## York Town Board Meeting May 23, 2013

Present: Supervisor Gerald Deming, Council Members: Lynn Parnell,

Norman Gates and Frank Rose Jr.

Absent: David Deuel

Others: Patricia Gardner, George R. Worden Jr. (Highway Superintendent)

Roger McCracken (Water and Sewer Operator) and Carl Peter (Zoning

& Code Officer)

Supervisor Deming opened the Town Board Meeting at 7:35 p.m. and invited Councilman Rose to lead with the Pledge to the Flag.

#### **MINUTES**

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mrs. Parnell to approve the minutes of the May  $9^{th}$ , 2013 Town Board Meeting. Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-0.

#### PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

## (1) Patricia Gardner:

Mrs. Gardner read aloud a letter in which she conveyed her opinions and shared her concerns to the Town Board regarding the ongoing issues associated with our Town in relation to hydrofracking. Mrs. Gardner's letter dated May 23, 2013 reads as follows:

"I have expressed my opinion several times to the Board about the importance of both allowing the community to speak AND hear what we have to say. I don't want to be a broken record, but I feel it VERY important to speak to you again.

Before the public hearing last July, I honestly didn't know a lot about hydrofracking. Since then, I have tried to educate myself. When it came time for the vote in September, I hoped for the best: that other people had educated themselves too and that the community had an input on the decision. I felt at that time a moratorium was the way to go—more time for more study. The decision was made for more review, but in the form of a Steering Committee. Again, I hoped for the best....

Unfortunately, the Committee's take on educating themselves came under the guise of being led by Clark Patterson Lee and discounting community input.

So here we are again, The Board is faced with yet another decision: this time to take action or not on the Steering Committee's recommendations. I want to reiterate my request to allow the community to be heard. No one can be expected to be an expert on everything, but there are some very knowledgeable people in our town who would jump at the opportunity to share what they know and be allowed to feel as though they are a part of the process of protecting our community. I ask you, please, don't put up anymore walls to keep the public excluded.

I don't want to appear naïve, but again I'm hoping for the best--this time for the upcoming work session(s). I understand that it is ultimately the Board's decision what to do, but at least let us be heard. For those "silent" residents, perhaps options other than public hearings or written letters may be made available? A survey perhaps? A lot of money has already been spent for the engineers. Perhaps a few more dollars for postage is an option for keeping our community together."

Supervisor Deming thanked Mrs. Gardner and invited the Board to add any comments if they wish to do so. No comments were expressed at that time.

### **HIGHWAY**

## 1) Maintenance:

Mr. Worden stated that the Highway Department has started a drainage project in the areas of McKenzie and Batzing Roads. Due to the advertised brush clean up this week, it was necessary to pull the equipment and man power in a different direction in order to get the numerous brush piles that had accumulated along the sides of Town roads. It is anticipated that brush pick up will finish next week and they can resume the project recently started.

Mr. Worden shared with the Board a recent driveway/parking lot quote from Kelly's Blacktop sealing to power clean, edge, fill cracks and re stripe lines/parking spaces/handicap areas in the parking lot shared by the Town Hall and the York United Presbyterian Church. At previous meetings it was brought to the attention of the Board that as an election polling site, these areas are in need of compliance in order to meet the criteria set by the ADA and the Livingston County Board of Elections. Board Members were in agreement that the price given of \$2,950.00 was fair and should proceed with the work.

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mrs. Parnell to approve the quote provided by Kelly's Blacktop Sealing, Delevan, NY for the purpose of adhering to polling requirements in the amount of \$2,950.00. Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-0.

Supervisor Deming asked that Mr. Worden meet with church officials to let them know of possible upcoming available dates for the work to be completed.

Supt. Worden also mentioned that his department continues to mow roadsides as well as the Town cemeteries, with the emphasis on having the cemeteries finished and looking good for the upcoming Memorial Day Holiday.

Councilman Gates asked Supt Worden what the previously approved purchase of a bucket will be used for. Mr. Worden commented that it was equipment being shared with Town of Geneseo per agreement and that Geneseo will be billed for half the cost of the purchase.

## WATER/SEWER

## 1) Sludge:

With the recent warmer weather, Mr. McCracken explained that there was an increase of sludge. He provided the Board with information regarding options as well as the dollar amounts paid to AD Call and the City of Canandaigua for sludge removal. Based upon the figures, the Board agreed that the current system for sludge removal is still the best and economical way to proceed.

# 2) Geneseo Water Update Project:

Both Mr. McCracken and Mr. Worden commented that to date, the ongoing project in Geneseo is running smooth and appears to be on schedule. With a cooperative effort and routine maintenance at our end, there have been no reports of any issues. Mr. McCracken stated that the Village of Geneseo has 24/7 monitoring currently in place and all systems seems to be working well and the projected timeline looks to be promising.

Supervisor Deming asked both men how the day to day operations were going despite the reduction in employees due to Water/Sewer Operator Jim Hodges recent shoulder surgery. According to Mr. McCracken, up to this point, all is running smoothly, mentioning a tentative retirement date for himself of June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

With a pending retirement date for Mr. McCracken, Mr. Worden asked the Board if the Town should consider submitting an advertisement for employment for a new hire within Water/Sewer or even the Highway Departments as they too have been working with fewer employees. After a brief discussion, it was determined that a committee will be formed to review options, ideas and hiring requirements. Once in place, an official advertisement for employment will be submitted to the Livingston County News. Mr. Deming asked Clerk Patti Barefoot to contact Livingston County Personnel Department for confirmation on qualifications and classifications per available job titles in both departments.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

## 1) Hurricane Technologies Computer Quote:

Supervisor Deming reported that Town Clerk Christine Harris had received two quotes from Hurricane Technologies for an update to her current desktop computer. Both are Dell computers with one quote for \$1,026.24 including the equipment for the workstation (\$988.74) as well as a monthly fee for offsite backing (\$37.50 per month). The second was for \$934.00 with an additional \$37.50 monthly which was for a laptop. Notes provided by Clerk Harris reminded the Board that although a laptop would be a convenient option for working at home, it would only be beneficial if left in the office as the staff would not be able to access the current BAS software program without it in office. Clerk Harris's notes also pointed out that as of January 1, 2014, DEC will no longer provide us with a computer for licensing purposes as they have done so for many years. The

Town Board discussed the future equipment purchase needed and agreed to revisit the purchase of a new computer once they have clarification from DEC as to the requirements compatible for generating the necessary licenses.

RESOLUTION offered by Mrs. Parnell and seconded by Mr. Gates to approve and replace the current Town Clerk computer with a new Dell workstation and off site back up in the amount of \$1,026.24 from Hurricane Technologies. Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-0.

## 2) Livingston County Board of Elections letter:

Previously a letter was received reminding the Town of the required improvements necessary at the York Town Hall to be in compliance with ADA regulations as the location is an election polling site. As mentioned in the Highway report; the parking lot will undergo the necessary paving and striping indicating that it is handicap accessible. BOE has agreed to take care of the weight restrictions on the current door, reducing the total weight while adhering to the necessary restrictions.

The Retsof Fire Hall will no longer be a polling site and the Board of Elections is looking to combine all three districts at the Town Hall. Further review of options and procedures will be ongoing.

## 3) Code/Zoning Letter:

Supervisor Deming again mentioned the anonymous letter recently received by several of the Town Board members. In the letter, it was brought to the attention of the Board that many properties within the Town are in violation off code regulations for numerous reasons. Code/Zoning Enforcement Officer Carl Peter was in attendance and told the Board that to date, he has sent out 10 letters to homeowners from the 41 properties originally listed on the letter of complaint. Mr. Peter will continue to monitor the others that were noted and keep the Board apprised of any further action.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### 1) Constable Request:

Constables Mary Mayes and Frank Burger had submitted a request to attend classes for the purpose of training and obtaining a Security Guard license. Certification would be required on a yearly basis for a fee of \$60.00. Supervisor Deming read to the Board the current job description/qualifications mandated by Livingston County Personnel in which no license is required at this time for the Town Constable position both have. After a brief discussion, the Town Board opted not to fund the classes at this time.

#### OTHER

Supervisor Deming shared with the Board that Town Historian Steve Gates approached him with a request for the Town to fund a "Thank you" to our local veterans for the upcoming Memorial Day Holiday. Mr. Gates comprised and submitted a list of those that are being acknowledged in this week's edition of the

Genesee Valley Pennysaver. The Board was pleased to see the ad that was submitted for publication and reiterated their gratitude to all from our area who have and continue to serve our country.

### **BILLS**

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mr. Rose to approve all claims brought before the Board. Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-o.

•	General Fund Claim	#143-157	\$ 9,253.64
•	Joint water & Sewer	#140-148	\$ 8,614.43
•	Youth Fund Claim	<i>#7</i>	\$ 100.00
•	Highway Fund Claim	#73-78	\$4,580.31

## **ADJOURNMENT**

RESOLUTION offered by Mr. Gates and seconded by Mr. Rose to adjourn the Town Board Meeting until June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Voted on and approved, Yes-4, No-o.

Town Board Meeting closed at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia A Barefoot, Deputy Town Clerk