

## February 13, 2019

The Town Board of the Town of Clayton held their regular meeting at 5:00 PM in the Town Board Room with the following persons present:

David M. Storandt, Jr  
Lance Peterson  
Kathleen E. LaClair

Mary Zovistoski  
Kenneth Knapp

Donna Patchen  
William Sherman

Jimmy Jones  
Chris Matthews  
Natalie Kucko, 7 News

Norma Zimmer, Mayor  
Rob Campany

Tricia Bannister  
Pam McDowell

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Supervisor Storandt opened the meeting at 5 PM and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Guests:** Jefferson County Legislator Cantwell III disbursed a map of how the Dog Control Enforcement is being handled, along with the telephone numbers to the enforcement officers for each section.

Jefferson County Legislator Robert W. Cantwell III thanked Town Supervisor David Storandt for doing a great job as the Supervisor. Legislator Cantwell stated that it was bitter sweet that Supervisor Storandt is not able to finish his term, but wished Mr. Storandt well in his new job with the DEC. Many things were accomplished in his short three year term.

## Town Clerk

### Correspondence:

- 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Local Government Conference will be, Thursday, March, March 28, 2019, at Jefferson Community College.
- NYS Office of the General Services Notice of Application Pursuant to the Public Lands Law – Riverstone Associates – Marine Services Facility.
- Amy Funk, Dog Control Officer activity report for 12/1/18-1/31/19.
- Jefferson County Board of Elections notice of Primary – June 25, 2019 and General Election: November 5, 2019.
- St. Pauly Textile, Inc. – Thank you for continuing to collaborate with them on the clothing drop off shed project.
- Jefferson County Recycling & Waste Management – Fee Increases.
- Justices Ramseier & Jeram monthly submittal log to OGS for fees received in January 2019.
- Jefferson County Self-Insured – Listing of physicians whom are accepting Jefferson County pre-employment physicals.
- Office of the State Comptroller – in reference to the recent Report of Examination entitled Justice Court Time and Attendance.

**Minutes:** **Motion** was made by Donna Patchen, seconded by Mary Zovistoski, to approve the minutes of January 23, 2019 as submitted. **Motion carried.**

**2018 Town Clerk Report:** **Motion** was made by Lance Peterson, seconded by Ken Knapp, to approve the yearly Town Clerk Report for 2018 as submitted. **Motion carried.**

**Public Agenda Items:** None.

**Abstract #2 of 2019: Motion** was made by Donna Patchen, seconded by Mary Zovistoski, to approve Abstract #2 in the amount of \$1,167,158.67 for payment. **Motion carried.**

**Town and Youth Commission AUD Approval and Authorization: Motion** was made by Kenneth Knapp, seconded by Donna Patchen, to approve the Annual Financial Report Update Document for the Fiscal Year Ended 12/31/2018 for both the Town of Clayton and the JA-Youth of Clayton Youth Commission and to authorize the Supervisor to sign and submit them to the NYS Office of the State Comptroller. **Motion carried.**

**Resignation – Town Supervisor:** Supervisor Storandt spoke of his last three years as being Supervisor for the Town of Clayton. He expressed that it has been an honor and a privilege. He has been proud of serving the residents of Clayton and the accomplishments of moving the Community forward. It is now his sincere regret that he needs to vacate his elected role as Town Supervisor effective tomorrow, February 14<sup>th</sup>. His new employment with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), after some deliberation with Albany, is considered to be incompatible with local public office, and therefore he has no choice but to resign as Town Supervisor. Mr. Storandt ex-officio seats with TIERS, CLDC (as Treasurer), ABM and the Health District (as Treasurer) will be reassigned. It has been a pleasure to work with the Town Board for the last three years and he wishes all the best to the Town's future.

Councilman Ken Knapp read a prepared statement that had been circulated to the rest of the Town Board prior to the meeting. The Town Board is in full understanding and supportive of putting the needs of any individual's family first; all of us face this dilemma to a certain degree. So it is with deep regrets the Town Board accepts the resignation of Town Supervisor David Storandt, with our deepest thanks for his dedication and service. We wish you well and hope you can continue to provide your input and knowledge for the Town Board in the days ahead.

Councilman Knapp continued that the Town Board would like to assure the Public, that they are fully aware of the burdens and ramifications now upon the remaining Town Board members, as well as the daunting tasks ahead. We would like to also make clear, that the Town can and will continue to fulfill and perform all the necessary, normal services or functions in the immediate future, for as long as necessary. Procedurally the Board has in place, a Deputy Supervisor that can fulfill the signatory and other obligations needed in the immediate short term. The Town Board acknowledges that while this interim period is by no means business as usual, it can and will be sustainable during this period. It will be the Boards highest priority to chart an appropriate path forward.

In order to perform our due diligence, as well as navigate through the current situation to the betterment of our Town and future, we are all now consulting, taking input, suggestions and advice from Community leaders, past elected and appointed officials, and most importantly, the concerned citizens or our Town. We wish to make the Public aware also, that while the highest degree of transparency is tantamount to us all and will be adhered to, this meeting will be the first opportunity for the Town Board to meet as a group since this development, and the first procedural opportunity for the Town Board to go into an executive session should we chose to conduct the first of potentially more executive sessions about this key, critical personnel issue with the end goals of making the best decisions and determine the best way forward in a timely manner, for a completed interim plan to address this issue until a new Supervisor is elected and can be seated. We are all mindful that the

people of our Town will have the final say on our actions now and what interim course of action the Town Board takes, in the elections this November. Any actions or specific considerations, regarding the unprecedented questions involved in filling a Town Supervisor seat, procedurally and appropriately, should at a minimum, follow the model and treatment of filling a Town Board seat, where there is precedent and methodology. As such, the Supervisor question is clearly, also a personnel matter. Appropriately, and in following this pattern, the Town Board should not and cannot consider actions on these important questions until the Town Board has the opportunity to meet in Executive session(s) to discuss this issue, and allow the public and others a reasonable time period to weigh in on consequential set of decisions.

**Positions – Heather:** **Motion** was made by Donna Patchen, seconded by Mary Zovistoski, to hire Heather Valadez as Clerk to the Supervisor’s Financial office, starting March 1<sup>st</sup>, at a rate of \$17.00 per hour for this full time provisional appointment. **Motion carried.**

**Rate Changes:** **Motion** was made by Mary Zovistoski, seconded by Ken Knapp, to do a rate step increase for Union employee James Brown, Jr., a Laborer, to \$17.90/hr. **Motion carried.**

**Training: NYSBOC Code Enforcement**

**Motion** was made by Mary Zovistoski, seconded by Lance Peterson, to approve Richard Ingerson to attend the NYSBOC Central Chapter 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on April 2 ,3 & 4, 2019 at the Holiday Inn Liverpool, NY. Registration and mileage to be included. **Motion carried.**

**JCC Authorization:** **Motion** was made by Mary Zovistoski, seconded by Donna Patchen, to authorize those wanting to attend the NYS tug Hill Commission 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Local Government Conference, on Thursday, March 28, 2019 at JCC to pre-register by March 8<sup>th</sup>. (The listing of names to attend will be in the next set of minutes.) **Motion carried.**

**40<sup>th</sup> Annual NY Government Finance Officers’ Association Conference:** **Motion** was made by Donna Patchen, seconded by Lance Peterson, to approve Alicia Dewey to attend this conference at the Albany Marriot Hotel, Albany, NY. Mileage cost, etc. to be paid by the Town of Clayton. **Motion carried.**

**Financial Disclosures:** Financial Disclosures are now due to the Town Clerk.

**Banking Resolution:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 45 OF 2019:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 45 OF 2019** was introduced by Ken Knapp, seconded by Lance Peterson, a resolution for Watertown Savings Bank (WSB), changing signatures on the Control Agreement Addendum for five (5) signature related accounts. Storandt-aye; Zovistoski-aye; Patchen-aye; Peterson-aye; Knapp-aye. **PASSED.**

**RESOLUTION NO. 46 OF 2019:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 46 OF 2019** was introduced by Donna Patchen, seconded by Mary Zovistoski, a resolution for Watertown Savings Bank (WSB), on the ACH Origination Agreement and Disclosure and Remote Deposit Capture Merchant Agreement with updated signatures. Storandt-aye; Zovistoski-aye; Patchen-aye; Peterson-aye; Knapp-aye. **PASSED.**

**Motion to close inactive savings reserve account:** **Motion** was made by Donna Patchen, seconded by Ken Knapp, to close an inactive savings reserve account (5511800201) with Watertown Savings Bank (WSB). **Motion carried.**

**NYS AOT Resolutions follow up:** Supervisor Storandt was the only Town Board member to get back to Councilwoman Zovistoski concerning the Association of Towns Resolutions.

**Motion** was made by David Storandt, seconded by Mary Zovistoski, to endorse the Association of Towns Resolutions as presented. **Motion carried.**

**National Grid LED Lighting Upgrade Project:** **Motion** was made by Ken Knapp, seconded by Donna Patchen, after re-assessing what the Town Board had approved at a prior meeting, and on recommendation of Supervisor Storandt the Town Board is going with a smaller 25W LED light fixture to reduce impacts. (There is no net change to program costs.) **Motion carried.**

**MCSJ Budgeted Upgrades:** **Motion** was made by Mary Zovistoski, seconded by Lance Peterson, to go with Edmunds & Associates, Inc. proposal summary for Employee Self-Service I & Human Resources I application Licenses and hosting fees for a total cost of \$13,800.00. **Motion carried.**

#### **Supervisor's Report**

**TIERS:** TIERS is having talks with Cape Vincent on Dissolution of the Cape Vincent Ambulance.

**ABM:** The next meeting is in Naples, Florida, next month.

**CLDC:** Jack Stopper chaired the last meeting. John Cooper is replacing Supervisor Storandt as Treasurer.

**Consolidated Health:** The next meeting is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the quarter – April 17<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Department Head Reports:**

**Highway:** Moving a lot of snow.

**Assessor:** Ms. Johnston, Assessor, submitted her monthly report for January 2019.

**Codes/Zoning:** Richard Ingerson, submitted his monthly report(s) for January 2019.

**Building & Grounds:** Jimmy Jones stated they're on the winter ice schedule.

**Rob Company:** Fielded some questions from USDA. They will be looking for a Resolution as well as the Environmental Facilities Corp. on the Rec. Park Facility Expansion.

#### **Council Reports:**

**Zovistoski:** Councilwoman Zovistoski met with Rob Company, Jimmy Jones and Councilman Knapp last week to discuss the arena project. There are ongoing weekly meetings involving engineering staff, arena staff and board members.

Solar information should be submitted to the Board to be reviewed within about three (3) weeks.

**Knapp: Chamber Meeting** – Attended the last meeting and tomorrow night will be the next meeting.  
Business with a Twist will be on Tuesday, 2/19/19 at the Golden Cleat.  
Thank You to Supervisor Storandt for all the good work and progress he has brought us through.

**Address the Board:** None.

**Adjournment: Motion** was made by Mary Zovistoski, seconded by Donna Patchen, to adjourn this regular meeting at 5:45 PM. **Motion Carried.**

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**Kathleen E. LaClair, Town Clerk**