

TOWN OF PERTH
Regular Town Board Meeting
May 4, 2023
6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Supervisor Fagan, Councilman Lewandowski, Councilman Betz, Councilman Fisher, and Councilman Barker

ALSO PRESENT; Town Clerk, Judith English; Highway Superintendent, David Dopp; Town Attorney, Carmel Greco Esq.; Fire Chief of the Perth Volunteer Fire Company, Peter Watrobski; Tax Collector, Ann Morck; Member of the Perth Planning Board, Treavor Gilday; Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, Joseph Priamo; Member of the Board of Assessment Review, Paul Priamo; Sole Assessor, David Walendziak; Acting Forman of the Highway Department; Richard Wallace; Custodian, Robert Nolan; Lynn Morck; Lisa Spakoski; Kevin Sitterly and James Skiff.

Supervisor Fagan opened the Meeting at 6:01 p.m. A salute to the flag was conducted and a moment of silent prayer observed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the Regular Town Board Meeting held on April 6, 2023 were offered for approval by Councilman Lewandowski and seconded by Councilman Betz. All were in favor; motion carried.

UPDATE FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

Councilman Lewandowski read the **Assessor's Report**, a copy of which will be filed with these minutes. The 2023 Tentative Assessment Roll was finished, printed and certified by May 1st. Grievance Day will be held on Tuesday, May 23rd from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Town Hall Complex.

Councilman Lewandowski also read the **Perth Youth Commission Report**, a copy of which will be filed with these minutes. T-Ball will begin on Friday, May 12th. Registration for Summer Camp will be held on May 18th and June 1st from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Highway Superintendent, David Dopp, reported for the Highway Department that all is going well. He states that they are busy working on the intersections with the mini grader. They are cleaning up the shoulders of the road from the winter snow plowing. The grader is working out fine. He has asked the Town Board to also buy a rock rake to use on the shoulders of the road.

Trash week went well with a lot of residents bring material over to the garage. Residents could also pick up their new trash cans at the same time. The paving contracts were awarded to Cobleskill Stone Products for the road paving and to Gabriel Paving for the Town Hall Complex west driveway.

Town Attorney, Carmel Greco Esq., reported that he has filed the SEQR Report for Local Law #2-2023. He also states that Local Law #3-2023 is ready to be introduced entitled "A Local Law to Provide Real Property Tax Exemptions for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers Pursuant to Section 466-A of the Real Property Tax Law.

Fire Chief of the Perth Volunteer Fire Company, **Peter Watrobski**, stated that the Firemen have been receiving information regarding fires caused by lithium batteries in electric scooters, electric cars computers and other devices. They are going for training in how to handle these fires. They are extremely dangerous.

He went on to say that New York State has raised its tax exemption for firemen and EMT's to \$600 .00. Fulton County has followed and offered an exemption, and it is hoped that all of the Towns in the County will follow suit. This is not the whole answer but it is a step in the right direction.

Custodian, Robert Nolan, told the Town Board that Youth Commission Director, Lisa Wallace told him that the playground in the Town Park needs more mulch in order to be safe for the children to use. She would like to use rubber mulch because it is better for the kids.

Supervisor Fagan, reported that the small garbage cans will be delivered to the Town on Monday. There will be a pick up for the cans scheduled for the next week on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Those who cannot pick them up can ask for delivery of the cans.

The use of the new garbage truck is scheduled for May 30th. When the new truck starts picking up the garbage only garbage in the new cans will be picked up. There will be no pickup of trash left outside of the can. The can must be placed according to directions. The time of pick-up at your residence may change since the truck will be going down one side of the road, and then the other side.

Joseph Priamo asked if there was a limit to the number of cans that can be put out. **Superintendent Dopp** told him that there was no limit on the cans but all garbage must be in the can.

Supervisor Fagan also reported that the New York State 2023 Budget has passed. The Counties in the State took a huge hit regarding mandated expenses. There are many troubling items in the budget, one of which will outlaw any new construction in the State to allow the use of gas for heating furnaces or for cooking stoves. Buildings must be all electric with no fossil fuel use. The grid has a hard time keeping up with demand for electricity now and solar and/or wind power does not seem to be the answer.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS

Lisa Spakoski wished to voice her opposition to having solar farms in the Town of Perth. She asked what was being done to regulate them. Supervisor Fagan told her that the Town of Perth Planning Board has been working on the Zoning Laws of the Town, and at the last Town Board Meeting in April the Town Board approved Local Law #2-2023 which will change some of the regulations regarding solar farms. This information is in the April Minutes which are on the Town of Perth Official Web Site. The Town cannot prohibit solar farms but they can regulate them.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION # 52- AWARD PAVING BID FOR 2023

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth awards the paving bid for Town Roads for 2023 to Cobleskill Stone Products Inc. at a price of \$75.25 per ton in place.

Offered by: Councilman Fisher
Seconded by: Councilman Lewandowski

A vote was taken with the Supervisor and all of the Councilmen present voting in favor; motion carried.

RESOLUTION #53- AWARD THE PAVING BID FOR DRIVEWAY

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth awards the bid for the paving of the Town of Perth Complex west driveway to Gabriel Paving at a cost of \$4,800.00 for the project.

Offered by: Councilman Fisher
Seconded by: Councilman Betz

A vote was taken with the Supervisor and all of the Councilmen present voting in favor; motion carried.

RESOLUTION #54- AUTHORIZE A GRIEVANCE DAY CLERK

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth authorizes the Assessor to hire Cassidy Von Stettina as a clerk for Grievance Day on Tuesday, May 23, 2023, to be paid by voucher.

Offered by: Councilman Lewandowski
Seconded by: Councilman Betz

A vote was taken with the Supervisor and all of the Councilmen present voting in favor; motion carried.

RESOLUTION #55- AMEND THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth amends the General Fund Budget as follows:

Reduce Account A9730 Bond Proceeds by \$100,000.00

Increase Account A2770.00 Unclassified Revenue by \$100,000.00 using State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds.

Offered by: Councilman Lewandowski

Seconded by: Councilman Betz

A vote was taken with the Supervisor and all of the Councilmen present voting in favor; motion carried.

RESOLUTION # 56- AUTHORIZE PAYMENT FOR NEW GARBAGE TRUCK

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth authorizes the payment of the amount of \$307,205.00 to CEJJ Inc. for the purchase of a 2023 Mack LR64R truck with 2023 Labrie Automizer Right hand, 31 cubic yard refuse packer, to be charged to Account A8160.2 Refuse & Garbage Equipment.

Offered by: Councilman Betz

Seconded by: Councilman Fisher

A vote was taken with the Supervisor and all of the Councilmen present voting in favor; motion carried.

RESOLUTION #57- AUTHORIZE LETTER OF ENGAGEMENT FOR LEGAL SUPPORT FOR SOLAR PROJECT REVIEWS

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth authorizes the Supervisor to sign a letter of engagement with Johnson & Lewis, LLC for legal support for the Planning Board as needed for solar project reviews, with fees paid by the applicant when appropriate.

Offered by: Councilman Lewandowski

Seconded by: Councilman Fisher

A vote was taken with the Supervisor and all of the Councilmen present voting in favor; motion carried.

RESOLUTION # 58- AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN AGREEMENT WITH NBT INSURANCE AGENCY

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth authorizes the Supervisor to sign an agreement with NBT Insurance Agency LLC, and Emerson Reid, LLC to serve as the Town's producer of record regarding health care benefits through Highmark BSNENY; subject to Town Attorney, Carmel Greco's review.

Offered by: Councilman Lewandowski

Seconded by: Councilman Betz

A vote was taken with the Supervisor and all of the Councilmen present voting in favor; motion carried.

RESOLUTION # 59- INTRODUCE LOCAL LAW #3-2023

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth introduces Local Law #3-2023 entitled "A Local Law to Provide Real Property Tax Exemptions for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers Pursuant to Section 466-A of the Real Property Tax Law", and to schedule a Public Hearing regarding this law on Thursday, June 1, 2023 at 6:05 p.m. at the Town Hall Complex.

Offered by: Councilman Fisher

Seconded by: Councilman Betz

A vote was taken with the Supervisor and all of the Councilmen present voting in favor; motion carried.

RESOLUTION # 60- AUTHORIZE THE PPURCHASE OF A USED ROCK RAKE

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth authorizes the purchase of a used rock rake from H&M Equipment at a cost of \$4,000.00, to be charged to Account DA5130.2 Machine Equipment.

Offered by: Councilman Fisher

Seconded by: Councilman Betz

A vote was taken with the Supervisor and all of the Councilmen present voting in favor; motion carried.

RESOLUTION #61- AUTHORIZE PAYMENT TO SENIORS FOR ANNIVERSARY DINNER

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth authorizes the payment of the amount of \$534.76 to the Perth Seniors for their Anniversary Dinner held at the C&R Restaurant on April 26th.

Offered by: Councilman Lewandowski

Seconded by: Councilman Betz

A vote was taken with the Supervisor and all of the Councilmen present voting in favor; motion carried.

RESOLUTION # 62- AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF RUBBER MULCH

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth authorizes the purchase of rubber mulch for the Town Park playground at a cost not to exceed \$500.00, to be charged to Account A7100.4 Parks Contractual.

Offered by: Councilman Lewandowski

Seconded by: Councilman Betz

A vote was taken with the Supervisor and all of the Councilmen present voting in favor; motion carried.

RESOLUTION # 63- AUTHORIZE THE PAYMENT OF BILLS ON ABSTRACT #5-2023

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Perth authorizes the payment of bills on abstract #5-2023 as follows:

General Prepaid	38-47	\$9,859.12
Highway Prepaid	10-13	\$41,912.58
Highway	40-51	\$26,530.25
General	76-95	\$324,877.16

Offered by: Councilman Lewandowski
Seconded by: Councilman Betz

Councilman Lewandowski, Councilman Betz and Councilman Fisher indicated their approval by signing each voucher. Councilman Barker did not sign the vouchers.

With all of the business concluded for the evening a motion was made to close the Meeting at 7:00 p.m. by Councilman Lewandowski and seconded by Councilman Fisher. All were in favor; motion carried.

The next meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Perth will be held on Thursday, June 1, 2023 at the Town Hall Complex, 1849 County Highway 107, Perth, NY. This meeting will include a public hearing on Local Law #3-2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith English
Perth Town Clerk