

**Town of Austerlitz  
Town Board Meeting  
July 13, 2017**

Present: Robert Lagonia, Supervisor, Greg Vogler, Nansi Friedman, and Jere Wrightsman, Town Board Members, Robert Meehan, Highway Superintendent, and Constance Mondel, Minute Taker.

Town Clerk Haag and Town Board Member Verenazi absent.

Regular Town Board meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Moment of Silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Minutes**

A motion to accept the June 15, 2017 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes was made by G. Vogler and seconded by J. Wrightsman.

R. Lagonia: yes

G. Vogler: yes

M. Verenazi: absent

N. Friedman: yes

J. Wrightsman: yes

Motion carried 4:1.

**Auditing of Accounts and Claims**

A motion to pay General Fund, #187-216, in the amount of \$35167.49, Highway Fund, #90-105, in the amount of \$30887.77, and the Capital Fund #13-15, in the amount of \$1891.98, was made by J. Wrightsman and seconded by N. Friedman.

R. Lagonia: yes

G. Vogler: yes

M. Verenazi: absent

N. Friedman: yes

J. Wrightsman: yes

Motion carried 4:1.

**Reports**

**Monthly Cash Disbursement and Supervisor Report**

Monthly Cash Disbursement for the Month of June 2017 submitted. Supervisor Lagonia advised as of today Funds are \$1.8 million in the Town Hall Ellsworth Kelly Grant fund. In the general fund only fines and forfeitures are down from last year. Mortgages are up a bit over budget. All expenditures are in line. Town Park funds are at zero.

**Supervisor Report**

Relative to the Town Park, Highway Superintendent Meehan reported garbage cans are on their way. Supervisor Lagonia reported that the bid for cameras is \$14,000 which seems excessive. A second bid has not yet arrived.

A brief discussion followed on the possible need for lighting at night. People have been observed in the Town Park after dark. This is a safety issue as well as a need for lighting at special events.

Motion detector lights are a possibility.

There has been vandalism on fences, gate left open, writing on the wall of building. A suggestion by Debbie Oleynek for a mural, made by summer program children and signed by them, may encourage ownership and care for the building walls. More discussion on these needs will follow at the next meeting.

A Climate Smart Community presentation was made by Robyn Reynolds to County Supervisors. Grants are available to the towns that wish to be involved. Written materials are available for ideas that could be adopted by towns.

At this same meeting, news on town conditions were discussed about the opioid problem and the avenues available for help.

Chatham Cares 4 U has a helpline open to anyone, from any town, who is in need of help with a recovery placement. Town Board Member G. Vogler asked if there was a general report from Sheriff's office on town percentages of misdemeanors, felonies etc. There is no such report and some information can be found in the Columbia Newspaper.

#### Highway Report

Highway Superintendent Meehan reported Dugway Rd is still getting care. A setback occurred with having ground telephone pole wires too near the surface of the ground, like 8 inches instead of 10. Three NYSEG executives came to the site to discuss with Highway Superintendent Meehan how to address his complaint. They were very helpful in noting that the particular site has cables that are very old and too near the surface. They will see that this problem is remedied. Concrete mixture for the road is being prepared. At Town Hall site, trees have been removed. Gravel needed for the septic in place in the ground. Benchmarks for paths, handicap access, will be addressed by Ray Jurkowski.

At Town Park, the spinning death wheel (children's entertainment) has been repaired and a new pump put in the fountain.

With respect to Road work business, Supervisor Lagonia reported receiving a second price from Gorman at \$15 thousand less than that of Peckham for the Dugway Rd. project

However, Peckham has a larger crew, has been found by the Town to be reliable and with 4 or 5 brand new pieces of equipment leads to awarding the project to Peckham.

Highway Superintendent Meehan told of finding a very dilapidated camper on LongView Drive with no license plates and a blown tire. The dilemma-who would get it removed. Fortunately the owners did come back to retrieve it.

Town Clerk Report for the month of June 2017 was submitted;

Planning Board Report for the month of June 2017 submitted.

Joe Beats LLC. Bed and breakfast was approved. No unfinished business.

Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee Report for the month of June 2017 submitted. Greenway Grants to be explored. A review of the goals established in Comp Plan of 2004, particularly for assisting the elderly with transportation and housing, are to be explored for ways to address them. Another on line survey is being considered with reference to these goals and to add to communication. Relative to Historic Housing District, Tom Moreland is to be invited to the next meeting.

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Report for the month of June 2017 was submitted

Justice Grubin Justice Court Report for the month of June 2017 was submitted.

Justice Cassuto Court Report for the month of June 2017 was submitted.

No Dog Report for the month of June 2017 submitted.

A motion to accept the above reports was made by N. Friedman and seconded by G. Vogler.  
R. Lagonia: yes  
G. Vogler: yes  
M. Verenazi: absent  
N. Friedman: yes  
J. Wrightsman: yes  
Motion carried 4:1.

### **Correspondence**

Blue Shield of Northeast New York: Notice of Proposed Premium Rate Change  
There has been a 10% increase

NYS Dept of Taxation and Finance: Town of Austerlitz Tentative Equalization Rate is 100%

NYS Dept of Ag and Markets: Dog Control Officer Inspection Report, Town of Austerlitz is found satisfactory. This includes the arrangement for placement of dogs and cats.

Ellsworth Kelly Foundation: Grant to the Town of Austerlitz on June 29 - \$700,000.  
Recently added \$300,000.

Chet Davis: Speed on State Route 203. Discussion on ways to address the speed down from Big Woods area. Highway Superintendent Meehan will place the speed monitor by Reed Rd. and Supervisor Lagonia will ask the police officer to check, by being there, periodically.

### **Unfinished Business**

#### **Planning Board Appointment**

A motion to appoint Perry Samowitz as a Planning Board Member with a term beginning immediately and ending 12/31/21 was made by Greg Vogler and seconded by Nansi Friedman.  
R. Lagonia: yes  
G. Vogler: yes  
M. Verenazi: absent

N. Friedman: yes  
J. Wrightsman: yes  
Motion carried 4:1

### **Lights and Camera: Town Park**

There hasn't been time to address nor review this issue.

### **Codification Update**

Everyone read it and found it satisfactory. No vote was taken however. Codification is important as it mitigates a legal risk to the Town as the Town's actual laws and those available on-line differ.

### **Justice Court Audit**

The Town Board received and reviewed the 2017 Justice Court Audit, done by Accountant Nelson Furlano.

A motion to accept the 2017 Justice Court Audit done by Nelson Furlano was made by G. Vogler and seconded by J. Wrightsman.

R. Lagonia: yes  
G. Vogler: yes  
M. Verenazi: absent  
N. Friedman: yes  
J. Wrightsman: yes  
Motion carried 4:1

### **Climate Smart Community**

Board members G. Vogler and J. Wrightsman read the materials, provided by the Clean Energy Coordinator, Robin Reynolds, for what is required of a town that signs on to a Climate Change Pledge. Attorney for the Town, Joseph Catalano, was not sure if this a symbolic or actual commitment. Both Board members will work to form a committee with coordinators, get ideas from both materials and the public for an assessment of possible proposals. Following a review there will be a decision on acceptance of having a town pledge.

A charging station was mentioned as a possible proposal.

### **Expansion of Duties Planning Board Clerk**

Mary Davis serves as Clerk for both the Town Planning Board and the Highway Superintendent. There is room in her schedule for more work and fits her desire as well. A Deputy Town Clerk is required by law to be a Town resident. Mary Davis does not reside in our town. The Attorney for the town suggested that since M. Davis could not be named Deputy Clerk under the law, in not being a resident of the Town of Austerlitz, and rather than pass a local law, make Ms. Davis an Assistant to the Town Clerk.

R. Lagonia made the motion to assign Mary Davis the title and duties of Assistant to Sue Haag, Town Clerk, seconded by G. Vogler.

R. Lagonia: yes  
G. Vogler: yes  
M. Verenazi: absent  
N. Friedman: yes

J. Wrightsman: yes  
Motion carried 4:1

### **Columbia County IT**

The County is offering IT service. Business Automation Services also has sent information on a service with a new item which stores everything from the computer, plus a 24-hour service and email to be in a different set-up. Town Board Member G. Vogler referred to previous conversations on computer set-ups which recommended back up being based someplace else. Attorney for the Town provided information on emails-not all having legal requirements. When the BAS proposal come in it will be given a good review.

The new building does not have service. Question arose as to whether it is a wireless building. While it seems reasonable to use the county service, at present, we use Technology 4 All with Carl and Laurie Quinn. For the present, the motion on Col IT is tabled.

### **New Business**

#### **Award New Town Hall Bids**

Resolution 37-2017, Bids For New Town Hall Project

A motion to adopt Resolution 37-2017, Bids for New Town Hall Project, was made by R. Lagonia and seconded by N. Friedman.

G. Vogler: yes

M. Verenazi: absent

N. Friedman: yes

J. Wrightsman: yes

Motion carried 4:1.

Whereas, the Town Board has duly authorized the advertisement for sealed bids for purposes of completing the renovations desired for the new Town Hall building and grounds (the "Project"); and

Whereas, a number of bids were received, opened and read on February 8, 2017 and the bids were referred to the Project architect for analysis and evaluation; and

Whereas, the Town Board received a report from the architect, dated April 18, 2017, that recommended rebidding most of the Project with certain design and specification changes made to the bid packages as well as breaking down the larger contracts into smaller components to encourage more competitive bidding from both large and small contractors; and

Whereas, on April 27, 2017, the Town Board accepted the bids for window restoration, raising the building, and elevator installation; rejected all other bids received and opened on February 8, 2017 and authorized rebidding of the remainder of the Project with modified bid packages and the retention of a project manager to manage the Project;

Whereas, bids were received and opened on June 6, 2017 pursuant to the advertisement for bids with modified bid packages for the remaining portions of the Project and those bids were reviewed and analyzed by the Project architect; and

Whereas, based on the architect’s bid analysis and contact with the low bidders, it is the Town Board’s understanding that the low bids opened on June 6, 2017, represent fair and accurate pricing for the components of the Project that were rebid and the Town Board is prepared to render a decision on the bids received and opened on February 8, 2017;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. The Town Board finds that the low bids opened on June 6, 2017 for the various Project components are reasonable and represent a fair value for the work and are from responsible bidders.
2. Accordingly, the Town Board hereby awards these bids and authorizes the Town Supervisor with assistance from the Project architect and Town’s legal counsel to prepare, negotiate and enter into contracts with the low bidders at a price not to exceed the low bid price as follows:

<u>Low Bidder</u>	<u>Project Component</u>	<u>Bid Price</u>
Daloia Contracting, Inc.	Primary Building Construction	\$703,800
Gregg Concrete & Masonry, Inc.	Concrete	\$68,500
Daloia Contracting, Inc.	Roofing	\$25,000
Daloia Contracting, Inc.	Painting	\$75,000
Tri-Valley Plumbing & Heating, Inc.	Plumbing	\$74,000
KLD Mechanical, Inc.	HVAC	\$220,000
La Corte Companies, Inc.	Electrical	\$176,108
J. McBain, Inc.	Electric Service	\$28,050
Goold Well Drilling	Pressure Tank & Well Piping	\$2,875

3. The Town Board hereby specifies that the contracts on the aforementioned bid awards may be negotiated at lower contract prices than the low bid prices set forth above and acknowledges that the contract price may be adjusted up or down per change orders that may be deemed necessary or appropriate by the Project architect during contract negotiation or during the term of the contract and progress of work.
4. In the event that the low bidder cannot meet the project schedule, the bid or contract requirements, or otherwise fails to timely enter into a contract with the Town, the Town Board hereby authorizes the Supervisor, with assistance from the Project architect and Town’s legal counsel, to negotiate, prepare and enter into a contract with the next lowest bidder for that particular Project component.

5. The Town Board authorizes the Town Clerk or Project architect to notify, in writing, the low bidders of the bid award subject to the terms set forth above.
6. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

In discussing the allowance to ask about ways to reduce costs, Supervisor Lagonia reported the conversation with the mechanical engineer of the electric service. Another way could save in the wiring which was to be done all around the building in the number of fireboxes required, etc. Service to the building still a question as is to keep or remove the telephone pole.

KLD Mechanical- All involved came to discuss the heating system. There is no room for duct work climate control for every part. Air blowers and heat pump are needed. The question, can they be shared?

Every unit takes a deep cut. Each has a hole in the foundation. All copper is to be around the building. The Engineering Design will be discussed in meeting with the engineer later this month. 80 or 90 % of cost is just in materials. The topics will also be about repair and longevity and the 1-year guarantee.

Plumber- No savings

No meeting scheduled to date with electricians.

Joe Iuviene as Contractor –receives a 15% saving on all on bought materials. In addition – Herrington’s, with rock bottom pricing will provide 3% cost savings if bill is paid by the 3rd of the month.

A Motion made by J. Wrightsman and seconded by N. Friedman, to approve opening an account with Herrington’s, naming Contractor Robert Daloia, Architect J. Iuviene, and Supervisor Lagonia as the only allowed purchasers, allowing payment to be made by the 3rd of the month, without prior audit and said audit to occur at the next regular Town Board meeting.

R. Lagonia: yes

G. Vogler: yes

M. Verenazi: absent

N. Friedman: yes

J. Wrightsman: yes

Motion carried 4:1

No sound data on cost of gutters, judges’ desk, sub draining system.

Camera work at entrance, not needed in the whole building. \$20,000.

Alarm system, how elaborate needed, monthly fee, cost to install

Supervisor Lagonia gave rough estimate of cost of project to be \$1,819,000.

As to masonry, \$75,000 on estimate, another estimate is coming. \$36,000 for spray installation. The Spray Foam for installation could be added to Herrington purchases.

A motion to accept the insulation bid of \$36085.00 from Upstate Spray Foam Insulation for the new town hall was made by R. Lagonia and seconded by N. Friedman.

R. Lagonia: yes  
G. Vogler: yes  
M. Verenazi: absent  
N. Friedman: yes  
J. Wrightsman: yes  
Motion carried 4:1

(With no black top curbing, 150 thousand in savings, 15 in MEP ,35 in installations, 50 on materials).

Question raised on time lines. Lorman will be months. Building to be raised, 21 inches, to raise walls and ceiling. Room is needed for piping. Changes will be made on the stairs. Proposed completion- a year.

Question of Joe Iuviene related to cost; 20% to manage, 20% related to architectural concerns

Needed: kiosk outside, a sign, judges' desk. A Grant will save 50 thousand.

Town Board Member G. Vogler raised the point of having a bond payment in 2018.

Town Park- baseball area still needs to be done.

### **Austerlitz Walking Trails**

Town Board Member Nansi Friedman reported that the Columbia Land Conservancy is involved and considers that the CLC architect will begin the process of making the trails ready.

It was noted that initially the brush needs to be cut and that Serge Bervy may be one to do it, perhaps at no cost. A walk with Serge would be the first start.

### **Salt Shed Pricing**

There will be a presentation by Ray Jurkowski in August.

### **Public Comments**

None.

### **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by G. Vogler, and seconded by R. Lagonia.

G. Vogler: yes  
M. Verenazi: absent  
N. Friedman: yes  
J. Wrightsman: yes  
Motion carried 4:1. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Constance Mondel



