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**Town Board Meeting of the Town of Murray**

November 18, 2024

Present: Supervisor Gerald Rightmyer, Councilpersons Elaine Berg, Randall Bower, Lloyd Christ and Michael Christopher, Town Clerk Cindy Oliver, TJ Knight, Stacey Keon, Irene Plummer, Planning Board member Dave Knapp, County Legislator John Fitzak

Pledge to the flag.

Motion by Bower, Seconded by Christ approving the minutes of the October 21<sup>st</sup> board meeting as submitted Motion Carried

Motion by Christ, Seconded by Christopher approving the minutes of the October 30<sup>th</sup> public hearing as submitted Motion Carried

**Town Clerk**

October receipts totaled \$1,298.00 with \$305.52 going into the general fund.

Copies of the adopted budget have been turned in to the County Legislator, Office of Real Property and Rural Development.

Mowing re-levies were given to Dawn Allen, Real Property Director, to be added onto the 2025 county and town tax bills.

A copy of the 2023 Audit was sent to Municipal Solutions for filing on EMMA (Electronic Municipal Market Access).

**Code Enforcement**

Building permits issued	1	Fill Permit
Inspections Completed	14	
Certificate of Occupancy	1	New single-family home
Certificate of Compliance	3	Pole barn, re-roof, pole barn
Violations issued	4	Due to no inspections being done for permit issued

Code Enforcement has been reviewing the sub-division & sign regulation codes with the Planning Board.

**Planning Board**

Workshop was held November 12<sup>th</sup> for review of sign and sub-division ordinance sent by Code Enforcement office to the Planning Board. Sign ordinance recommendation will be sent to the Town Board for review. The board is still looking at the sub-division regulations.

**County Legislator**

Legislator Fitzak informed all that the county budget is under the tax cap.

**New Business**

The following resolution was adopted by the Town of Murray Town Board on Monday, November 18, 2024.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-38 AUTHORIZATION OF PLACEMENT OF LATERAL RESTRICTIONS WITHIN WATER IMPROVEMENT BENEFIT AREA.**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Murray Board (hereinafter referred to as Town Board) is seeking to create the Water District No. 17 for the express purpose of providing public water supply to residents along portions of West Brockville Road and parts of Hindsburg Road within the Town of Murray; and

**WHEREAS**, part of the land area within water system improvement project area is located within the Orleans County Agricultural District No. 1; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board has filed a Notice of Intent to Undertake and Action Within and Agricultural District and to evaluate the impact of providing a source of public water supply within this area of lands within Orleans County Agricultural District No. 1; and

**WHEREAS**, the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets has expressed concern about potential adverse impact and said public water supply is likely to have on agriculture uses within said Agricultural Districts; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Town Board of the Town of Murray, Orleans County, New York, as follows:

1. The Town Board, in recognition of the concerns that have been raised, hereby resolves to limit connections to the public water supply only to existing non-farm uses and to farm related uses within Water District No. 17, which is also located within Orleans County Agricultural District No. 1.
2. This Resolution shall take effect November 18, 2024.

The above resolution was offered by Councilperson Bower and seconded by Councilperson Christopher at a meeting of the Town Board held on Monday, November 18, 2024. Following discussion thereon, the following roll call vote was taken and recorded:

Vote:	Councilperson Elaine Berg	Aye
	Councilperson Randall Bower	Aye
	Councilperson Lloyd Christ	Aye
	Councilperson Michael Christopher	Aye
	Supervisor Gerald Rightmyer	Aye

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-039

**RESOLUTION FOR CONDITIONAL APPROVAL OF CONTRACT FOR AMBULANCE SERVICES**

At a regular meeting of the Murray Town Board, duly held on November 18, 2025, Councilperson Elaine Berg moved adoption of the following resolution; Councilperson Michael Christopher seconded the motion:

**WHEREAS**, the municipalities of Albion, Barre, Gaines, Carlton, Murray, Clarendon and Kendall are all in need of ambulance services, and

**WHEREAS**, the aforesaid municipalities have engaged in negotiations and dialogue with Mercy Flight Inc. d/b/a Mercy Flight EMS (hereinafter referred to as Mercy) resulting in a proposed written contract/agreement, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Murray believes that the best interests of the health, safety and welfare of Murray Town residents would be best served by entering into the proposed contract/agreement, and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed contract/agreement is a Type II action not subject to review under the state Environmental Quality Review Act, 6 NYCRR §617.5(c)(42).

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

Section 1. The Murray Town Board does hereby approve the contract/agreement with Mercy, the term of which commences January 1, 2025 and ends December 31, 2027.

Section 2. The Murray Town Board does authorize Murray Town Supervisor Gerald Rightmyer to execute the proposed contract/agreement.

Section 3. The above-described authorization and approval is conditioned upon similar authorization and approval by all municipalities listed hereinabove as well as Mercy.

Section 4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Upon being put to a roll call vote, the vote was as follows:

Councilperson Elaine Berg	Aye
Councilperson Randall Bower	Aye
Councilperson Lloyd Christ	Aye
Councilperson Michael Christopher	Aye
Supervisor Gerald Rightmyer	Aye

The resolution was thereupon adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-040

At a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Murray, duly held on November 18, 2024, Councilperson Elaine Berg moved adoption of the following resolution; Councilperson Michael Christopher seconded the motion:

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Murray reappoints Terry Penrod to a five-year term on the Town of Murray Board of Assessment Review. Mr. Penrod's term began 10/01/2024 and will expire 09/30/2029.

Upon being put to a vote, the resolution was thereupon adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-041

At a regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Murray held on November 18, 2024, the following resolution was moved, seconded and adopted by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Board:

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Murray accepts the resignation of Dennis Mandigo as Deputy Highway Superintendent effective November 14, 2024.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-042

At a regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Murray held on November 18, 2024, the following resolution was moved, seconded and adopted by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Board:

**RESOLVED**, upon the recommendation of Highway Superintendent Dirk Lammes, Todd Knight is hereby appointed Deputy Highway Superintendent effective November 14, 2024.

**Public Comments**

Stacey Keon asked the board to please use the ARPA funds for the proposed water district. Her fear is that the town's grant will not be approved and it will be too late to use the ARPA funds. Supervisor Rightmyer explained to her that ARPA funds that would be put towards the proposed water district would come off of the grant amount and that there is not enough for this project anyways. MRB and the Rural Development has stated our chances of getting this grant are very good. Regarding the notification of bad water samples, the Supervisor has informed each household personally of the results of the tests. Ms. Keon has been asking for public water for the

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last three years and the Supervisor is sorry the process is not moving faster but he has worked on this since he took office in January. Prior to that, nothing had been done.

Irene Plummer asked how long installation would take once we're approved for the grant. We cannot be sure of a specific time, but sometime next year. The Supervisor is working as hard as he can.

Highway and Water Superintendent Dirk Lammes entered the meeting.

Dirk stated that there should be a plan B in case the grant is turned down.

Councilperson Elaine Berg said she would like to possibly schedule a work meeting to discuss health insurance. She wanted the rest of the board to think about having new employees pay 20% of their health insurance premium. This wouldn't affect our current employees. Our employees currently pay 15% and the town gives them their full deductible. She is proposing this does not change, but new employees hired in the future, pay 20%. This will help offset the yearly increase of healthcare costs that the Town has been paying.

TJ Knight said that it is very difficult for a family to have to pay a larger percentage of their health insurance and it could cause workers to go elsewhere or not want to work here. Cindy Oliver stated that this isn't affecting current employees and that 20% is not a lot to ask employees to pay towards a healthcare policy that is very good. Dirk Lammes said the town board is going down the wrong road. He will now have to interview more people and not have as much to offer them. The highway guys are on call 365 days a year, holidays, birthdays, anniversary's etc. They are not appreciated for the work they do. Inflation goes up and the board wants to cut from the people that are doing the work. He said the board should start being realistic and tell people the truth. He said he wanted an executive session because the board is not going to like what he has to say.

David Paul suggested that since Chad Fabry will be leaving at the end of the year, maybe the Planning Board should wait until the new Code Enforcement Officer comes on board to go through the subdivision and sign ordinances.

Motion by Christ, Seconded by Bower approving the supervisor's financial report and that the following bills be paid: Motion Carried

General Fund	\$71,118.82
Highway Fund	\$114,295.94
Water District No. 1	\$6,033.65
Water District No. 2	\$4,640.83
Water District No. 3	\$2,292.32
Water District No. 4	\$636.60
Water District No. 5	\$329.92
Water District No. 6	\$4,455.45
Water District No. 7	\$3,955.97
Water District No. 8	\$1,345.08
Water District No. 9	\$921.13

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Water District No. 10	\$2,078.20
Water District No. 11	\$7,818.96
Water District No. 12	\$935.47
Water District No. 13	\$892.22
Water District No. 15	\$1,961.28
Water District No. 16	\$407.55
Water District No. 20	\$1,066.04
Street Lights	\$1,372.22

Motion by Bower, Seconded by Christopher to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. Motion Carried

So adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia L. Oliver