

## TOWN BOARD

Regular Meeting

March 11, 2020

A regular meeting of the Oneonta Town Board was held on March 11, 2020 with the following members present:

Councilman:	Brett Holleran
Councilwoman:	Patricia Jacob
Councilman:	Randy Mowers
Councilwoman:	Patricia Riddell Kent
Supervisor:	Robert Wood
Town Clerk:	Sara Robinson

Others present: Rob Panasci, Town Attorney; James Hurtubise, Highway Supt; Steve Kent, Dale Webster, Ryan Brooks, Katrina VanZandt.

**PETITIONERS-** Ryan Brooks, owner of Brooks BBQ appeared before the board in support of the proposed Map, Plan and Report for the East End Sewer project which could assist him in the continued growth of his bottling business. He stated that he invested more than \$1million in the sewage treatment plant and it now costs him \$275,000 per year to operate it. Supervisor Wood stated that he had received a letter from Mr. Brooks back in October requesting that the Town consider extending sewer to his business. Following that the Town surveyed residents and businesses in the area to measure the level of support for a new sewer system. Four businesses indicated their support. Supervisor Wood and Highway Superintendent Hurtubise got a proposal from Delaware Engineering to prepare the Map, Plan and Report at a cost of \$12,500. This would give a pretty clear number of what it would cost to inspect the system. Supervisor Wood stated that he had also received a letter from the Jeff Joyner CEO of Fox Hospital and that they are very interested as well. He did not receive a response from Springbrook or the developer that operates the Price Chopper Plaza. Motion was made by Mowers to approve Delaware Engineering to prepare the MPR, seconded by Jacobs. Wood stated that he thinks this will benefit the area.

Destination Oneonta, Katrina VanZandt appeared before the board to relay the activities that DO is doing in the town. She said she is anxious to get together and talk about the different projects that DO is working on. DO is now the promotor for the West End garage sales as an example. They will also be alternating Foothills and the Quality Inn as sites for the Easter bunny event.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### Highway/Water & Sewer –

Motion was made by Riddell Kent to award contract for Woodland Water Building roof replacement to Twin Mountain Top for \$10,500, seconded by Mowers. The only other bid received was from Unique Builders in the amount of \$18,727.62.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried.

Riddell Kent stated that the current loading dock, which is in the foot print of the new highway garage, would be relocated to an appropriate place on town property and used as cold storage.

Motion was made by Mowers to approve contract for \$16,900 with Clarkes Construction for the foundation for storage building in the new location, seconded by Riddell Kent. Highway Superintendent Hurtubise had secured two other written quotes.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Mowers to approve Paynes Cranes to move the storage building for the amount of \$5,000, seconded by Riddell Kent.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Riddell Kent to set Plains Water District rates at \$10.30/1000 gallons for the patio homes and \$16.50/1000 gallons other, seconded by Holleran. These are the same rates as last year.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried.

Riddell Kent stated that the Highway road tour is April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:30 pm, followed by the regular highway committee meeting at 3:30 pm.

#### Public Safety

Supervisor Wood stated that union negotiations for the teamsters will start March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Supervisor Wood and town board member Jacobs will represent the town.

#### Facilities, Technology, Parks

Holleran stated SUNY classes have been let out for a while in light of the Corona virus. Due to this, students won't be able to help with Into the Streets projects in the park.

#### Human Resources and Public Benefit-

Supervisor Wood stated that Nicole Camarata the new bookkeeper started on Tuesday.

#### Legislative-

Jacobs stated that Paul Neske was going to get additional information on the battery storage to assist with drafting the new law regulating where batteries could be located safely.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT** – Motion was made by Mowers to approve code publications requested by the Code Officer, seconded by Jacob.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

**MISCELLANEOUS** – Supervisor Wood stated that Donna Null has requested that someone else chair the Board of Assessment Review. Motion was made by Wood to appoint Phil Konstantine to chair the BAR, seconded by Jacob.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0 Motion Carried

Motion was made by Jacob to establish the initial Climate Smart Community task force consisting of following members: Coordinator- Jacob, Trish Riddell Kent, Andrea Lister and Michael Stolzer. Motion seconded by Riddell Kent.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0                      Motion Carried

Motion was made by Jacob to approve the \$25 fee for a table at earth day. Seconded by Riddell Kent.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0                      Motion Carried

Motion was made by Wood to approve a three year contract with Direct Energy for natural gas ending 3/31/2023. Motion seconded by Riddell Kent. Supervisor Wood stated the Municipal Gas and Electric Alliance (MEGA) has put out a competitive bid for the natural gas. Direct Energy was the low bidder. Councilperson Mowers stated that he was not comfortable with that process.

VOTE – Ayes 4, Nays 1 (Mowers)

Supervisor Wood informed the board that he has been working on the FEMA project to acquire the property at 12 Blanchard Ave. The property has been appraised and the budgeted estimate to purchase the property was \$90,000. The appraisal came in at \$117,500. He will be submitting a modified budget to FEMA in hopes of securing additional funding. The budget may be adequate without the increase as the budget included \$20,000 for asbestos abatement. Testing for asbestos revealed that there was none on site. Should the Town continue with the project it could be responsible for any shortage funds for the project. The parcel would become a park in the West End as nothing can be built there in the future as part of the agreement. Wood will extend the offer to the owner.

Motion was made by Wood to approve the Annual Update Document and submit it to New York State Comptroller’s office, seconded by Riddell Kent.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0                      Motion Carried

**PETITIONERS-**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES-**

Motion was made by Riddell Kent to approve the February 12<sup>th</sup> minutes, seconded by Holleran.

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0                      Motion Carried

**BILLS-**

Motion was made by Riddell Kent to approve the following bills, seconded by Jacob.

General	\$62,303.32	112-115, 122-127, 131-141, 146, 148-154, 173, 185
Highway	\$24,903.97	115, 154-172, 175, 183-184
Street Lights	\$1,778.58	146, 148
Highway		
Garage	\$4,316.71	129, 145
Trust &		
Agency	\$1,341.06	107-111, 119-121, 181

DISTRICTS:

WESD	\$3,869.94	106, 116-118, 142-143, 147, 174, 176-177, 186
WSSD	\$1,019.02	106, 116, 118, 142-143, 174, 176-177, 186
SSD	\$1,605.11	106, 116, 118, 142-143, 147, 174, 176, 186
WWD	\$4,940.69	106, 116-118, 142-144, 174, 176, 178-180, 182, 186
PWD	\$459.50	106, 116, 118, 142-143, 174
SS Water	\$15,085.15	128, 130, 187

VOTE – Ayes 5, Nays 0                      Motion Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Robinson  
Town Clerk