

Town of Austerlitz
Town Board Meeting
January 15, 2015

Present: Robert Lagonia, Supervisor, Matthew Verenazi, Greg Vogler, Bryan Geel, Jon Mesick
Town Board Members, Robert Meehan, Highway Superintendent, and Susan Haag, Town Clerk

Regular meeting called to order at 7:12 p.m.

Moment of Silence, followed by the pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

A motion to accept the December 18, 2014 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes was made by G. Vogler and seconded by J. Mesick.

R. Lagonia: yes

B. Geel: yes

J. Mesick: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

G. Vogler: yes

Motion carried 5:0.

A motion to accept the January 5, 2015 Special/Organizational Town Board Meeting minutes was made by J. Mesick and seconded by G. Vogler.

R. Lagonia: yes

B. Geel: abstain due to absence at meeting

J. Mesick: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

G. Vogler: yes

Motion carried 4:1.

Auditing of Accounts and Claims

Budget Amendments

General Fund

A1110.4 Town Justice increase by \$565.35

A1320.4 Accountant increase by \$937.50

A1355.1 Assessor increase by \$251.00

A1410.1 Town Clerk increase by \$16.31

A1420.4 Attorney increase by \$1808.05

A1620.4 Building increase by \$721.29

A3510.1 Dog Control increase by \$.04

A3620.11 Building Inspector Clerk increase by \$52.36

A5010.1 Highway Superintendent increase by \$1.00

A5132.4 Highway Garage increase by \$165.95

A3120.4 Police increase by \$2898.24

A1090 Interest on Taxes increase by \$217.09

A5010.1 Building Permits increase by \$7200.00

Highway Fund

DA5130.1 Machinery Decrease by \$1499.52
DA5110.1 General Repairs Payroll increase by \$156.65
DA5142.1 Snow Removal Payroll increase by \$1342.87
DA9050.8 NYS Unemployment decrease by \$1672.90
DA5130.4 Machinery increase by \$13406.91
DA5110.4 General Repairs decrease by \$11734.01

A motion to approve the above budget amendment was made by M. Verenazi and seconded by B. Geel.

R. Lagonia: yes

B. Geel: yes

J. Mesick: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

G. Vogler: yes

Motion carried 5:0.

A motion to approve 2014 General Fund #440-453, in the amount of \$17094.05, and 2014 Highway Fund #257-272, in the amount of \$29858.28, 2015 General Fund #13-21, in the amount of \$9942.94, and 2015 Highway Fund #3-7, in the amount of \$1797.23 was made by M. Verenazi and seconded by J. Mesick.

R. Lagonia: yes

B. Geel: yes

J. Mesick: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

G. Vogler: yes

Motion carried 5:0.

Reports

Monthly Cash Disbursement and Supervisor Report

Supervisor Lagonia noted that it appears that the numbers are coming in as expected. The Town Board looked over 2014 numbers to date because some of the numbers will change once all the 2014 bills are in.

The Auditor from the NYS Comptroller's Office has contacted the Town to set up an appointment with the Supervisor, Town Clerk and Highway Superintendent next Tuesday. After this meeting, the Auditor will meet with the rest of the Town Board if they wish to do so. A draft report was received and Supervisor Lagonia noted that there is very little in it because many of the issues were corrected already when Supervisor Lagonia took office.

Supervisor Lagonia is hoping to get a bid package out in March for the renovations at the Town Park. The preliminary plans are with Jack Shear.

The contract on the Martin Parker property has been signed with a \$30000.00 deposit. A closing date has not been set yet because a third party on the current deed must sign off. Hopefully the

closing will be scheduled in February once the title is cleared. M. Parker is requesting the small building on the property since the Town is not interested in it. The consensus of the Town Board is to give this building to M. Parker.

Supervisor Lagonia noted that the old grader has not yet been picked up and taken to the CAT dealership. Superintendent Meehan has spoken to the CAT salesman concerning this. The new grader will be picked up from the Highway Department to put a scarifier on it and when it is returned, the old grader will be picked up.

On a County Level, Pine Haven is still a big issue. The union representative met with the County Supervisors. Savings will come in with new hires and the current employees made concessions. The County will save a lot of money if Pine Haven is sold. Town Board Member Vogler asked if there was any provision in the bid package for employee protection. Supervisor Lagonia advised that the County is not to that point yet, but the Supervisors are thinking in this direction.

Supervisor Lagonia noted the following 2015 projects he would like to accomplish: Town Board Workshops that deal with bonding/rebonding, the needs of the Highway Department, a new salt shed, the new town hall renovations and how to fund them, town park renovations, and an employee handbook. Supervisor Lagonia would like to schedule these workshops an hour, hour and a half before regular town board meetings and begin in February so the Town Board can get to work quickly.

There was a lot accomplished in 2014 and Attorney for the Town Catalano advised R. Lagonia that he has not seen this with other Towns he represents.

Supervisor Lagonia advised that there were some questions concerning the timing of Grievance Day because it is a court night. Assessor Pam Cook is unable to hold Grievance Day at another location because the records can not be moved, nor can the computer. Supervisor Lagonia does not want to spend the money in attorney fees to change the law on our books that sets the day Grievance Day will be held for the Town of Austerlitz. The court will either have to change the day and time of court or cancel. When the new town hall is finished, more space will be available.

Highway Superintendent Report

Highway Superintendent Meehan reported that the private road, Lawrence Lane, is currently not being maintained due to Earl Lawrence's death. Just a heads up that the residents may get together and petition the Town to take over this road.

Due to the storms, the Highway Department has gone through a bunch of sand. The new grader is nice and has been used. Repairs have been needed on some of the Highway equipment, especially the 2008 Ford, but the work has been done and hopefully the Town will not see any other problems for a while.

There have been a number of accidents of State Route 22 in Austerlitz lately. Two major ones in fact. R. Meehan believes that when the weather breaks, the Enhanced Patrol should sit on State Route 22.

The Town Board discussed the accidents.

Town Clerk Report for the month of December 2014 submitted.

Planning Board Report for the month of December 2014 submitted.

No Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee Report for December 2014 year submitted.

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Report for the month of December 2014 submitted.

Justice Cassuto Justice Court Report for the month of December 2014 submitted.

Justice Grubin Justice Court Report for the month of December 2014 submitted.

No Dog Report for the month of December 2014 submitted.

A motion to accept the above reports was made by G. Vogler and seconded by J. Mesick.

R. Lagonia: yes

B. Geel: yes

J. Mesick: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

G. Vogler: yes

Motion carried 5:0.

Correspondence

NYMIR: Proposed Rate Adjustment for the 2015 Year. No rate increases for the 2015 year.

NYS Dept of Ag and Markets: Municipal Shelter Inspection Report 12/15/14. Shelter services were rated as satisfactory.

Unfinished Business

Parker Property: Discussed

Highway Form 284

The Town Board and Highway Superintendent Meehan discussed proposed Highway projects for the 2015 year. Particular attention was spent on the culvert replacement on East Hill Road. R. Meehan advised that the engineer for the town should look over this project and report back with costs involved.

A motion to approve the Highway Form 284 was made by B. Geel and seconded by J. Mesick.

R. Lagonia: yes

B. Geel: yes

J. Mesick: yes
M. Verenazi: yes
G. Vogler: yes
Motion carried.

New Business

2015 Proposed Projects: Discussed

Public Comments

None

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by M. Verenazi and seconded by B. Geel.

R. Lagonia: yes

B. Geel: yes

J. Mesick: yes

M. Verenazi: yes

G. Vogler: yes

Motion carried 5:0. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan A. Haag, Town Clerk