

**TOWN OF DELHI
BOARD MEETING
March 14, 2022
7:00PM**

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

Those present:

Councilmember's: Margaret Baldwin, William Cairns, Matt Krzyston, and Christina Viafore.

Absent: Highway Superintendent Daren Evans

Residents: Rick Ackerly, John Kolodziej, Chris Bodo, Cindi Cobbe

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Cairns.

Privilege of the Floor:

N/A

Approval of February 14, 2022 Regular Board Meeting Minutes:

Councilmember Baldwin stated that on page 2 of the minutes the Councilmember's name was missing from the Delaware River Solar discussion; "A motion was made by Councilmember ___ to stop the service with American Power and Gas and go back to NYSE&G as our supplier." The Councilmember's name was Viafore. With the correction of Viafore to the minutes Councilmember Cairns made a motion to accept the February 14, 2022 board minutes, with Councilmember Viafore seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Supervisor Tuthill announced we have a signed agreement with Parkitect, we now are waiting for scheduling. Councilmember Cairns questioned if we were on for the spring schedule; Councilmember Baldwin stated yes, KJ stated they were ordering it tomorrow morning and that it would stay on schedule. Supervisor Tuthill said about six weeks. Tuthill stated we are responsible for the site work; he has yet to get an actual description of what the site work is, the price they quoted was outrageous.

Highway Superintendent Evans stated the old equipment was listed with Auctions International and the auction closed last night with the high bid being \$4,800. At this point we can either accept it or decline it; if we decline it we do a counter offer. Evans then asked Baldwin about the information she received from Parkitect; she said if equipment was cut off at the base the cost from Parkitect would go way up. The town would have to figure out how they were going to remove the concrete bases. Evans stated everyone who called in asked questions and what they had to do to remove it; obviously not all bidders called. There is a chance the winning bidder is not someone who called, so whether they plan on doing it or not he is not sure. Tuthill stated either way we are going to have to get the concrete all out of there so we will probably need gravel to fill the holes back in. Evans said depending on what Parkitect wants for the lay of the land; chances are there will be material needed for low spots anyway. Tuthill said hopefully they come down fairly soon so we can spray paint some lines as he doesn't think we are going to dig the whole playground area out a foot deep but we need to know where to concentrate our efforts. Tuthill then asked Baldwin if she knew when Parkitect's was coming to get the part for Hamden; Baldwin said they had already been down to do the structural inspection, they do that before they take it apart so she believes within the next 2-3 weeks. Tuthill then asked if the bid was for everything as a group. Evans stated it was listed as one lot; Baldwin said two

things were saved out of the bid which were the “hamburger” and the wooden structure students built. Councilmember Krzyston asked if there was a targeted price in mind when we bid out the equipment; Baldwin stated no. Krzyston said he believed we should accept the bid with the hopes it was one of those that said they would remove the concrete. Baldwin then asked Evans if there was a time frame stated on the auction site for pickup; Evans stated no we did not list anything although the ones that did contact him he explained our situation and said by the end of March. He further stated it would also depend on the weather if it dries up enough to get in the site. He again stated he didn’t know if one of the callers was the actual bidder. Evans said it was listed as the highest bidder has to move from the location and didn’t specify about the concrete as it was not brought to his attention when placing the bid. Councilmember Krzyston made the motion to accept the bid with Councilmember Cairns seconding the motion. Motion carried. Evans will contact Auctions International and they will contact the winning bidder who will then contact us. Baldwin asked if there was a fee for Auctions International; Evans stated no not for municipalities.

Tuthill asked if there was any other information on playground; Baldwin said KJ was completing the entire order tomorrow and if they do the site prep they need to know ASAP. Tuthill responded if we do the site prep we need to know ASAP, he explained this to KJ when they spoke on the phone. Baldwin asked if we wanted to explore other operators for the site work, Tuthill stated we don’t know what they need to do. We can’t bid when we don’t know how much dirt needs to be taken out. Tuthill said Baldwin should ask her or have her pencil it on the site plan how deep we need to excavate it down; we need answers on that. Baldwin said she would do it tomorrow. Councilmember Cairns asked if there were signs posted that the playground was closed. Tuthill agreed it needs to be done soon.

Tuthill presented the contract from Aqua Concept on the opening and closing of the pool this year. The cost has raised slightly due to the cost of chemicals from last year. The cost for 2022 is \$750 to open the pool and \$787 to close it in the fall. Councilmember Cairns made a motion to allow Tuthill to sign the contract with Councilmember Viafore seconding. Motion carried.

New Business:

A motion was made by Councilmember Viafore to hire Chris Bodo as Dog Control Officer at the salary set in the 2022 budget; Councilmember Cairns seconded the motion with Tuthill requesting the official start date of March 1, 2022. Motion carried.

Supervisor Tuthill brought the Coalition of Watershed Towns ballot before the board; he explained the process to the board and requested a motion be made to vote on the provided ballot. Councilmember Krzyston nominated Councilmember Viafore as an alternate write in, motioning also to vote for the four names on the original ballot. Councilmember Cairns seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Supervisor Tuthill requested a town representative for PAC representation, a motion was made by Councilmember Viafore to appoint Councilmember Baldwin with Councilmember Krzyston seconding. Motion carried with Baldwin abstaining.

The board discussed the Village of Delhi’s request for an increase in funds for their summer recreation program due to COVID cleaning and protocols. A motion was made by Councilmember Krzyston to stay with the existing amount in the town’s budget. Councilmember Baldwin seconded the motion; motion carried. Supervisor Tuthill will email the village to let them know the board voted against the request for more money.

Committee Reports:

Highway/Machinery: Councilmember’s Baldwin & Cairns) Written report from Superintendent Evans provided to councilmembers. He has prepared the bids for the current year for hauling fees, diesel fuel and heating fuel. Councilmember Cairns made the motion to allow the advertising of the above bid with bids due by Monday, April 11th by 3:00pm, Councilmember Viafore seconded the motion. Motion carried with bids

to be opened at the April 11th board meeting. Evans also provided the board with the 2022 Agreement for the Expenditure of Highway Moneys; Evans gave an explanation of what work he will do but stressed work is "pending available CHIPS funding and material costs" and subject to change due to possible rising costs. Evans further stated some may not get done because of the huge increase in rising costs this year and weather cooperation. Councilmember Baldwin made the motion to approve Evan's 2022 Agreement for the Expenditures of Highway Moneys with Councilmember Cairns seconding. Motion carried with Tuthill and the board signing the documents which are to be sent to Delaware County DPW.

The issues with one of the new trucks has been resolved, they will be warranting a new pump for the gear box. We will install and return the old one.

Councilmember Cairns asked about the Hamden Hill project with NYSE&G regarding the \$5,000 they were willing to spend to maintain the road with salt for their trucks, asking if that money covers the product we are using. Evans stated he was unaware if we had received the money from them; but we are tight on what we have to put in from our budget. Tuthill said they wanted salt immediately but they don't pay. Evans further stated he had not received any confirmation back from them on the original letter sent. Evans said the work has taken a toll on the road already and it's far from being over. Tuthill stated we warned them.

Councilmember Cairns also requested Evans place the speed bumps at the pool driveway.

Councilmember Cairns spoke with Mike O'Reilly at Principle Designs regarding the highway garage roof and rebidding out the project. They were advertising the same as last year with a return date of May 9th at 3:00pm to the town clerk. The bids will be opened at the meeting and it will say a completion date of September 30th.

Personnel: (Councilmember's Viafore & Baldwin): N/A

Recreation/Health/Youth: (Councilmember's Viafore & Baldwin): Councilmember Baldwin gave the floor to Rick Ackerly of PAC. Ackerly stated PAC has discussed a name for the park and pool they are proposing naming it; "The Wilber S. Oles Memorial Park." Supervisor Tuthill stated the board would need to discuss and research it further and would take in under advisement.

Economic Development/Shared Services: (Councilmember's Cairns & Krzyston): Councilmember Krzyston stated there is no progress on the pool discussion (the village taking over). The ice rink is considered a shared service and it will be drained and dissembled this week as the season has ended. The young man did a great job and he would not hesitate to recommend him for another year.

Councilmember Krzyston further stated he is on the "sewer works board" for the project anticipated for the industries to the wastewater treatment plant at the village, there will be a meeting at the end of the month. There is not a lot to report.

Krzyston further stated the flood commission is due to meet soon as they need to discuss the RFP on the bridge design they were awarded money for Woolerton Street.

Buildings: Councilmember Krzyston said they now have 100 of the 125 lights needed to do the LED exchange at town hall. He believes they will be installed before the next board meeting.

Krzyston also stated he had brought up at the prior meeting about a new highway garage for the town and he said he had Evans take him to the new building that the village has at the wastewater treatment plant; it's a 2,400 square foot pole barn that they use to store some equipment. According to records that were shared with Krzyston by the village it costs about \$160,000 but our building is five times bigger. It's relatively small for what we need and it was built at a different time. Krzyston has spoken with a local company and they would give us advice as to what we need such as general estimates and what we should anticipate it to cost and the time it would take to build something new. He didn't want to mention the name of the business as they are willing to help us out for now free of charge.

IT: Councilmember Viafore stated they had the heating and cooling campaign in which we received approval from NYSERDA; there will be a webinar on April 13th at noon and they are working on an official

press release. She believes it will be recorded for those that are unable to attend. It will give residents information on the heat pumps and what is available through the program. She is also working on a press release for the communications system NIXLE; she did activate weather rebroadcasts so anyone who is already signed up through NIXLE already got a notification of the storm which was on Saturday. She was testing the system to see how the system works, working out the details. She is working on promotional material and then she will make sure whoever here wants access to send messages (the clerk). She discussed the difference between the services (phone, text, email) and what messages to be sent. She is working on a form for residents for the alert system.

Viafore further announced there is a panel discussion on the Home Grown National Park project on native plants which the clerk forwarded to the board members tomorrow night at 7:00pm. It's about the importance of planting natives. She informed the board about the project and thanked those involved with the project for their dedication.

Codes: Councilmember Cairns stated in February: one building permit issued, 9 inspections / meetings, two in-office conferences, 1 fire inspection, 3 c/o letters, 1 c/o letters, 2 c/c letters and he drove 90 miles.

Councilmember Viafore stated there is a training program on March 23rd which she sent to Supervisor Tuthill from Transitions Catskills; it will give us more points for potential other grants.

CODES Monthly Report:

A motion was made by Councilmember Viafore to accept the codes report for February 2022 Councilmember Baldwin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Justice Court Report:

A motion was made by Councilmember Baldwin to accept the February 2022 Justice Court Report. Councilmember Krzyston seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Clerk's Monthly Report:

A motion was made by Councilmember Cairns to accept the February 2022 Clerk's Report seconded by Councilmember Krzyston. Motion carried.

Supervisor's Financial Report:

Supervisor Tuthill presented the board with the yearend December 2021 Financial Report, the January 2022 Report and the February 2022. Councilmember Baldwin made the motion to accept all three reports as presented; Councilmember Krzyston seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Supervisor's County Report:

Supervisor Tuthill stated work is progressing on the office building on the corner of Main and Page. No news on the other buildings. ARPA Committee is meeting tomorrow to discuss more requests for funds for the 8.5 million the county is trying to divvy out. Councilmember Baldwin asked if this was something the town would be doing at some point; Tuthill said if there is any money left. He is still trying to get authorized to do the report due April 30th. Tuthill said at this time we have spent some money on the Nixle program. Councilmember Krzyston asked if there was any news on the building that needs to come down on Main Street; Tuthill stated there are regulations and an asbestos survey needed. A new building in the plan but they need to reevaluate.

Abstracts:

Councilmember Cairns made the motion to approve Abstract #003 – 2022 accounts A – SF Voucher No.

0068 – 00104 equaling \$36,864.22, account TA No. 0057 – 0060 equaling \$12,760.59. Total vouchers presented equaled \$47,624.81. Councilmember Krzyston seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Executive Session:

Councilmember Cairns made the motion to enter into executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular individual. Councilmember Krzyston seconded the motion. Motion carried at 8:11 pm.

A motion was made by Councilmember Cairns at 8:45pm to exit executive session with Councilmember Viafore seconding. Motion carried.

The town council went back in to a regular meeting at 8:47pm and announced the hiring of Ellen Pringle as Recreation Director with the motion being made by Councilmember Cairns and then seconded by Councilmember Viafore. The term of employment as April 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022 at the salary of \$7,000 per the 2022 budget.

Adjourn:

Councilmember Krzyston announced there is a three on three basketball tournament scheduled for July 16th at the outdoor courts at SUNY Delhi; flyers will be going out to the schools for grades 7 and up. There will be an adult division also.

Councilmember Cairns made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05pm, Councilmember Viafore seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Elsa Schmitz
Town Clerk
Town of Delhi