

TOWN BOARD  
Regular Meeting  
December 12, 2018

A regular meeting of the Oneonta Town Board was held on December 12, 2018 with the following members present:

Councilman: Randy Mowers  
Councilwoman: Patricia Riddell Kent  
Councilman: Brett Holleran  
Councilwoman: Patricia Jacob  
Supervisor: Robert Wood

Others present: Rob Panasci, Town Attorney; James Hurtubise, Highway Supt.; Steve Kent; Jennifer Hill from Hometown Oneonta; Andrea Lister; Rob Baum; Walter Schmitt; Katherine O'Donnell; Dick Breuninger; Kathie Greenblatt; Virginia Hawk; Michael Schmitt; Dorothy Hudson; Stephen Paranya; Colleen Blacklock; Nicole Dillingham; Laura Malloy; Paul Agoglia; and Adam Agoglia.

### **PETITIONERS**

Stephen Paranya at the Plains. Opposition Petition from residents of the Plains and from Peaceful Flats. Submitted

Rob Baum. 6<sup>th</sup> Ward of Oneonta. Issues with NYSEG's claims for gas usage and IDA's presentation.

Kathy Greenblatt. Ceperley Avenue. Can't support decompressor station in highly residential area. Opposition Petition submitted

Andrea Lister. Is there a proposal? Does the IDA have plans or bids that have been provided? Opposition Petition from Melody Village and District 3.

Paul Agoglia. Petition submitted. Lived in area since 1980's. Solar is a better option and can switch as the heat source

Katherine O'Donnell. Oppose decompressor station. Violates 2014 comprehensive plan and moves the Town in wrong direction. Opposition Petition submitted.

Colleen Blacklock. City Resident. Morgan Avenue. Opposition Petition submitted.

Richard Breuninger. Who would be looking for alternatives forms of energy?

Laura Malloy (sic). Former Board Member in Laurens. Have influence over other boards.

Nicole Dillingham (Otsego 2000 President). Pass a resolution to prohibit expansion of fracked natural gas into the area. IDA Application is legally flawed. Amicus brief filed by AG climate

change. Otsego 2000 v. FERC 18-\_\_\_\_\_.

Dorothy Hudson from Cooperstown. Opposition Petition submitted.

Walter Schmitt – Issues with Climate Change

Councilwoman Riddell Kent read the following statement:

This proposed project is not in line with the ban the town passed in 2014 on Natural Gas activity, infrastructure and related support activities; nor is it in keeping with the Comprehensive Plan. This proposed project does not help this community move away from dependence on fossil fuels, but causes us to become more dependent on them. The funding for this \$17 million proposed stop gap measure comes from your taxpayer's dollars. NYSEG already charges a fee on their bills to upgrade their infrastructure which includes the DeRuyter line. Alternatives should have been explored, including means to conserve household use so that more gas would be freed up for businesses. For example Conservation measures such as home energy audits.

Councilwoman Jacob read the following statement:

The world's leading climate scientists have warned there are only about a dozen years for global warming to be kept to a maximum of 1.5 C. Beyond this even ½ degree will significantly worsen the risks of drought, flood, extreme heat and poverty for hundreds of millions of people. The landmark report by the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change says urgent and unprecedented changes are needed to reach this target. To enable the construction of a new 17.5 million dollar fossil fuel infrastructure, to satisfy the need for less than 5 days of interruptible fuel use, is environmentally irresponsible. The answer is not to continue with fossil fuel as the only answer, as usual, but to move forward. As long as these sorts of facilities are encouraged, nothing will change, because the impetus to develop alternative sources will not be there. Business as usual is easy. We need to do the hard work involved in these vital changes. Technology is available and it is vital for our children to make sure we use these technologies to do the right thing. "We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children". I hope we will strive to protect our precious natural resources for our families and generations to come.

Ed Rodriguez from Butternuts - Tompkins County passed a resolution to tell the State not to approve the Cayuga plant from coal to natural gas.

Motion made by Jacob and seconded by Riddell Kent to pass a resolution to advise the State that the Town Board of the Town of Oneonta does not support the grant as written because the Town Board was not adequately consulted prior to the submission of the grant.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0      Motion Carried

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Highway/Water & Sewer – Payment Request No. 3.

Motion was made by Riddell Kent, seconded by Jacob to accept payment request No. 3.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0      Motion Carried

Public Safety – Supervisor Wood reported as follows:

Unsafe properties –

- 14 Jackson Ave. – Supervisor Wood said he will continue to work with the County Treasurer in taking over this property and ultimately turning over to the land bank.
- 238 West St – No word from landowner. Spoke to County about land bank. Nothing new
- 115 Valley St. – Served and did not appear and will issue final notice to appear.

Decals on Constable Vehicle. Councilman Holleran is working on the final decals.

Facilities, Technology, Parks. Councilman Holleran had nothing to report.

Human Resources and Public Benefit. Councilwoman Jacob is working on the new policy for how the Constable should handle bodily fluids.

Legislative. Councilwoman Jacob is continuing to work on an amendment to the zoning law that would require a public hearing for certain site plan reviews.

### **ATTORNEY**

Attorney Panasci and the Board discussed negotiations with Jodie Zakrevsky of the IDA regarding CDBG money for Custom Electronics. Attorney Panasci confirmed that Supervisor Wood and Attorney Panasci dealt directly with Custom Electronics to obtain an indemnification agreement to protect the Town’s interest in the event that CDBG grant has to be repaid by the Town.

Motion by Jacob and seconded by Holleran to accept indemnification agreement with Custom Electronics.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0                      Motion Carried

**CODE ENFORCEMENT** – Request to purchase equipment and books. Motion was made by Riddell Kent, seconded by Jacob to approve the purchases.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0                      Motion Carried

Request permission to send two employees to STBOA training. Motion was made by Riddell Kent, seconded by Jacob to approve attending the training.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0                      Motion Carried

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

Mobile Home Park Renewals – Motion was made by Mowers, seconded by Holleran to accept the following mobile home park renewals:

Oneida Village; Lantern Hill; Peaceful Flats; Byam’s Trailer Court; and Evergreen Terrace.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0                      Motion Carried

Oneonta Fire District Fire Contract – Motion was made by Wood, seconded by Mowers to approve the Fire Contract between the Town of Oneonta Fire Protection District and the City of Oneonta and authorize Supervisor Wood to execute the agreement.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0                      Motion Carried

Oneonta Ambulance Contract - Motion was made by Wood, seconded by Mowers to approve the Ambulance Contract between the Town of Oneonta and the City of Oneonta and authorize

Supervisor Wood to execute the agreement.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Landfill Monitoring Bid – Keystone recommended Adirondack to complete the necessary monitoring as low bidder for monitoring.

Motion was made by Holleran, seconded by Mowers to accept the bid.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Update on CCA

Supervisor Wood reported that MEGA has made progress with getting information on accounts from NYSEG and that MEGA should be putting out bids in late January with residents beginning to be able to get contracts by the fall.

Motion was made by Jacob, seconded by Riddell Kent to set organizational meeting for Organizational Meeting on 1/9/19 at 7:00 p.m.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made by Riddell Kent, seconded by Jacob to approve the November 14, 2018 minutes.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

**BILLS**

Motion was made by Mowers, seconded by Jacob to approve the following bills and budget modifications:

General	\$98,285.73	866,867,869,871-875,878,880-891,896,903,904,906,907,909,
		911,913,919,920,923
Highway	\$33,563.81	869,892-895,897-902,904-910,918
Street Lights	\$4,030.84	885,913
Trust & Agency	\$2,532.55	861-864,868,916,917
DISTRICTS :		
WESD	\$3,174.90	860,870,879,912,914,915,921
WSSD	\$803.47	860,870,879,914,915,921
SSD	\$1,549.23	860,870,879,912,915,921
WWD	\$2,683.82	860,865,870,876,877,879,914,915,921,922
PWD	\$462.48	860,870,879,915

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Panasci  
Town Attorney