

WORK SESSION

MAY 22, 2018

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Work Session at 5:30 P.M. on May 22, 2018. Mr. Dumian, Supervisor, presided.

PRESENT: Town Board Members Boyle, Farley, Platt, Francisco, Dumian

Town Counsel Cheryl Sacco
Town Clerk Sherrie L. Jacobs
Highway Superintendent Brian Coddington
Secretary to the Supervisor Lisa Houston
Code Officer/Dog Control Officer Nick Vascello

GUESTS: Country Courier Elizabeth Einstein
Laurie Francisco

BUILDINGS

Mr. Dumian stated that Kevin Coates had examined the roof at the Community Center and noted that the fascia and soffit, and possibly the decking, had been damaged by the recent storm. Mr. Dumian stated that the Town would need to go out to bid to install a new roof, either metal or rubber. It was suggested that the Town revise the bid documents previously used for this project, and that a warranty of one year on labor be included in the bid specifications.

Mr. Dumian stated that installing a peaked roof on the Town Hall needs to be addressed soon, “at least over the equipment.” Mr. Boyle stated that the inclement weather has postponed his meetings with contractors, adding that bid specifications for the project are needed. Mr. Dumian commented that the roof on the Town Hall is now 16 years old. He stated that the monies reserved for building improvements are approximately \$71,000, but added that prevailing wage limits how far the money goes. He added that there is “no way around it” unless the Town employs a Clerk of the Works to manage the project.

Mr. Dumian stated that Mr. Coates has been scraping and painting the buildings in Schnurbusch Park. He will also be painting and replacing ceiling tiles in the Town Hall. Mr. Dumian added that he is researching grant funding to make major repairs to the Castle.

Mr. Dumian reported that the “outlook is good for the Salt Barn” for the Highway Department. Mr. Francisco asked about shared services for maintenance and Mr. Dumian stated that that would create staffing issues. Mr. Dumian stated that the Town is “looking for good volunteers.”

DRAINAGE AREAS

Mr. Dumian stated that Town Engineer John Mastronardi has revised the design of the drainage route for the Stillwater Road Drainage Project, utilizing Mr. Boyle’s suggestions. He stated that the residents in the area are opposed to an open ditch on Town of Conklin property, so he suggested that pipe be used to drain the runoff water to the Susquehanna River. When asked about a timeline for the project, Mr. Dumian replied that GOSR (Governor’s Office of Storm Recovery) will review the grant project in September to make sure funds for the project are still available.

Mr. Dumian stated that the Town is still awaiting approval for a Clerk of the Works for the Community Center/Day Care Center Project. Town Attorney Cheryl Sacco stated that

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eventually the Town will need to do a SEQR (State Environmental Quality Review) for this project.

GREEN ENERGY GRANT PROGRAM

Terry Carroll of Cornell University spoke to the Board about NYSERDA's (New York State Energy Research and Development Authority) Green Energy Grant Program. He stated that a municipality could be designated "green" if it meets four out of ten criteria, which would make it eligible for a \$5,000 grant.

Mr. Carroll explained six of the criteria as follows:

- 1) Code Officer trained – The Town has already done this.
- 2) Benchmarking – documenting the energy used by the Town buildings that are over 1,000 square feet. A resolution entering the energy bills into the EPA Portfolio Manager would be required.
- 3) Reduce energy usage by 10% - This may be attainable by the replacement of the lights at the Community Center.
- 4) Unified solar permit for residential usage – This would make the permit the same across New York State and would require adoption by resolution.
- 5) Replacement of more than ten sodium street lights with LED (Light Emitting Diode) lights. The Town Board has been discussing this possibility. Under the NYSEG (New York State Electric and Gas Corporation) program, the June 1 deadline would have to be met to obtain the rebate that is being offered. Mr. Dumian stated that the Town has over 200 street lights and does not have the manpower to maintain its own lights if it were to buy the street lights from NYSEG, unless it adopted a shared services agreement with another municipality.
- 6) Solarize – help residents go solar and sign up for the solar farm.

Mr. Carroll stated that there is a Net Zero Economic Fund, with \$10 million awarded throughout the region, to be used to make new construction more energy efficient. He stated that he will be in the region until June or July of 2019 to help municipalities obtain these grant funds.

TOWN WIDE STREET LIGHTS

Mr. Francisco stated he contacted the New York State Power Authority to ask if there are any funds available to replace existing street lights, adding that he told the Power Authority that the Town has already contacted NYSEG regarding this potential project.

SUMMER FUN PROGRAM

Mr. Dumian stated that the 2018 Summer Fun Program has already received more than 95 applications, adding that the Program will cap attendance at 70-80 children per day. He stated that there will be 16 counselors, with 8 to 10 coming from the Liberty Partnership. The program will run Monday through Thursday, 9 A.M. until 1:30 P.M., beginning July 19. Mr. Dumian noted that fliers have been made for distribution to the schools and community, and added that Town Clerk Sherrie Jacobs has secured some donations for this program. Mr. Dumian added that he requested Town of Binghamton and Town of Kirkwood to allocate money in their respective 2018 budgets to contribute toward this program.

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SALT

Ms. Sacco spoke about the SALT (State And Local Tax) deduction program, explaining that New York State will allow residents in areas of high local taxes to write off a “charitable write-off” on their income tax return. Municipalities, school districts, and counties would all have to set up their own Charitable Reserve Funds, and residents would pay 105% of their property tax and discount up to 95% of their donation on their income taxes. She added that this reserve funding is not available to the entities to which it is donated “for a long time.” Ms. Sacco also stated that the federal government has not decided yet whether it will also accept this deduction on federal income taxes. She stated that the SALT program allows taxpayers to bypass the current \$10,000 cap on tax write-offs which is allowed if one itemizes. Ms. Sacco stated that participation in the program is optional and the Board must approve participation. She added that each municipality, school, and county must set up its own fund.

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

MAY 22, 2018

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Regular Town Board Meeting at 6:30 P.M. on May 22, 2018, at the Conklin Town Hall. Mr. Dumian, Supervisor, presided. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Town Board Members Boyle, Farley, Platt, Francisco, Dumian

Town Counsel	Cheryl Sacco
Town Clerk	Sherrie L. Jacobs
Highway Superintendent	Brian Coddington
Secretary to the Supervisor	Lisa Houston
Code Officer/Dog Control Officer	Nick Vascello

GUESTS: Country Courier Elizabeth Einstein
Laurie Francisco
John Colley
LeRoy Jenkins
Mike Meier
Ike Sturgeon

MINUTES: MAY 9, 2018 REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

The Town Board decided to hold over approval of the May 9, 2018 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes until the June 12 Board meeting.

REPORT: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Superintendent Brian Coddington reported that he is planning how best to utilize the CHIPS (Consolidated Highway Improvement Program) money available to pay for road paving.

Mr. Coddington reported that he needs a new multi-use trailer to haul the new Skidsteer, noting that a company in Port Crane has a new 82 inch one in stock for \$5700. He reported that the new Skidsteer was delivered today. Mr. Francisco asked if there would be limitations on which trucks could haul the new trailer and Mr. Coddington confirmed that it would require larger trucks from the Highway Department. Mr. Boyle suggested getting prices on a different type of trailer with a tilt ramp, adding that it would provide more flexibility of use, and to perhaps discuss with Parks Superintendent Tom DeLamarter the possibility of allotting some money from the Parks Department toward the trailer. Mr. Coddington will research this possibility.

Mr. Coddington stated that he wants to declare the 2000 Volvo surplus equipment and advertise it on Auctions International for a minimum price of \$10,000. He stated that his department has been working on the bridge at Schnurbusch Park and will continue next week.

REPORT: CODE OFFICER/DOG CONTROL OFFICER

Code Officer Nick Vascello stated that fire inspections are on hold until November. He stated that his department has been very busy with property maintenance issues and dogs. Mr. Vascello stated that he has taken 12 dogs to the Front Street Shelter so far this year. He stated that he is looking at replacement vehicles for the 2009 DCO van because the van is costing money in repairs. Mr. Vascello stated that he needs a van, an SUV, or a truck with a cab. Town Attorney Cheryl Sacco suggested he call the Windsor Code Officer/Deputy DCO for information.

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REPORT: WATER & SEWER/PARKS

Reporting form Parks/Water & Sewer Superintendent Tom DeLamarter, Supervisor Dumian stated that W2O is confirming availability and getting pricing on the older style fittings needed to repair the sewer station, adding that the Town is trying to return the unused material that does not work for the repair of the sewer station.

Mr. Dumian stated that the Town Pool will open on June 9. It will be open 1-7 P.M. weekends until school is out of session, then it will be open daily from 1 to 7 P.M. He added that the pad levelling in the pool area will be completed before it is open.

Mr. Dumian stated that the generator cables at the Town Hall will be completed by the end of next week.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

MAINES TRACTOR-TRAILERS

Mike Meier of Meier Supply stated that he works on the Corporate Parkway and has experienced difficulties getting to work because of Maines Paper and Food Products trucks that are parked on the Corporate Parkway “for hours” blocking traffic. He stated that this situation raises safety concerns. Mr. Dumian stated that he has met with Broome County Executive Jason Garnar and with The Agency Executive Director Kevin McLaughlin to discuss this situation, with limited results. Ms. Sacco commented that Corporate Parkway is not a Town road. Mr. Dumian stated that he also called Maines directly and was told that it was “a heavy receiving day” and that the company “needs to do business.” He added that, as a County owned road, Corporate Parkway is “out of our control.” Mr. Dumian suggested that Mr. Meier call Mr. Garnar directly, as a business owner with a business in the Broome Corporate Park. Mr. Dumian called this a “very dangerous situation,” with truck drivers walking around their trucks and other vehicles trying to use the roadway. Ms. Sacco suggested that Mr. Meier call the Broome County Sheriff’s Department, to which he responded that he “did that.”

OLD BUSINESS:

SPEED LIMIT/ROUTE 7 & 7A

Mr. Dumian stated that he has a meeting scheduled on June 7 with representatives from the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) to discuss reducing the speed limit on Route 7 on the southern part of Town and on all of Route 7A to 40 miles per hour.

NEW BUSINESS:

VETERANS DEDICATION

Mr. Dumian stated that he plans to attend the Veterans Dedication ceremony to be held at the Conklin Veterans Memorial at 11 A.M. on June 9.

RESO 2018-70: RATIFY PAYMENT/U.S. POSTAL SERVICE/2ND QUARTER WATER & SEWER BILLING POSTAGE

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

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Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies payment of check #13856, account codes SW8310.4 and SS1 8110.4, in the amount of \$315.00 to the U.S. Postal Service for payment of postage for the 2nd Quarter Water and Sewer billing.

Seconded by Mr. Platt.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

RESO 2018-71: RATIFY PAYMENT/GRIFFITHS ENGINEERING/STILLWATER ROAD PROJECT/ENGINEERING SERVICES OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2017

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies payment of check #000111, account code HS-8597.2, in the amount of \$6,330.00 to Griffiths Engineering for engineering services during the period October through December 2017 on the Stillwater Road Project, Invoice #14219.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

RESO 2018-72: RATIFY ACH WIRE PAYMENT/PITNEY BOWES/POSTAGE METER REFILL

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies payment of an ACH wire payment, accounts codes A1670.4, A5010.4, and SW8310.4, in the amount of \$500.00 to Pitney Bowes for payment for a postage meter refill.

Seconded by Mr. Platt.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

RESO 2018-73: APPROVE HIRING/AMY RICCI/TEMPORARY PART-TIME ASSESSOR CLERK

Mr. Boyle moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves the hiring of Amy Ricci to the position of Temporary Part-Time Assessor Clerk, to work less than 19 hours per week, at a pay rate of \$14.00 per hour, effective May 23, 2018.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Ricci is also the Assessor Clerk for the Town of Binghamton.

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RESO 2018-74: AUTHORIZE PAYMENT/BILL LIST/\$47,568.09

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin authorizes payment of the following Bill List in the total amount of \$47,568.09:

General	\$ 24,250.30
Highway	4,375.24
Light Districts	2,460.21
Sewer Districts	1,684.33
Water Districts	11,426.01
Non-Budget	<u>3,372.00</u>
Total	\$ 47,568.09

Seconded by Mr. Platt.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

RESO 2018-75: DECLARE SURPLUS VEHICLE/2000 VOLVO DUMP TRUCK WITH PLOW/SELL ON AUCTIONS INTERNATIONAL

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin declares as surplus equipment the Highway Department 2000 Volvo Dump Truck with Plow, VIN4V5J32GF37N870308, in order to sell it “as is” on Auctions International.

Seconded by Mr. Boyle.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

ROADS

Mr. Boyle asked Mr. Coddington about a dead tree near the Shawsville Cemetery on Shaw Road and Mr. Coddington replied that Shaw Road is a County road, not a Town road. Mr. Boyle also suggested to Mr. Coddington that the Highway Department start earlier cleaning the sides of the roads. Mr. Coddington stated that his crew is mowing early, trying to control the wild parsnip and Japanese knot weed (bamboo) that grow alongside the roadways.

TOWN WIDE STREET LIGHTING

Mr. Francisco stated that he will call the Town’s contact regarding Town wide street lighting.

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FIELD OF HONOR

Town Clerk Sherrie Jacobs reminded the Board that the flags will be installed at the Field of Honor near the Conklin Veterans Memorial on May 23 at 6 P.M. if anyone is available to help.

WORK ON ROUTE 7

Mr. Dumian reported that the paving work on Route 7 will be completed by mid-June, with the overlay begun June 4, and the shoulders begun on June 11. He stated that in mid-June work will begin on Route 7A, with that roadway being completed by the end of June.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Francisco moved for adjournment, seconded by Mr. Boyle. The meeting adjourned at 7:08 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherrie L. Jacobs
Town Clerk