**REGULAR MEETING**

**BAINBRIDGE TOWN BOARD**

**JULY 13TH, 2021**

Present: Dolores Nabinger Supervisor

Bob Evans Councilman

Gordie Daniels Councilman

Michael Kauffman Councilman

Jennifer Sienko Councilwoman

Gary Richman Highway Superintendent

Recording Secretary: Aric McKown Town Clerk

**Guest(s):** Phil Wade, Bill & Cathy Sherrick, Martha Williams, Everett & Lee Brown, Melissa Fuller.

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

**RESOLUTION # 1**

Motion was made by Councilman Evans, second by Councilman Kauffman, to approve the minutes from the June 8th, 2021 Regular Meeting.

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

The following claims as set forth on abstract #7 for 2021 were audited by the Town Board:

General Town Wide#151-185 for $14,083.05

General Town Outside#11-13 for $286.76

Bennettsville Lights#7 for $15.01

Highway Town Wide#53-61for $236,442.83

Highway Town Outside#28-34 for $25,365.88

**RESOLUTION #2**

Motion was made by Councilman Kauffman, second by Councilwoman Sienko, authorizing clerk to issue warrant to Supervisor for payment of audited claims, to note the change in amount on the Carver bill for $16,751.60 and to make sure the petty cash reimbursement is done yearly;

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

**Guests Questions & Concerns:**

Martha Williams and Everett & Lee Brown of Bennettsville attended the meeting to express their concerns of the high speeds at which drivers travel at through Bennettsville and how there use to be a 45mph speed limit sign in Bennettsville, but was no longer there.

Supervisor Nabinger said the town had recently dealt with the same issue over on County Rd 39, that the process does take some time, but the town is willing to put a speed limit request in for NYS Rt 206. Nabinger asked the town board for a motion to reduce the speed limit back to 45mph.

**RESOLUTION #3**

Motion was made by Councilwoman Sienko, second by Councilman Daniels, to do a request reducing the speed limit back to 45mph in the hamlet of Bennettsville.

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

The town board held conversation with residents in Bennettsville about the close calls with people getting hit and the process involved with getting the speed limit reduced.

Town Clerk McKown read the letter from the Traffic Safety and Mobility Office of the NYS Department of Transportation and the results of the request for speed reduction on County Rd 39. Based on a study conducted on May 26th, involving speed percentage and the amount of drivers, a reduction in the posted speed limit was not recommended. The town board conversed on the matter and talked about the benefits of the new LED lighting, with the residents of Bennettsville.

Supervisor Nabinger announced Melissa Fuller was running for town board council without opposition and will be our next town board member, replacing Jennifer Sienko.

**VILLAGE**

Mayor Wade updated the town board on the 'Pathway to the Park' project, that involved extending the village sidewalk up to General Clinton Park, along Rt. 7. He spoke about DOT grant funding being available for these types of projects, that would help with reducing traffic and increasing pedestrian access. Wade stated the deadline for this fund submission is in September and spoke about the proposal process. He asked for the town's support on this project and if this is something the village and the town still wanted to do. Wade suggested forming a committee to help with the process.

Supervisor Nabinger mentioned it might not be the right time for the town, with the continuous repairs of the town pool. The town board discussed who would be the lead agency, details of the project and the costs involved. They expressed their support and Councilman Daniels offered to help Mayor Wade with the grant program.

Mayor Wade reported the village crew has been working on road work and the I & I study for the sewers is pretty much finished.

Councilman Evans asked for an update on the NYS Rt 206 project. Wade said the finishing time for the project, is November.

**DOG CONTROL**

Dog Control Officer Sherrick commented on his report and the dog issue over on Keech Rd., between a landlord and tenant.

**RESOLUTION #4**

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

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

There was no report received from the Assessor this month.

**POOL**

Pool Superintendent Richman reported there had been a leak in the pool all summer, but with the help of Village Supervisor Webb and B&D Pool, it should be fixed by tomorrow. He talked about the drain pits in the pool and how they're deteriorating. Richman said there is a filter that needs to be replaced at a cost of $3,000.00. He informed the town board, he'd been in contact with Fred Ashkar's office to get some grant funding.

Mayor Wade brought up the Chobani Fund, that's administered through the community foundation of South Central New York, and suggested applying for this fund to see we qualify.

Supervisor Nabinger mentioned reaching out to Thoma. She said we haven't heard back from Ashkar's office and Assemblyman Angelino's office would have available funds in September.

**CLINTON PARK**

Park Superintendent Richman brought up the issues we had this year with the Dog Show and our seasonal campers. He said there are changes to be made in the contract for next year. The town board talked about these changes, the problem with getting a Dog Show tent removed, and having better communication.

As of now, the town has made $8,390.00 in camping this year. The town board talked about the importance of having seasonal campers.

Richman brought up a leak under the lower pavilion and that the grass mowing has been busy.

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

Highway Superintendent Richman made a recommendation to hire Zac Newman and to have him start August 2nd, 2021. Richman asked the town board for that motion.

**RESOLUTION #5**

Motion was made by Councilman Evans, second by Councilman Kauffman, to follow Highway Richman's recommendation and hire Zac Newman.

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

The town board invited Zac Newman to attend the August Meeting to meet him.

They discussed the rate of pay for Zac Newman following the probationary period.

**RESOLUTION #6**

Motion was made by Councilman Kauffman, second by Councilman Daniels, to start Zac Newman as an MEO worker with experience at $18.90 per hour, and $20.19 at the end of the probationary period.

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

Richman mentioned the damage from a recent storm and how his department has finished oil & stoning Kelly Rd, Ireland Road, & Searles Hill Road, and busy mowing cemeteries. He announced the new truck had arrived last week and the new pick up truck won't be in until September or October, because of the 'lack of chips'.

Richman suggested sending a letter to Winn's garage regarding late invoice submittal and said Tony Christian is still out because of a CT scan.

Councilwoman Sienko asked about a projected cost to make all repairs to the pool. Richman estimated $80,000.00 to repair everything. The town board held some discussion on this matter.

**TOWN CLERK**

Town Clerk McKown updated the town board on his correspondence with Spectrum and their franchise agreement. The representative with Spectrum is still waiting to hear back from their attorneys before any revisions are made.

McKown brought up the new lighting for the town clerk's office and that he'd gotten an estimate on the installation of lights from Joe Rico in the amount of $250.00. Supervisor Nabinger suggested going with the same type of light fixture that's in the hallway, for the town clerk's office, and asked the town board for a motion to use remaining grant money for the light installation and lights for the town clerk's office.

**RESOLUTION #7**

Motion was made by Councilman Kauffman, second by Councilman Daniels, to go through with the new lighting in the town clerk's office.

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

Town Clerk McKown reminded the town board of Fuel and LP bids for the August meeting.

McKown gave an employee count for the completion of the Sexual Harassment Training and signed Employee Handbook acknowledgment forms. The town board extended the date on the Sexual Harassment Training, for the town employees that haven't taken it, for August 10th. Supervisor Nabinger suggested putting a reminder notice in with paychecks.

Town Clerk McKown shared with the town board the amount of kids enrolled in swimming lessons and the playground program. There are 76 residents and 24 non-residents in swimming lessons, and 14 kids in the playground program.

McKown spoke about an email he'd received from the Norfolk Southern Railroad and their review of private at grade crossings in the state of New York. The railroad company is looking to close the railroad crossing by the Cannistra farm and Lawrence Road. The town board spoke about another time when the railroad tried to close this crossing and how the residents complained and things were dropped. McKown confirmed with the town board that the town doesn't maintain either side of the crossing and the residents in the area will have strong objection to the closing of this crossing. The town board advised Town Clerk McKown to send a letter to the residents of Cannistra Lane and Lawrence Road to inform them of this action.

McKown brought up an invitation he had a received for any town officials to attend a special meeting on July 20th , 2021 for the '4 Town's Forward' at Bob's Diner in Bainbridge to discuss and act upon electing a board of directors, a slate of officers and amendments of the current bi-laws.

Councilwoman Sienko inquired about the meeting for the '4 Town's Forward', and said she would go and report back to the town board. She asked about a safety manual for new highway employees. Highway Superintendent Richman explained the trainings that are offered by the County and everything that he goes over with his department.

Councilman Evans talked about a camper that is charging their electric car at Clinton Park, and is paying only for camping. The town board held discussion on adding a fee to charge an electric car while camping in our facilities use agreements.

**RESOLUTION #8**

Motion was made by Councilman Kauffman, second by Councilwoman Sienko, to add a $5.00 per night to charge an electric car.

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

Councilman Evans asked if everyone had received an email for a webinar on financial conditions of your town. Evans asked Town Clerk McKown to send this email out to everyone again.

Councilman Daniels brought up the communication he's had with people in our community on the use of Clinton Park and the walking trail during contract events. He noted our communication needs to be better and there needs to be changes in these contracts to keep our lines of communication clear. Daniels talked about the idea of having an office at Clinton Park or a person there to help facilitate the camping.

Supervisor Nabinger suggested finding a night in September, where we could all meet up there and get a better sense of how the camping should work. The town board held discussion on the matter.

Supervisor Nabinger announced the town is supposed to get $189,482.00 from the Cares Act. She was hopeful we could use some of this money on the pool and making the bathrooms handicap accessible.

**RESOLUTION #9**

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

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

**RESOLUTION #10**

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

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

**RESOLUTION #11**

Motion by Councilman Kauffman, second by Councilman Daniels, that the meeting be and hereby is adjourned at 8:18PM.

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

Respectively Submitted,

Aric McKown

Town Clerk