**REGULAR MEETING**

**BAINBRIDGE TOWN BOARD**

**APRIL 13TH, 2021**

Present: Dolores Nabinger Supervisor

Bob Evans Councilman

Gordie Daniels Councilman

Michael Kauffman Councilman

Gary Richman Highway Superintendent

Recording Secretary: Aric McKown Town Clerk

Absent: Jennifer Sienko Councilwoman

**Guest(s):** Phil & Violet Wade, Bill & Cathy Sherrick, Recreation Director Dale Palmer, Kris Granger of Eastern Energy

Supervisor Nabinger called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:30PM.

**RESOLUTION # 1**

Motion was made by Councilman Evans, second by Councilman Daniels, to approve the minutes from the March 9th, 2021 Regular Meeting.

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilman Evans, Councilman Daniels, Councilman Kauffman; No: none; Motion Carried.

**RESOLUTION #2**

Motion was made by Councilman Evans second by Councilman Daniels, to receive and file the financial reports from January and February 2021.

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilman Evans, Councilman Daniels, Councilman Kauffman: No: None: Motion Carried.

**Guest(s) Questions & Concerns;**

Village Mayor Wade stated he was unsure when the NYS Route 206 Project would be starting back up, but would follow up on this and get back to the town board.

He reminded the town board of the idea to put in a side walk up to General Clinton Park and how the idea had stalled because of not having enough knowledge on grants and costs involved. Wade said the village has been working with the engineering firm Barton & Loguidice to create a design of everything involved with this project. He talked about his grant work and submittal with BridgeNY and the use of grant money to repair a culvert on Kirby Street that could cost $700,000.00 or more. Wade estimated $1.5 million to do the sidewalk up to General Clinton Park, and talked about the location of the sidewalk.

He asked for the town board's support with this project and proposed a joint Village and Town Board meeting with the Barton & Loguidice engineering firm to discuss the scope and design of this project.

The town board expressed their support for the project, the benefits of the project and scheduling this meeting some time in May.

Wade stated the village had applied for CDBG grant money for an engineering study of the water system, but the grant process stopped due to a time issue with the legal notice publication and time of a public hearing.

Councilman Evans asked Mayor Wade if the village board had talked about the marijuana opt out issue. Wade said the village board had not talked about it and expressed his mixed feelings on this, because of the tax money involved and how it would be a difficult decision. He brought up the federal stimulus money from the CARES Act and how the town and village would share this. Mayor Wade stated the village had passed their budget and is now posted on the village's website.

Councilman Evans asked Wade about the decision to hold the Memorial Day Parade. Wade said the village board approved the parade permit, provided the County Health department had an approved safety plan. He said the Village Flea Market had been approved and would start on May 22nd, this year. Wade confirmed the Bainbridge Chamber would be taking over the parade this year.

The following claims as set forth on abstract #4 for 2021 were audited by Town Board:

General Town Wide#65-84 for $8,185.58

General Town Outside#5 for $190.00

Bennettsville Lights#4 for $15.34

Highway Town Wide#30-40 for $5,431.40

Highway Town Outside#14-18 for $6,543.92

**RESOLUTION #3**

Motion was made by Councilman Evans, second by Councilman Kauffman, authorizing clerk to issue warrant to Supervisor for payment of audited claims:

Ayes:Supervisor Nabinger, Councilman Evans, Councilman Daniels; Councilman Kauffman; No: none; Motion Carried.

Recreation Director Palmer attended the town board meeting to update everyone on his recent work with the town pool. He said he's been in the process of hiring his staff, and has already hired a Director for the Playground Program and one Playground Program monitor. Palmer mentioned he would be getting together with Councilman Daniels to talk about his staffing. He said he still has positions open for the Playground Program staff and lifeguards.

Palmer informed the town board the County will pay this year to get kids certified and will meet with the County on the 20th to see on the amount of kids he can get certified and discuss COVID Regulations. He stated, as of now, the school will hold the playground program and provide breakfast and lunch to the children. Palmer added Sue Shove and Lila Harris would be involved this year to help get the kids trained.

The town board held conversation with Palmer on advertising the cut off date for accepting applications for the Youth Program. Palmer stated he will accept applications until April 23rd and asked to have this put on the town's website and Facebook page.

Pool Superintendent Richman asked Recreation Director Palmer for help from the lifeguards to clean the town pool. Palmer said he's already reached out to a couple of guards to help out and that they could be ready when Richman needed the help.

**DOG CONTROL**

DCO Sherrick shared his story about a dog that had been picked up by a resident in Bainbridge and then taken to the SPCA in Broome County. Sherrick said the dog was transported to the SPCA in Norwich, the fees involved have been waived and the dog has already been adopted. Supervisor Nabinger thanked DCO Sherrick for his work and efforts on increasing the amount of dog licenses each month.

**RESOLUTION #4**

Motion was made by Councilman Kauffman, second by Councilman Daniels, to receive and file the reports from the Dog Control Officer, Assessor, & Sanitation Officer.

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilman Evans, Councilman Daniels, Councilman Kauffman; No: None; Motion Carried.

**POOL**

Pool Superintendent Richman said the pool needs a lot of cleaning this year and would be grateful to have help from the kids. He mentioned a broken pipe on the outside of the pump house that needs to addressed, before the water is turned on this week. The town board talked about a cleaning schedule and opening the outside bathroom by the playground. Supervisor asked the town board for a motion to have Richman open the bathroom by the playground.

**RESOLUTION #5**

Motion was made by Councilman Daniels , second by Councilman Kauffman, authorizing Pool Superintendent Richman to open the bathroom by the Payne Park playground.

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilman Evans, Councilman Daniels, Councilman Kauffman; No: None: Motion Carried.

Richman brought up the poor condition of the basketball hoops behind the pool, having been looked at by Councilman Daniels and Councilman Evans, and provided the town board with prices to replace the basketball posts and backboards, from Unalam. Here are those costs:

2 Posts- $850.00

2 Backboards-$1,598.00

Total: $2,448.00

Richman mentioned metal posts would cost between $4-5,00.00. The town board held discussion on the importance of making these improvements and encourage our youth to stay local and use the basketball courts. Richman commented on installing these posts and the possibility of asking the Lions Club to help.

Councilman Daniels talked about the importance of 'sprucing' things up and having these courts ready for our youth to use. The town board was in agreement with making these repairs and improvements.

**RESOLUTION #6**

Motion was made by Councilman Kauffman, second by Councilman Daniels, to have Pool Superintendent Richman purchase the posts for $850.00 and backboards for $1,598.00 from Unalam, for a total cost of $2,448.00.

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilman Evans, Councilman Daniels, Councilman Kauffman; No: None; Motion Carried.

**CLINTON PARK**

Park Superintendent Richman mentioned he's started picking things up at Clinton Park. He asked the town board for a motion to appoint Tim Harmon for the Clinton Park season.

**RESOLUTION #7**

Motion was made by Councilman Evans, second by Councilman Kauffman, to appoint Tim Harmon as a temporary employee at General Clinton Park from April 1st- October 31st, 2021.

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilman Evans, Councilman Daniels, Councilman Kauffman; No: None; Motion Carried.

Richman said there was a problem starting the mower this year due to a fuse issue and that the water should be turned on by Monday depending on the weather. He informed the town board of the two seasonal campers that are currently camping and how the seasonal camping shouldn't be problem.

Town Clerk McKown informed the town board that he has been getting more calls on seasonal camping at the Clinton Park and to keep this on our radar.

Park Superintendent Richman shared with the town board the changes that were made with the signs for Clinton Park and Payne Park and the costs for 3 signs would be $1,092.68. Supervisor Nabinger reviewed the rules on the signs with the town board and asked for a motion to purchase the signs.

**RESOLUTION #8**

Motion was made by Councilman Evans, second by Councilman Kauffman, to purchase the 3 signs with installation at a cost of $1,092.68 from MR Graffix.

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilman Evans, Councilman Daniels, Councilman Kauffman; No: None; Motion Carried.

Richman brought up the military flags at General Clinton Park that were purchased 4 or 5 years ago , how they're worn out and need to be replaced. He said the costs to replace the 6 flags would be $230.00.

**RESOLUTION #9**

Motion was made by Councilman Kauffman, second by Councilman Evans, to replace the 6 flags at a cost of $230.00.

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilman Evans, Councilman Daniels, Councilman Kauffman; No: None; Motion Carried.

Park Superintendent gave an update on the staining of the building at General Clinton Park and everyone that has contributed to the purchase of stain. He stated we still need to stain the Large Pavilion and will need more stain to do this. Richman & Councilman Evans will purchase a 5 gallon bucket of stain. Phil & Violet Wade, Roy & Dolores Nabinger, and Michael Kauffman will each purchase a 5 gallon bucket of stain to help with the completion of staining the large pavilion.

Richman said he hopes to have this done by Memorial Day.

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Highway Superintendent Richman reported his department has been busy cleaning ditches, installing culverts and reported the Gradall broke down today. He said the Town of Afton helped today and will tomorrow with their Gradall. His department will be working with the Town of Afton to make cold mix black top tomorrow.

Richman announced the Spring Clean Up Day will be held May 1st at the Highway Garage from 9am-Noon. He shared the increases with CHIPS from $73,000.00 to $95,000.00, Winter Recovery from $13,000.00 to $21,000.00 and PaveNY from $16,000.00 to $25,000.00. The town board held discussion on the matter.

Richman expressed his need to hire another man for his department and a part time student to help for the summer. The town board discussed the need for another man, the work that gets done with the highway department, and the costs involved with hiring another man.

Councilman Evans proposed 'tabling' this decision until next month and for Highway Superintendent Richman to keep looking.

Richman and Supervisor Nabinger announced they had closed on the bond for the new truck last Wednesday. Richman brought up his recent communication with Kris Granger of Eastern Energy, how replacing the lighting in the highway garage would reduce the town's electricity costs and commented on the town's success with Eastern Energy

**EASTERN ENERGY**

Kris Granger of Eastern Energy attended the meeting to present a proposal to relamp the lighting of the highbays in the Highway Garage. Granger went over the details of the new LED lighting and cost savings to replace these lamps. He compared Eastern Energy's proposal with a proposal from Lime Energy. Granger fielded questions from the town board on the new lighting.

Councilman Evans stated he would abstain from any decision the town board makes on this because his son works for Eastern Energy, but commented on the inflated estimated savings based on time usage from the proposal from Lime Energy. Supervisor Nabinger brought up the successful results the town has had with Eastern Energy in the past.

**RESOLUTION #10**

Motion was made by Councilman Daniels, second by Councilman Kauffman, to go with Eastern Energy for Relamping the Highbays in the Highway Garage at a cost of $4,464.43.

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilman Daniels, Councilman Kauffman; Abstained: Councilman Evans; No: None; Motion Carried.

**TOWN CLERK**

Town Clerk McKown read a letter of thanks and gratitude from the West Bainbridge Cemetery Board to the town for repairing the cemetery wall at the West Bainbridge Cemetery.

McKown brought up a recent conversation between Isaiah Sutton at County Public Health and Deputy Clerk Cooper, that the county will not approve safety plans, but will review safety plans one week prior to an event because things are changing daily. The town board held conversation on this.

Councilman Evans asked Supervisor Nabinger to make contact with Sutton to look into this further.

Town Clerk McKown talked about the phone calls he's been getting from the public on the variety of event ideas wanting to be held at General Clinton Park. He said there's been more requests to use the band shell and up until now, this band shell has been used by donation agreement only. McKown asked the town board about having a set fee to use the band shell. The town board held discussion on the matter.

**RESOLUTION #11**

Motion was made by Councilman Kauffman, second by Councilman Daniels, to rent the band shell for a $50.00 fee.

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilman Evans, Councilman Daniels, Councilman Kauffman; No: None; Motion Carried.

Councilman Kauffman proposed allowing the Bainbridge Community Foundation to use the band shell free of charge this summer.

**RESOLUTION #12**

Motion was made by Councilman Kauffman, second by Councilman Daniels, to waive the fee for use of the band shell by Bainbridge Community Foundation for the summer.

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilman Evans, Councilman Daniels, Councilman Kauffman; No: None; Motion Carried.

Town Clerk McKown brought up his communication with Elizabeth Small of Sidney and her church's choir to utilize the large pavilion every Sunday for the remainder of April, all of May and June, as well as using the large pavilion on Wednesdays during these months to hold brief meetings. McKown said singers need to be 12 feet apart when singing because of COVID. The town board held discussion on this matter.

**RESOLUTION #13**

Motion was made by Councilman Kauffman, second by Councilman Daniels, to approve Elizabeth Small's request for her church's choir use the large pavilion on a 'month by month' basis at a cost of $50.00 each Sunday and to be able to use Wednesdays free of charge for their meetings.

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilman Evans, Councilman Daniels, Councilman Kauffman; No: None; Motion Carried.

McKown reminded the town board of Spectrum's interest in getting the Town of Bainbridge to do a franchise agreement with their company. The town board had said they would look into this once the franchise agreement with the Delhi Telephone Company had been taken care of. The town board held some conversation and decided to table this until next month.

Councilman Evans asked McKown to provide the town board with a copy of the monthly calendars for Clinton Park. McKown said he would do that.

Supervisor Nabinger brought up making sure Town Clerk McKown had a schedule for every room in the building. She asked McKown if the Jericho Garden Club could use the large pavilion at Clinton Park the 2nd Monday at 6:30pm for the months June through September. Dolores asked the JAC to provide a schedule of the theater and the Arts Gallery Room to Town Clerk McKown.

Councilman Evans brought up the distribution of the Employee Handbooks and making sure the acknowledgment forms are being signed by the employees and then filed.

Supervisor Nabinger reminded Town Clerk McKown to send a pink sheet to Chenango County Personnel for Ray Newbauer. McKown confirmed with Nabinger that the Oaths of Office were done for Councilman Daniels and Councilman Kauffman.

Councilman Daniels brought up an adding additional line for fax machine in the town clerk's office.

**RESOLUTION #14**

Motion was made by Councilman Kauffman, second by Councilman Daniels, to acquire a fax line for the town clerk's office.

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilman Evans, Councilman Daniels, Councilman Kauffman; No: None; Motion Carried.

Councilman Evans brought up the accident involving Ray Newbauer's truck at Clinton Park, and proposed reimbursing Newbauer for his insurance deductible. The town board held discussion on the matter and concluded to reimburse Newbauer for his deductible, upon receipt of a repair bill.

**RESOLUTION #15**

Motion was made by Councilman Evans , second by Councilman Daniels, that dependent upon receipt of the repair documentation the town will pay the $1,000.00 deductible for Newbauer.

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilman Evans, Councilman Daniels; No: Councilman Kauffman; Motion Carried.

Supervisor Nabinger stated that while being sick with COVID, she had not filled out the town's emergency plan. She said she will use the template to fill it out, and will have it ready for the town board to adopt and then distribute to the employees at next month's meeting.

Nabinger said she submitted the letter to the NYS Court System stating the town and conducted an audit for the town court.

She brought up the Sexual Harassment Training for this year and held discussion with the town board on the matter. The town board concluded that doing this training online would be the best solution. Nabinger asked Town Clerk McKown to make contact with JR Bogert of Gates-Cole to see about sending us another link to take the Sexual Harassment Training.

Supervisor Nabinger mentioned the 5th reimbursement of $11,000.00 for the Town Hall Grant, leaving us with a balance of $1,896.00 left to spend. She talked about using this money towards new tables for the meeting room.

Nabinger commented on the issue with the highway uniforms and the remaining balance with Aramark. She said the town will hold off on paying this bill for now.

Nabinger reported she'd filed for an extension with AUD report for 2021, and asked Town Clerk McKown if he'd sent notice to the paper about last year's report being done, and available to the public to view. McKown replied that he thought he did, but would check.

Supervisor Nabinger brought up her communication with the County and where things stood with the application for reducing the speed limit on County Road 39. She was informed the County was not aware of the status of that application, after submitting it to the state.

Nabinger asked Highway Superintendent Richman on the status of reopening the cemetery on Lyons Road. Richman replied he's working on it.

She shared with the town board an email she'd received from someone wanting to put a phone at General Clinton Park, for people who want to communicate with loved ones they've lost as means of helping them grieve. The town board held discussion on the matter.

**RESOLUTION #16**

Motion was made by Councilman Kauffman, second by Councilman Evans, to approve the 'Grief Phone Project'.

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilman Evans, Councilman Daniels, Councilman Kauffman; No: None; Motion Carried.

Supervisor Nabinger reported she had filled out an application for new insurance for the town, and expected to have a new price for insurance by June.

She asked the town board's update on the status of 'Appointed vs. Elected' positions. Councilman Evans stated the taxpayers will decide on whether this is a good or bad idea, and it should go on the November ballot. Nabinger said she would get back to the town board next month on this.

Supervisor Nabinger said we would go into executive session to discuss a town employee.

**RESOLUTION #17**

Motion was made by Councilman Kauffman, second by Councilman Evans, to go into executive session.

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilman Evans, Councilman Daniels, Councilman Kauffman; No: None; Motion Carried.

**RESOLUTION #18**

Motion was made by Councilman Kauffman, second by Councilman Evans, to come out of executive session.

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilman Evans, Councilman Daniels, Councilman Kauffman; No: None; Motion Carried.

**RESOLUTION #19**

Motion by Councilman Kauffman, second by Councilman Daniels, that the meeting be and hereby is adjourned at 9:25PM.

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilman Evans, Councilman Daniels, Councilman Kauffman; No: None; Motion Carried.

Respectively Submitted,

Aric McKown

Town Clerk