

Town of Austerlitz
Town Board Meeting
February 21, 2019

Present: Robert Lagonia, Supervisor, Greg Vogler, Jere Wrightsman, Nansi Friedman and Chris Schober, Town Board Members, Robert Meehan, Highway Superintendent and Susan Haag, Town Clerk. Attorney for the Town, Joseph Catalano present.

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

Moment of silence and pledge of allegiance.

Minutes

A motion to accept the January 24, 2019 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes was made by G. Vogler and seconded by J. Wrightsman.

R. Lagonia: yes

G. Vogler: yes

C. Schober: yes

N. Friedman: abstain

J. Wrightsman: yes

Motion carried 4:1.

Auditing of Accounts and Claims

A motion to pay General Fund, #59-88, in the amount of \$28537.36, Highway Fund, #27-49, in the amount of \$23094.90, and the Capital Fund #29-40, in the amount of \$72743.29 was made by N. Friedman and seconded by C. Schober.

R. Lagonia: yes

G. Vogler: yes

C. Schober: yes

N. Friedman: yes

J. Wrightsman: yes

Motion carried 5:0.

Reports

Monthly Cash Disbursement and Supervisor Report

Monthly Cash Disbursement for the Month of January 2019 submitted. Supervisor Lagonia noted that the 2018 financials will be more up to date at the end of February since the Town is still paying 2018 bills. The 2018 AUD will also be completed and filed by the end of February as well. The Town currently has a draft. The ending fund balance has increased. Supervisor Lagonia will go over the 2018-year end AUD next month.

Supervisor Lagonia discussed the current financial numbers noting that the Town will have to take the current BAN debt and make a formal Bond when the new salt shed project is complete. This project will come in under \$600,000.00. Attorney for the Town, Joseph Catalano advised that the BAN comes due in August of 2019. The interest rates are fairly stable so there is no rush to convert the BAN to a Bond right now. The interest rate on the BAN is good and the Town

needs to wait until the salt shed construction is complete. Supervisor Lagonia noted that the electric cost came in lower than anticipated.

Supervisor Lagonia advised that Kinderhook Bank was bought out by Community Bank System. They have reached out to R. Lagonia and set up a meeting next week. R. Lagonia has been told that there will be hardly any changes so hopefully that is in fact the case.

On a County level, the Supervisors have been discussing how the public can interact and speak during meetings. There seems to be a good resolution to this issue although it is not yet finalized. R. Lagonia spoke to the procedure. Because of changes, the public discussion is happening more. Paperwork is also posted on the County website.

The new Town Hall should be complete by the end of March, ready for use for the April Town Board meeting. Holly Tanner, Columbia County Clerk, will be at the May Town Board meeting explaining the procedures to get a new enhanced drivers license. Any presentations by Town Committees using the meeting hall at the new Town Hall need to be arranged through Supervisor Lagonia. Town Board Member Vogler would like to set up a time for the Climate Smart Committee.

Highway Report

Highway Superintendent Meehan reported that the Highway Crew is now working out of the new salt shed and it is going well. All the sand is out of the Braley property. The Highway Crew has been out fixing potholes and dealing with the mud. The dirt roads go between being soft then hard between the warm weather and then the cold. R. Meehan advised that money will need to be available in the Fall to refill the sand barn. Superintendent Meehan advised that one of the Highway workers was hurt on the job and is out on Workmen's Compensation. Current expected return to work date is April. Most of the equipment is holding up with just a few minor truck issues. Next year this time the Town will be using new trucks.

Supervisor Lagonia advised that there is an old screen still on the Braley property. It is wore out, the motor is bad and it has not been used in 4-5 years. Highway Superintendent Meehan would like to trade this screen for topsoil for the landscaping around the new Town Hall. Besides the screen, there is also one plow and the outside needs to be cleaned up.

Attorney Catalano advised that if the Town Board is in agreement with R. Meehan's trade offer, it needs to declare the screen surplus property.

A motion was made by G. Vogler and N. Friedman to declare the screen surplus property.

R. Lagonia: yes

G. Vogler: yes

C. Schober: yes

N. Friedman: yes

J. Wrightsman: yes

Motion carried 5:0.

A motion to allow R. Meehan to take the screen into his possession and for this the Town will receive the value in topsoil for the landscaping of the new Town Hall, estimated at 200 yards for a value of \$6000.00, was made by J. Wightman and seconded by C. Schober.

R. Lagonia: yes

G. Vogler: yes

C. Schober: yes

N. Friedman: yes

J. Wrightsman: yes

Motion carried 5:0.

Town Clerk Report for the month of January 2019 submitted.

Tax Collector Report for the month of January 2019 submitted.

Planning Board Report for the month of January 2019 submitted. Supervisor Lagonia noted that the subdivision regulations will be modified this year as suggested by the Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee. Attorney for the Town, Joseph Catalano, will draft and modifications will be made accordingly. The Planning Board will also receive training on these. Attorney Catalano will be holding training sessions for the Planning Board after each meeting for 30 minutes. The Zoning Board of Appeals can also attend this training. This training will satisfy yearly training requirements as stated in law.

Comprehensive Plan Oversight Committee Report for the month of February 2019 submitted.

Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Report for the month of January 2019 submitted.

Justice Grubin Justice Court Report for the month of January 2019 submitted.

Justice Cassuto Justice Court Report for the month of January 2019 submitted.

Climate Smart Committee

Town Board Member Vogler reported that the Committee did not meet.

A motion to accept the monthly reports was made by C. Schober and seconded by J. Wrightsman.

R. Lagonia: yes

G. Vogler: yes

C. Schober: yes

N. Friedman: yes

J. Wrightsman: yes

Motion carried 5:0.

Correspondence

Kinderhook Bank: Announcement that Kinderhook Bank will combine with Community Bank System. The same staff will be working in the branch at Chatham. In the coming months the Town will be receiving further communications that will answer questions about the Town's specific accounts. Merger should be completed in the second quarter of 2019.

Unfinished Business

New Town Hall Update

Cost analysis sheet was updated by Therese Boehme, Wallace Architecture.

Supervisor Lagonia updated the Town Board as to the status of the new Town Hall project, noting the contractor should be done by end of March. The April Town Board meeting should be in the meeting hall. Supervisor Lagonia went over the items finished since the January meeting and what is left to be done. A landscape plan needs to be completed, and inside design theme and signage for the building, inside and out, need to be decided. Hopefully all these items will be completed by summer.

Supervisor Lagonia also advised that the floors at the old Town Hall need to be re-sanded. R. Lagonia would like to have these done at the same time the new floors in the new Town Hall are done.

Yearly Appointments

Supervisor Lagonia advised that he and Town Board Member Vogler interviewed Shawn Hancock, Eric Sieber and Loren Brink for positions on the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals. James Oats had put in a letter of interest but did not respond to requests for an interview. Supervisor Lagonia discussed the applicates, noting that the decision was made to keep S. Hancock's resume in the future file since she has already served. Attorney Catalano advised the Town Board that the Planning Board really needs to have a full, functioning board.

A motion to appoint Eric Sieber to the position of Planning Board Member for a term running from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2023 was made by R. Lagonia and seconded by N. Friedman.

R. Lagonia: yes

G. Vogler: yes

C. Schober: yes

N. Friedman: yes

J. Wrightsman: yes

Motion carried 5:0.

A motion to appoint Loren Brink to the position of Zoning Board of Appeals Member for a term running from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2023 was made by R. Lagonia and seconded by J. Wrightsman.

R. Lagonia: yes

G. Vogler: yes

C. Schober: yes

N. Friedman: yes

J. Wrightsman: yes

Motion carried 5:0.

Supervisor Lagonia noted that the Planning Board still needs a Chair, but for now, Attorney Catalano is running meetings. The Planning Board appointed Member Lee Tilden to be the point

person for the cell tower application that is currently before them. Member Lans also sits on another board and her plate is full.

Berkshire Cable Corporation Franchise Agreement

Supervisor Lagonia advised that Attorney Catalano reached out to Berkshire Cable Corp and they did not respond so no public hearing was noticed. Attorney for the Town, Joseph Catalano, secured a copy of the Franchise Agreement between Berkshire Cable Corp and the Town of Ghent for the Town Board to review. Attorney Catalano noted three major components to this agreement: franchise fee percentage, new service charge and density. The current franchise fee percentage the Town is getting is 3%, Spectrum would give 5%. The Town of Ghent has secured that service to new properties would be no charge to the customer for the first 100 feet. In order for new lines to be installed on a road without service, those lines would only be put in if there were enough houses to make it worthwhile.

The Town Board discussed these issues, agreeing that the Town should receive 5 %, same service fee for running wire to new properties as the Town of Ghent has in place and a low-density ratio. The Town Board decided to have Town Board Member Jere Wrightsman the point person for this.

Member Vogler stated that after this contract was signed a presentation to the Town could be done explaining what is available.

A motion to set a public hearing March 21, 2019 beginning at 6:30 p.m. concerning the franchise agreement with Berkshire Cable Corporation subject to Attorney review and on the condition that the company and Attorney Catalano can work out details was made by J. Wrightsman and seconded by G. Vogler.

R. Lagonia: yes

G. Vogler: yes

C. Schober: yes

N. Friedman: yes

J. Wrightsman: yes

Motion carried 5:0.

New Business

Columbia County Sheriff's Enhance Patrol Contract

The annual Enhanced Enforcement Patrol contract between the Town of Austerlitz and the Columbia County Sheriff's Office will run from March 1, 2019 until February 29, 2020. Patrols will be assigned to work 3:00 pm -11:00 pm (C-line) on Friday and Sundays in the Town of Austerlitz.

A motion to authorize Supervisor Lagonia to sign the 2019 Enhanced Patrol Contract with the Columbia County Sherriff's Office was made by N. Friedman and seconded by G. Vogler.

R. Lagonia: yes

G. Vogler: yes

C. Schober: yes

N. Friedman: yes

J. Wrightsman: yes
Motion carried 5:0.

New Salt Shed Electrical Bids

Bids for electrical for the new salt shed have been received from the following:

Leggett Electric Inc.
199 Letter "S" Road
Kinderhook, New York 12106
Base Bid: \$8800.00

Paul Robertson
192 Stone Mill Road
Hudson, New York 12534
Base Bid: \$16500.00

A motion to award the electrical bid for the new salt shed to Leggett Electric Inc. was made by R. Lagonia and seconded by G. Vogler.

R. Lagonia: yes
G. Vogler: yes
C. Schober: yes
N. Friedman: yes
J. Wrightsman: yes
Motion carried 5:0.

2019 Highway Form 284

Highway Superintendent Meehan submitted the 2019 Highway Form 284 noting that he was advised to include his wish list in the numbers. The Town Board went over each item discussing importance and funding available. Town Board Member Wrightsman questioned if it was the intention of the Town to have all the dirt roads paved at some point. Supervisor Lagonia noted that this could be a long-term goal.

Town Board Member Vogler would like to see a plan in place that addresses both short term goals and long-term goals for road maintenance. Tied to this would be a rotation schedule and tentatively where money would come for this.

Supervisor Lagonia noted that over the last five years the infrastructure of the Town has gotten increasingly better and now the focus will be on the roads in Town.

Supervisor Lagonia also advised that some sort of funds need to be set up for routine maintenance of the new Town Hall.

Member Vogler noted that the Highway Form 284 is a living document that can be changed or updated at any time.

A motion was made by G. Vogler and seconded by J. Wrightsman to approve the Highway Form 284 as follows:

This agreement is entered into by the Town of Austerlitz Highway Superintendent and the undersigned members of the Town Board of the Town of Austerlitz pursuant to section 284 of the Highway Law as set forth below and shall be effective for the fiscal year of 2019:

We hereby agree that the monies levied and collected for the repair and improvement of the Town highways, and those monies received from the State of New York for the repair and improvement of Town Highways, shall be as follows:

1. General Repairs: The sum of \$ 75,000 may be expended for general repairs and maintenance upon 61.7 miles of own highways including sluices, culverts, drainage ditches and bridges having a span of less than five feet and boardwalks or renewals thereof.

2. Improvements. The following sums shall be set aside for the improvement of Town highways as described below:

A.) East Hill Rd: There shall be expended not over the sum of \$ 25,816.00, said monies expected from the NYS CHIPS funding program.

Type: Guard rails.

B.) Longview Drive: There shall be expended not over the sum of \$ 10,000, from the NYS CHIPS funding program.

Type: Culvert replacement.

C.) School House Rd; there shall be expended not over the sum of \$ 30,000, from the NYS CHIPS funding program.

Type: Culvert replacement

D.) West Hill Rd: There shall be expended not over the sum of \$ 77,700, from the NYS CHIPS funding program.

Type: Moto Paving

E.) Pratt Hill Rd There shall be expended not over the sum of \$ 43,800

Type: Oil and stone

F.)_Bryarcliffe: There shall be expended not over the sum of \$ 55,800,

Type: Oil and stone.

G.) Dugway a); There shall be expended not over the sum of \$ 18,500,

Type: Oil and stone. b); There shall be expended not over the sum of \$ 143,200,

Type: Grinding and paving

3. It is hereby acknowledged that the foregoing is best estimates based upon information of road conditions and pricing that the Highway Superintendent has at the time this agreement is executed. If there are changes in the scope of work, available materials. labor, or piecing, this agreement may be modified in writing by the parties hereto.

This agreement shall take effect when approved by the Town Board and executed by the Highway Superintendent and at least a majority of the members of the Town Board.

R. Lagonia: yes

G. Vogler: yes

C. Schober: yes

N. Friedman: yes

J. Wrightsman: yes

Motion carried 5:0.

Resolution 29-2019, Standard Work day and Reporting

This resolution is to correct a mistake made by the Town's Accountant in figures used.

A motion to adopt Resolution 29-2019, Standard Work day and Reporting was made by G. Vogler and seconded by J. Wrightsman.

R. Lagonia: yes

G. Vogler: yes

C. Schober: yes

N. Friedman: yes

J. Wrightsman: yes

Motion carried 5:0.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Austerlitz, location code #30889, hereby amends Resolution #30-2018							
regarding the establishment of the standard work days for elected and appointed officials and reporting the							
following days worked to the New York State and local Employee's Retirement System based on the time							
keeping system records or the record activities maintained and submitted by these officials to the clerk of							
this body at that time by correcting the hours reported for the Town Clerk/Tax Collector and the Highway Superintendent as follows:							
<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	Social	Registration	Standard	Term	Participates	Days/Months
		Security	<u>Number</u>	Work	Begins/	In	(based on
		Number		Day	<u>Ends</u>	Employer's	Record of
		(Last 4		<u>(Hrs/Days)</u>		Keeping	<u>Activities)</u>
		<u>Digits)</u>				System	
						<u>(Y/N)</u>	
Elected Officials							
Town Clerk/Tax	Susan A. Haag	█	█	6 hrs	1/1/18-12/31/21	N	22.55
Collector							
Highway Super-	Robert Meehan	█	█	8 hrs	1/1/18-12/31/21	N	21.66
intendent							

**Social security numbers and registration numbers deliberately blacked out for security.

Resolution #30-2019 NYS Unified Solar Permit Resolution

Climate Smart Committee Chair and Town Board Member Vogler noted that this resolution came through this committee and Member Maureen Wilson took this on. Through M. Wilson's hard work this new permit was presented to key Town personnel who have agreed to move forward with it's use. This permit is used throughout the State of New York and will be coupled

with the Town's existing building permit form. Attorney Catalano noted this permit contains a great comprehensive checklist. The Town Board thanks Maureen Wilson.

A motion to adopt Resolution #30-2019, NYS Unified Solar Permit was made by G. Vogler and seconded by J. Wrightsman.

R. Lagonia: yes

G. Vogler: yes

C. Schober: yes

N. Friedman: yes

J. Wrightsman: yes

Motion carried 5:0.

WHEREAS, New York State has developed a unified solar photovoltaic permitting process designed to streamline municipal permitting which will reduce costs for solar projects and support the growth of clean energy jobs across the state, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Austerlitz is desirous of participating in the unified permitting process, thereby increasing the Town's eligibility for various incentives and grants through the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Austerlitz hereby adopts the New York State Unified Solar Permit as attached hereto as Exhibit 1, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately and a copy of this resolution, with Exhibit 1, shall be provided to the Building and Zoning Enforcement Department.

Resolution #31-2019 Restore AIM Funding in State Budget

Supervisor Lagonia noted that most Towns across the State are passing similar resolutions.

A motion to adopt Resolution #31-2019 Restore AIM Funding in State Budget was made by R. Lagonia and seconded by N. Friedman.

R. Lagonia: yes

G. Vogler: yes

C. Schober: yes

N. Friedman: yes

J. Wrightsman: yes

Motion carried 5:0.

WHEREAS, Governor Andrew Cuomo released his Fiscal Year 2019-20 Executive Budget on January 15; and

WHEREAS, the Fiscal year 2019-20 Executive Budget is a proposed \$176 Billion spending plan; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Budget contains language to make permanent the cap on real property tax levy increases of two percent that is due to sunset in the year 2020; and

WHEREAS, New York State towns, villages and cities scheduled to receive Aid and Incentives to Municipalities (AIM) payments that are less than two percent of their local Fiscal Year 2017 expenditures, as reported to the State Comptroller, will be removed from the program; and

WHEREAS, if the Executive proposal is enacted, more than \$60 million in funding to towns, villages and cities in New York will be eliminated; and

WHEREAS, more than 1300 villages, towns and cities will be impacted, including the town of Stockport; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Austerlitz would stand to lose \$5394.00 in state AIM payments; and

WHEREAS, the proposed AIM payment cut to the Town of Austerlitz impacts general fund budgeted amount that is raised by taxes; and

WHEREAS, aid to localities for local roads and bridges under the state's Consolidated Local Street & Highway Improvement Program (CHIPs) was maintained at 2018-19 levels in the Executive Budget.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Austerlitz Town Board, with respectfully calls on Governor Cuomo to restore AIM payments to the 1300 villages, towns and cities negatively impacted in his 30-Day Amendments to the Executive Budget and state legislative leaders negotiate to make AIM payments permanent to the state's local governments; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Austerlitz Town Clerk is hereby directed to send certified copies of this resolution to Governor Andrew Cuomo, New York State Senator Daphne Jordan, New York State Assemblyman Chris Tague, New York State Assemblyman Jake Ashby, Columbia County Board of Supervisors, and New York State Division of the Budget Director Robert Mujica.

Resolution #32-2019, Support Columbia County Environmental Management Council's Resolution to Address Climate Change

Town Board Member Vogler would like to support Columbia County's Environmental Management Council efforts. Eleanor Saunders husband, James Murray, sat on this counsel and his term is up. J. Murray is not interested in serving an additional term. Town Board Member Vogler will look for a replacement.

Member Vogler explained Resolution #32-2019, Support Columbia County Environmental management Council's Resolution to Address Climate Change.

A motion to adopt Resolution #32-2019, Support Columbia County Environmental Management Council's Resolution to Address Climate Change was made by G. Vogler and seconded by J. Wrightsman.

R. Lagonia: yes

G. Vogler: yes

C. Schober: yes

N. Friedman: yes

J. Wrightsman: yes

Motion carried 5:0.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Austerlitz Town Board wishes to support the Columbia County Environmental Management Council's efforts to address climate change locally through their resolution before the County on Climate Change, in the below resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Austerlitz Town Board wishes to support serious discussions and proposed solutions that address Climate Change such as several of the concepts in the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act (H.R. 763) which is bipartisan legislation currently before Congress.

Columbia County Environmental Management Council Resolutions on Carbon Fee and Dividend, a Policy to Address Climate Change

Whereas the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, in its recent comprehensive review of climate science, concludes that a failure to act rapidly to cap the increase in global average temperatures to 1.5° C. will dramatically increase the risk of catastrophic impacts from climate change by 2050;

Whereas the just released fourth National Climate Assessment also shows how global warming impacts will be multiplied by disruptions to energy, transportation and other infrastructure that cascade across economic sectors and how, in the worst case, impacts could total 10 percent of U.S. GDP by the end of the century;

Whereas the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has reported evidence of numerous local impacts from climate disruption including: higher average temperatures and worsening heat waves, more severe storms, changing precipitation patterns that bring about more inland flooding as well as more periods of drought, higher sea levels that intensify coastal flooding along the Hudson River, and damaging impacts to public health from heat waves, worsening air quality, more allergens and more insect-borne illnesses such as Lyme Disease;

Whereas the results of a changing climate have also had adverse effects on the economic health of local farms and businesses, caused more flooding and weather-related damage to our roads and bridges, and put additional stress on municipal budgets;

Whereas scientific consensus indicates that warming temperatures and climate disruption can be mitigated by replacing fossil-fuel based energy with currently available clean-energy

technologies that increase efficiency and make use of non-polluting renewable power sources such as solar, wind and hydroelectric;

Whereas economists across the political spectrum, including recent Nobel Laureate William Nordhaus, support a policy that puts a price on greenhouse-gas emissions to reflect the true cost to society of fossil-fuel use;

Whereas pursuant to article 47 of the State of New York's Environmental Conservation Law, it is the responsibility of this council to advise on all matters affecting the preservation of the natural resources of the county;

Whereas multiple economic analyses have shown that a predictably rising carbon fee or tax would result in an effective, market-driven shift of our energy system without requiring the elaborate government regulations that often trigger legal challenges and partisan political conflict;

Whereas the analyses show that the rising price signal would also stimulate innovations in clean energy technologies that would drive economic and job growth while mitigating the risks of climate change;

Whereas some analyses have additionally shown that a policy called Carbon Fee and Dividend, which returns the revenues from emissions fees in equal shares as dividends to American households, would help offset the impact of higher energy prices -- especially for those in lower to middle income brackets - and even act as an economic stimulus for local communities;

Therefore, be it resolved that this Council supports Carbon Fee and Dividend as an environmentally effective and economically responsible way to combat climate change;

Be it further resolved that this Council recommends that the individual municipalities in Columbia County as well as the County Board of Supervisors consider passing similar resolutions to inform our elected officials at the federal level of local support for this policy.

Resolution #33-2019, Change of Polling Location for Elections

Spencertown Fire Company has asked the Town of Austerlitz to look into having the polling place for elections moved from the Fire House. There is a deadline in March for this. Although the procedure to accomplish this by the Board of Elections is unclear, this resolution will get the ball rolling. The request will then go before the County Board of Election Commissioners.

A motion to adopt Resolution #33-2019, Change of Polling Location for Elections was made by J. Wrightsman and seconded by C. Schober.

R. Lagonia: yes

G. Vogler: yes

C. Schober: yes

N. Friedman: yes

J. Wrightsman: yes

Motion carried 5:0.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Austerlitz does hereby move the polling location of Election District #1 and Election District #2 to the new Town Hall located at 816 State Route 203, Spencertown, New York for the year 2019 and thereafter. This move is conditioned on confirmation that moving the polling place at this time complies with election procedures.

Planning Board Consultant

Attorney for the Town, Joseph Catalano advised that at the last Planning Board meeting an application was submitted by AT&T for a 300-foot cell tower on Tower Road which is off of West Hill Road. There is already a tower in this same location and a second one for emergency services. AT&T cannot use the same tower because it is currently full. Towers are not usually this high at this point in time. They are much shorter. The Planning Board discussed and determined the need for consultants to assist in reviewing the application and authorized Attorney Catalano to seek out the appropriate consultants.

Engineer Ray Jurkowski's firm, CPI, has the personnel and experience to assist in the review of the proposed cell tower, site plan work. A Radio Frequency Engineer is critical for this type of review, as well, so as to ensure the cell coverage data submitted by the applicant is accurate. Both Engineer Jurkowski and Attorney Catalano know of RF Engineers that can be hired for this purpose.

Supervisor Lagonia asked if the Town could get Franchise fees from this. Attorney Catalano advised they cannot. Goosetown Network Services LLC currently owns the property this would be put on and they would receive compensation. Town Board Member Friedman asked if there was a built-in provision for when this tower becomes obsolete. Attorney Catalano advised yes.

A motion to hire Ray Jurkowski as the engineering consultant for the AT&T Cell Tower Planning Board application site plan work, to use the attorney services of Joseph Catalano and to approve the hire of a Radio Frequency Engineer as selected by R. Jurkowski and J. Catalano was made by J. Wrightsman and seconded by N. Friedman.

R. Lagonia: yes

G. Vogler: yes

C. Schober: yes

N. Friedman: yes

J. Wrightsman: yes

Motion carried 5:0.

A motion for all the engineering, attorney, consultant fees and any other ancillary fees associated with the AT&T Cell Tower Planning Board application be paid for by the applicant and that the applicant is required to submit \$20000.00 to the Town of Austerlitz as an initial deposit to be held in escrow for these payments and that said escrow to be replenished at or below \$5000.00 was made by G. Vogler and seconded by C. Schober.

R. Lagonia: yes

G. Vogler: yes

C. Schober: yes

N. Friedman: yes
J. Wrightsman: yes
Motion carried 5:0.

Public Comments

Eleanor Saunders gave the Town Board two articles: Citizens' Climate Lobby/Citizens' Climate Education article, 'Bipartisan Carbon Pricing Bill Reintroduced in the House,' and 'Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act.' E. Saunders is available for questions.

Karen Frishkoff appreciates all the Town Board is doing. Suggested a media packet of some sort be put out.

Maureen Wilson asked if it was ever appropriate to take a bond for road maintenance. Supervisor Lagonia advised that the Town just took a bond for the new salt shed and highway equipment. These replace the bond that was just paid off. The Town has done 3 bridges, the new salt shed and bought new highway equipment, all of which has strategic financial planning. Currently the Town is in good shape financially. Moneys that are in reserve accounts, C.H.I.P.s funding and budgeted amounts should be enough for the Town to accomplish quite a bit on the roads.

Supervisor Lagonia continues, discussing sale tax revenue that is paid to the County and then distributed to the individual Towns. This is another funding source for the Town's budget since the Town's budget is funded by less than 50% of tax payer dollars. The Town is in good shape financially through good governance and unless something happens, it will continue to be.

Erlyn Madonia noted that road conditions are a big issue for residents in our Town. A map of the Town roads and a maintenance plan should be in place. The public should see a future plan so they know what the goals of the Town are. This would go a long way in satisfying residents who are concerned about road conditions and who also would like to know where money is spent. E. Madonia would like to see a presentation to the Town concerning the road issues.

It was noted that the Town Board is not responsible for the day to day road issues. This falls under the jurisdiction of the Highway Superintendent. The Town Board is responsible for the funding aspect. Town Board Member Vogler noted that Highway Superintendent Meehan and his crew are doing a really great job with what they have to work with.

Constance Mondel noted that some of what E. Madonia suggested could be put on the website. Attending a Town Board meeting is also an eye opener for some. Member Vogler noted that people have no idea how much money it costs to maintain roads.

Karen Frishkoff suggested sending out invitations to the Town Board meetings.

Member Schober noted that a lot of what is being suggested is already public record. C. Schober believes what is being said is finding a better way to convey the message.

M. Wilson stated that the public is the Town's customers and the Town should want happy customers.

C. Mondel felt that the public in attendance should invite others to come to meetings. Member Vogler noted that the Town sends out a newsletter and puts countless items online.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by N. Friedman and seconded by J. Wrightsman.

R. Lagonia: yes

G. Vogler: yes

C. Schober: yes

N. Friedman: yes

J. Wrightsman: yes

Motion carried 5:0. Meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan A. Haag, Town Clerk