

**TOWN OF DELHI
BOARD MEETING
August 11, 2020
7:00PM**

Supervisor Tuthill called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Those present:

Councilmember's: William Cairns, Janet Tweed, Matt Krzyston, and Christina Viafore.

Highway Superintendent Daren Evans

Sean Leddy, Kelly Zimmerman, Jeff Barthelmes, Kenny Scharf, Michael Boumousa, Paul Bidonde, Dawn Sohns

Pledge of Allegiance:

Councilmember Tweed led the board in the pledge.

Privilege of the Floor:

Michael Boumousa a resident stated that they have a problem with their neighbor who has turned his property into a camp ground. Supervisor Tuthill stated he has spoken with our code officer this morning, at this point as you have filed a complaint with him he will investigate it. He will then bring back his recommendations to the board, as to whether we need to do legal action or he is going to write a violation notice or how it will be handled. Mr. Boumousa stated there are several fires all throughout the property and his concern is that they are not contained and could get out of hand along with there are no sanitary conditions being provided. Mr. Scharf stated the fire department had been there already, as there was a fire at the location during the burn ban; Councilmember Cairns explained to them NYSDEC's burn ban and the dates of such. Cairns further stated after the burn ban you can have a fire on your property. Supervisor Tuthill stated there are regulations as to what you can burn. Mr. Boumousa asked if the board could tell him how long it would take for the code officer to address the complaints; Tuthill stated he did not know as it depends on what information he can gather and if it's just friends camping or a commercial business and he can find a money trail where a special use permit was needed. Paul Bidonde stated he had information and had provided that information to the clerk's office in writing. He further stated now he has to post his property as people are backpacking on his property. People are coming on the weekends and there is a lot of traffic, Supervisor Tuthill again stated if you have a "money trail" make sure the clerk has a copy for the code officer. Mr. Bidonde stated they are advertising on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Ken Scharf stated it's a dead end road and there is a lot traffic, and questioned if the owners were required to obtain a permit to open a campground. Tuthill stated yes, it would have had to have gone through the planning board. Scharf stated they would have been required to have gotten a variance to change the zoning. Jeff Barthelmes stated the DEC has rather strict regulations about how fires are done. Supervisor Tuthill stated he will have the codes committee meet with the code officer to discuss the matter.

Approval of July 14, 2020 Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes:

Councilmember Cairns made a motion to accept both the July 14, 2020 board minutes as presented, with Councilmember Viafore seconding. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Supervisor Tuthill stated that he has not heard anything further on the testing of the pool property by the DEC. Supervisor Tuthill announced that he and Village Mayor Maxey met with some members of the Legion they gave them some ideas, the Legion was complaining about people going around speed bumps. The Legion members seem to be split; half wanting to close the road to the pool and half thinking its ridiculous.

Tuthill stated when he left he told them they have to come to some kind of consensus and bring it to the board. He further stated if we have to build a road out by the Bracci property it will cost a lot of money. The mayor would not be happy as we would be burying his water lines too deep for them to dig it up themselves should an issue occur. We will wait and see what they come back to us with.

New Business:

Supervisor Tuthill announced we have filed our Annual Financial Report (AUD). He further stated we just got last year's approved by the state. We could not file the 2019 one until they approved our 2018; but they stated we were late. We will see what they say about this year's, we will probably have to go back and do what we did before. Councilmember Tweed made a motion to approve the 2019 AUD with Councilmember Krzyston seconding, motion carried.

Supervisor Tuthill stated we had received the 2020 Heart of the Catskills Agreement. They bill us \$40.00 for each dog, and \$5.00 for each cat, he stated we have never done cats. Councilmember Tweed questioned what that fee would be; Tuthill stated it could be hundreds. Dogs don't cost us much as when owners retrieve them we are not billed. Councilmember Tweed made the motion to accept the agreement less cats with Councilmember Cairns seconding, motion carried.

Supervisor Tuthill stated that although he has gotten an email stating that the forms are not available for NYS Archives he was presenting Resolution No. 003 of 2020 – Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-1); Tuthill stated the date on the clerk's certification needed to be changed. He requested a motion be made approving the resolution with the change of dates on the clerk's certification area. Councilmember Cairns made the motion, with Councilmember Viafore seconding; roll as follows:

	AYE	NAY	ABSENT
Supervisor Tuthill	X		
Councilmember Krzyston	X		
Councilmember Tweed	X		
Councilmember Viafore	X		
Councilmember Cairns	X		

Motion carried.

Councilmember Cairns questioned a voucher for Johnson Controls; he understood one of the invoices but questioned \$556.00 for the moving of a security remote box for the box. The clerk stated the court clerk wanted it moved, Cairns stated the court clerk needs to make sure she keeps copies for court reimbursement.

Supervisor Tuthill gave the floor to Kelly Zimmerman Delaware Academy Superintendent. She handed out a power point presentation that they had given the board at the end of July just prior to their submission of plans to the state. The second document was an FAQ document which will be distributed tomorrow and every Wednesday at the Farmers Market for community members. They have also scheduled two additional Board of Education meetings for input in person, to satisfy the governor's requirement that they have to have an additional Q&A. These meetings will be a little different as there will be back and forth dialogue and open for questions; emails and calls have gone out to all parents. In July when they sent out the questionnaire roughly 20% requested remote learning; whatever the case they were not comfortable yet with returning to school. Another group wished to get back to normal. They have been tasked with developing two different models to submit to the state that satisfied their social distancing, staffing requirements and health and safety. Parents were asking for a choice, the state did not state if they could do it or not; although they did state the school did have to accommodate families if they did have a legitimate medical condition either themselves or a person in the household. DA has committed to offering a choice for the families, there is recognition that they need to be responsive of the community. They will have an option where you can elect to be completely remote the other is they want to bring back as many students as want to attend so long as they can maintain the social distancing and use of masks. They have found that a classroom would have to be cut in half.

Students will be allowed to remove their masks when they are eating lunch or when the classroom is set up for social distancing while seated; this is based on the NYS Department of Health and the Delaware County Department of Health. Supervisor Tuthill asked if the school will provide masks, Zimmerman stated yes or they can use their own. She announced they will not be holding after school activities for now, so that they can clean. Councilmember Tweed questioned Ms. Zimmerman regarding if parents were not comfortable sending their child to school would that be allowable, Zimmerman said the state encourages the school to grant the ability for distance learning to those with a medical necessity but they will not be policing that and if she gets the sense that this is what our community needs and wishes she will support it. Zimmerman reiterated that all staff will be required to wear masks and uphold NYS requirements. She also encouraged everyone to join in to the live stream meetings; the link is available on the schools website.

Dawn Sohns of SUNY Delhi addressed the board regarding SUNY's reopening and discussed bringing back students following the state's guidelines, CDC, working alongside Delaware County Public Health and NYS Department of Health. She stated for the twelve weeks that they have their students here, they are hopeful that the students stay healthy and that the campus stays healthy and they can get the students through the course work needed so that they can progress with their degrees. Supervisor Tuthill asked if someone tested positive they have a protocol as to how to handle and contact tracing. Sohns stated they have people on campus through the Health and Counseling Center that have been officially trained; they also have set protocols which they will be working directly with Mandy at Delaware County Public Health should the situation rise. Tuthill stated residents are on edge; we have been staying pretty flat on positive cases. Councilmember Krzyston questioned if she had a sense of what portion of the normal students would be back. Sohns stated this week and next week they are bring back the students that need to finish their labs or their practicum's from the spring semester when they were sent home; she believed there were twenty-seven students currently. Then the coming weekend they have another group of students and then every week they are slowly integrating back more and more students. They just got the student bills out on Friday afternoon which she believes will be a really important piece of information for parents and students because it will allow them to sit down as a family unit and make those decisions especially if they are all on line to say if it makes fiscal sense to come back. Right now they just have numbers of students that have signed up for housing last semester or for our new students who paid there housing deposits, but again these next couple of weeks we will have solid numbers until the first week of September because we are still bringing kids back the first and second week of September. At this time they do not have hard and fast numbers. Councilmember Cairns questioned if they are having any restrictions as to where students can live; are they being restricted to the campus. Sohns stated they are; some of the students had leases, she has not heard from landlords, they are given the option. The clerk stated that it sounded like it was business as always, Sohns stated it's about density reduction for a majority of the employees who have been instructed to work from home; even when the students come back those offices/areas where physical presence is not needed they have been told to continue to work remotely. It will be a different environment for all, the campus is open but no visitors are allowed. All students and faculty will be required to wear masks. The twelve weeks will be critical, the Friday before Thanksgiving is when everything moves online.

Committee Reports:

Highway/Machinery: (Councilmember's Tweed & Cairns) –Superintendent Evans gave a written report to the council members (see attached.) He represented the Town and the Fire Department providing information for the update of the Countywide All-Hazards Mitigation plan with County Planning and SUNY Albany, they will be having a second meeting with the village later in September. Evans stated it's a great idea. Tuthill stated that the culvert on his road must have a hole developing. Tuthill stated there is a lot of broken equipment. Councilmember Cairns stated looks like the highway is getting a new water hose for their truck. Councilmember Viafore requested that Evans continue to keep her updated as to road work. Evans

confirmed with the board the shrubs that he was requested to remove. Supervisor Tuthill stated we really need to get a plan for the roof on the highway garage and repairs to this roof as to what we need to do; as the clerk's office was also leaking during the last big storm. Tuthill further stated Councilmember Krzyston has a grant application for the O'Connor Foundation for the flatbed. Evans stated he and Krzyston spoke regarding this yesterday. Tuthill requested a board member authorize Krzyston to submit the application for the highway department. Councilmember Cairns made the motion to authorize Krzyston with Councilmember Viafore seconding; motion carried.

Recreation/Health/Youth: (Councilmember's Tweed & Viafore) – Recreation Director Diane Furman stated that Amrex did not deliver for 4 days, but we are up and running. Councilmember Tweed stated the only thing disappointing is that the pool is not open as much as possible. Furman stated the pool will have to be closed by Labor Day as she starts teaching that week. Supervisor Tuthill stated Labor Day is the cut off. Councilmember Tweed stated they have two workers from CDO Workforce, they have only been working a few days but it is showing remarkable progress. Tweed would be hopeful to open next week; they have been doing a lot of hard work. They also need appropriate signage for the social distancing for opening. A group with interest of updates and progress of getting a new playground has met, Tweed has contacted three different playground vendors and we should be getting some plans made up that we can review to continue working on updating the playground.

Economic Development/Shared Services: (Councilmen Cairns & Krzyston) – Councilmember Cairns and Krzyston both stated they have not heard a word on the housing study when questioned by Councilmember Tweed.

Personnel: (Councilmember Cairns & Councilmember Tweed) – Councilmember Tweed stated the only thing is the hiring of two more lifeguards for the pool. Councilmember Tweed made a motion to hire Jody Bray and Maggie Demeo-Meres at \$12.00 for the rest of the season, Councilmember Cairns seconded the motion. Motion carried. The recreation director has the Youth Bureau paperwork.

Building: (Councilmember's Cairns & Krzyston) – Councilmember Cairns stated the shrubs are going away so we can go forward with painting the Town Hall. Last week during a severe rain storm the ceiling in the clerk's office was leaking; Jay's Construction will be giving us a quote. Cairns stated the flashing on the roof was not done properly. Cairns asked him to quote the front portion of the roof with shingles and with steel. Cairns got information on the highway garage; one of the employees went up and found all the washers are gone. He thought the washers could be replaced or the alternative would be to replace the entire roof. Supervisor Tuthill stated we need to move on this because if we do have to replace the roof we can't dilly-dally much longer. On that note he said if you can find someone to replace the gaskets and fill the holes; if it's not going to work we need to get specs and get it moving. Cairns said he thought he could push to come back to the September meeting with either a report that it is done, or tell which way we are going to have to go with specs for what we want to do. Councilmember Krzyston stated we could ask for estimates regardless; Tuthill stated we could ask for estimates and ask what gauge steel we expect to use so that everyone is bidding on the same thing. The clerk asked if this was something that needed to be advertised, Tuthill stated if we decide to move forward but at this point we are just gathering information. Highway Superintendent Evans said the contractors should actually get on the roof to actually see what they are looking at. Evans stated he would work with Cairns if Cairns wanted.

IT: (Councilmember Tweed & Councilmember Viafore) – Councilmember Viafore met with the clerk last month and went through the process of getting the minutes up on the website so now we are caught up.

CODES: (Councilmember Cairns & Krzyston) – Councilmember Cairns stated for the month of July there were 8 building permits issued, one renewal and the Code Officer conducted 14 inspections, 3 in office meetings. He issued 2 Certificate of Occupancy's letters and one violation. He traveled 136 miles in July. Tuthill stated he did talk briefly to him regarding the complaint Cairns stated he will be contacting him tomorrow.

CODES Monthly Report:

A motion was made by Councilmember Cairns to accept the July 2020 Code Report. Councilmember Krzyston seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Justice Court Report:

A motion was made by Councilmember Cairns to accept the July 2020 Justice Court, Councilmember Krzyston seconded. Motion carried.

Clerk's Monthly Report:

A motion was made by Councilmember Krzyston to accept the July 2020 Clerk Report Councilmember Tweed seconded. Motion carried.

Supervisor's Financial Report:

Supervisor Tuthill presented the board with the July 2020 Supervisors Report. The clerk stated she only had half of the report it was not complete. Councilmember Krzyston made a motion to approve the report with Councilmember Cairns seconding.

Supervisor's County Report:

Supervisor Tuthill stated they are doing test borings on the corner of Bridge Street and Main to design new offices which was part of the plan when the McFarland property was taken off. As far as buying the laundromat and tea shop they are not part of the plan. Supervisor Tuthill announced there was a zoom presentation from the National Academy of Sciences; they shot four hundred pages down to a one hour zoom. It appears that they did agree on our take of the city, to stop the land acquisition program in general and to focus on flood buyouts and stream side acquisition and they also suggested that if the city wanted to be a good neighbor they needed to find a way to give us back developable land. Councilmember Tweed questioned if there was any enforcement behind it; Tuthill stated yes and no as their recommendations carry a lot of weight with the feds when it comes time to their filtration waiver. Tuthill overall was very happy with what he heard and it will be in print here soon. Councilmember Krzyston stated it will be a huge thing with some of our locals, he also asked if Tuthill knew how long the study went for. Tuthill stated he believed two years and the report is 400 pages long, the last study was 20 years ago; it's a very detailed study. Councilmember Cairns stated for the record he believed the Stoddard property should have gone back to the tax rolls, Tweed wanted to know if this was documented anywhere. Tuthill stated it was one of those where someone said it was; but he stated with the choice of saving the Stoddard property to the McFarland property there was no comparison as to which was more important. Councilmember Tweed questioned budget season, Tuthill stated they do not have worksheets to hand out yet as the bookkeeper needed to closeout, Tweed questioned the deadlines. Tuthill stated at the September meeting we will set up the budget workshops.

Abstracts:

A motion was then made by Councilmember Tweed to approve Abstract No. 008- 2020 Accounts A-SF Voucher No. 00259 – 00298 = \$158,715.01, Account TA Voucher No. 00157 – 00159 = \$9,638.56; total vouchers \$161,353.57. Councilmember Cairns seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Adjourn:

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Cairns at 8:35pm with Councilmember Tweed seconding. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Elsa Schmitz

Elsa Schmitz

Town Clerk, Town of Delhi