

January 09th, 2017 - Town Board Meeting

Supervisor Richard Keaveney opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Supervisor Richard Keaveney
Councilperson Alan Miller
Councilperson Brenda Adams
Councilperson Terese Platten
Councilperson David Patzwahl

AUDIENCE: 7

MINUTES:

MOTION: Motion made by Councilperson Brenda Adams, seconded by Councilperson Alan Miller to approve the December 12th, 2016 minutes with a minor typo correction. 5-ayes Roll-call showed: Supervisor Richard Keaveney - yes;
Councilperson Alan Miller - yes;
Councilperson Brenda Adams - yes;
Councilperson Terese Platten - yes; and
Councilperson David Patzwahl - abstained.
Motion Carried.

BILLS:

MOTION: Councilperson David Patzwahl made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Alan Miller, to approve the payment of the December General Encumbered bills: #374 - #391 in the amount of \$6,046.93; December Highway Encumbered bills: #130 - #138 in the amount of \$9,154.81. Councilperson Brenda Adams made a motion, seconded by Alan Miller to approve the payment of the Encumbered January 2017 bills: 5-ayes Roll-call showed:
Supervisor Richard Keaveney - yes;
Councilperson Alan Miller - yes;
Councilperson Brenda Adams - yes;
Councilperson Terese Platten - yes; and
Councilperson David Patzwahl - yes.
Motion Carried.

MOTION: Councilperson Brenda Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Alan Miller, to approve the payment of the General bills: #1 - #13 in the amount of \$23,856.29. 5-ayes Roll-call showed:

Supervisor Richard Keaveney - yes;
Councilperson Alan Miller - yes;
Councilperson Brenda Adams - yes;
Councilperson Terese Platten - yes; but abstained on Voucher # for Meals on Wheels mileage since she is one of the reimbursees.
Councilperson David Patzwahl - yes.
Motion Carried.

MOTION: Councilman Alan Miller made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Keaveney to approve the Annual Agreement for expenditure of highway funds in the amount of \$159,500. 5-ayes Roll Call showed: Supervisor Richard Keaveney - yes;
Councilperson Alan Miller - yes;
Councilperson Brenda Adams - yes;
Councilperson Terese Platten - yes;
Councilperson David Patzwahl - yes.
Motion Carried

SUPERVISOR MONTHLY REPORT

Town Clerk Revenues	\$ 388.34
Highway Fund	\$319,200.14
Highway Fund Capital	\$269,235.82
Lighting Districts	\$ 88.32
Ambulance Districts & Fire Districts	\$.59
Building Inspector	\$ 883.00
Planning Board	\$ -0-
Recreation	\$ 7,626.63
General Fund Balance	\$ 218,509.66
Court Revenues	\$ no report
Zoning Board of Appeals	\$ -0-
Tax Collector	\$ -0-

Board Discussion:

Broadband Committee: Councilperson Brenda Adams reported that they got new maps by census tracts to conduct their walking survey, a draft copy of which is included. They are seeking 25-35 volunteers to conduct the survey.

ASSESSOR MONTHLY REPORT:

Supervisor Keaveney read the report.

Exemptions -

- December 1st all Star and aged related renewal exemptions were mailed. Included in the mailing were instructions of what to send in, the hours when I would be accepting applications, an encouragement to mail the application rather than coming in person and to get them in early.

Other-

- Tax bills were sent out around January 1st by the Tax collector and even though they do not come from the Assessor's office we do have to field many calls.
- The tax collector forwards me all the address changes which need to be updated in my database. It is my Data Base that the Bills and any other mailings are printed from.
- Still need to get out into the field to finish up permits and as always conduct sales verification
- I have been working with the County to get the Computer system set up to connect with the County to start the Data Verification.
- The county has hired and trained a collector and she will be starting as soon as we have the tech part set up.
- I will be spending time working more closely with the county now working on the many different parts of the data verification and the reassessment process.

Supervisor Keaveney said that we took a stand on an Article 7 property. The independent appraisal upheld the Assessor's value. We will undergo a revaluation process over the next two years.

HIGHWAY REPORT – Highway Superintendent Meyers read the report.

ACTIVITIES:

The new office is turning out to be a major undertaking. We took advantage of the warm weather and cut into the sheetrock and siding to find out where the rats were entering the building.

One of the many places where they entered



They had created runways which then created wind tunnels which then created a very cold wall! It has been quite an undertaking to remove a huge quantity of infested insulation. We are in the process of sealing areas, refraining, inserting steel pieces and wire meshing the large varmint holes. This should help with the heating. Desks which were mouse and rat infested ended up being steam cleaned and have been prepped for repainting.

We are waiting for the two new insulated windows to arrive. Hopefully by the next board meeting I can report that we've moved into the new space.

Crazy weather patterns during the last week in December. Temperature extremes kept us busy - we dealt with spring like conditions complete with pot holes to ice storms (which didn't materialize) to snow storms which had the men out for hours. Overall we did well.

The thermostat on the Cat loader went bad causing the loader to go into "limp mode" which equates to no power etc.

Truck #7 went to Zwack's for a hydraulic problem. Turned out to have an internal frayed control cable. What a job it was to change.

Highway Superintendent Bernhard Meyer, said that the salt shed is a real asset. The product is in excellent condition.

DISCUSSIONS & REQUESTS:

The salt shed is a real asset The salt remains dry and free flowing.

Board gave Highway Superintendent Meyers permission to solicit pricing for a new 6 wheel truck, replacing 2003 Truck 6. Discussion of financial alternatives for equipment purchases. Bernie will come back to Board with more detailed information. We want to have the truck by end of November 2017.

Motion by Councilperson Alan Miller with 2nd by Councilperson Brenda Adams to proceed with necessary Phase I engineering services for the Bristol Road bridge over Tributary to the Stony Kill project as proposed by Robert J. Sipzner, Vice President of Barton & Loguidice in his letter dated January 9,2017. Bemie estimates the Phase I work will cost approximately \$ 10,000 from the Highway budget.5 ayes Roll Call showed:

Supervisor Richard Keaveney - yes;
Councilperson Alan Miller - yes;
Councilperson Brenda Adams - yes;
Councilperson Terese Platten - yes;
Councilperson David Patzwahl - yes.
Motion Carried Supervisor

Keaveney countersigned the proposal.

Supervisor Richard Keaveney said that a letter in the monthly correspondence referred to the beavers. Supervisor Keaveney said that we are not in the business of killing beavers, but culverts getting jammed with debris must be addressed. We must do due diligence referring to property damage to Town properties and people's houses.

DISCUSSIONS & REQUESTS: Supervisor Keaveney referred to the letter from Gloria Rapoport regarding removing beavers from Stoddard Park Pond. He said we do not want to kill beavers, but our culverts get jammed with debris, which places a burden on our highway department ³A of the year. There has been a population explosion of beavers due to environmental factors. We must do due diligence regarding flooding of Town and residential properties.

Wendy Dwyer asked if the solar law was yet on the website. It is still being worked on. Canaan is encouraging residential solar power but not commercial production. Pierre Gontier said that Charlotte Cowan and Sandy Haakonsen have done a great job in organizing the zoning law on the website.

ADJOURNMENT: Supervisor Richard Keaveney made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Alan Miller, to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m. 5-ayes Roll-call showed: Supervisor Richard Keaveney - yes;

Councilperson Alan Miller - yes;
Councilperson Brenda Adams - yes;
Councilperson Terese Platten - yes; and
Councilperson David Patzwahl - yes.
Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Alexander, 3rd (*Deputy Clerk*)

