**REGULAR MEETING**

**BAINBRIDGE TOWN BOARD**

**MAY 12TH, 2020**

**(THE PUBLIC WAS INVITED TO ATTENDED REMOTELY)**

Present: Dolores Nabinger Supervisor

Deborah Hromada Councilwoman

Jennifer Sienko Councilwoman

Bob Evans Councilman

Kelly Hromada-Johnson Councilwoman

Gary Richman Highway Superintendent

Recording Secretary: Aric McKown Town Clerk

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

**Guest(s):** Dog Control Officer Bill Sherrick, Recreation Director Dale Palmer, and Mayor Phil Wade.

**RESOLUTION #1**

Motion was made by Councilman Evans, second by Councilwoman Sienko, to approve the minutes from the April 14th, 2020 Regular Meeting.

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilwoman Hromada, Councilwoman Sienko, Councilman Evans, Councilwoman Johnson; No: none; Motion Carried.

The following claims as set forth on abstract #5 for 2020 were audited by Town Board:

General Town Wide#411-435 for $10,752.21

General Town Outside#31-33for $127.64

Bennettsville Lights#16 for $32.91

Highway Town Wide#147-154 for $7126.62

Highway Town Outside#109-117 for $18,069.43

**RESOLUTION #2**

Motion was made by Councilwoman Sienko, second by Councilman Evans, authorizing clerk to issue warrant to Supervisor for payment of audited claims;

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilwoman Hromada, Councilwoman Sienko, Councilwoman Johnson, ; Councilman Evans ; No: none; Motion Carried.

The town board agreed to pay Bookkeeper Sherman's bill at next month's meeting.

Supervisor Nabinger asked to file the financial reports from February and March. The town board agreed to file the February report. Councilwoman Hromada questioned the 2019 CHIPS money that was received and deposited in February or March, but is not reflected in either financial report and wondered how it was handled.

After reviewing the reports, the town board discovered those monies had been moved and were reflected in the wrong spot. The town board agreed to file and receive both the February and March financial reports.

**Guest Questions and Concerns;**

Dog Control Officer Sherrick attended remotely and expressed his concerns on not being able to issue any appearance tickets, and reported some dog licenses are getting behind.

Supervisor Nabinger said we're going to have waive these things, with everything being closed, and wait until things open up again.

Recreation Director Dale Palmer attended remotely and spoke on his hiring of staff for the summer, and the school had informed him that they're not doing a summer program this year.

Supervisor Nabinger commented that that was entirely not true and questioned his source of this information. Palmer stated that he spoke to Elementary School Principal Jennifer Henderson four to five days ago about this.

Nabinger said she emailed School Superintendent Tim Ryan, and found that these types of programs plan to be open as a 'daycare' for essential and non-essential workers and are being regulated by the state. She read the email from School Superintendent Ryan and concluded that the school is available, if things pan out.

Palmer stated he had heard differently, and that the school is not holding these programs.

He indicated that the town board needs to make a decision on whether or not these programs will be open.

Councilwoman Hromada agreed with Palmer, and stated we need to make a decision, so these kids know on whether or not they have a job this summer.

Supervisor Nabinger shared with the town board, her communication she had with the county and how the county has a plan and regulations for towns that have pools.

Councilwoman Hromada expressed her concerns about opening the pool and having people in such a small space, and the town doesn't have money.

Supervisor Nabinger stated she would rather see the playground program be open, than the pool. The town board held discussion on this topic. She told Recreation Director Palme she would let him know once a decision had been made.

Palmer asked the town board if the town could pay his staff something to do other projects, if the pool were not to open.

Mayor Wade attended remotely and informed the town board that the village decided against issuing a parade permit for the Memorial Day Parade. He said the village was struggling on whether or not to open the flea market in the park as well. Wade expressed the importance of being consistent in approach with the town, when it comes to opening these types of programs. He spoke on the different phases with opening things up and how public gatherings are affected by this.

Supervisor Nabinger informed Mayor Wade of the farmers market that Chris Brown is planning to have at the Old Hickory Antique Store on Memorial Day Weekend.

Wade reminded the town board of the Dog Control Officer issue we have and asked Supervisor Nabinger to explain the current situation.

Nabinger said she understood that Town Dog Control Officer Bill Sherrick was the back up for Village Dog Officer Scott Webb and Amy Cross was the back up for Town Dog Control Officer Bill Sherrick.

Due to a recent situation, where Amy Cross picked up a dog at the Delaware Humane Society without any authority and took the dog to SPCA, the village then had to pay the SPCA for this dog.

The town board held discussion on the backups for our dog control officers, and being consistent to eliminate any confusion.

Supervisor Nabinger proposed that Town Dog Control Officer Sherrick and Village Dog Control Officer Webb, be each other's back up.

**RESOLUTION #3**

Motion was made by Councilman Evans, second by Councilwoman Hromada, to make Village Dog Control Officer Webb the back up for Town Dog Control Officer Sherrick and to eliminate Amy Cross's services.

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilwoman Hromada, Councilman Evans, Councilwoman Sienko; No: Councilwoman Johnson; Motion Carried.

Nabinger confirmed with Mayor Wade that he would draft a letter to Amy Cross letting her know that her services were no longer needed, and Town Clerk McKown would do the same thing for the town. Wade and McKown would compare their letters to make sure, we were on the same page.

Wade asked that we make sure that the Delaware Humane Society and SPCA do not accept any dogs from the Town of Bainbridge, unless they come from Bill Sherrick or Scott Webb.

Received and filed the reports from our Dog Control Officer, Sanitation Officer, and Assessor.

Councilwoman Sienko inquired about the location of the house being built on Searles Hill Road. Supervisor Nabinger said that at this time the location is undetermined.

Supervisor Nabinger brought up Grievance Day, and asked how that would play out for this year. The town board agreed to hold Grievance Day with the same set up in the meeting room as the town board meetings, and would go on as planned.

Nabinger asked Town Clerk McKown to contact Board of Assessment Chair Randy Lambrecht to let him know and to note there will be 'No Public' restrooms during that night.

**YOUTH PROGRAM**

Pool Superintendent Richman told the town board that he had put in new wood chips in at Payne Park, and had received many compliments on it.

**TOWN HALL**

Highway Superintendent Richman mentioned there was money left over from the grant money we received, and reminded the town board of the quote he had gotten from Nico Stoian of $5,500.00 for the prepping and painting the walls in downstairs of the town hall.

Supervisor Nabinger told the town board we have a balance of $27,526.00, that we can still submit vouchers in for.

The town board held conversation about all the work that would be done under the quote of $5,500.00 and the other contractors that had been contacted prior to settling on Nico Stoian.

**RESOLUTION #4**

Motion was made by Councilwoman Hromada, second by Councilman Evans, to go with Nico Stoian on painting the downstairs of the town hall.

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilwoman Hromada, Councilman Evans, Councilwoman Johnson, Councilwoman Sienko; No: none; Motion Carried.

Richman talked about the quotes he had gotten from Waldron's Flooring to do the flooring for the downstairs of the town hall. Waldron's provided these quotes:

Carpet installed from the meeting room door to the front door of the town hall at a cost of $1628.00.

Flooring installed from the meeting room door to the front door of the town hall at a cost of $3,386.00.

Councilwoman Hromada stated we had already decided we did not want carpet.

Councilwoman Johnson added that we agreed to have a hard panel wood flooring from the meeting room into Town Clerk McKown's office.

The town board discussed flooring and where they could get prices on flooring. Supervisor Nabinger suggested that Richman get in contact with Kauffmans, Justice Construction and Pierson's to get some prices. She also asked Councilwoman Johnson to look into this as well.

The town board shared different ideas for flooring inside the town hall and paint colors for the walls.

Highway Superintendent Richman reminded the town board of 'White Goods' Day on June 6th and the price for our dumpster is the same.

Councilwoman Sienko asked how things would be handled now with the Coronavirus, and if we should be handling people's belongings. The town board talked about this and what would be best.

Supervisor Nabinger proposed that this year's 'White Goods' Day would be 'Self Serve', the Town will not be unloading this year and the dumpster will be available.

Councilwoman Sienko asked Town Clerk McKown to send her the notice for the 'White Goods' Day.

Supervisor Nabinger confirmed with Mayor Wade that the Metal Recycling Station is still open to the public to bring their recyclables.

**HIGHWAY**

Highway Superintendent Richman told the town board his department has been digging a lot of ditches. A large culvert pipe was recently installed on Searles Hill Road, with the help of Town of Guilford's excavator, and there is still one more culvert pipe to do on Butts Road. He talked about some road signs that were stolen, but the NYS Troopers had caught the people that had taken them, and those signs had to be replaced. The town board talked about the costs to replace those signs.

Richman spoke on the fallen trees that had to be taken care of and his department was busy getting ready to do their shim mix and blacktop for the roads, and been mowing the cemeteries.

Councilwoman Sienko asked Richman about the roads he planned to do this year. Richman said he wants to do Ireland, Kelly and Mertz Road.

Supervisor Nabinger announced she and Highway Superintendent Richman had attended a webinar on CHIPS money, and that as of right now, the CHIPS money is suppose to be the same as last year. She said that in theory, if the Governor cuts the CHIPS money from all towns, everything from Suit Co., roads and infrastructure would be affected.

Councilwoman Hromada stated that doesn't matter, because the Governor is not making any promises.

Councilman Evans opened a conversation on this matter and confirmed with everyone they'd received the paperwork he'd provided, on the lack of money and revenue loss the town is now dealing with. Evans went over the details of this paperwork and the loss of sales tax revenue by 33%. He stated we need to make a cut either in our General Road Repairs or Personnel Services in our Highway Department. The town board discussed the matter and our options, on what would be the best possible solution to help the situation.

Mayor Wade stated the Village is in the same situation, with a 25% sales tax revenue loss.

Supervisor Nabinger added that schools in the county are also in rough shape.

Councilwoman Johnson said that our Personnel Services for the Highway are at $53,000.00, which would leave $40,000.00 more to cut. If we cut a Highway employee, we still need to cut our General Repairs by 25%.

Councilman Evans stated in the absence of reducing the highway department's payroll by eliminating a position, he would propose a budget of $85,000.00 for

oil and stone. This would allow Highway Superintendent Richman to only spend $100,000.00, and this would include that $85,000.00.

Supervisor Nabinger reaffirmed that with $132,000.00 in General Repairs, Highway Superintendent Richman would only have a limit of $15,000.00 from that, including $85,000.00 from CHIPS. This is the total that could be spent for road work repairs in the absence of eliminating a highway employee.

Councilman Evans said he was hopeful that the county's projection for loss of sales tax wouldn't be as bad. He concluded Highway Superintendent Richman may have a total of $30,000.00, with a minimum of $85,000.00 from CHIPS, that he can spend this year.

The town board commended Highway Superintendent Richman on all the work he has done on the roads in the town. They asked Richman to keep track of his spending on road repairs for the rest of the year.

Councilman Evans said we need to really look at 'manpower' at budget time this year.

Councilwoman Hromada brought up the medical insurance, and that at one time, the employee contributed 10% every pay period. Now, they only pay 10% a month, which has hurt us.

The Town Board held a conversation on how the sales tax from the county gets distributed.

Councilman Evans brought up the General A Fund, and how there needed to be some changes there as well. He talked about the loss of revenue with Clinton Park, court fees, mortgage tax, and state revenue sharing. Evans said we really need to look at the Town Pool as a means of saving some money.

Councilwoman Hromada stated she is not comfortable with opening the pool up under the circumstances of the Coronavirus. She said we are far from being done with this, and that we are asking our guards to 'police' the situation.

Councilwoman Johnson expressed her sadness about the situation, and that it's hard to ask little kids to social distance themselves. She added it's not fair to put the lifeguards on hold, that there 'might' be a pool season.

Supervisor Nabinger asked to consider holding off on shutting down the Playground Program until next week. The town board discussed this matter and what would be best.

**RESOLUTION #5**

Motion was made by Councilwoman Hromada, second by Councilman Evans, to close the Town Pool and the Summer Program for this summer season based on the COVID-19 concerns.

Ayes: Councilwoman Hromada, Councilman Evans, Councilwoman Johnson, Councilwoman Sienko; No: Supervisor Nabinger; Motion Carried.

Councilwoman Johnson suggested putting some kind of notice of remorse on our Facebook page and Website about closing the pool and summer program.

The town board had a discussion on the camping at Clinton Park and whether or not to open the bathrooms.

Councilman Evans brought up a conversation he had with County Emergency Management Officer Matt Beckwith about getting the fire departments to purchase paint sprayers with hydrogen peroxide to fog their apparatus and gear when they come back from a call. Evans asked about using something like this for our bathrooms.

Supervisor Nabinger suggested we leave camping open, but keep the bathrooms at Clinton Park closed.

**TOWN CLERK**

The town board asked Town Clerk McKown about the events that are scheduled at the park. McKown brought the reservation book for Clinton Park and Payne Park into the meeting. He shared with the town board the events that are scheduled in the month of June.

The town board advised McKown to reach out to the people who have events scheduled for June and let them know they will not be able to hold their events due to circumstances of COVID-19.

**RESOLUTION #6**

Motion was made by Councilwoman Johnson, second by Councilwoman Sienko, to cancel all events at Clinton Park and Payne Park for the month of June, that we'll readdress things next month and the bathrooms will stay closed.

Ayes: Supervisor Nabinger, Councilwoman Hromada, Councilman Evans, Councilwoman Johnson, Councilwoman Sienko; No: none; Motion Carried.

Supervisor Nabinger stated that the county is not able to monitor everything that's going on, and that they're only handling the complaints that are coming in.

The town board talked about businesses that are open right now, and the positive and negative outcomes from being open.

Town Clerk McKown talked abouty the issues he had resolved with the Fleetpride and Ameripride bills. He said people in the community had asked him where they could find the masks that were distributed from the county and why it wasn't posted.

Mayor Wade stated they had a limited supply and were only handing them out to those that asked for them.

McKown told the town board that he had a call from someone who wanted to conduct a tai chi class at Clinton Park. Councilwoman Hromada suggested they check back with us once things start opening up.

Town Clerk McKown shared with the town board a testimonial he had received from Passport America from camper Michael Miller, who commented on the reasonable price , friendly people and peaceful location.

Councilwoman Sienko agreed with Councilwoman Hromada that Ron Sherman should provide a logging of his dates when he shovels on his invoice.

She asked about our water and sewer bills and what appropriated funds are used to cover those costs.

Supervisor Nabinger told Councilwoman Sienko that she would let JR Bogert of Gates- Cole know that our pool is closed for the summer.

Councilwoman Johnson brought up her email to Rich Cunningham of Thoma, and the grant money we didn't receive. She said she is waiting from a response from the state, and will resend her email to Cunningham. Johnson brought up the negative numbers in the financial reports, under the disability insurance.

Councilwoman Hromada commented on the $503.70 in the Trust & Agency account for payroll liability, but we paid the disability out of our budget, for which we don't budget for. She added disability comes out of our paychecks.

Councilwoman Johnson asked if line item A9055.8 can be removed completely.

She brought up the Equipment Rental line item under the DB Fund, and asked if that line item could be taken out. Johnson said these monies should come out of the DA Fund under Equipment.

Supervisor Nabinger said she is meeting with Bookkeeper Sherman tomorrow to do the Annual Report and enter in the 'Actual' numbers for 2019.

Councilman Evans asked Superintendent Nabinger when the Annual Report is due. Nabinger said it's due the end of March, but we were given an extension until the end of May.

Supervisor Nabinger commented on the garbage that was picked up on County Rd 39 by Michael and Alicia DeShaw. She spoke on the boat launch signs that are still not up. Nabinger mentioned the pedestrian signs at the circle.

Motion to Adjourn at 8:48PM

Respectively Submitted,

Aric McKown

Town Clerk