2024 Organizational Meeting of the Town Board

January 03rd, 2024 05:00pm

The organizational meeting of the Oneonta Town Board was held on January 03, 2024, with the following members present:

Supervisor: Randal I. Mowers

Town Board Member: Skylar J. Thompson

Town Board Member: Patricia Riddell Kent

Town Board Member: Brett Holleran

Town Board Member: Kim Fierke

Town Clerk: Ryan F. Pereira

Others present: Tom Rowe, David Koehn, Theresa Cyzeski, David Cyzeski, Steve Kent.

RESOLUTION 2024-0001 Motion made by SJT seconded by BH;

*WHEREAS the Board votes to* approve appointments for the following positions.

a. Attorney for the Town Robert Panasci

b. Attorney for All Boards Robert Panasci

c. Clerk for the Planning Board Wendy Cleveland

d. Clerk for the Zoning Board of Appeals Laura Sause

e. Chairman of the Planning Board Joe Camarata

f. Member of the Planning Board Edward Dower (12/31/30) \*

g. Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals Dave Prouty

h. Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals [Donald L. Allison, Jr.](mailto:allisodl@oneonta.edu) (12/31/28)

i. Communications Director Ryan F. Pereira

j. Registrar of Vital Statistics Ryan F. Pereira

l. Co-Budget Officer Nicole Camarata

VOTE- 5 AIF SJT BH MOTION CARRIED

\*Item (f.) was removed and voted on separately at the behest of member Riddell Kent.

RESOLUTION 2024-0002 Motion made by SJT, seconded by KF;

*WHEREAS* the Board votes to approve appointment for the following position.

f. Member of the Planning Board Edward Dower (12/31/30) \*

VOTE- 4 Aye 1 Nay (PRK) SJT KF MOTION CARRIED

Member PRK thanked Tom Rowe for his service on the Planning Board. She said he brought helpful knowledge and balance to the Planning Board and was willing to serve another term but realized he does not have most of the Town Board’s support to renew his appointment. She was disappointed he was not renewed. Supervisor Mowers thanked Mr. Rowe for his service as well.

RESOLUTION 2024-0003 Motion made by SJT, seconded by BH;

*WHEREAS* the Board votes that the Superintendent of Highways be permitted to spend up to $1500.00 monthly without prior town board approval.

VOTE- 5 AIF SJT BH MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2024-0004 Motion made by SJT, seconded by KF;

WHEREAS the Board votes that the Town Board meetings be held on the second Wednesday of each month at 07:00pm at the Town Hall in West Oneonta.

VOTE- 5 AIF SJT KF MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2024-0005 Motion made by BH, seconded by KF;

WHEREAS the Board votes designate the following banks as official town depositories for town and improvement district funds: Community Bank.

VOTE- 5 AIF BH KF MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2024-0006 Motion made by SJT, seconded by BH;

*WHEREAS* the Board votes to adopt an amendment to the Town Travel Policy; to reimburse meals based on GSA Per Diem Rates, as set forth by the US General Services Administration.

VOTE- 5 AIF SJT BH MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2024-0007 Motion made by PRK, seconded by SJT;

*WHEREAS* the Board votes to designate the Daily Star as the official newspaper of the Town of Oneonta.

VOTE- 5 AIF PRK SJT MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2024-0008 Motion made by PRK, seconded by SJT;

WHEREAS the Board votes to designate the following as official town holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day (observed), Federal Presidential Holiday in February (observed), Juneteenth (June 19th), Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day and the Friday immediately following Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

VOTE- 5 AIF PRK SJT MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2023-0009 Motion made by SJT, seconded by PRK;

WHEREAS the Board votes to allow the Highway Department to observe Good Friday in lieu of Martin Luther King's birthday and individual birthdays of employees in lieu of Veterans Day.

WHEREAS any of the designated holidays/birthdays falling on a Saturday shall be observed on the Friday immediately preceding the Saturday holiday: holidays falling on a Sunday shall be observed on the Monday following the holiday.

VOTE- 4 Aye 1 Nay (KF) SJT PRK MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2024-0010 Motion made by SJT, seconded by KF;

WHEREAS the Board votes to authorize the Supervisor to submit to the Town Clerk a copy of their Annual Report to the State Comptroller, filed March 31st, and;

WHEREAS directing the Town Clerk to cause a notice to be published within ten (1 0) days after receipt of said report in the official newspaper of the Town that a copy of such report is on file and available for inspection in the Town Clerk's office.

VOTE- 5 AIF SJT KF MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2024-0011 Motion made by BH, seconded by SJT;

WHEREAS the Board votes to authorize the payment of utility bills, Town real property tax bills, and postage, prior to audit pursuant to Town Law section 118(2).

VOTE- 5 AIF BH SJT MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2024-0012 Motion made by SJT, seconded by BH;

WHEREAS the Board votes to adopt the following:

1. Workplace Violence Policy of the Town of Oneonta.
2. Sexual Harassment Policy of the Town of Oneonta.
3. Investment Policy of the Town of Oneonta.
4. Procurement Policy of the Town of Oneonta.

VOTE- 5 AIF SJT BH MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2024-0013 Motion made by SJT, seconded by PRK;

WHEREAS the Board votes to accept Committee Assignments remain unchanged from 2023 to 2024.

VOTE- 5 AIF SJT PRK MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2024-0014 Motion made by SJT, seconded by BH;

WHEREAS the Board votes to adopt fee changes for Short-term Rentals;

* $75 per approved occupant (per year);

WHEREAS the Board votes to adopt fee changes for Fines regarding Short-term Rentals;

1. $250 daily fine if property is found not to be in good standing.
2. $250 daily fine if Certificate of Authority for a non-primary residence is not provided.
3. $500 daily fine if permit revoked yet property is continued to be rented.

VOTE- 5 AIF SJT BH MOTION CARRIED

Discussion of short-term rentals (STR), campgrounds and the Comprehensive Plan occurred between Board Members and audience members. Member PRK said Barton & Loguidice (B&L) was remiss in not informing the Town Board that the Smart Growth Community Planning and Zoning Grants were awarded on Nov 21st, and that The Town of Oneonta did not receive grant funding for the Comprehensive Plan grant they applied for. She said the Town Board should be given a debriefing from B&L. Supervisor Mowers reminded the Board that the Town is better positioned for grants going forward with B&L as a partner, rather than an organization less experienced in the process. Questions from Tom Rowe and David Koehn urged the Board to consider a moratorium regarding STRs, campgrounds and the like; until an updated Comprehensive Plan was in place, that would better address the current concerns some neighbors have in respect to the proliferation of the in their own neighborhoods. Member KF stated this is not the first time the Board had considered a moratorium and offered to investigate the merits of such again. Supervisor Mowers stating he is working towards a Comp. Plan; it takes time, perhaps years, he expressed putting a hold on everything with a moratorium, seemed egregious and unreasonable.

RESOLUTION 2024-0015 Motion made by PRK, seconded by SJT;

WHEREAS the Board votes to authorize the implementation and funding 100% of the costs of transportation project (aka. Culvert Project), of which qualified costs may be reimbursed from Bridge NY funds, having been reviewed by town counsel.

VOTE- 5 AIF PRK SJT MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2024-0016 Motion made by SJT, seconded by KF;

WHEREAS the Board votes to adopt fee changes for the rental of pavilions at Fortin Park; Pine Grove ($50/$100), Hangars ($100/$200), (resident/non-resident) respectively, Organizations ($200).

VOTE- 5 AIF SJT KF MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2024-0017 Motion made by SJT, seconded by KF;

WHEREAS the Board votes to approve permit renewals for the following: Lantern Hill, Evergreen Terrace, Byam’s Trailer Court, Peaceful Flats, Melody Village, and Oneida Village Mobile Home Park.

VOTE- 4 Aye 1 Abstain (BH) SJT KF MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2024-0018 (17:58) Motion made by SJT, seconded by BH;

WHEREAS the Board votes for adjournment of the 2024 Organizational Meeting.

VOTE- 5 AIF SJT BH MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan F. Pereira

Town Clerk