

The Town of Fenton Town Board held its regular Work Session on Wednesday, November 20th, 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 (arrived at 6:49 PM)
David Gunster, Councilman
Michael Husar, Councilman
Town Attorney Albert Millus, Jr.
Highway Superintendent Randy Ritter
Deputy Town Clerk Sheryl Seymour
Admin. Asst./Bookkeeper Theresa Staats

ABSENT: Town Board Member Richard Pray, Councilman
Town Clerk Melodie Bowersox

OTHERS PRESENT: Building Inspector Matt Banks, Building Inspector Clerk Cheryl Mammano, four members of the General Public

Pledge of Allegiance

Review Abstract #11, 2019

- Mr. Husar asked whether a bill had been sent to the Property Owner for the demolition of 310 Ballyhack Road. Atty. Millis said he just received the invoice the other day and will be invoicing them shortly.
- Highway Fund: Fahs Construction Group - Milling/Paving Hillcrest - Voucher # 378 - \$45,414.94 and Tri-City Highway Products Inc - Blacktop Hillcrest Paving - Voucher # 379 - \$67,302.63 – Highway Superintendent Randy Ritter noted this project came in \$11,000 under the original quote.
- Mr. Husar asked whether Mr. Pray looked at the expenses for the well repair. Bookkeeper Theresa Staats confirmed they were reviewed.
- Hillcrest Water District: Staples Business Advantage - Printer/Monitor for Water Dept/Billing Dept - Voucher #238 - \$269.98 – Mr. Holcomb inquired about this voucher. Theresa said Assistant Bookkeeper Mike Giovinazzo’s printer was no longer compatible when his system was upgraded to Windows 10, so a new printer needed to be ordered. The monitor needed to be ordered because the new computers from Plan First did not come with monitors.
- Mr. Holcomb asked how often the Highway Department sells fuel to the Water/Sewer Department. Randy said it is every three months. Theresa noted this particular Water voucher was January through September. Theresa also noted she splits out 75% for Water and 25% for Water/Sewer.
- Mr. Husar asked what the Railroad Management license fees were. Mr. Holcomb said it has always been on there, but the fees used to be \$25 prior to the Railroad’s last Audit.

It is for the right-of-way for the piping that goes under the railroad for the Water Department.

- After a review of the Abstract, **Mr. Gunster moved to approve payment of the bills for Abstract #11, 2019**, seconded by Mr. Husar. **Motion carried.**

VOTE: Ayes 3 Gunster, Holcomb, Husar
Nays 0
Absent 1 Moss, Pray

Unsafe Structure Public Hearing for 20 Weber Road – Mr. Holcomb read the Public Hearing Notice for 20 Weber Road:

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Please take notice that the Town Board of the Town of Fenton will conduct a public hearing on Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at 6:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, at the Town Hall, 44 Park Street, Port Crane, New York to consider whether premises located at 20 Weber Road in the Town of Fenton, are dangerous or unsafe to the public within the meaning of Chapter 71 of the Town Code of the Town of Fenton. The premises are designated as Parcel No. 079.02-1-9 on the Broome County Tax Map. The last known owner of the premises is Victoria Hanyon, whose last known address is 2457 New York State Route 12, Greene, New York 13778. The purpose of the public hearing is to receive public comment and comment from the owners regarding the premises to allow the Town Board to determine whether the premises are dangerous or unsafe to the public and, if so, what the remedy should be. At the public hearing, all interested persons will be heard.

Dated: Port Crane, New York
October 29, 2019

BY ORDER OF THE TOWN BOARD

Mr. Holcomb opened the Public Hearing at 6:11 PM.

The following persons spoke in favor:

- Building Inspector Matt Banks said it appeared a tree fell on the property. He took pictures from the road but did not go onto the property.

The following persons spoke in opposition:

- Owner Victoria Hanyon said 11 trees came down on the property in April that included damage to the trailer and her electric lines being pulled off the pole. There is another trailer on the same parcel that they reside in (22 Weber Road). She also owns the parcel next door (24 Weber Road). Victoria's Husband John stated his intent is to salvage what he can of the damaged structure and use that salvageable portion as a shed. Due to some health challenges he does a little at a time when he can.

Comments from the Board:

- Mr. Husar discussed a possible timeframe with the Hanyons as to when they could enlist the help of their sons to begin working on securing the structure. He further explained

that the Town's experience with similar scenarios tend to go on for prolonged periods of time due to situations that come up in the interim that slow the process down.

- Matt confirmed the Hanyons' current primary address and phone number with them. Matt commented that he sent a letter to what was listed with the County as their primary address (2457 New York State Route 12 in Greene). Victoria said she received the letter because she owns that property as well.
- Mr. Holcomb suggested the Public Hearing be put on hold until the December Work Session to allow for Matt to meet the Hanyons at the property and see what kind of plan can be put into place that everyone can agree upon.
- Atty. Millus commented that most Unsafe Structures are abandoned. Because Real Property has their primary address listed as a location in Greene, it reinforced the typical situation and Town's assumption that the property was abandoned.
- Mr. Gunster commented that when the Town sends letters, it would probably help if they reply. Victoria said she did not respond because she was not sure what their plan of action was.

All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, the Public Hearing was closed at 6:27 PM.

Adoption of 2020 Town of Fenton Budget – Mr. Holcomb said each Board Member received a bound copy of the 2020 Town of Fenton Budget they are looking to adopt this evening. The only change since the Public Hearing for the Preliminary Budget was a \$2,000 increase in the Town Clerk's salary. Mr. Husar asked how Engineering was being handled. Mr. Holcomb said Engineering has the same contract as last year with a flat fee of \$31,500. Mr. Holcomb also noted there are six projects that John Mastronardi worked that are pending FEMA reimbursement, which would be subject to reimbursement of the Engineering fees as well. The reimbursement of the Engineering fees would go to Griffiths Engineering per verbal agreement. This may be subject to change in future years. Mr. Husar asked if Town Justice remained the same and Mr. Holcomb confirmed that it was. The money for a Court Clerk was left in the Budget. **Mr. Gunster made a motion to adopt the 2020 Town of Fenton Budget, seconded by Mr. Holcomb. Motion carried.**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

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

Shared Services Contract with Broome County – Mr. Holcomb sent the proposed Contract out to the Board asking for feedback. It is an Agreement for use of borrowing and lending equipment between Broome County and other Municipalities. Atty. Millis said the Contract needs additional clarification on some of the procedures. Additionally, it refers to several

schedules that are not attached. Atty. Millus does not recommend adoption in its current form and will contact Christina Cramer in County Executive Jason Garner's Office to further discuss.

Special District Consolidation – Mr. Holcomb has previously discussed the possibility of eliminating the two Lighting Districts. Atty. Millis has done some preliminary research and found it could be done by Resolution, followed by a Mandatory Referendum. There may have been some timing issues involved as well. Mr. Holcomb discussed the matter with Mike Giovinazzo who said there are existing funds in both Districts, and it will need to be determined what the plan is to dispose of those funds.

Intermunicipal Agreement with Chenango – Atty. Millus said the Town was contacted by the Town of Chenango last Summer, inquiring about a Shared Services Agreement for Dog Control. Atty. Millus was contacted again today by the Town of Chenango's Attorney, asking to revisit the possibility of a formal Agreement. Since there is an existing informal Agreement between Dog Control Officer Greg Starley and several Towns including Chenango, Mr. Holcomb will ask Greg for a yearly report to determine what activity levels have been with the Town of Chenango in order to determine next steps.

Dog Control Reports – Mr. Husar said he did not receive a Dog Control Report last month and asked Mr. Holcomb to mention it to Greg when he speaks with him (or to Mr. Pray).

(Mr. Moss arrived at 6:49 PM)

Town Hall Doors – Mr. Moss reported there was an issue with the entrance door near the Town Clerk's Office, and a Senior that had a near mishap exiting the building due to some deterioration in the threshold. Mr. Moss said a solution to this issue is a priority with estimates pending. Mr. Holcomb asked Matt if he could look at it to come up with a temporary solution. Additionally, Mr. Moss noted Sentry Alarms will be in the building November 25th and 26th installing the key fob system. Everyone who has had key access to the building will be issued a fob for the new system.

Raise Water Rates – Mr. Husar made a motion to raise water rates for the Village of Port Dickinson until they clear up the situation on the Service Road. Mr. Holcomb commented it was his understanding that the situation has been cleared up. He does not believe the law has been changed, but the Port Dickinson Chief of Police indicated to First Student there was no longer a problem. Mr. Holcomb will check with John Cole at Binghamton-Ithaca Express, Inc. and Bothar Construction to confirm they are no longer having issues. Mr. Husar agreed to table the motion until the next meeting pending further clarification.

At 7:01 PM, **Mr. Gunster adjourned the meeting.**

Sheryl Seymour, Deputy Town Clerk