

Supervisor Illig called the regular meeting of the Pulteney Town Board to order at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at the Pulteney Town Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call: Supervisor Mark Illig; Councilman Kathleen Burns; Councilman Richard Rees; Councilman Jon Beckman; Councilman Tammy Tones; Highway Superintendent Terry Gibson; Attorney Jennifer Galvan; Bookkeeper Rebecca Welch; and Town Clerk Erica Button.

Steuben County Legislator Mike Hanna was present to introduce Steuben County Director of Public Works Eric Rose. Mike mentioned Eric started with the County in charge of building and grounds and with Vince Spagnoletti's retirement, he was their main candidate to fill Vince's shoes. Eric has an extensive resume that qualifies him as Director overseeing 683 miles in roads, 300 bridges, \$8.7 million budget, 140 employees, all construction in Steuben County, \$9 million landfill, amongst several additional responsibilities. Eric touched upon the recent gas energy project, projects planned in our area, how they determine which roads are done and when, work crews and work fair program, cell/internet capabilities at the landfill, trees, and the initiative being pushed on electric trucks. Highway Supt. Gibson asked Eric about 2 specific intersections in Town that are on County roads where drivers run the stop signs continuously. He has brought to the County's attention before, and nothing has been done. Eric asked him to send a detailed proposal and he will investigate. Any proposal will still need to be submitted to DOT where they will go through their process and procedures, but Eric can stay on top of and follow up. All the updates and data provided were very informative and the Board thanked both Mike and Eric for the presentation. Eric noted things are always changing and to let him/his Dept know of any needs that arise from constituents.

Bill Weber was present to speak of 3 recent Town passings. Judy Robbins lived below the salt barn on Mill St. Bill would see Judy at the Cinnamon Stick and knew she had a love of outdoors and horses. She sadly passed at the young age of 72 and will be missed by many. Bill noted he provided Clerk Button a detailed write up of the Kennedy family that she can provide to the Board for them to read at their leisure. More specifically, this evening he remembered Grace Kennedy Coombs. She was a long-time resident of Pulteney and Prattsburgh where she participated in local government and civic activities. He recalled seeing her at various events involving the Coombs family when the Pulteney Town Bookkeeper, Helen Coombs, was present. She lived to be 96 and will be missed by many friends and family. Patty Kennedy Forenz was the niece of Grace Coombs and lived with her husband Nick on Gallagher Road. Patty held a variety of positions at local businesses but was especially known working at Dr. Sam Penise's office. In addition to raising her family, she volunteered at many local organizations, including St. James Episcopal Church where she was treasurer. She leaves behind her husband, son (Ken) who worked for the Town as Water Operator, daughter, and grandchildren. She was another member of the Kennedy family who will be missed by all who knew her.

Councilman Burns made motion seconded by Councilman Tones to accept the minutes of the May 8, 2024, regular Board meeting. All in favor. Carried.

Beginning with finances, Councilman Rees made motion seconded by Councilman Tones to pay General Bills in the amount of \$12,456.12 being vouchers No. 24-92 to No. 24-114. Roll call vote: Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Rees, yes;

Councilman Beckman, yes; Councilman Tones, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. Supervisor Illig pointed out the voucher to Keuka Property Services, LLC is our new mowing contract from May-October and the voucher to SCT Computers for our monthly maintenance and cyber security.

Councilman Burns made motion seconded by Councilman Tones to pay Highway Bills in the amount of \$146,482.30 being vouchers No. 24-98 to No. 24-115. Roll call vote: Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Rees, yes; Councilman Beckman, yes; Councilman Tones, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. The main expense being voucher No. 24-113 To Suit-Kote Corp that will be reimbursed by CHIPS funding.

Councilman Beckman made motion seconded by Councilman Rees to pay Water District #1 Bills in the amount of \$23,717.19 being vouchers No. 24-44 to No. 24-54. Roll call vote: Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Rees, yes; Councilman Beckman, yes; Councilman Tones, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. Routine vouchers in the Water District this month, including the main expense to the Village of Penn Yan for our contractual cost of water payment.

There are no transfers needed at this time. Supervisor Illig pointed out the P&L statement shows we have budgeted \$64,000.00 in sales tax revenue and we received notification from the County we will get \$224,689.62. The Board questioned how we will receive the payments, if quarterly and an indication of how much? Supervisor Illig will contact the Finance Dept to get better clarification of how the \$224,689.62 will be disbursed and when. Previously the Board established reserve funding for the General and Highway Accounts with \$100,000.00 CD in each Fund. He is interested in establishing a Water Account reserve especially considering the need to increase quarterly water rates due to the "big dig" and the major increase in expense from the Village of Penn Yan. At our June 26, 2023, special meeting the Board approved to transfer ARPA funding into the Water District, in addition there was a need to take out a loan for \$50,000.00 + interest over 2 years to cover these major expenses. Supervisor Illig commented he intends to investigate with Bookkeeper Welch if it is still possible to transfer ARPA funding into the Water District to establish a reserve and potentially pay a portion of the loan. After reviewing, he will come back to the Board in July with a recommendation. At this time the sales tax revenue will be left untouched.

Supervisor Illig expressed an additional thought with the sales tax revenue to use toward paying off the grader and put toward the new truck ordered and will receive in Sept/Oct. Highway Supt Gibson reported last month that we will be receiving additional CHIPS funding that was not expected. This additional funding as well as selling the Highway truck, once we receive new, will be beneficial for the Highway Account.

Supervisor Illig reported an update on the 2<sup>nd</sup> "missing but deposited" Sunoco check that the Town had sent for payment. The first missing check we were reimbursed by Five Star after their fraud Dept. did a thorough investigation. Supervisor Illig was informed today that it is not likely that we will be reimbursed for the 2<sup>nd</sup> missing check. It is the Board's belief that Five Star should be held responsible and there is no reason why 1 check should be reimbursed and not the other. Supervisor Illig stated he wants a written explanation from the fraud Dept of why this check reimbursement is different from the first. He will report back once an update is received.

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

Clerk Button reported the annual rabies clinic held on Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup> went smoothly. She thanked Highway Supt. Gibson, DCO Deb Mathews, Bookkeeper Welch, and Supervisor Illig for their efforts in assisting with the clinic. We vaccinated 36 dogs and 3 cats which was an increase in animals from last year. On average we typically vaccinate approx. 40. The clinic was held from 5-6:30PM with Eastview Veterinary at the Town Highway Barn. Dog license renewal postcards have been sent out with dog renewals due by June 30, 2024, under the Town Law. In addition, she wrote a final check which included penalties paid to the Town to close out the tax account for the year.

Lauren commented that several sub-division and variance applications are coming in. He is working on wrapping up a few new construction projects in the next week.

Highway Superintendent Gibson reported the Dept attended a Dig Safe NY safety training as well as he and Deputy Tears attended Highway school at Ithaca College. NYSEG upgraded the LED lights at the Town Barn at no charge. They have finished all the stone and oil projects for the year with the help of the Towns of Prattsburgh, Wayne, Bath, and Urbana. We received our salt brine permit and have been doing summer grading. The new truck is in and now will have the body installed in July and should be received by mid-September. We received notification from the DEC after inspection the end of May, the Town has finally been signed off from the gravel pit. We sold the pit approx. 8 years ago and have been remediating the necessary requirements the DEC had set. Supervisor Illig agreed this has been a long time coming and great to be officially completed.

Councilman Burns commented our original pickleball net has been destroyed. Clerk Button ordered a new one similar to what we purchased at the beginning of the spring that should be durable and last. There is a need for more chips in the playground, particularly for safety concerns. We will need to gather a team of volunteers to assist in spreading/raking once delivered. Supervisor Illig will oversee gathering a team.

Our new IT admin company, SCT Computers, provided a quote to redesign and become the web administrator of our website that was approved at the last meeting. Supervisor Illig spoke with the webmaster and agreed to schedule the redesign in July.

Continuing with reports, as Lauren had mentioned, applications have been and are still coming in for the Planning Board and ZBA. There was a Planning Board meeting this past Monday the 10<sup>th</sup> with 1 scheduled public hearing and 2 applications for review. There is not a Zoning Board of Appeals meeting scheduled for June, but there will be 2 most likely 3 scheduled public hearings on July 16<sup>th</sup>.

Under old business, at our Memorial Day celebration Historian Ray Emery announced the Hometown Hero Banner Program. The celebration was a great event despite the weather and a thank you to all for their efforts arranging. The Town has not heard from Ray as to a specific donation they will be asking from the Town in support. Stay tuned.

With Steuben County Legislator Mike Hanna present, Supervisor Illig had asked him for any updates from the County regarding the Nichols Inn property. As discussed at length a few years ago, it is the intent of the Town to reclaim the property that was once a grocery store and gas station for the Town to use for parking for residents on West Lake Road. The County acquired the property approx. 10 years ago due to back taxes and abandonment. They have been trying to remediate the gas wells on the property with the DEC for years. The last update Mike had was 3 of the approx. 8 wells on the property

failed so the process is still on-going. Supervisor Illig made it known the Town is still interested in reclaiming that property.

Highway Supt. Gibson commented he has heard and is hopeful the area with the light in Hammondsport should be completed sometime next week?

Supervisor Illig asked if anyone from the public had any comments/questions? With nothing heard and no need for an executive session, Supervisor Illig stated there is a need for a quarterly audit/review, however no further business will take place. After a successful audit was completed, Supervisor Illig made motion seconded by Councilman Tones to adjourn the regular meeting. All in favor. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:02PM.

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Erica Button, Town Clerk