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Town of Murray Board Meeting

March 15, 2021

Present: Supervisor Joseph Sidonio, Councilmen Randall Bower, Lloyd Christ, Paul Hendel and Michael Mele, Town Clerk Cindy Oliver, Assessor Louise Passarell, Highway and Water Superintendent Dirk Lammes, Lynn Wood, Sandy Shaw, Dave Knapp, George Perrin, Kerri Neale, Amy Machamer
Attorney John Sansone via Zoom

Moment of silent reflection.

Pledge to the American Flag.

Motion by Mele, Seconded by Christ approving the minutes of the February 11th work meeting as submitted Motion Carried

Supervisor Sidonio would like the last paragraph on page 2 of the February 22nd board meeting to be amended. He believes the last sentence is misleading and would like it to state *the overall cost of healthcare increased from 2020 to 2021 because of additional employees/individuals to be covered.*

Motion by Bower, Seconded by Hendel approving the February 22nd board meeting minutes with the amendment to the last paragraph on page 2 to read: “The bottom line is the healthcare premium increased 3.5% and employees are increasing their contribution by 5%. *The overall cost of healthcare increased from 2020 to 2021 because of additional employees/individuals to be covered.*” Motion Carried

Town Clerk

February receipts totaled \$787.00 with \$745.50 going into the general fund.

The Batavia Daily News now has a portal for legal notices. We can now enter and submit our own public hearings and schedule the date we want them published. Annette and Cindy submitted a legal notice the other day and it worked out well. It is a much easier process now.

Assessor

The office has wrapped up the ag. exemptions. Thanks to all who provided the needed paperwork.

Louise reported that sales continue to come in well over assessment.

Highway and Water Department

Dirk Lammes reported a fire hydrant on Ridge Road was repaired and is now back in service. Two more hydrants still need to be checked.

Regarding roads to be worked on this summer, Dirk isn't yet positive which roads they will be working on, but East Transit Church Road will be on the list.

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Councilman Mele asked if the Town could get an insurance payment for the fire hydrant on Route 31 just west of Lynch Road that was hit by a car. Louise will look for an accident report.

Brief discussion regarding a capital plan; where we'd like to be in two or three years. We've carried a good amount of money forward from last year thanks to the departments keeping spending down so the Town is pretty good on cash. Supervisor Sidonio asked all to think about the best way to use our resources. Councilman Hendel stated he hasn't fully read the American Rescue Plan but has come up with a list of possibilities of where the money could be of use. This will be discussed at a later date.

The Clark Cemetery (Ridge Road) fence has fallen down. Supervisor Sidonio spoke to a gentleman who has offered to help with the cost to have it repaired or replaced. We will move forward with a plan for this.

New Business

Brief discussion regarding long term plan for health insurance. Supervisor Sidonio thinks the policy that is in effect today remain as is and is subject to review every three years. Employees hired after January 1, 2021 can be offered the silver plan with the ability to pay the difference for the gold plan. Also, since department heads restricted spending last year, the town has a good fund balance and we also may acquire additional federal funding. Discussion regarding setting up an account the Town can contribute funds to. This could help buffer the cost of healthcare. Joe will work with Tim on this and get back to the Board.

The Town has received audit proposals from Bonadio, Mengel Metzger Barr, and Sean Hucko. Mengel Metzger Barr, CPA submitted the lowest proposal at \$10,500. Councilman Hendel stated that as \$11,000 was budgeted for the audit, his opinion is to accept Mengel Metzger Barr's proposal.

Motion by Mele, Seconded by Christ to accept the 2020 financial statement audit proposal from Mengel Metzger Barr, CPA for \$10,500. Motion Carried

The Village of Holley has asked the Town for a letter in support of a grant to preserve and restore the Odd Fellows Hall in the Village Square. All in agreement for Supervisor Sidonio to send the letter of support.

The advertisement for Zoning Board of Appeals members was put in the Pennysaver and on the Town website. Councilman Mele will organize the interviews. Supervisor Sidonio reminded all of Jim Bensley's training offer to our Planning and Zoning Board members.

Motion by Bower, Seconded by Christ that a Zoning Board of Appeals meeting be scheduled for the second Monday of each month on an as-needed basis. Motion Carried

Cindy will submit a legal notice and also put it on the Town website.

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Brief discussion regarding an employee handbook. Councilman Bower stated that the New York State Department of Labor already has in place, rules and regulations of which municipalities have to follow, along with Civil Service Law, and they are very specific.

A couple times a year the Town has to authorize wire transfers. Five-Star Bank requires a signature from one person and also requires approval from another via telephone. As both authorized people may not be available, Supervisor Sidonio would like to add Cindy Oliver as a third authorized person.

Motion by Hendel, Seconded by Bower to add Cynthia Oliver as an authorized person to the Town’s wire transfer agreement with Five Star Bank. Motion Carried

Other Business

Kerri Neale spoke about the resolution adopted by the Town of Bethany in support of Assembly Bill A5498 which proposes a constitutional amendment to divide the New York State into their autonomous regions. He would like the Board to consider doing the same. Councilman Bower said he’d like to study it and put it on the agenda for next month.

Councilman Hendel questioned the expiration of our contract with Monroe Ambulance. Supervisor Sidonio will speak to Kevin Dann and Harris Reed about this.

Supervisor Sidonio will also reach out to NYMIR regarding the mandatory sexual harassment training for this year.

Public Comments

George Perrin would like to know if the Board is open to the idea of him bringing back the haunted trail at his property on Ridge Road. It was inspected by the state last year with no problems. The Town Board is in favor of it.

Motion by Mele, Seconded by Christ to approve the Supervisors financial report and that the following bills be paid: Motion Carried

General Fund	\$16,028.12
Highway Fund	\$13,302.12
Street Lighting Fund	\$695.43
Water District No. 1	\$568.57
Water District No. 2	\$4,909.23
Water District No. 3	\$3,375.64
Water District No. 4	\$9.22
Water District No. 5	\$4.10
Water District No. 6	\$2,989.45
Water District No. 7	\$28.69
Water District No. 8	\$20.49
Water District No. 9	\$6.49
Water District No. 10	\$11.81
Water District No. 11	\$3,024.03

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Water District No. 12	\$8.54
Water District No. 13	\$9.91
Water District No. 14	\$2.74
Water District No. 15	\$20.49
Water District No. 16	\$4.78
Water District No. 20	\$10.25

Motion by Christ, Seconded by Hendel to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

Motion Carried

So adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia L. Oliver