

The Town of Fenton Town Board held its regular Work Session on Wednesday, May 29th, 2019, at 6:00 PM, at the Fenton Town Hall, 44 Park Street, Port Crane, New York.

PRESENT:	Town Board Members	Gary Holcomb, Supervisor Thomas Moss, Deputy Supervisor David Gunster, Councilman Michael Husar, Councilman Richard Pray, Councilman
	Town Attorney	Albert Millus, Jr. (arrived at 6:37 PM)
	Highway Superintendent	Randy Ritter
	Town Clerk	Melodie Bowersox
	Admin. Asst./Bookkeeper	Susan Crosier

OTHERS PRESENT: Planning Board Chairman Tim Brown, two members of the General Public

Pledge of Allegiance

Review Abstract #5, 2019

- General Fund: Village of Port Dickinson - Lowell Stever Health Ins. - March and April - Vouchers #266/267 - \$541.96 – Mr. Holcomb said these vouchers seemed high. Bookkeeper Sue Crosier showed him the voucher and explained that Port Dickinson pays 100% of the insurance bill, then the Town of Fenton pays 50% and Lowell pays 15% of that. This also covers insurance for his wife.
- General Fund: Animal Care Equipment - 71356/DCO Supplies - Micro Chip Reader, ETC - Voucher #288 - \$382.92 – The Dog Shelter’s Micro Chip Reader is not working most of the time. The Town of Dickinson paid for half of the cost of the Reader. The Town Clerk’s Office should start entering Micro Chip information on dogs into the computer database.
- General Fund: Emergency Power Systems - 0000045909/5 Yr. Maint. Agreement/Generator - Voucher #287 - \$4,250.00 – Mr. Pray asked if the Crime Lab is paying towards the 5 Year Maintenance Agreement; Sue said they paid for half of it.
- Highway Fund: NAPA - VOLO’S AUTO SUPPLY INC - 501547/Brake Pads - Truck #9 - Voucher #179 - \$121.81 – Highway Superintendent Randy Ritter said that brake pads for Truck #9 are listed two times on the Abstract. One should have been a credit because the wrong brakes were sent. This will be held until he can confirm the payment should be made.
- Hillcrest Water District: CINTAS Corporation - UNIFORMS - 4018611027/Uniforms - 3/21/19 - Voucher #98 - \$4.65 – Mr. Pray asked if CINTAS had been turned off for the Water Department; Sue said yes and this should be the last bill. Pants will no longer be rented but a stipend will be allowed similar to the Highway Department for the purchase of pants and boots each year up to \$450.

- After a review of the Abstract, **Mr. Pray moved to approve payment of the bills for Abstract #5, 2019 subject to Voucher #179 under Highway Fund being reviewed by Highway Superintendent Randy Ritter** (Randy will let Sue know tomorrow morning if the Voucher may be paid), seconded by Mr. Gunster. **Motion carried.**

VOTE: Ayes 5 Gunster, Holcomb, Husar, Moss, Pray
Nays 0

Assessment Board Appointment – Mr. Hamlin was appointed to the Board of Assessment Review (BOA) at the January, 2019 Meeting; however, because he is still the Director of Real Property of Broome County, he cannot serve on the BOA due to a conflict of interest. Assessor Cindy Mills has recommended appointing Resident Gail Smith to serve on the BOA for one year and Mr. Hamlin will provide training for Gail tomorrow. **Mr. Moss made a motion to appoint Gail Smith to serve on the BOA for one year**, seconded by Mr. Husar. **Motion carried.**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Mr. Gunster aye
Councilman Mr. Husar aye
Councilman Mr. Moss aye
Councilman Mr. Pray aye
Supervisor Mr. Holcomb aye

Resolution #2019-05 – Highway Fund Budget Modification for CHIPS – Mr. Pray made a motion to adopt Resolution #2019-05:

WHEREAS, the Town's adopted 2019 Highway Fund budget included an estimated revenue of \$110,000 and corresponding appropriation of \$110,000 pertaining to CHIPS moneys; and, **WHEREAS**, the State budget has set the Town's share of CHIPS funding for 2019 at \$154,910.46 ((\$110,471.10, CHIPS capital allocation plus \$44,439.36 (25,216.13 new and \$19,223.23 rollover) for PAVE NY)),

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Highway Fund budget be modified to increase the CHIPS Improvement line (DA5112.200) and the CHIPS State Aid Revenue line (DA3501) from \$110,000 to the approved State amount of \$154,910.46.

Seconded by Mr. Husar. **Motion carried.**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Mr. Gunster aye
Councilman Mr. Husar aye
Councilman Mr. Moss aye
Councilman Mr. Pray aye
Supervisor Mr. Holcomb aye

Resolution #2019-06 – Hillcrest Water Fund Budget Modification for BAN of Water Systems Upgrade 2016 – Mr. Holcomb explained that the decision was made to pay off the Hillcrest Water Department BANS rather than getting another BAN. In order to do that, \$40,000 needed to be moved into the HC Water Fund and taken from the Appropriated Fund.
Mr. Moss made a motion to adopt Resolution #2019-06:

WHEREAS, the Town’s adopted 2019 HC Water Fund budget included an appropriation of \$20,000 for a BAN payment for Water Systems Upgrade 2016 and,
WHEREAS, the Town of Fenton paid that debt in full for \$60,000,
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the HC Water Fund budget be modified to increase the BAN Principal Appropriation Account (SW9730.601) by \$40,000 and the Appropriated Fund (SW599) Balance be modified from \$33,291 to \$73,291.

Seconded by Mr. Gunster. **Motion carried.**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Mr. Gunster aye
Councilman Mr. Husar aye
Councilman Mr. Moss aye
Councilman Mr. Pray aye
Supervisor Mr. Holcomb aye

Resolution #2019-07 – Highway Fund Budget Modification for Equipment – Mr. Gunster made a motion to adopt Resolution #2019-07:

WHEREAS, the Town’s adopted 2019 Highway Fund budget included an appropriation of:
\$11,000 for JD Loader (DA9901.900)
\$10,000 for 2016 Dodge PU (DA9902.900)
\$10,000 for Leaf Collector (DA9903.900) and,

WHEREAS, the amounts in those appropriation accounts are no longer needed for their intended purpose,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Highway Fund budget be modified to increase the Equipment line (DA5130.200) by \$31,000 to a total of \$41,000 and JD Loader, 2016 Dodge Pickup, and Leaf Collector appropriation accounts be reduced to Zero.

Seconded by Mr. Pray. **Motion carried.**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Mr. Gunster aye
Councilman Mr. Husar aye
Councilman Mr. Moss aye
Councilman Mr. Pray aye
Supervisor Mr. Holcomb aye

Monkey Run Road – Status – The 'Notice to Proceed' was issued to Tweedie Construction Services so they have two weeks to begin the project. Resident John Scales of Monkey Run Road was notified today that the 'Notice to Proceed' was issued.

Complete Streets – Proposed Resolution – Mr. Holcomb asked Atty. Millus to review the THO Resolution for Complete Streets which is an example from the City of Binghamton. The Town Board discussed and reviewed the Resolution. One of the questions is whenever a project is done, does it have to be compatible with all of the items listed in the Resolution. In order to qualify for the grant money for the concrete for sidewalks (\$23,500), a Complete Streets Resolution must be adopted. Mr. Holcomb will find out more details and get back to the Board. He noted that Fenton Avenue sidewalks are in need of repair.

Phelps Creek Discussion – At the last meeting pertaining to Phelps Creek, Chip McElwee of Broome County Soil and Water Conservation offered to find funding for a Watershed Study to see if there is anything that can be done to help with Phelps Creek; however, he needs a commitment from the Town that we are committed to that creek and correcting any problems that exist, and why we are committed to correcting those problems. One of the issues is that most of the creek runs through private properties which limits the Town's ability to go in and make changes. There has been no damage to any Town structures but there has been the bridge issue and flooding in some private homes. There have been complaints about the Madisons putting concrete in the creek and it flowing downstream. Also, the Madisons put in concrete to reinforce a turn in the creek and there have been conflicting opinions from NYS DEC on whether this was beneficial for the creek. Carl Swartz from US Fish and Wildlife Service spoke at one of the meetings and said that they basically re-meander creeks but it is very costly. Mr. Holcomb talked to Carl who asked if the parties involved would be willing to take out some of the concrete that is in bottom of the creek. Mr. Holcomb suggested a meeting with Carl, the Madisons, and the Miselnickys to come up with a plan for that section of the creek. Mr. Husar wants to keep the rest of the Committee involved and eventually invite the other Property Owners along Phelps Creek to a meeting. After a lengthy discussion on the matter, the Town Board decided that Mr. Husar would reach out to the Committee and tell them that the Town feels it would be better to invest in looking at practical solutions to improve the situation rather than doing a Watershed Study.

Carrier Services Group (CSG) Public Hearing Date/Time – The Resumed Public Hearing for CSG is scheduled for Wednesday, June 19th, 2019, at 6 PM. Planning Board Chairman Mr. Brown will provide the Town Board with an Advisory Report with Recommendations from the Planning Board prior to the meeting.

Hoyt Avenue Speed Limit Signs – Mr. Gunster said there is one speed limit sign at the end of Hoyt Avenue on the gate that enters into CSG and the speed is 10 MPH. Randy Ritter will post 30 MPH signs, one at each end of Hoyt Avenue, which is the speed limit on Hillcrest streets.

412 Ballyhack Road – Building Inspector Matt Banks contacted the owner of 412 Ballyhack to ask permission to enter the two trailers at 412 Ballyhack Road. She would not give him permission and said that she does not have money to fix any issues with the property. She is trying to sell the property as is. The taxes are paid. Atty. Millus said that he can do a Search Warrant Application so that the Town may move ahead with an Unsafe Structure Proceeding, if desired, or Matt can file a Report of Inspection.

Vacant Properties in the Town of Fenton – Mr. Gunster said that if a property has been deemed as an unfit dwelling, the Town Code (Property Maintenance 107-5) says that a 2' x 2' placard must be placed on the premise. This is currently not being done and Atty. Millus said that the Town usually only did this when an Unsafe Structure Proceeding was done. The Town Board decided to send letters to the Property Owners to find out what their plans are for the property before posting placards on all of the vacant properties listed on the report Mr. Gunster and Matt compiled. Mr. Hamlin has sent Mr. Gunster a list of the properties that are in foreclosure and some of them are on the compiled list. Mr. Holcomb suggested contacting the Land Bank to see if they could assist with any of the properties.

Hillcrest Booster Days – Resident Nick Cook formally invited the Town Board to the Annual Hillcrest Booster Days which will take place this weekend. Friday will be the first Crest Fest which will include bands, fireworks, corn hole tournaments, etc. Saturday will be the traditional chicken barbecue, softball games, and parade.

Pump #3 at the Water Department – Abbey Service Corporation will be bringing a crane tomorrow to pull Pump #3 at the Water Department. The pump will be inspected to determine what needs to be repaired.

Storage Trailers on the Service Roads – Mr. Husar would like the Town Board to take action on the storage trailers that keep increasing in quantity and piling higher on the Service Roads. Mr. Gunster said that there are also storage structures on NYS Route 7. Mr. Husar had done research on this a few years ago. Atty. Millus suggested passing this information on to the Planning Board for review.

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer Shared Services – Mr. Moss met with Matt and Code Enforcement Officer John Broughton today. There was some reluctance relating to the shared services, but some progress is being made in getting them to work more together and helping each other out.

Lawn Mowing Service Fees – The Board discussed adding administrative fees to the lawn mowing service fees which in turn would be added to the Property Owner's tax bill. Also, we may want to send the bill for the lawn mowing service fees to the Property Owner prior to being applied to the tax bill; this is within our Code.

Flags – Randy said that new flags were ordered and have been hung.

At 7:41 PM, Mr. Pray adjourned the meeting.

Melodie A. Bowersox, Town Clerk