

SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING

MAY 29, 2020

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Special Town Board Meeting at 12:00 P.M. on May 29, 2020, via Zoom. Mr. Dumian, Supervisor, presided.

PRESENT:	Town Board Members	Farley, Platt, Francisco, Dumian Boyle – Absent
	Town Clerk	Sherrie L. Jacobs
	Secretary to the Supervisor	Laurie Gregory

FINANCIAL DISCUSSION

Mr. Dumian stated that he has been “looking at the numbers” in light of the probable decrease in sales tax revenue from businesses being closed during the COVID-19 pandemic, adding that he is awaiting the information on sales tax revenue for the 2nd and 3rd Quarters. Mr. Dumian stated that in an effort to cut costs he has suggested abolishing the position of Part-Time Laborer for Building and Parks, which he stated would save the Town \$1,200 per month. He added that the Town would only be required to pay 50% of the unemployment compensation for the person in the position, with the federal government paying the remaining 50 per cent through December 31, 2020. Mr. Platt asked if the Town would have to pay 100% after December. Mr. Dumian stated that even if that is necessary, the Town will still save money. He added that unemployment compensation for this position would be approximately \$210 per week. Mr. Francisco asked if the Town could re-establish this position at a later time if necessary and Mr. Dumian stated, “Absolutely.”

Mr. Dumian stated that he also spoke with Town Assessor Joseph Cook about the number of hour that the Assessor Clerk actually needs to work to manage the job, especially in light of the “pushback” he is receiving from the employee, who has concerns about being in the building at this time. Mr. Francisco asked if the hours would be cut for the Assessor Clerk and Mr. Dumian replied that the Assessor is looking at the hours and the Town Board will discuss it at the June 9 meeting.

Mr. Dumian stated that he will look at other health insurance packages for 2021. Mr. Platt stated that the Town “always needs to look.”

Mr. Dumian stated that the Town Pool will probably not open in 2020, which will save the Town money on chemicals and lifeguards’ salaries. Mr. Francisco stated that the pool is “not a money maker, but a service to the Town.” Mr. Dumian added that pool’s liner is 12 years old and the cost of a new liner is over \$100,000.

Mr. Dumian stated that the Town Hall will re-open to the public on June 1, 2020, with social distancing in place, adding that the doors with separation from the public are in place. Mr. Francisco asked if the DMV (New York State Department of Motor Vehicles) will be re-opening. Mr. Dumian stated that the Binghamton and Endicott offices are scheduled to be re-opened on June 8, but there is no word yet on if and/or when the mobile DMV offices will re-open.

RESO 2020-67: ABOLITION OF A POSITION FOR REASONS OF ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY

PRESENT:
Supervisor William Dumian

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Councilman Charles Francisco
Councilman Willis M. Platt
Councilman William Farley

ABSENT: Councilman Dell Boyle

Offered By: Mr. Francisco **Seconded By:** Mr. Farley

The Town Board (hereinafter "Town Board") of the Town of Conklin (hereinafter "Town"), duly convened in regular session, does hereby resolve as follows:

WHEREAS, New York Courts have held that a public employer may abolish civil service positions for the purpose of economy or efficiency, as long as the position is not abolished as a subterfuge to avoid statutory protection afforded civil servants before they are discharged;

WHEREAS, in accordance with Civil Service Law section 80 when positions need to be abolished; such abolition is allowed where the discontinuance of the positions would promote efficiency and economy, provided that the employer acts in good faith;

WHEREAS, historically, New York State has experienced a well-publicized fiscal crisis and had instituted several cost saving measures and resolutions in an effort to reduce costs and expenses; including not limited to the tax cap measures; and the Town of Conklin experienced the same fiscal stressors and limitations including but not limited to several floods, a loss in population and a loss in its tax base; and

WHEREAS, the fiscal crisis has only worsened with the Covid-19 pandemic; the Town is anticipating less revenue including less sales tax; and NYS has made it clear that it will reduce its aid to local government; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Conklin Town Board has determined it is necessary for both reasons of economy and efficiency; to eliminate the position and title of Laborer - Part Time; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board hereby determines it shall be in the best interests of the Town for purposes of economy, efficiency, consolidation, or otherwise, that effective May 29, 2020, at 11:59 P.M., one (1) Laborer - Part Time, shall be abolished pursuant to Civil Service Law Section 80; and

WHEREAS, any and all suspensions or demotions, if any, upon the abolition or reduction of positions shall be determined pursuant to Civil Service Law Section 80; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby determines it shall be in the best interests of the Town of Conklin and its residents for purposes of economy, efficiency, consolidation, or otherwise, to abolish one (1) Laborer - Part Time position effective, May 29, 2020, at 11:59 P.M. pursuant to Civil Service Law Section 80;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Supervisor of the Town of Conklin or his designee, shall be authorized to take whatever necessary action to be in accordance with Civil Service Law and shall provide any notifications as may be required by law; and

RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Resolution Adopted: Unanimously.

CERTIFICATION

I, Sherrie L. Jacobs, do hereby certify that I am the Town Clerk of the Town of Conklin and that the foregoing constitutes a true, correct and complete copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Conklin at a meeting thereof held at the

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Conklin Town Hall, 1271 Conklin Road, Conklin, New York (Remotely via Zoom), on May 29, 2020. Said resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote:

Supervisor	William Dumian	YES
Councilman	Charles Francisco	YES
Councilman	Dell Boyle	ABSENT
Councilman	Willis M. Platt	YES
Councilman	William Farley	YES

Dated: May 29, 2020

Town of Conklin Seal

Sherrie L. Jacobs Town Clerk of the Town of Conklin

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Francisco moved for adjournment, seconded by Mr. Farley. The meeting adjourned at 12:17 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherrie L. Jacobs
Town Clerk