

TOWN OF DEPOSIT MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The Town of Deposit held their regular Town Board Meeting on Tuesday, June 13, 2023 at 5:00pm. Councilmen present- Carl Clark, Robert Mills, William Morley, and Lonny Schaefer. Town Supervisor-Thomas Axtell, Highway Superintendent- Daniel Axtell, Town Attorney-Richard Lewis, Code Enforcement Officer-Peter Hathaway, Bookkeeper-Rebecca Walley, Town Clerk Beverly Hartz, and Deputy Town Clerk- Elizabeth Polomcean

1.1 Public Hearing on Local Law #1 establishing a moratorium on commercial Solar Projects- Bridget Davis asked if any company has asked about building a Solar Project. Town Clerk Hartz stated that there have not been any applications proposed to the Town.

James Michalac stated that he thought it was a good idea for the moratorium on commercial solar projects. He stated that he feels there should be restrictions and a structure for recycling the solar panels that the industry is not addressing. He stated that he feels the moratorium should be in effect until the recycling issues are addressed.

Town Attorney Lewis stated that recycling does need to be addressed. He stated that the goal is to have a plan to make the solar projects as safe non injurious as possible, with in regards to erosion, the slope, and glare. He stated that the Town Board is being as careful as possible to make sure the issues have been investigated and made as safe and palatable as possible. He stated that the Board should be commended about trying to make the issues as safe as possible.

There was no further discussion with the Public Hearing. Supervisor Axtell closed the Public Hearing at 5:09pm.

1.2 Public Participation- James Michalac stated that he was grateful the Town paved Neale Road when they said they would.

2.0- Minutes and Reports

2.1 The Town Board Meeting minutes from May 9, 2023 were reviewed. Councilman Mills made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilman Morley seconded. Motion carried.

2.2 The Payment of Bills was reviewed. The bills that were paid in General Fund 133-156. Highway Fund- Item #1-16-23, Item #3-50-56, Item #4-21. Councilman Clark made a motion to accept the payment of bills. Councilman Morley seconded. Motion carried.

2.3 The Financial Report- Councilman Mills made the motion to accept the Financial Report. Councilman Morley Seconded. Motion carried.

2.4 The Highway Department –Highway Superintendent Axtell stated they installed a drainage pipe at the dead end on Neale Road, did touch ups and pot holes were filled. Rebates were cut on Neale Road and Town Shed Roads. Neale Road, Town Shed Road, Nettie Axtell Road, and bottom 1/10th of a mile on Michigan Hollow Road were paved. Berms were removed on the shoulders of Columbia Lake, Silver Lake, and Crystal Lake Roads. The turnaround at the dead end on McCabe Hollow Road was dressed up. A tree stump was dug out on Hale Eddy Road, as well as drainage work done on Hale Eddy Spur. Steam Mill Road, and Hungry Hollow Roads had the ditches dug out and regraded as well as millings put down. Millings were put down in various turnarounds, driveway aprons were done after paving, as well as mowing in various location. 90 tons of cold mix pavement were put on the lower end of McCabe Hollow Road. Inspections were done on the wood chipper, roller, etc., and worn hoses were replaced. Truck #4 was taken to Matthews Ford in Norwich for a front-end recall. The brake Canister was replaced on Truck #12, as well as exhaust leaks, brake adjustment, and general service. The Highway Department did attend excavator training in Walton on May 11. Superintendent Axtell also stated that the Highway Department was contacted by the Delaware County Sheriff’s Department about the removal of an Emu carcass on County Highway 20. Councilman Morley made a motion to accept the Highway report. Councilman Clark seconded. Motion carried.

2.5 No Health Officer report at this time.

2.6 Code Enforcement Officer Report- CEO Hathaway stated there was five building permits issued this month; two for the demolition of a trailer, one for updating the septic, one for a garage, and one for a pole structure. An inspection was done for 699 Catskirondack Rd. The final inspection at the former Beaver Mountain Homes and one pool was done, one building still needs fire code sheetrock on garage ceiling. A letter was set to an owner on County Highway 20 for junk vehicles, the owner has contacted the CEO about cleaning them up. CEO Hathaway talked with DEC about the floodway and home on Airport Road, about a demolition and rebuild, the information was given to the owner. On June 8 and 9 6 credits of code class were completed. CEO Hathaway had a meeting with the town attorney and Catskirondack Road Association about the gate, to move the gate and install an automatic opener or remove the gate. Councilman Mills made a motion to accept the Code Officer Report. Councilman Morley seconded. Motion carried.

2.7 Planning Board Meeting Report- There was a public hearing on the cell tower being proposed by Verizon Wireless on Route 8. A land owner questioned the access road and how it would affect his property if there was storm water. The Planning Board recommended the company's engineer to assess the access road and come back with their results at the next meeting. Councilman Morley made the motion to accept the Planning Board report. Councilman Clark seconded. Motion carried.

2.8 The Dog Control Officer Report-The DCO report stated that there were five calls for this past month. Four were for a dog at large, one had tickets issued, one was taken to the shelter, and two no dogs were found. One call was to assist Delaware County Sheriff with an eviction with a dog. Councilman Mills made a motion to accept the Dog Control Officer report. Councilman Morley seconded. Motion carried.

2.9 Town Clerk Report was reviewed. Town Clerk Hartz stated that there were a few certified deaths this month and one marriage license. Councilman Mills asked if the number for certified deaths was the total number of deaths. Town Clerk Hartz stated that no that is the number of copies of a death certificate request.

Councilman Mills made a motion to accept the Town Clerk report. Councilman Morley seconded. Motion carried.

3.0- Old Business

3.1- Reappointment to the Board of Appeals: 1 year term Nichole Anderson: 2 year Term Dawn Faulkner. Councilman Clark made a motion to reappoint both people to the Board of Appeals. Councilman Mills seconded. Motion carried.

3.2- Discuss having Planning Board minutes done by Beverly Hartz at \$30 per meeting. It was stated that Currently Shelly Johnson-Bennet does the minutes for the Planning Board meetings, but that she does have a lot to do and sometimes does not get them done timely and sometimes not at all. It was stated that the Town Board used to pay someone to do the minutes for the Planning Board meetings. Councilman Morley made a motion to have Beverly Hartz do the Planning Board meeting minutes. Councilman Clark Seconded. Motion carried.

4.0- New Business-

4.1- Accept the SEQR report and accept there is a negative declaration of environmental impact as a result of the moratorium. Before the SEQR could be voted on Councilman Schaefer, due to his lateness to the meeting, inquired about the public hearing and if there were any negative comments about the

moratorium. Town Attorney Lewis stated that there were no negative comments about the moratorium. Councilman Mills made a motion to accept the SEQR report. Councilman Schaefer seconded. Motion carried.

4.2- Adopt Local Law #1 of 2023 establishing a 1-year moratorium on commercial Solar Projects. Councilman Morley made a motion to adopt Local Law #1. Councilman Clark seconded. Motion carried.

5.0-Informational Items-

5.1- Thursday morning will be a meeting with the union representatives to discuss the new union contract for the Highway Department.

5.2 American Power and Gas NY called to state that they can get the Town a better deal for the electric used for the town buildings. They stated that it would be a contract for 48 months but the Town can cancel at any time with no cancellation fees. Supervisor Axtell stated that the current rates through NYSE&G is \$0.15 per kilowatt hour and \$0.64 for gas. American Power and Gas stated that they can get the rates down to \$0.1099 per kilowatt hour and \$0.56 for gas. Bookkeeper Walley stated that it's good to look for a lower rate but to be careful because there are companies that state you used to be with them but weren't actually.

5.3 Superintendent Axtell stated that June 24th from 9am to 12pm at the Highway Garage there will be a white goods, scape metal, and tires cleanup day. He stated that no businesses are allowed to dispose of their white goods. He also stated that tires up to 20 inches will be taken. He stated that no electronics, paint, or chemicals will be accepted.

5.4 Superintendent Axtell stated that starting July 10th some roads will be getting stone and oil that were previous paved. He stated that the residents that live on these roads will be contacted closer to the date.

Councilman Morley made a motion to adjourn meeting at 5:40pm. Councilman Clark seconded. Motion carried.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, July 11, 2023 at 5:00pm

Beverly Hartz
Town Clerk