

June 8, 2022

The Town Board of the Town of Harpersfield held a regular meeting on June 8, 2022.

Present were: James Eisel Sr., Supervisor
Matthew J. Taylor, Councilmember
Patrick F. Funk, Councilmember
Lisa M. Driscoll, Councilmember
Erik R. Reeve, Councilmember

Also present: Russell Hatch, Supt. of Highways
Linda E. Goss, Town Clerk

Others present: Henry Browning
Gloria Anderson
Elizabeth Page, Editor for The Mountain Eagle
Duane Martin, Editor for The Reporter

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Supervisor James Eisel Sr..

Supervisor Eisel led the Board and those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Supervisor Eisel asked if the Board had received the minutes from the regular meeting held on May 11, 2022? The Board had received the minutes. Supervisor Eisel asked the Board if they had any questions, comments or corrections to be made to the minutes? The Board had no questions, comments, or corrections to be made to the minutes. A motion to accept the minutes from the regular meeting held on May 11, 2022 as presented was made by Patrick F. Funk seconded by Lisa M. Driscoll. All voting Aye.

Linda E. Goss reported to the Board that the Supervisor's Annual Financial Report for 2021 has been filed in the Office of the Town Clerk. Ms. Goss presented the Annual Financial Reports for the Town and Transfer Station to the Board.

Supervisor Eisel informed the Board that in their packets there is a report from NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Water, Bureau of Flood Protection and Dam Safety for Korianski Pond Dam. This report is information for the Town Board. NYS DEC is working with the property owners to correct issues found at the structure. Councilmember Funk asked where this structure is located? Russell Hatch answered it is at the intersection of Champlin Road and Titus Lake Road. A discussion was had.

Supervisor Eisel updated the Board on Austin Road and Titus Lake Road. The Code Enforcement Officer has sent a violation letter to the property owner on Titus Lake Road. The property owner has begun working on cleaning up. The property owner on Austin Road has also been working with the Code Enforcement Officer to remove the two junk trailers on their property. A discussion was had.

Russell Hatch informed the Board that the Town has two gravel banks. The land owner where the Town currently has one gravel bank, has another gravel bank in their name. They want to turn the mineral rights for that gravel bank over to the Town. There are a couple of reasons why they want to turn the mineral rights for the gravel bank over to the Town. The first reason is so that every year they do not have to put up a bond. The second reason is there is a lot of paperwork in renewing mining permits. With this transfer Russell would take over the paperwork for the mining of the gravel bank. The discussion continued. Linda Goss asked Russell what type of legal documentation will he have to have to take over this gravel bank? Russell answered that the transfer of mineral rights is just a two page form. It is pretty simple. A lawyer does not need to get involved. Councilmember Funk asked what does the land owner want for these mineral rights? Russell answered that the Town pays between \$5,000.00 to \$10,000.00 per year for all of our sand and gravel to the property owner. The Town gets a bill annually for each yard of material that they remove from the gravel bank. This is a huge savings to the Town. If the Town had to purchase sand each year from a private company the cost would be between \$20,000.00 to \$30,000.00. That does not include any of the gravel products the Town would need. Supervisor Eisel added that the Municipality would not have to bond. Russell agreed. Councilmember Taylor added that he had gone with Russell up to the gravel bank and there is a lot of gravel there. A motion was made for Russell Hatch, Town Highway Superintendent to go ahead and transfer the mineral rights from the gravel bank to the Town was made by Patrick F. Funk seconded by Matthew J. Taylor. All voting Aye.

Russell Hatch informed the Board that he has just received some information from Delaware County Soil and Water that NYS DEC will have grant funds for culvert replacements. The grants will be for water quality improvement projects. One grant is going to be \$500,000.00 for stream repairs which would be total culvert replacements. The other grant is going to be for \$250,000.00 for aquatic restoration which Russell thinks culvert pipes would qualify. Delaware County Soil and Water will do the grant applications, administer the grant for the Town, design the project, file the permits and oversee construction. The Town would be required to put up a match of 25%. This match would include in kind service. Delaware County Soil and Water can only put in five applications for all of Delaware County. The discussion continued.

Councilmember Taylor asked what project did Russell have in mind for these grants? Russell answered Reed Road. That really needs some work. It is a big project. Supervisor Eisel asked another box culvert? Russell answered yes. Linda E. Goss added that Delaware County Soil and Water have done work there before. Russell added that he has been trying to get a grant for this culvert pipe for a long time. Councilmember Driscoll asked how big is this pipe? Russell answered that right now the culvert pipe is six feet. It needs to have eighty four square feet

which would be larger than the Austin Road culvert. These grant applications need to be in by July 29, 2022. Russell will begin working on this tomorrow. Anytime there is grant funding available Russell puts this project in for consideration. Delaware County Soil and Water should have all of the necessary paperwork already on file for the applications. Councilmember Driscoll asked Russell did he ever ask why those other applications for grant funds were denied? Russell answered no he did not ask. Councilmember Driscoll suggested that maybe he should ask Delaware County Soil and Water why so that the new applications can be updated for a better chance at being accepted. The discussion continued. Supervisor Eisel asked have we ever applied for a grant for this project? Russell answered not from NYS DEC. He has applied for NYS DEP grants for this project. The discussion continued.

Russell Hatch reported to the Board that the dump box that we ordered has been delivered to the Town.

Councilmember Driscoll asked Russell how was the Austin Road project coming along? Russell answered that after the last Board meeting he submitted the paperwork to Delaware Engineering. Delaware Engineering contacted Binghamton Precast & Supply Corporation about the Town's concerns with the NYS DEC stream permit expiring at the end of September. They came back with the culvert could be delivered at the end of August the beginning of September. Councilmember Driscoll asked can the project could be done this year? Russell answered it is possible to do this project this year. If we start this project in August then NYS DEC would be more willing to offer an extension on the stream permit. If we do not have the materials they are not going to give the Town an extension. The discussion continued.

Russell Hatch asked the Board that since the delivery of a new truck will take two years do you think it would be a good time to get the bid specs for and order a new truck? Supervisor Eisel asked write a grant for a new truck? Russell answered yes. Is the Foundation still breaking up grants into two year payments? Supervisor Eisel answered that the last grant was the first time that had happened. Russell continued if the grant payment is going to be split into two years, now would be a good time to write a grant for a new truck. The discussion continued. Russell will get the specs and cost of a new truck together so that Supervisor Eisel can write a grant for it.

A motion to accept the Tax Collector's May monthly report with the Town receiving bank interest in the amount of \$.65 and the County Treasurer's Office receiving bank interest in the amount of \$.65 was made by Patrick F. Funk seconded by Lisa M. Driscoll. All voting Aye.

A motion to accept the Town Clerk's May report in the amount of \$834.16 was made by Patrick F. Funk seconded by Lisa M. Driscoll. All voting Aye.

The abstract and vouchers for the month of May were presented to the Board. Presented were General Claims #114 to #138 in the amount of \$7,918.79; Highway Claims #083 to #098 in the amount of \$16,953.81 and Transfer Station Claims #021 to #024 in the amount of \$959.08. Councilmember Taylor asked about the payment to Delaware Engineering and where are we

with the original approved amount? Linda E. Goss answered that this payment is the third payment that the Town has made to Delaware Engineering. The original amount that the Town agreed to was \$15,700.00. After this third payment is made there is a balance of \$3,502.00. A motion to pay the vouchers as presented was made by Patrick F. Funk seconded by Matthew J. Taylor. All voting Aye.

Councilmember Funk asked about purchasing an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) for the Transfer Station. He had received a quote from Cardio Partners for a Ready to Ship, Recertified, Cardiac Science Powerheart G3 Plus AED – Auto with pads for adults and children, battery, case, kit, wall cabinet with window and alarm and sign in the amount of \$791.64. \$733.00 without tax. Councilmember Funk stated that the defibrillator is guaranteed for three years and the battery is guaranteed for four years. Supervisor Eisel asked will the employees need to be trained to use the defibrillator? Councilmember Taylor answered that when using the machine it is self-explanatory. The machine guides you though what to do. When you take a CPR course they walk you through using an AED. Russell informed the Board that the Highway employees will need to take the CPR course this year and the Transfer Station employees can be added to take the course. Councilmember Reeve asked does the machine need to be inspected or certified? Councilmember Funk answered that there is a maintenance check that needs to be done monthly that lets you know that the battery is all right. The discussion continued. A motion was made that the Town purchase an AED for the Transfer Station was made by Patrick F. Funk seconded by Matthew J. Taylor. All voting Aye.

The Supervisor's report for the month of April was issued to the Board.

Supervisor Eisel informed the Board that he has just received the fund balances as of 12/31/2021 this afternoon. He ask that the Town Board look them over and get back to him with any questions.

Supervisor Eisel updated the Board on the not for profit ambulance. He has talked to Town Attorney Kevin Young who was going to talk to the Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation and is trying to work out a formula on land assessment values. Within the next couple of weeks Kevin hopes to have a meeting with the three Town Supervisors. Duane Martin informed the Board that Mr. Young had contacted Headwaters EMS, Inc. Attorney Terry Hannigan. A meeting has been scheduled with both Attorneys, the Board of Headwaters EMS, Inc. and Hancock and Sidney EMS on Thursday, June 16, 2022.

Councilmember Driscoll asked what is the Street Light district? Linda E. Goss answered that in North Harpersfield the Town has fourteen street lights. The line in the budget is to pay the electric bill for those street lights. The discussion continued.

Gloria Anderson informed the Board that she has seen the new sign over at the Transfer Station informing the public which days they will be closed for the Fourth of July holiday. The new sign looks good.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 PM.

The next regular meeting of the Town Board will be held on Wednesday, July 13, 2022 at 7:00 PM.

Linda E. Goss

Town Clerk