

As noted at the January Board meeting, Supervisor Mark Illig is out of Town until the end of March, 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 12, 2025, at the Pulteney Town Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Bill Weber spoke of the recent passing of Town resident Kevin Kilbury. Bill sadly didn't know Kevin, which Bill thought odd since he knew his parents and relatives. Kevin lived on Mill Street across from the Town Highway barn. He proudly served in the US Army and passed at the young age of 67. He will be remembered and missed.

Councilman Tones made motion seconded by Councilman Rees to accept the minutes of the February 12, 2025, regular Board meeting. All in favor. Carried. Bookkeeper Welch will provide the year-end meeting minutes when available.

Councilman Rees made motion seconded by Councilman Tones to authorize to pay General Bills in the amount of \$21,169.01 being vouchers No. 25-43 to No. 25-54. Roll call vote: Councilman Tones, yes; Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Rees, yes. Carried.

Councilman Tones made motion seconded by Councilman Rees to pay Highway Bills in the amount of \$34,479.17 being vouchers No. 25-37 to No. 25-52. Roll call vote: Councilman Tones, yes; Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Rees, yes. Carried.

Councilman Rees made motion seconded by Councilman Tones to pay Water District #1 Bills in the amount of \$31,181.15 being vouchers No. 25-14 to No. 25-22. Roll call vote: Councilman Tones, yes; Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Rees. Carried.

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

At this time Councilman Burns gave the floor to Jane Russell who was present to speak of the agenda item under new business requesting the Town fund erecting a peace pole in the community garden. Jane provided a picture of the international pole along with specs she has received from Knapp and Schlappi, Shirley's Lumber, and Goody's Graphics. She commented the project will cost approx. \$200.00. Jane reported she got the idea after hearing a presentation as a Bath Rotary member and thought it would be a great fit in our beautiful community garden promoting peace throughout our community. Since it is an international project, all poles are registered with a QR code allowing residents to visit other peace poles around the world. The pole is 4 sided with the writing "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in English and the Town can pick 3 other languages to have the wording written. Once erected, Jane offered to organize a community gathering that will be open to allowing the community to speak. After providing the quotes, Councilman Burns relayed the request for \$200.00 to fund the project is within the \$2,000.00 that is budgeted for the community garden. The community garden committee has their first meeting of the year in April and Councilman Burns will present the project for their approval as well. Councilman Burns will contact Jane after the meeting with the final go ahead.

Clerk Button reported approx. 3 million has been collected thus far with 182 unpaid bills remaining. She has a settlement appointment with the County on April 10<sup>th</sup>. In addition, she mentioned the annual STC's Corning Community College Regional Leadership Conference is being held later this year. Typically, the conference is held in April, however this year it is Thursday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. The deadline for registration is May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Clerk Button will send an email in April to all Board members with the link including class descriptions. The Board will authorize registration and payment at the May meeting.

Municipal Services Manager Welch commented the Dept continues to be very busy as spring is nearing. The house that burnt down on Mill St. will soon be replaced with a modular home. The Planning Board met this past Monday with 4 sub-division applications for review and scheduled for hearings in April. The ZBA will meet in April with 2 possibly up to 4 variance applications for hearing.

Councilman Burns reported Supervisor Illig has reached out to our Assessor to get a timeline of how long it is going to take to catch up on the back log of past and present building permits and property updates into the system. Also questioning how many permits and new builds that are backlogged and for how many years. Councilman Burns noted there needs to be a real push to get these updates and assessments into the current system. Lauren commented he thinks it will be ongoing and possibly take awhile to get caught up. Further updates in April when Supervisor Illig has returned.

Highway Superintendent Gibson reported they are still busy plowing and sanding. They are now fixing bad spots in the roads from freezing and thawing as the winter was very hard on the roads. He went to the Town of Wayne and looked at the roadside mower he is interested in. He has received quotes from John Deere and Case. They are close in price approx. \$135,000.00 but he is favoring John Deere as it has more horsepower. John Deere is getting him a trade-in price for our old mower which he is expecting to be around \$15,000.00. He has a meeting tomorrow morning regarding the mowing contract and will report back in April. He and other Highway Superintendents from the area went to Albany last week in attempt to get more CHIPS funding. He reported that fortunately funding has not been cut for this year so as it stands, we will receive approx. \$314,000.00 and wait to see if more funding is approved. He presented to the Board a County agreement for expenditures of Highway moneys of what section of roads he plans to repair/improve for 2025. This is to be signed off on and filed with the County and Clerk Button.

Attorney Galvan reported we were notified today of a temporary easement DOT has received to stage a construction site on certain properties in Town on West Lake Road. There is not a date for construction listed only notification of what properties that are intended to be affected.

The website is up and running under pulteneyny.com. The webmaster sent a how-to video, but the site remains to be a work in progress.

Under old business, Historian Ray Emery has relayed that the first deadline for hometown hero banners is March 22<sup>nd</sup>. We have received approx. 25-30 applications thus far. There will be additional timelines for applications in moving forward. Councilman Burns commented she can put in the spring Grapevine edition notice to place orders.

The Town Hall entry door is working nicely. Once the additional required deposit is received, that was approved last meeting and cut for tonight, Eastern Security will schedule the final install of security equipment for a fully functional system.

Councilman Burns provided an update on the recreation committee stating she has met with committee members Carol McGill, Dorothy Graham, Holly Goodrich, Joan Georgia, and Monica Sommerville. They are still working on a survey to send to residents. Holly has generated a QR code that will take you to survey monkey to submit the survey online. At the end of March, it will be in the Grapevine newsletter. As stated last month, they are looking to open up asking about broader long-range goals of what community members envision for the Town with several questions/options being asked. As grant funding will be necessary, with grant funding appearing limited at this time, this will be a long-term project with time available to gather residential interest and when funding is available, be able to move forward with a set plan. Further updates to come.

Under new business, the pending mowing contract and community garden peace pole has been touched upon. The Pulteney Fire District has provided the yearly Intermunicipal Agreement for Use of Fuel Storage Facilities. Councilman Tones made motion seconded by Councilman Rees to execute the agreement as presented for the term of January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025, and to be renewed annually upon agreement of both parties. Roll call vote: Councilman Tones, yes; Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Rees. Carried.

The Pulteney Fire District has provided an Inter-Municipal Agreement for EMS and Ambulance Services within the Town of Pulteney to be in effect January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2027. Councilman Rees made motion seconded by Councilman Tones to execute the agreement as presented for the term of 3 years. Roll call vote: Councilman Tones, yes; Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Rees. Carried.

Lastly, under new business beginning discussions for Memorial Day. We made an agreement with the Fire Dept they will be in care of the parade and the Town will continue to service the celebration in the cemetery. Councilman Burns asked if anyone had any suggestions for a speaker for this year? The Board will come back with suggestions in April.

Councilman Burns stated there is a need for an executive session concerning personnel matters however no further business will take place following the session. Councilman Burns asked if the public had any comments or questions? With nothing heard, Councilman Burns made motion seconded by Councilman Tones to adjourn the regular meeting and enter into an executive session. All in favor. Carried.

After completed discussion, Councilman Burns made motion seconded by Councilman Rees to adjourn the executive session and resume the regular meeting. All in favor. Carried.

Councilman Tones made motion seconded by Councilman Rees to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30PM.

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Erica Button, Town Clerk

