

Supervisor Mark Illig called the regular meeting of the Pulteney Town Board to order at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at the Pulteney Town Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Bill Weber took a moment to reflect and speak of the recent passing of Roy Stocking.

Bill first met Roy in the late 1980's when he was visiting homes while campaigning. Roy, with his wife Cindy, lived on Gallagher Road and Bill would enjoy their visits. Roy retired from Philips Lighting and later became the Pulteney Town Justice for a short time. Unfortunately, for reasons Bill did not want to disclose, Roy ended up resigning as Justice. Bill recalls Roy was dedicated to his church, his desire to help others, including when he and other volunteers would collect leaves for Bill's neighbor, Alise. He passed too young, especially for such a vibrant and caring person. Roy will be fondly remembered and sadly missed by many!

Councilman Tones made motion seconded by Councilman Rees to accept the minutes of the September 14, 2022, regular Board meeting. All in favor. Carried.

Councilman White made motion seconded by Councilman Tones to pay General Bills in the amount of \$10,360.96 being vouchers No. 22-194 to No. 22-211. Roll call vote: Councilman Tones, yes; Councilman Rees, yes; Councilman White, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. Supervisor Illig commented there are a few previously approved vouchers of purchases for the community garden and the last payment for the season to Don Strzepek for his mowing services. Otherwise, vouchers are routine.

Councilman Rees made motion seconded by Councilman White to pay Highway Bills in the amount of \$15,201.79 being vouchers No. 22-174 to No. 22-197. Roll call vote: Councilman Tones, yes; Councilman Rees, yes; Councilman White, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. Supervisor Illig reported vouchers all being routine.

Councilman White made motion seconded by Councilman Tones to pay Water District #1 Bills in the amount of \$2,424.58 being voucher No. 22-94 and vouchers No. 22-95 to No. 22-102. Roll call vote: Councilman Tones, yes; Councilman Rees, yes; Councilman White, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. Again, routine vouchers.

Going into finances, Supervisor Illig stated Councilman Burns had asked last month about previous transfers that were authorized that the amounts were not adding up. He and Bookkeeper Welch looked into the issue and the approved amounts were correct, however on the bookkeeping end, the amounts were not executed properly so it had looked as if the amounts were not adding up. The error has been corrected and all transfer amounts are appropriately recorded.

The balance sheets and profit & loss reports were provided to the Board for review. Supervisor Illig reported we received the scheduled CHIPS reimbursement installment in September as seen in the Highway P & L. We will await the final CHIPS payment in December for \$155,000.00 as Highway Supt. Gibson relayed. Supervisor Illig pointed out in the Water P & L we are close to the budgeted amount of metered sales which will assist in putting us in good shape with a fund balance of possibly more than expected in the Water Dept. Depending, as year ends, Supervisor Illig mentioned to the

Board recommending opening a money market account for the Water Dept similar to the General and Highway accounts to establish and build reserve funding. We are approx. 15 years into our Water District and need to consider in the near future updates, including our water main (which runs down SR 54A) when the need arises. Speaking of our water main, Supervisor Illig reported there recently was a culvert repair project on the Lake Road that could have become a major issue. When the contractor dug to replace the culvert, it was discovered our water main ran above the culvert box rather than below as what the Water District maps had indicated. Due to this exposure of the water main and to avoid a break in the main, W.O. Dluzak and team were able to reduce the water pressure inside the main allowing for the culvert box to be successfully moved. It was a great team effort and job well done, especially thanks to W.O. Dluzak. This did involve expenses incurred to the Town due to an immense amount of water being flushed/drained out of the main, excavating costs, etc. however with our main being in the State ROW makes it difficult to reap any financial expenses. W.O Dluzak is going to estimate the expenses incurred to the Town and the State/contractor can discuss further. If needed, Supervisor Illig stated we can make necessary adjustments due to this project at the end of the year. Otherwise, we are in great fiscal shape overall in moving forward.

There are no transfers needed at this time.

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

Clerk Button reported our mower, Don Strzepak, mentioned he needs to look at his figures now being the end of the season and decide if he will offer his services to the Town again next year. If not, we might have to bid out a new mowing contract next year. In addition, she had a County tax billing meeting the end of September. The County hired a new billing company and we are all in hopes the process will run smooth this year.

Municipal Services Manager Welch commented the Dept. has been busy as usual. He has been taking several State approved online classes when able, in addition to, compiling necessary Zoning Law changes for 2022. He is finishing up on 2 new major projects. Lauren is finding owners are wanting to move here permanently therefore redesigning their homes to be year-round. He turned over all recent building permits to Assessor Oliver as they are all caught up now on building updates.

For the Assessor's report, as mentioned last month, there were 2 pending small claims Court cases against the Town that the Judge had reserved decision on and has now sent notification of decisions. The Judge ruled in favor of the resident on 1 claim and in favor of the Town on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. This officially concludes the reassessment process. Thank you to Assessor Oliver and Attorney Galvan for all their efforts.

The DCO reports of a recent dog bite that the complainant needed medical attention, however all is well and proof of rabies was provided including visual of the dog's health. Supervisor Illig commented again a professional and good job done by our DCO.

Highway Superintendent Gibson reported the LED street lights that we contracted with NYSEG to replace approx. a year ago were replaced this past Friday. The LED lights will last longer and within a short amount of time be an extensive savings to the Town. The new lights should eliminate the continual long-lasting outages on several Town streets. Highway Supt. Gibson commented the old part of the tennis court has been

topsoiled and hydroseeded. The Dept. has been doing some fall grading, filling in potholes, ditching, and mowing roadsides.

Attorney Galvan relayed she has been working on the proposed changes to the Zoning Law based on the NYS model code. She is hoping to have those changes in 1-2 weeks to be reviewed then presented to the Planning Board at their November 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Lauren will also be proposing updates and changes to the Zoning Law in November. It is best to draft and review all necessary changes at one time, especially since the process of revising a Local Law is quite extensive. Attorney Galvan also commented, in being in compliance with the State model code, our Town permits and applications will most likely need updated as well. Stay tuned.

There was a Planning Board meeting held this past Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup> with 1 sub-division application hearing and one application that was reviewed and scheduled for a public hearing on November 14<sup>th</sup> 7pm.

There is not a Zoning Board of Appeals meeting scheduled for October.

Under old business, Supervisor Illig reported he had missed the last short-term rental committee meeting, however Bill Dineen, chair of the committee, relayed to him they potentially will have a recommendation and proposal to present to the Town Board at the November or December Town Board meeting. Stay tuned.

Continuing under old business, Supervisor Illig commented there remains a vacancy for an Alternate on the Zoning Board of Appeals. He will continue to work to find an appropriate volunteer for the position.

On the agenda under new business, is the presentation of the 2023 Preliminary Town Budget. Supervisor Illig reported the tentative budget was approved at the September meeting with noted changes that were made (see minutes 9/14/22). Bookkeeper Welch made those changes as discussed and approved to present this evening. Supervisor Illig asked the Board if they had any comments or questions with the proposed preliminary budget? Councilman Rees and Councilman Tones denied. Councilman White pointed out in the General budget under buildings, line items A1620.41 and A1620.42 being for telephone and repair/maintenance, both amounts we are currently over the budgeted amounts for this year, therefore in looking at next year, should be increased accordingly. The Board agreed. Line item A1620.41 will be increased from \$1,500.00 to \$2,000.00 and A1620.44 will be increased from \$3,000.00 to \$4,000.00. This will reduce contingency by \$1,500.00. In addition, similarly in the Highway budget, line item D5130.43 for gas we are currently over budget. Councilman White is suggesting to increase from \$5,290.00 to \$6,500.00 and reduce contingency by \$1,210.00. With no further comments or questions from the Board or public, and with those 3-line-item changes, Supervisor Illig made motion seconded by Councilman Rees to adopt the 2023 preliminary Town budget and to schedule a public hearing on November 9, 2022 at 7:30pm. Roll call vote: Councilman Tones, yes; Councilman Rees, yes; Councilman White, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. Clerk Button will publish a legal ad of the scheduled public hearing and proposed elected official salaries.

As reported last month, Supervisor Illig, Councilman Rees, the Highway Dept, and our Teamsters union business agent met to discuss a new agreement as the current union contract expires 12/31/22. The Teamsters agent sent the proposed union contract and Clerk Button sent to Attorney Galvan to review. With 1 revision on page 10 changing the time in section 1205 from 3:15pm to 3:45pm, Attorney Galvan approved the

proposal. The updated page was provided by Teamsters and changed out to have the full official contract. With no comments or questions from the Board, Councilman White made motion seconded by Councilman Tones to approve a 1-year contract based on a 4% pay increase and 3% inflation bonus calculated from their 2022 earnings; 1.5% to be paid first payroll of January 1, 2023, and 1.5% to be paid the pay period of July 1, 2023 and have Supervisor Illig sign the necessary documents to be sent back to the Teamsters Local Union to be executed. Roll call vote: Councilman Tones, yes; Councilman Rees, yes; Councilman White, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. Supervisor Illig reiterated what a great working relationship we have with the Highway Dept. as well as the Teamsters union and management.

Continuing on the agenda, as submitted since the beginning of the Water District, Councilman Tones made motion seconded by Councilman Rees to adopt the following Resolution:

**Resolution Authorizing Town Water/Sewer Re-levy to be placed on the 2023 Tax Roll**

**WHEREAS**, certain water account customers may be delinquent in paying their quarterly water bills, it may be necessary to have the arrears added to their Town and County tax bills.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town of Pulteney hereby authorizes the Steuben County Real Property Tax Office to re-levy the delinquent water charges to the owner of the property and that the Town of Pulteney will provide the necessary information to the County.

Memo from the County Real Property Tax Service attached hereto.

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

Lastly under new business, Councilman Rees made motion seconded by Councilman White to publish the following notice, as in previous years, in the Southern Tier Shopper.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**TOWN OF PULTENEY RESIDENTS**

In order to do an efficient job of plowing snow this winter, there will be **NO PARKING** along the Town Roads or Right-of-Ways in the Town of Pulteney from November 1, 2022 to April 1, 2023.

**All vehicles will be towed away at the owner's expense.**

Please remember that plowing driveways across roadways is dangerous, as well as against the law. Anyone plowing snow across the roadway will be subject to a violation and may be issued an appearance ticket.

By order of Terry Gibson, Highway Superintendent

All in favor. Carried.

Supervisor Illig asked if anyone from the public had any comments/questions? With nothing heard and no need for an executive session, Supervisor Illig announced the Board must conduct a quarterly financial audit. All are welcome to stay however no further business will be conducted. After the financial review/audit was successfully

completed, Supervisor Illig made motion seconded by Councilman Rees to adjourn the regular meeting. All in favor. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM.

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Erica Button, Town Clerk