.00. Supervisor Illig mentioned he is proud to report the Town of Pulteney has the 2nd to lowest tax rate in the area. Bill agreed the Board should be proud considering the set 2% State mandated tax cap is extremely difficult to fall within. It is believed the State has designed such low tax cap standards to encourage local government entities to combine. With nothing further heard from the public, Supervisor Illig asked the Board if anyone had any comments/questions? Councilman White asked if the Board should account for the boot allowance discussed earlier, to in fact come out of the Highway budget rather than the General? The Board agreed. With the boot allowance being \$1000.00 total, the Board agreed to reduce the property tax levy and the contingency line item in the General budget by \$1000.00. In turn, the property tax levy in the Highway budget will increase by \$1000.00 and a new line item D5132.47 will need to be created for boot allowance of \$1000.00. With those changes made, Supervisor Illig asked if there were any further comments/questions? With nothing further heard, Supervisor Illig made motion seconded by Councilman Tones to close the public hearing and resume the regular meeting. All in favor. Carried. Councilman White made motion seconded by Councilman Burns to adopt the following **Resolution:**
Town of Pulteney Adoption of the 2022 Budget

WHEREAS, the Town of Pulteney wishes to adopt the proposed preliminary budget as presented with the \$1000.00 revisions for boot allowance to the General and Highway budgets for the year 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Pulteney has reviewed and after due notice held a public hearing at the November 10, 2021 regular meeting of the Town Board; and

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby

RESOLVED, that the Town of Pulteney hereby adopts the 2022 budget; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized to send the adopted budget to the Steuben County Clerk of the Legislature Office.

Roll call vote: Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Councilman White, yes; Councilman Tones, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried.

Continuing with reports, Supervisor Illig spoke with Historian Ray Emery who relayed things are going well and has plans to take on a few projects regarding the locked display cabinets at the Town Hall.

The Planning Board did not meet this past Monday, November 8th and there is no meeting scheduled for the Zoning Board of Appeals in November.

Under old business, Supervisor Illig spoke at length with Town Veteran, Dan Schoeffler, who is active in the American Legion in Hammondsport to help update the names of Pulteney Veterans. Dan is going to compile an updated list and drop off to Supervisor Illig.

In regards to the ARPA funding, Supervisor Illig commented the State has given some updated guidance regarding how municipalities can spend the funding. We also have received notification the first project funding expenditure report has been extended to April 30, 2022 rather than October 31, 2021. This is welcomed news as Councilman White, Supervisor Illig, and Councilman Burns agreed to wait until the first of the year to begin discussing recommendations of what the best ways are to utilize the funding for the Town.

Lastly under old business, as reported last month, Attorney Schlechter resigned as our Town Attorney effective September 14, 2021. Clerk Giambra reached out to our previous Town Attorney, Jennifer Prossick, for any recommendations. She is recommending a candidate who has since sent the Board her resume. As the Board had agreed that members of the Board would rotate when interviewing candidates for Town positions, Councilman White and Councilman Tones agreed to take the lead during the interview process for a Town Attorney. They will contact the candidate, schedule an interview, and report back to the Board if making a recommendation. Supervisor Illig thanked both Councilmen for the undertaking of the interview process. If needed, we will place a public notice of vacancy. Updates and further discussion at the December meeting.

Under new business, is discussion as to if we should hold our annual Town Christmas luncheon. Last year we were forced to cancel the event due to COVID regulations and a spike in cases. It was noted the Fire Hall, where we typically hold the luncheon, is not allowing events other than funeral and celebration of life gatherings. Supervisor Illig reached out to the library and asked if we could hold the luncheon in

their main meeting room. They agreed, needing a refundable check for \$50.00 to hold the room for that date and time. Supervisor Illig asked the Board if they were all OK with holding the luncheon this year? Councilman Burns mentioned cases are on the upswing in Steuben County but maybe if we utilized formal guidelines? When the Fire Hall does have gatherings, it was noted they have a sign-in for all attendees of contact information for tracing methods if needed. The Board agreed to hold the luncheon, with guidelines such as this. After further discussing, it was agreed to hold the luncheon at JB's (who caterers the event) rather than the library due to the smaller size of the room at the library vs. a larger, open, "banquet" room at JB's. This will also save the caterer, Jim Cermak, from transporting and allow for an easier experience having the luncheon on site. The Board agreed Thursday, December 16th at noon the luncheon will be held and a sign-in book for contact info/tracing will be utilized. Supervisor Illig will confirm the date/time/banquet room availability.

Supervisor Illig stated there is no need for an executive session and asked if the public/Board had any comments or questions at this time. With nothing heard, Councilman Yastremski made motion seconded by Councilman Tones to adjourn the regular meeting. All in favor. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54PM.

Erica Giambra, Town Clerk