

WORK SESSION
MARCH 26, 2019

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Work Session at 5:30 P.M. on March 26, 2019, at the Conklin Town Hall. 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
	Administrative Assistant	Mary Plonski
GUESTS:	Armstrong Telecom	Daniel Armstrong Laurie Francisco John Colley

ARMSTRONG TELECOM/PHONE SYSTEM

Daniel Armstrong of Armstrong Telecom gave a presentation to the Board regarding an Internet-based telephone system. He stated that there would be no term agreement for this hosted phone system, noting that it is a better fit for the Town because if a coax cable goes bad during a period in which the Town has a contract, the Town is stuck, which would not happen with an Internet based system. Mr. Armstrong stated that fiber optic is currently only available in the Corporate Park, adding that it would cost \$400 per month to expand its availability.

Mr. Armstrong stated that if the Town stays with his company for one year, the phones will be free, and there will be no change in the cost. Mr. Dumian asked if Spectrum will guarantee its own product and service and Mr. Armstrong stated that it will. He added that he is a broker, representing multiple companies and providers. Mr. Dumian stated that “service after sales” is important to the Town. Mr. Armstrong pointed out that hosted phones are protected from the effects of flooding.

When asked about the possibility of conference calls, Mr. Armstrong stated that a conference call can host up to 25 people without reservations and 100 with reservations. Mr. Dumian stated that he does not want the Town to be locked into a three year contract. Mr. Platt stated that the alarm system needs a hard line because if the Town Hall is evacuated and the phones are taken from the building, there will be no Internet and therefore no alarm.

Mr. Armstrong stated that he would provide training, particularly for the “high call handlers,” through a nine-minute video that he will e-mail to the Town. He stated that the system uses a “park” system for holding calls, and allows for intercom communication as well as a page key to “listen in” on a potentially dangerous situation. This system provides not only caller ID but includes a history of calls. Mr. Armstrong stated that this system requires a 10-digit dialing system.

COMMUNITY CENTER/DAY CARE CENTER

Mr. Dumian reported that the site for the new Community Center/Day Care Center in Corporate Park does not have to be cleared by April 1, as was previously thought, according to GOSR (Governor’s Office for Storm Recovery), as there is no concern that long-eared bats would use the site as a habitat. He stated that the clearing will be part of the bid process with the contractor

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for the project. Mr. Dumian stated that the BCIDA (Broome County Industrial Development Agency) is pushing for the survey to be completed and the property transferred to the Town. He stated that a selection committee will be chosen to choose the contractor for the project.

YOUTH COMMISSION

Mr. Dumian stated that the Youth Commissioner and the Youth Commission are doing a “great job,” adding that most teams now have sponsors. He stated that the programs are growing. There is a new Youth Sports website that will have a link to the Town website. Through this, parents will be able to pay directly online to the Youth Booster Club. The Conklin Kiwanis Club Pitch, Hit, and Run competition will be held on April 28, while Opening Day for Town Baseball and Softball will be May 4, 2019. Once again, the Town will provide hamburgers and hot dogs for Opening Day and will need the Town’s big grills at the park for the festivities.

PARK CLEANUP

Mr. Dumian stated that Park Cleanup Day will be part of a New York State-wide effort, adding that he spoke with the DEC (New York State Department of Environmental Conservation) regarding drainage in Schnurbusch Park and is able to have brush cleared in the area where the new drainage project will be installed. He stated that eventually drainage pipe will be run through the playground area to the pool, but for now the pipe will run through the berm and connect with a flapper valve at the river, to save money. Mr. Dumian stated that eventually the Town wants to extend the walking path near the Susquehanna River.

Mr. Dumian stated that the bridge between the Little League field and the playground is closed because it was damaged in the August 2018 flash flooding and is a public safety issue needing emergency repair. Mr. Dumian stated that a contractor has been contacted regarding repairs. Mr. Francisco recommended putting up snow fence to keep people off the damaged bridge.

Volunteers have offered to clean up the area of Conklin Road near JiMay’s Flea Market. Mr. Dumian stated that the County will waive tipping fees in early May, so it will not cost the Town to dispose of the garbage collected, adding that he is grateful for the volunteer help.

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

MARCH 26, 2019

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Regular Town Board Meeting at 6:30 P.M. on March 26, 2019, 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
Administrative Assistant	Mary Plonski

GUESTS:	Laurie Francisco
	John Colley

MINUTES: MARCH 12, 2019 REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

Mr. Platt moved to approve the March 12, 2019 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes as presented.

Seconded by Mr. Boyle.

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

Highway Superintendent Brian Coddington stated that he wants to use money from FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) rather than a loan to pay for the new loader for his department. Mr. Dumian asked if Mr. Coddington is looking for a Letter of Intent from the Town Board and Mr. Coddington replied, “Not yet.” He added that he is waiting for approval of the FEMA funding. Town Attorney Cheryl Sacco stated that the Board would need to start the process of taking out a Statutory Installment Bond in June in order to meet all of the public notice requirements. Mr. Coddington stated that there is still \$47,000 left to pay off the current loader and Ms. Sacco stated that this loan must be paid before the loader is traded in on the new one. Ms. Sacco stated that she will get three quotes for the loan. She stated that the Town could get a one year Bond Anticipatory Note with the vehicle as collateral.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

Mr. Coddington stated that municipal clean-up and brush and white goods pickup will occur in May.

CODE DEPARTMENT:

Code Officer Nick Vascello stated that he has been working with property owners cleaning up properties in the Town. Ms. Sacco stated that the Planning Board recommended that the Town Board adopt the proposed local law allowing expanded uses in areas zoned R-15 (Residential).

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WATER & SEWER/PARKS DEPARTMENT:

Mr. Dumian reported that a pump in the boiler room at the Town Hall developed a leak, adding that the alarm system saved the building from major damage. He stated that a new pump has been ordered. Mr. Boyle added that maintenance should be a high priority.

Mr. Dumian reported that the contractors are working on roof repairs at the Castle and Town Hall.

**RESO 2019-42: APPROVE RE-HIRING/VINNY MALANDRA/SEASONAL
LABORER/EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2019**

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves re-hiring Vinny Malandra to the position of Seasonal Laborer at a pay rate of \$11.60 per hour, effective April 1, 2019.

Seconded by Mr. Boyle.

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

**RESO 2019-43: AUTHORIZE EMERGENCY REPAIRS/BRIDGE IN SCHNURBUSCH
PARK/ZMK CONSTRUCTION/NOT TO EXCEED \$15,000**

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin, due to an emergency situation in Schnurbusch Park due to the unsafe condition of the bridge in the park, authorizes hiring ZMK Construction to complete repairs to the bridge at a cost not to exceed \$15,000.

Seconded by Mr. Platt.

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

RESO 2019-44: RATIFY PAYMENT/DELTA ENGINEERS LLC

Mr. Boyle moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies payment of check #122, account code HS-1620-2, in the amount of \$8,804.80 to Delta Engineers, LLC, for payment of Purchase Order #18-01781.

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

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

RESO 2019-45: AUTHORIZE PAYMENT/BILL LIST/\$118,038.57

Mr. Platt moved for the following resolution:

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Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin authorizes payment of the following Bill List in the total amount of \$118,038.57:

General	\$ 15,067.98
Highway	16,276.33
Stillwater Road (HS)	82,028.70
Light Districts	2,383.60
Sewer District	573.76
Water District	<u>1,708.20</u>
Total	\$ 118,038.57

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

TOWN WATERWAYS AND DRAINAGE

Mr. Boyle expressed concern regarding debris in the waterways and drainage systems in the Town. He stated that there is debris and stone in the drainage pipes on Shaw Road and Terrace Drive. Mr. Dumian replied that these are roads that belong to Broome County and are therefore the County's responsibility to maintain. Mr. Boyle is going to contact Broome County Highway Department to ask them to remedy the situation. He also stated that there is debris in the pipe running under the railroad. Mr. Farley, retired from the railroad company, stated that the railroad company right of way is only 12 feet from the center of the track, adding that the railroad company will clean out debris that is in the pipe. Mr. Boyle asked about debris that is caught behind the dam behind the high school and it was stated that this property probably belongs to the Susquehanna Valley School District. He also expressed concern regarding an abandoned tractor-trailer that floated away during the 2011 Flood and has not been removed. It is believed the vehicle belongs to Maines Paper and Food Supply and it was suggested that Mr. Boyle contact this company to see about removal of the vehicle.

DOOR ON FRONT OF CASTLE

Mr. Francisco stated that the door on the front of the Castle is a 38 inch door. He stated that it was very helpful that Kevin Coates reinforced the hinges, as the door needs repair. Mr. Francisco stated that Rufus T. Hall had given an estimate of \$4,000 to repair the door but declined the project as he does not have time for it. Mr. Francisco reported that Belknap Lumber has a new door for purchase for less than \$2,000, adding that some models of the door are correct for the historical period in which the Castle was constructed. He added that the Town cannot afford to purchase a new door right now but should look at the possibility in the spring of 2020. Mr. Dumian stated that Parks/Water & Sewer Superintendent Tom DeLamarter is also getting a quote for repair/replacement of the door, adding that work needs to be done around the door jamb.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Town Clerk Sherrie Jacobs reminded the Board that the Town of Conklin/Conklin Business Association Easter Party will be held on April 13 at the Community Center. Mr. Dumian approved the Town paying for pizza for the party. She stated that the Veterans Dedication Ceremony will be held on June 8, adding that there are 580 names on the Conklin Veterans Memorial and the Memorial Committee will be looking for volunteers to read the names at the ceremony.

RE-INSTATEMENT OF AIM FUNDS

Mr. Dumian stated that Governor Cuomo may re-instate the AIM (Aid and Incentives for Municipalities) funds which had been taken from municipalities in his preliminary budget. Mr. Dumian stated that these funds, which are approximately \$43,000 for the Town of Conklin, would be available with no strings attached.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Francisco moved for adjournment, seconded by Mr. Farley. The meeting adjourned at 7:17 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherrie L. Jacobs
Town Clerk