

**TOWN OF DELHI
BOARD MEETING
February 8, 2021
7:00PM**

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

Those present:

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

Highway Superintendent Daren Evans

Residents: Rick Ackerly, PAC Committee

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Viafore.

Privilege of the Floor:

N/A

Approval of January 11, 2021 Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes:

Councilmember Viafore made a motion to the January 11, 2021 board minutes as presented, with Councilmember Krzyston seconding. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Supervisor Tuthill announced that Lois Haight has agreed to be the Zoning Board of Appeals Chairperson for the year of 2021. Her term will be from 01/01/21 through 12/31/21. A motion to appoint Haight was made by Councilmember Cairns and seconded by Councilmember Krzyston.

New Business:

Rick Ackerly of the PAC Committee showed the board a set of plans from Parkitects for a new playground with prices. Ackerly stated that they would like to submit a grant to the O'Connor Foundation for funding; there are options available regarding the surface. Ackerly believes financially the only choice due to cost would be to go with the wood fiber. Councilmember Tweed who is on the PAC Committee had questioned the cost to replace the mulch and the length of time it is good for. Ackerly stated according to Parkitects it depends on the weather and usually it is every two years although it has to be monitored. Ackerly further stated the playground itself comes with a fifteen year warranty. Ackerly stated Bobby Bishop had contacted him and was interested in one of the pieces from the playground; he wished that the town would donate that piece to Hamden for their playground should the town go forward with replacing the existing playground. Supervisor Tuthill stated he would need to contact our attorney to find out how this could be done. Councilmember Tweed questioned if Hamden would be using a certified playground company for removal; Ackerly stated Hamden Town Supervisor Marshfield wants to apply for his own grant to have the piece taken down refurbished and installed in Hamden. Tweed questioned if they would help with the site remediation after the removal of the piece; would it be included in what they are doing. Ackerly said he didn't know and said possibly it could be written in; although Parkitects did state they would not move it if it couldn't be refurbished and was not safe. Ackerly feels Bishop is very eager to help us. Ackerly also said when it comes to installing the playground at those prices; they show a "community build" that means community volunteers to come in and help with the company sending down supervisors to oversee the process. They also offer a

“contract install” where they come in and do it all. PAC is advising that the “contract install” should be chosen. Supervisor Tuthill stated the work would need to be bid out, he will have to discuss this with the town attorney. Rick Ackerly questioned the pool money in the savings account stating there is roughly \$170,000 still in there and stating PAC felt they could use excess moneys for the playground. Tuthill stated that money was to be used to take the grass out of the pool area and the fence needs to be expanded for the pool cover. Tweed stated she did not believe the fence needed to be expanded; it was only an option. The cover can be stored in the shed. Tuthill said that is pool money and needs to be kept there in case there is an issue that needs to be fixed with the pool. Tuthill stated there is money in the savings but the board would need to discuss how much they would want to put towards the playground. Ackerly stated it is possible to put in the grant for the playground and install; paying for the site prep work out of that money. The prep work is not included in the papers he gave the board as we would have to do that. He further stated according to Councilmember Tweed we would have to bring the ground up a couple of feet to bring it out of the flood plain. We would have to find a contractor and get estimates on that. Ackerly said this all has to be figured out by April 1st as that is the deadline for the O’Connor Grant. Tuthill questioned the picture and asked why there was no fence around the playground; Ackerly felt it was not necessary. Councilmember Tweed stated one was not required and there will be no road there. She explained to Tuthill where the proposed new playground would be. Tuthill felt the board needed to meet down at the site and see exactly what they had in mind. He was going to send information to the town attorney for his input regarding bidding process and equipment purchasing. Councilmember Krzyston questioned if there was an option if someone could do this and it could be donated to the town; the problem Tuthill said is that it is on town property. He stated again he will have the town attorney address the questions. Councilmember Cairns questioned how to tell with the equipment shown on the drawing; how do you know the difference with “standard items” and “custom items.” Cairns stated per their catalog all standard items are available through NYS contract and custom items are not available through state contract. Councilmember Tweed stated they would be standard items through the catalog, Ackerly agreed. Ackerly stated that the only thing other thing in the contract it states is that we would be responsible for whoever did the site prep to bring it up above the flood plain, we would have to be installing the sonatubes where they require them. Ackerly stated the only deadlines that he was aware of where the O’Connor deadline; one being April 1st and another would be September 1st, so if we miss the April deadline we could go for the September date. Tuthill asked if we applied for the grant how long do they give us to use it; Ackerly said he would have to check. Councilmember Tweed said that whenever we get approved a lot of the companies are already planning projects so we may have to wait a whole other year, Ackerly felt if we did all the site prep it would only be a 3 to 4 day build. Councilmember Krzyston felt we should move forward. Ackerly stated he has never worked with municipality rules and is unsure what he can and can’t do; Tuthill said he can call around and request quotes so that we can have them available for the grant. We can’t hire anyone Tuthill said we needs specs; Krzyston said we can use shared services to help. Councilmember Tweed asked if Krzyston and Viafore could help with the writing of the grant. Councilmember Viafore said she would help. The clerk requested copies of anything related to the playground so that the town does not fall into the same situation as the pool.

Supervisor Tuthill presented the 2020 budget amendments to the board. Tuthill requested a motion from the councilmember’s so that the bookkeeper could close the books for 2020. Councilmember Cairns made the motion to accept the amendments with Councilmember Krzyston seconding. Motion carried.

Supervisor Tuthill presented the following resolution:

Resolution No. 001 of 2021
Town of Delhi
Truck Lease/Purchase Resolution

The Town Board having reviewed the information submitted on the proposed lease agreement for the financing of two trucks for the Highway Department as had been earlier discussed at the Board’s meeting of November, 2020, and the lease figures having been presented by MERCEDES-BENZ FINANCIAL SERVICES USA LLC, it is resolved, that Town Board hereby authorizes the lease- purchase of the said trucks is therein described from **Tracey Road Equipment, Inc.**, 6803 Manlius Center Rd. **Syracuse**, NY 13057, to be financed by the Daimler Truck Financial leasing program, and that the Board hereby authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign any and all leases, documents or other agreements as may be necessary to accomplish the same.

Tuthill requested a motion to approve the above resolution. Councilmember Cairns made the motion to approve the above resolution with Councilmember Tweed seconding. Roll call as follows:

	Aye	Nay	Absent
Supervisor Tuthill	<u> x </u>	_____	
Councilmember Krzyston	<u> x </u>	_____	
Councilmember Tweed	<u> x </u>	_____	
Councilmember Viafore	<u> x </u>	_____	
Councilmember Cairns	<u> x </u>	_____	

The clerk will scan and email the resolution to the town attorney. Tuthill requested the clerk add the first payment of the truck lease to the abstract. The amount was \$105,688.06.

Supervisor Tuthill presented the council with the 2020 Annual Financial Report for the Delhi Fire District. Supervisor Tuthill announced that the Code Officer has requested that the Certificate of Occupancy fee be raised from \$25.00 to \$50.00 effective immediately. He then explained to the board what a C/O was; Councilmember Krzyston made the motion to approve the fee being raised to \$50.00 with Councilmember Cairns seconding. Motion carried.

Supervisor Tuthill announced that the Planning Board had received some above ground fuel tank applications; and were unaware that those tanks are regulated by National Fire Code and NYSDEC. There is not a lot we can get involved with; we can look at more stringent set back requirements. They were afraid they could be taking on liabilities but Tuthill informed that there are other agencies that will be regulating them. Tuthill asked the board if they wanted to dig deeper into requirements or follow the National Fire Code and NYSDEC requirements. The board discussed what they could require and determined that they should follow the national and state codes. Tuthill will contact the planning board and make sure they get a copy of the National Fire Codes and make sure they have a contact at DEC.

Committee Reports:

Highway/Machinery: (Councilmember’s Tweed & Cairns) – Written report from Superintendent Evans was given to council members (see attached.) Superintendent Evans requested to hire Jeff Ackerly as a seasonal part time (as needed) employee at \$21.00 per hour. Evans stated one of the part time seasonal helpers will not be able to work certain times and Ackerly could fill in the position. Councilmember Krzyston made the motion to allow Evans to hire Ackerly as part time seasonal help at a rate of \$21.00 per hour effective today 2/8/21. Councilmember Tweed seconded the motion; motion carried. Evans report stated they have used quite a bit of grit this month with the persistent snow squalls, they will most likely have to start hauling more material from either of the pits when it warms up enough to haul it. Evans also stated during a recent scheduled outage he found that three of the emergency flood light fixtures did not operate as they should have; he will have an electrician replace them and will get prices on setting up a generator for times when the power does go out. He discussed the need for a generator need for power at the highway department should there be an extended power outage that could operate the truck bay doors heating system and lights. The board discussed with Evans the work required to install a generator and Krzyston will check

with the college to see if they are doing any projects this year for electrical. Evans will contact Krzyston to see if this is possible before he goes forward with an electricians estimate. Evans further stated we will have to see how the year goes for the culvert replacements we may possibly file for a grant extension if we can get on one of the two major projects, nothing is confirmed on that yet though. Councilmember Cairns stated that at the fire district meeting the other night they discussed getting a hold of Evans regarding the oil and stoning; Evans stated he has given them a contact for the price. Supervisor Tuthill asked how the mechanic was working out; Evans stated he is working very hard and is very good. Evans stated we now have two trucks that are down and are waiting for parts.

Personnel: (Councilmember's Tweed & Viafore) - Councilmember Viafore stated they have completed the audits for the Town Clerk/Tax Collector and Bookkeeper. They have one question outstanding for the Court Clerk. Viafore further stated they had put the ads for the Recreation Director and Life Guards on the website at this time they have three applications. Tuthill asked if they had taken off the "donation tab" on the pool link. Viafore and Tweed stated they had taken off the pool link completely. Councilmember Tweed stated we need to contact NYMIR for the yearly sexual harassment training.

Recreation/Health/Youth: (Councilmember's Tweed & Viafore) – Councilmember Viafore stated she had sent the Emergency Plan to the union and has not received any feedback. Tuthill asked Evans if he had heard anything, and asked if the highway department had gotten a copy. Viafore will email it to Evans so he can share it with the department as they want to approve it at the March meeting. Councilmember Tweed announced that they should have a name to submit for Recreation Director at the next meeting as PAC will be holding interviews. They will continue to pursue lifeguards closer to the season.

Economic Development/Shared Services: (Councilmen Cairns & Krzyston) – Councilmember Krzyston stated they had not met. Councilmember Krzyston stated that he and Councilmember Tweed had gotten updates on the Fire Tower from Ann Roberti; they are raising funds and in the near future they will be asking us to review their land use permit application as they are hoping to move forward in 2022.

BUILDINGS: (Councilmember Cairns & Councilmember Krzyston) – Councilmember Viafore stated she met with U-Source and sent everyone the presentation. From what Viafore understands is that they are the advisors for going to community solar; Delaware River Solar is one of the people that they would possibly recommend but they would recommend others depending on timing as Delaware River Solar may not have an opening for however long. U-Source is the "big picture person" to guide us and help us with contracts. Tuthill asked if they gave any indication as to what we would save; Viafore said it would be 10% of the solar credits that we would receive. It would be less in the winter as there isn't that much sun. Supervisor Tuthill asked the board if they wanted to try it; Tuthill said we would just have to sign up. Councilmember Viafore said at this point we would have to sign a statement of work and the energy consulting agreement; their fee is "0" they get it when we essentially sign up with someone. They get it from the developer, it is costing us nothing just to go out and have them see what's available for us; at that point we would determine who we would go with. Viafore felt it was a good way for us to save a little money each month. Councilmember Tweed made the motion they the town pursue step 1 with Councilmember Cairns seconding. Motion carried.

IT: (Councilmember Tweed & Councilmember Viafore) – Councilmember Viafore stated she would be adding the new members of our different boards.

CODES: (Councilmember Cairns & Krzyston) – Councilmember Cairns stated there were three building permits issued, 11 inspections were done, there were 6 in office conferences, 2 certificates of occupancy letters, 1 violations and he drove 101 miles.

CODES Monthly Report:

A motion was made by Councilmember Krzyston to accept the January 2021 Code Report. Councilmember Cairns seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Justice Court Report:

A motion was made by Councilmember Krzyston to accept the January 2021 Justice Court Report. Councilmember Tweed seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Clerk's Monthly Report:

A motion was made by Councilmember Krzyston to accept the January 2021 Clerk's Report and the January 2021 January Tax Collectors Report. Councilmember Cairns seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Supervisor's Financial Report:

Supervisor Tuthill stated his report was not available; hopefully next month he will have a couple to catch up.

Supervisor's County Report:

Councilmember Tweed asked how the mental health facility was moving along; Tuthill gave the update stating it was good. Councilmember Cairns said it sounded like everything was moving along with the new highway buildings. Tuthill stated they are almost ready to go out to bid with all three of them; it is ambitious but Tuthill feels it's the smart thing to do not dragging it out for three to four years. Tuthill said that the sales tax revenues were down about 10% according to the state report; the last report of Delaware County was we were up 9%. Tweed questioned if this was the year internet sales tax kicks in for NYS or did that happen last year; Tuthill wasn't sure. Tweed said that is one of the things that goes to the county instead of the municipality she wasn't sure how it was being addressed and if it was being collected. Tuthill believed if it was being collected by the county he does not foresee it being split up by the towns. Tweed questioned if it would make a dent in to what we pay into the county or would we be able to get more services for the entire county; Tuthill felt it would just lower the overall tax roll coming off the base amount having to be raised by taxes, although he was unsure.

Abstracts:

It was necessary to change the abstract to add the first lease payment for the trucks of \$105,688.06. Councilmember Cairns made the motion to approve Abstract #001 - 2021 accounts A – DB Voucher No. 0001 – 0034 equaling \$152,183.88, account SF 0016 = \$238,966.40 account TA Voucher No. 0013 – 0015 = \$12,540.31. Total vouchers presented equaled \$403,690.59. Councilmember Krzyston seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Adjourn:

Councilmember Viafore made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm, Councilmember Tweed seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Elsa Schmitz
Town Clerk
Town of Delhi