

May 27, 2015

The Town Board of the Town of Clayton held their regular meeting at the Town Board Room, 405 Riverside Drive, with the following persons present:

Justin Taylor	Christopher Matthews	Mary Zovistoski
Lance Peterson	Robert W. Cantwell III	William Sherman
Janet Sullins	Keith Wood	Timothy Ritter
Duane Hazelton	Wanda Phelps	Jody Garrett
Ken Knapp	Ronald Cooper	Larry Aubertine
John Greenizen	Pam McDowell	Cindy Grant
Dave Storandt	Donna Patchen	Kevin Patchen
Rob Company	Katie Ross	Philip Randazzo

Opening and Pledge of Allegiance: Supervisor Taylor opened the meeting at 5:00 PM and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Before the meeting began, Supervisor Taylor announced to the public that there would be no discussion of zoning changes tonight. It is not on the agenda, and there is a public hearing at the next Town Board meeting June 10 at 6:15 p.m. No one dissented.

Guest: Legislator Docteur could not be with us tonight.

Town Clerk:

Correspondence:

- Grants Action News – May 2015 Edition
- Jefferson County Press Release – Annual Thirty Day Period for Landowners to Request the Addition of Viable Agricultural Land to Existing Agricultural Districts
- Jefferson County Press Release – Announcing Thirty Day Period for Landowners to Submit Requests for Modifications to the Jefferson County North Agricultural District #2
- Spay/Neuter Now – 2015 Spring Newsletter
- Time Warner Cable – Developments affecting subscribers in Central NY Division
- Village of Clayton – Notice of Annual Water Quality Report
- NYS Dep’t of Health- Report on Test & Maintenance of Backflow Prevention Device
- Resignation Letter from Justice Clif James effective end of business day, Friday, May 29, 2015

Minutes: **Motion** by Bobby Cantwell III, 2nd by Mary Zovistoski to approve the May 13 minutes with one correction. June Carver should be Jane Carver. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 39: Introduced by Mary Zovistoski, 2nd by Christopher Matthews, a resolution Recognizing the Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution for Elected and Appointed Officials. Supervisor Taylor-Aye, Christopher Matthews, -Aye, Lance Peterson-Aye, Bobby Cantwell III-Aye, Mary Zovistoski –Aye.

Public Comment: There are none at this time.

Supervisor:

Correct May 2015 Abstract: The previous amount approved was \$798,148.86. Correcting for bank service fee credits and St. Lawrence Engineering fee change, the new abstract will reflect \$813,401.11. A new Abstract #5 will be drawn up. **Motion** to approve the new Abstract #5 by Christopher Matthews, 2nd by Bobby Cantwell III. Motion carried.

Judge James' Resignation: Judge Clifford James has tendered his resignation effective the end of business, Friday, May 29, 2015. We need to have another Town Judge. Supervisor Taylor has spoken with Judge Gideon to determine our options, of which there are four. For now, the most likely scenario would be for Judge Ramseier to work extra hours until we can find and appoint someone until elections are held. Councilwoman Zovistoski asked if it was mandatory for a Town to have two sitting judges, and the answer was yes. However, the Village may only have one, with an acting judge on standby. Supervisor Taylor will continue investigating our options.

Telescoping Boom Lift Bid: Motion made by Bobby Cantwell III, 2nd by Lance Peterson to authorize specs to go out for bid for a used Boom Lift, 60 feet with a 6 foot jib. The authorized bid would be in the \$45 to \$50 thousand dollar range, as discussed last year with Bob Boulton when the budget was being done. Details will be given to the Town Clerk and they will be published as soon as possible.

There is also a tractor bid out to be opened on June 8th, and awarded at the June 10 meeting, which will help with payment. Also, the old boom lift will be sold June 20th in Watertown. Motion carried to authorize for bids for a used boom lift.

New Assessor: The Supervisor introduced Tim Ritter, our new shared assessor. He will have the same schedule that Denise Trudell had: three days here, two in Cape Vincent. Mr. Ritter agreed with the Supervisor's suggestion that the board members and the public should feel welcome at any time to stop by and meet with him. The goal as always is for accurate data and open communication.

NYS Building Code Operating Permits-Areas of Public Assembly: When the Town of Clayton took over Code Enforcement, we enacted Local Law #2 of 2008. The Building Code Law for Public Assembly is an operating permit for 100 or more persons to occupy a space. It is a one-year permit. Our law requires that we do this, but we have not previously. We will be informing the Public that, as of January 1, 2016, we will be conducting that inspection annually. We need to come up with a fee amount. Councilman Peterson asked if this code is one that reports what fails inspection; it is. It is in the Local Law. It is a requirement of State law; if we opt out of it, we opt out of having Code Enforcement entirely, by the Town, and we do not want to do that. So, we will now be enforcing that part of the Law.

Government Efficiency Report: This is regarding the Tax Cap freeze. If we want the constituency to be eligible for the rebate, we have to submit a Government Efficiency Plan. Only a few parcel owners are going to receive anything substantial as a check will not be sent for \$5.00 or less. Supervisor Taylor recommended that we send in a brief report that we save money through various programs, such as having solar arrays at Recreation Park and the Highway; that we have a cost-saving plan with our phone system (\$3,600.00) and electric bills (.02 cents), and that we have consolidated departments, such as the courts, with the Village. Motion made by Lance Peterson,

2nd by Mary Zovistoski that we send the report. Motion carried.

North Crawford Island Name Change: These are the two small islands off the NW point of Bluff Island. The owners wish to change their name to Anniversary Island. The Town has the power to do this. The Assessor will submit the change. **Motion** by Matthews, 2nd by Cantwell III to change the name to Anniversary Island and have the Assessor submit the change. Motion carried.

Assessment-Legal: Last week, Supervisor Taylor attended court for a particular assessment hearing. He was very impressed with the attorneys and appraisers on the case. Although the Town is the smallest entity, neither the County, Village nor the school contributes any of the cost involved. But the money we spend is worth the investment.

Greenizen Road Speed Limit Change: Councilwoman Zovistoski had received a request from John Greenizen to have the speed limit lowered from 55 mph on Greenizen Rd. to something more appropriate. There are more families with children, and just some “Children at Play” signs would be helpful if the limit could not be changed. The Highway Superintendent can put up that signage. The speed limit change has to go through the chain of command, from the State to the County. The County does not like to use Children at Play signs. Supervisor Taylor suggests we do this.

Resolution No. 40 of 2015 to request that the NYS Department of Transportation do a Survey of Greenizen Rd from NYS Hwy 12 to the Old State Rd (which already has a lower speed limit). Resolution introduced by Mary Zovistoski, 2nd by Lance Peterson. Supervisor Taylor-Aye; Christopher Matthews,-Aye, Lance Peterson-Aye, Bobby Cantwell III-Aye, Mary Zovistoski –Aye.

DHSES IMAP Program: Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services sent a letter that they have instituted a program called IMAP. We are already included because of NYS law. Supervisor Taylor recommends we do nothing regarding the letter. We have the option to opt out, but it is a very beneficial program.

Opera House Repairs: We have been reimbursed for damages to the Opera House from the frozen pipe repairs. Since we used foam insulation, we were paid 50% toward that cost, not fully reimbursed.

Transient Dock Update: Rob Company, of St. Lawrence Engineering, described in detail as simply as he could the problems installing the wave attenuator. Basically, there was a flaw with the way the bottom stabilizers hold the panels in place before the top decking can be installed. Wave action caused lateral movement and either the metal braces were fatigued or the welds failed. Moffatt3 and Nichol are redesigning more robust support. They have also authorized TIOGA to pour part of the deck on the harbor side. There is daily on-site inspection. The Town has little liability and all parties have been amicable in talks and meetings. A better sense of schedule will be available by the end of next week. Obviously the hotel wants to have some of its land freed up for tourist season. Councilmen Matthews and Cantwell will be talking with David Hart this Friday. No promises can be made, but they will be discussing the worst-case scenario even though they hope for the best.

Highway Superintendent Report:

- Will be attending mandatory EMSHA training tomorrow.
- Road trip will be June 12th.

- Worked on Grindstone last week, and we have 2-3 more weeks' work there.
- Road mowing has started.
- Perimeter drain around Depauville Library done today.
- We have a Zipper job on the 8th in Alex Bay.
- Ellis Road will be worked on after Grindstone.
- We need a Letter of Intent for the manlift from the Village for their budget purposes. Hwy Sup't will be working with Terry Jones. The Village budget comes out in June.

Committee Reports:

Councilman Peterson: He and Keith Wood have been working with the Watertown Wolves for them to use our ice and facilities for next season. They want a portable shower unit, but that will cost \$42,800. There are other obstacles as well. Supervisor Taylor said that it does bring people into Town, so he suggested the Board talk with Keith and perhaps form a committee, and call a special meeting. Determine the comfort level to decide whether to move forward or not.

Councilman Cantwell: Nothing at this time.

Councilman Matthews: Nothing at this time.

Councilman Zovistoski:

- The next Chamber meeting will be in September.
- Depauville Library construction will begin June 1 for seven weeks.

Non-Agenda items:

Supervisor Taylor mentioned that we need to discuss voting on Zoning Board members. The Village voted Anna Aubertine in to replace an outgoing member at their last meeting. Councilwoman Zovistoski recommended that we wait. She said she knows of one interested party. And, an ad has been published. We need to give sufficient time to receive more applications. The Board was in agreement.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items:

Larry Aubertine, vice-chairman of the Jt Planning Board, said that it has always been policy that when one member resigns, an alternate moves up. Why change policy now?

Councilman Peterson said if it is policy, then they should be moved up. But if it is not *written* policy it shouldn't need to be abided by.

Mr. Aubertine said that it's usually the Board Chairman who recommends one or another alternate. Alternates are there to learn from full members, and they go to training, too.

Councilman Peterson said if an ad is out, we now have to wait. We can't appoint anyone before the application time is up.

Adjournment:

Motion by Mary Zovistoski, 2nd by Bobby Cantwell III to adjourn this public meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Motion carried.

Janet M. Sullins, Deputy Town Clerk