

As noted at the January Board meeting, Supervisor Mark Illig is out of Town from 1/25/23-3/25/23, with Councilman Burns being appointed as Deputy Supervisor, she will be acting Supervisor during his time away. Councilman Burns called the regular meeting of the Pulteney Town Board to order at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at the Pulteney Town Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Bill Weber took a moment to reflect and speak of the recent passing of Clarence Willey.

Bill remembered Clarence as a kind, nifty man. Clarence lived at the first house north of Chidsey Creek. Bill first met him when the Water District was being established relaying to Clarence an easement was needed on his property. Bill was well prepared expecting some backlash; however, Clarence expressed the opposite, being agreeable and perfectly understanding only asking the Town remove an unwanted tree in his yard while they were at it. Clarence was good friends with Mike Tietjen, who informed Bill, Clarence was a retired dry wall contractor from Rochester, had 4 children, and other than the property where the easement was needed, he owned property across the street on the lake. He had recently moved to Canandaigua to live out his final years. Clarence was a great man, will be fondly remembered, and sadly missed by many.

Councilman White made motion seconded by Councilman Rees to accept the minutes of the February 8, 2023, regular Board meeting. All in favor. Carried. Councilman White made motion seconded by Councilman Rees to accept the minutes of the February 27, 2023 special meeting to secure a loan from Five Star Bank for emergency repair funding in the Water District. All in favor. Carried. Councilman Burns, Bookkeeper Welch, and Supervisor Illig will need to further discuss, from an accounting record keeping standpoint, the \$50,000.00 statutory bond received.

Councilman Rees made motion seconded by Councilman White to pay General Bills in the amount of \$4,370.64 being voucher No. 23-35 and vouchers No. 23-36 to No. 23-48. Roll call vote: Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Rees, yes; Councilman White, yes. Carried. Councilman Burns pointed out voucher No. 23-35 to our DCO Debra Matthews, as presented last month, for the portion of funding to register for the requested training in April. Remaining vouchers routine.

Councilman White made motion seconded by Councilman Rees to pay Highway Bills in the amount of \$15,428315 being vouchers No. 23-39 to No. 23-56. Roll call vote: Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Rees, yes; Councilman White, yes. Carried. The most expensive voucher being No. 23-51 due to the Dept. not being able to repair equipment in house, rather needing computer analysis from an outside source. Councilman Burns is going to discuss with Highway Supt. Gibson the possibility of purchasing diagnostics to have the capability in our Highway shop.

Councilman Rees made motion seconded by Councilman White to pay Water District #1 Bills in the amount of \$20,473.14 being vouchers No. 23-27 to No. 23-33. Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Rees, yes; Councilman White, yes. Carried. Councilman Burns stated vouchers are fortunately routine this month, including voucher No. 23-32 to the Town of Jerusalem for the budgeted water EDU's connected within the

District. Councilman Rees asked if the amount of water lost in the “big dig” water leak has been accounted for yet? Being an annual water fee not monthly, we have not seen an additional charge at this point.

There are no transfers needed at this time.

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

Clerk Button reported she has collected a little over \$3 million out of the over \$3.3 million in amount billed. She has a tax settlement appointment scheduled for April 13th with the County. Don Strzepek stopped into the office yesterday stating he is in fact on Board to mow for the Town again this year. He is getting numbers together and will provide to the Board a contract for review at the April meeting. He is proposing and wanting to start work early in April, removing trees and fixing monuments in Glen View Cemetery, then will start mowing in May per norm.

Municipal Services Manager Welch commented he has completed the State 1203 report for 2022. He is working on postcards to mail out regarding the water quality report as well as getting ready for the first round of KWIC inspection notices for Zone 1.

In the Water report, W.O. Dluzak has asked Councilman Burns to draft a letter to be sent to water customers explaining why the quarterly water rates are increasing from \$105.00 to \$110.00. She confirmed she will work with him and get those mailed out prior to the April quarterly bill.

Highway Superintendent Gibson was out of Town attending a CHIPS conference in Albany but his report was provided.

In the Historian report, Ray is asking for individuals to come forward to interview about their life in Pulteney. Councilman White suggested Nancy Cole would be an ideal candidate to interview. Councilman Burns will contact both parties to see about setting up.

Councilman Burns wanted to mention in looking ahead to the April meeting, to have the Board review the auditors’ final reports that recommend adopting policies, particularly regarding fund balances. Clerk Button will email the reports as a refresher for the Board to review again. Councilman Burns asked Bookkeeper Welch to have the current fund balance numbers and information for all 3 accounts ready for the April meeting. Bookkeeper Welch agreed the auditors specifically look at Town Board’s needing and having a plan for fund balances and the fine line of having too much vs too little. Councilman Burns also noted the current Assoc. of Town newsletter of “Towns & Topics” has some good articles discussing fund balances as well as STR’s for the Board’s consideration.

Councilman Burns thanked Attorney Galvan for her work drafting the bond paperwork for the emergency repair, not only fairly last minute, but also while she was on vacation.

There is not a Planning Board nor Zoning Board meeting scheduled for March.

Under old business, Councilman Burns hasn’t heard anything new to report from the STR committee. With committee chairman Bill Dineen and Supervisor Illig being back from Florida in April, further discussion at that time.

Continuing under old business, Councilman Burns noted there remains openings for an alternate and full-time member on the Zoning Board of Appeals. The Board will continue to work to find appropriate volunteers.

Under new business, Councilman Burns drafted a letter being sent to Steuben County Legislator Mike Hanna and County Manager Jack Wheeler, requesting the Legislature consider sharing occupancy tax revenue with local municipalities with a high density of STR that will be charged with implementing and enforcing new laws and policies. The letter asked for a 2% split between County and local municipalities. Councilman Burns contacted the Towns of Wayne and Urbana and the Village of Hammondsport asking them to send letters of the same recommendation. Attorney Galvan reported the Legislature meeting and hearing that was held February 27th in fact adopted the proposed Local Law imposing a tax on the occupancy of hotel or motel rooms and expanded the definition of hotel to include online rental properties. She is under the impression the County will have limitations on what they can do with the incoming revenue and most likely will not be able to split with local municipalities. She believes rather, they will spend the funds promoting tourism through marketing and other avenues. She is in hopes that with the letter sent, it will draw attention to Pulteney and the County will take notice. Stay tuned.

Councilman Burns mentioned its that time of year to begin preparing for our annual Memorial Day celebration. Clerk Button has ordered and been delivered additional cemetery flags and has touched base with Valerie Stern for 2 new wreaths to be placed at the Town Hall and Glen View. Councilman Burns is asking the Board and public for any suggestions of a speaker for this year. Councilman Burns has a potential candidate and will look into but will gladly take any thoughts regarding the celebration.

Lastly on the agenda, Councilman Burns made motion seconded by Councilman White to authorize payment up to \$450.00 (6 registrants) to attend the 26th annual Southern Tier Central Regional Planning and Development Board Corning Community College leadership conference April 6th. Roll call vote: Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Rees, yes; Councilman White, yes. Carried. Clerk Button is asking all those interested to RSVP by March 16th to accommodate registration and payment.

Councilman Burns asked if anyone from the public had any comments/questions? Lauren commented the Pulteney Fire Dept. has purchased and received delivery of a beautiful new emergency response boat. They had an unveiling 2 weeks ago and the Town is very fortunate to own. It will be of great value to the Town and the entire lake. It is currently at Morgan Marine but will be kept at the Keuka Yacht Club during season. With nothing further heard and no need for an executive session, Councilman White made motion seconded by Councilman Rees to adjourn the regular meeting. All in favor. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM.

Erica Button, Town Clerk

