

TOWN BOARD MEETING – June 8th, 2020

Supervisor Brenda Adams opened the Town Board meeting with the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag followed by a moment of silence at 7:00 p.m. ZOOM

Audience: Wendy Dwyer “attended” the meeting via Zoom phone.

Present: Supervisor Brenda Adams
Councilperson Alan Miller
Councilperson Ginny Nightingale
Councilperson Terese Platten
Councilperson David Patzwahl

BILLS: Councilperson David Patzwahl made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Alan Miller, to approve the General bills: #115 - #130 in the amount of \$5,898.54; Highway bills: #31 - #36 in the amount of \$10,4190.42. 5-ayes.

Roll-call showed: Supervisor Brenda Adams - yes;
Councilperson Alan Miller- yes;
Councilperson Ginny Nightingale- yes;
Councilperson Terese Platten – yes; and
Councilperson David Patzwahl – yes.
Motion Carried.

MINUTES;

Motion: Councilperson Ginny Nightingale made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Alan Miller, to approve May 11th, 2020 town board minutes. 5-ayes.

Roll-call showed: Supervisor Brenda Adams - yes;
Councilperson Alan Miller- yes;
Councilperson Ginny Nightingale-yes;
Councilperson Terese -Platten – yes; and
Councilperson David Patzwahl – yes.
Motion Carried.

SUPERVISOR MONTHLY REPORT

Town Clerk Revenues	\$ 302.00
Highway Fund	\$353,857.25
Highway Fund-Capital	\$ 42,898.94
Lighting Districts	\$ 3,492.64
Fire Districts	\$ 300.00
Building Inspector	\$ 895.00 (4/21-6/3/2020)
Planning Board	\$
Recreation	\$ 3,495.52
General Fund Balance	\$ 444,895.13
Court Revenues	\$ 3,954.00(March)
Zoning Board of Appeals	\$
Tax Collector	\$ 23,925.25
Revenues for the month of May - 2020	

Resolutions & Motions

1. Supervisor Brenda Adams asked the town board to hold the Local Law No. 1 of 2020 with the amendments to the dog law at the July town board meeting.

MOTION: Councilperson David Patzwahl made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Alan Miller, to hold the public hearing will be held, at the July meeting, on Local Law No. 1 of the year 2020.

2. **MOTION:** Councilperson Terese Platten made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Ginny Nightingale, to approve to increase cemetery mowing fees up to \$25.00. 5-eyes.

Roll-call showed: Supervisor Brenda Adams - yes;
Councilperson Alan Miller- yes;
Councilperson Ginny Nightingale-yes;
Councilperson Terese -Platten – yes; and
Councilperson David Patzwahl – yes.
Motion Carried.

3. **MOTION:** Councilperson David Patzwahl made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Alan Miller, to agree with the Chatham Central School library contract for the year 2020. 5-eyes.

Roll-call showed: Supervisor Brenda Adams - yes;
Councilperson Alan Miller- yes;
Councilperson Ginny Nightingale-yes;
Councilperson Terese -Platten – yes; and
Councilperson David Patzwahl – yes.
Motion Carried.

Report from the County Board of Supervisors:

Supervisor Brenda Adams reported that the County offices are closed through June 5. The primary will be held June 23rd, 2020. There is a safety plan established for workers. Early voting starts on June 13th thru June 21st, in Hudson. The polling place has been consolidated with the town of New Lebanon at the Canaan Town Hall. There has been an issue of getting workers to work.

Board discussion:

1. Supervisor Brenda Adams said that there is no increase in the Empire Vision Plan from last year.
2. Supervisor Brenda Adams said that the town hall will be reopening as soon as a safety plan is established for all of the town offices and workers.
3. Councilperson David Patzwahl presented his research of the transfer station C&D permits, this is phase one. Phase two will address the household waste permits. Councilperson Patzwahl has been working with Missey, the shed attendant at the scale house. There has been abuse of tonnage disposed over the allotted amount. Councilperson David Patzwahl suggests that we only issue two permits, instead of four permits a year. The amount of tonnage to be disposed would be two, one-ton permits. Permits maybe used two Saturdays instead of four Saturdays. The maintenance permits will be issued with the guidelines on the back and the resident must sign the permit stating they agree and have read the rules.

MOTION: Supervisor Brenda Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Alan Miller, to accept Councilperson David Patzwahl's guidelines for the C&D permits. 5-eyes.

Roll-call showed: Supervisor Brenda Adams - yes;
Councilperson Alan Miller- yes;
Councilperson Ginny Nightingale-yes;
Councilperson Terese -Platten – yes; and
Councilperson David Patzwahl – yes.
Motion Carried.

4. Supervisor Brenda Adams said that we still have not had any applicants for the Zoning Board or Planning Board clerk positions. Town clerk, Charlotte Cowan, said that the person does not have to be a resident because it is an appointed position. Councilperson Ginny Nightingale suggested to contact other Supervisors' from other towns and see if they have any clerks who might be interested.
5. Councilperson Terese Platten explained the summer swim program: Kristen Clark VanNote will look at the protocol to hold a swim program and is willing to work to make the summer program work. Adams Point Beach is only going to open at 50% with social distancing markers on the beach. Supervisor Adams suggests

that we get a written plan to check if our insurance would cover and if the County complies with the plan. Supervisor Adams said we should probably have a special meeting to discuss a plan in depth.

6. Supervisor Brenda Adams said that **COVID** has identified that we, as a town, have to do some policy work. One of the policies that needs review, which hasn't been addressed since 1995, is the emergency management plan. Councilperson Alan Miller has agreed to look and update a policy for the town. We are asking Councilperson Ginny Nightingale to sit on the Canaan Neighbors Helping Neighbors (CNHN) committee to help divide the work.
7. **Personnel Policy/Employee Handbook for Town and Highway:** Supervisor Brenda Adams said that Councilperson Terese Platten will be working on a draft policy by sometime in the fall and a final policy by the end of the year. During COVID we are challenged by not having policy for paid family leave and paid time off.
8. **Broadband:** Supervisor Adams said we have inadequate broadband in rural communities. How were children going to learn remotely? Many children were sent home with i-Pads, but many did not have the connectivity to use the i-Pads. Many residents were restricted with access to medical connections. If there is funding available, we should be in the running. Supervisor Adams would like to turn over her chairmanship to the broadband committee to Councilperson Terese Platten.
9. Councilperson Ginny Nightingale said that Erin Moore is honored to serve on the CNHN committee.
10. Councilperson Terese Platten presented three proposals of sign designs for the charging station at the park.

After much discussion, the sign "electric, vehicle, parking, only while charging," was selected. Councilperson Terese Platten will take the design to Highway Superintendent, Bernhard Meyer, to have the sign ordered.

ASSESSOR Monthly Report

Grievance Day-

- There were 8 Grievances this year and 1 Stipulation. Grievance day was held via Google Meet. Although this method worked well for the Board of Assessment Review, I felt it created a lot of additional work for the office.
- Board of Assessment Review has submitted their report to the supervisor.
- Any changes from this proceeding have been entered on the roll.
- A Statement of changes and Minutes will be filed with the Town Clerk and the County.

Final Roll-

- The final Roll will be filed on July 1.
- A legal notice will be in the paper.

STAR-

- As reported in previous reports, the DTF has taken over a portion of the STAR program. The assessors are now getting reports from DTF several times a year to update our files with the newest information.
- With this new process, it has left Taxpayers confused. Many of the elderly with low income file with the Assessor for the Low-Income Senior exemption, which is NOT STAR. STAR is granted by the DTF. Most of those people do not file income taxes. Most of them still get letters from DTF requesting them to supply their income for the Enhanced STAR program. This is confusing because they have already been in to see their Assessor. This request from DTF must be returned to DTF or they will not receive the Enhanced STAR exemption.

Around the office-

- The Assessor is back working in the Office on Wednesday mornings and as always is available by email @ assessor@canaannewyork.org

HIGHWAY REPORT:

Councilperson Alan Miller read Highway Superintendent, Bernhard Meyer's, report.

ACTIVITIES:

We were able to secure millings from the Route 22 project. These are a tremendous asset even more so now that we are on an austerity budget.

Prep work is being done prior to paving the 10 town roads that intersect with Route 22 within the DOT paving project. We are planning to repave the intersections which vary between 30' and 100'. The contract for this project was signed prior to all the Covid-19 events.

All of our capital paving projects are on hold due to the governor not releasing CHIPS, Pave NY, and Winter Recovery money.

We had a second member on self-quarantine.

We've been doing road projects around town which primarily have to do with drainage issues.

The #7 (2005 Ford 550) truck is starting to show its age and has been our problem child this month with a cracked windshield. When the installer came to replace it, he found some rusted/rotted areas under the glass and was unable to install a new windshield. This repair is something we will be able to do in house.

We need two front tires on truck #11 and need 4 rear tires on #7. I have been getting quotes, which are running on the average of \$3,000. These tires must be purchased prior to having the vehicles inspected.

I have definitely noticed the effect of Covid-19. With people being cooped up, many are becoming irate and difficult to deal with over the simplest of situations. Unfortunately, the aggression is directed at whoever is in listening distance not to mention the road rage we have to deal with on a daily basis.

Public Discussion: Wendy Dwyer said that the tractor trailers are stopping in the middle of State Route 22 with their flashers on and going into a store creating a very dangerous traffic situation. Supervisor Brenda Adams said that the police are aware of the situation and they need to sort it out.

Adjournment:

Councilperson Ginny Nightingale made a motion, seconded by Councilperson David Patzwahl, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. 5-ayes.

Roll-call showed: Supervisor Brenda Adams - yes;
Councilperson Alan Miller- yes;
Councilperson Ginny Nightingale-yes;
Councilperson Terese -Platten – yes; and
Councilperson David Patzwahl – yes.
Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte L. Cowan
Canaan Town Clerk

