

**REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
**SEPTEMBER 22, 2020**

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Regular Town Board Meeting at 6:30 P.M. 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
Parks/Water/Sewer Superintendent	Tom DeLamarter
Code Officer	Nick Pappas
Secretary to the Supervisor	Laurie Gregory

**GUESTS: Country Courier** Elizabeth Einstein  
Joseph Angelino  
John Colley  
Laurie Francisco  
Kendell Saber  
LeRoy Jenkins

**MINUTES: SEPTEMBER 8, 2020 WORK SESSION AND REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**

Mr. Dumian stated that the September 8, 2020 Work Session and Regular Town Board Meeting minutes should be corrected on page 1 under “Correspondence” to read that he sent letters to, rather than received letters from, Spectrum. He stated that the minutes should be corrected on page 4, under the discussion regarding the sluice pipe, to read that residents should call the New York State Department of Transportation rather than the DEC. Mr. Francisco stated that the minutes should be corrected on page 4 under “Street Lights” to read that the light in question is on Carol Court rather than Carlin Road.

Mr. Farley moved to approve the September 8, 2020 Work Session and Regular Town Board Meeting minutes with the above corrections.

Seconded by Mr. Platt.

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

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Mr. Dumian stated that he received a letter from George McKay regarding a property owned by Douglas Ritter on JR Boulevard. Mr. Dumian stated that Code Officer Nick Pappas visited the property and issued a Stop Work order because Mr. Ritter did not have a building permit for the renovations he is making to the property. Mr. Pappas stated that he contacted Mr. Ritter about the permit and about the foundation of the building, adding that Mr. Ritter is installing bars to hold the foundation but he believes the foundation should be replaced. Mr. Dumian stated that he spoke with Mr. McKay and told him that the Code Office is working with Mr. Ritter to bring the building into compliance with Code, adding that Mr. Pappas stated that it is a “sound structure.”

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Mr. Dumian stated that he received a phone call from the Broome County Executive's office regarding a proposed groundbreaking for the new Community and Wellness Center, adding that the Town is "not ready" for a groundbreaking. Mr. Dumian stated that he has a meeting with the engineer from Delta Engineering this week. Broome County is planning on issuing a press release regarding the funds the County is contributing toward the Community and Wellness Center. Mr. Dumian stated that the Town may have to delay the groundbreaking until next spring because the area is a nesting site for brown bats and they cannot be disturbed starting in October.

Mr. Dumian stated that he received a contract from Broome County to utilize the Maines Community Center for Meals on Wheels in 2021, with the same terms as this year's contract, adding that he signed the contract.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**CANDIDATE FOR NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY**

Joseph Angelino, candidate for the 122<sup>nd</sup> District of the New York State Assembly, introduced himself and his wife, adding that he has a very small campaign committee, comprised of his "wife and a few close friends."

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**COMMUNITY AND WELLNESS CENTER**

Mr. Dumian stated that the new engineer at Delta Engineering is "getting things done," adding that the project must get completed in a timely manner or the Town will lose the grant money needed to pay for the project. "We've made a lot of progress over the last two months," stated Mr. Dumian. He stated that he has a conference call with GOSR (Governor's Office for Storm Recovery) next week.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**SHARED SERVICES CONTRACTS**

Mr. Dumian stated that the contracts with the Town of Binghamton for Dog Control and Court Clerk will remain the same in terms of cost to each town for 2021. The cost for the contract with the Town of Binghamton for Code Officer will increase by \$4,500 for the Town of Conklin, but, added Mr. Dumian, the Town is still saving money by utilizing shared services. He stated that he will meet with Highway Superintendent Brian Coddington to make sure the Town is utilizing all of the limited resources available through shared services.

**2021 TENTATIVE BUDGET**

Mr. Dumian stated that it has been a challenge to formulate a budget for 2021 because the Town cannot be sure how much revenue sales tax will generate, with many businesses closed or functioning at limited capacity due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He stated that he is taking care not to overestimate the amount sales tax revenue will provide. Mr. Dumian stated that the tentative budget for 2021 is \$1,750,457.00, adding that the budget is conservative, but the Town is "still very healthy." He stated that there will be a slight increase in property tax, but he is aware that people are still unemployed; landlords are sometimes not receiving rent and have no

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recourse at the moment; and the Town has a lot of senior citizens. Mr. Dumian stated that the Town also has no idea what the winter weather will be like so therefore no idea the amount of sand and salt will be required for snow and ice removal. He stated that the Town is seeing savings adding up from the new street lights that were installed. Mr. Dumian stated that he is working on Schedule A (salaries), adding that he will need an Executive Session at the end of the regular meeting to discuss a particular personnel issue.

Mr. Dumian spoke about the stress on businesses caused by the shutdown due to the pandemic, adding that “the cure can’t be worse than the disease.” He stated that the audit of the books for 2020 will be conducted in house to save money. Mr. Dumian stated that he has a meeting scheduled with the Broome County Industrial Development Agency regarding potential buildable property in the Corporate Park. He added that there is the possibility of a recycling transfer corporation opening in the Corporate Park.

**RESO 2020-98: ACCEPT DONATION/CONKLIN RAIDERS FASTPITCH SOFTBALL**

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin accepts a donation in the amount of \$200.00 from Conklin Raiders Fastpitch Softball, Inc., for field use.

Seconded by Mr. Platt.

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

**RESO 2020-99: ALLOW LAURIE GREGORY/ACCEPT QUOTE & PURCHASE FROM BLUESTORM TECHNOLOGIES/XEROX MULTIFUNCTION PRINTER**

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin allows Laurie Gregory, Secretary to the Supervisor, to accept the attached quote and purchase from BlueStorm Technologies a Xerox Multifunction Printer, account code A 1620.2, for the price of \$2,722.00 to replace the existing machine.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

Mr. Dumian stated that purchasing the machine, rather than leasing it, will save the Town money, adding that the lease would cost \$97 per month for 36 months. Ms. Gregory stated that the current machine is “at the end of its life” and parts for the machine cannot be obtained any longer.

**RESO 2020-100: RATIFY PAYMENT/PITNEY BOWES/POSTAGE METER REFILL**

Mr. Boyle moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies payment of an ACH wire payment, account code A 1670.4, in the amount of \$500.00 to Pitney Bowes for purchase of postage meter refill.

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Seconded by Mr. Platt.

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

**RESO 2020-101: APPROVE LAURIE GREGORY/ATTEND ONLINE NYS**  
**COMPTROLLER ADVANCED ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES & PROCEDURES**  
**TRAINING**

Mr. Boyle moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves Laurie Gregory, Secretary to the Supervisor, to attend the Online New York State Comptroller Advanced Accounting Principles and Procedures Training on September 29 and 30, 2020, and approving the registration fee of \$85.00, account code A 1340.4.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

**RESO 2020-102: APPROVE PAYMENT/BILL LIST/\$40,877.89**

Mr. Platt moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves payment of the following Bill List dated September 17, 2020, in the total amount of \$40,877.89:

General	\$ 10,993.58
Highway	11,921.17
Water Districts	<u>17,963.14</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 40,877.89</b>

Seconded by Mr. Boyle.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

**UPSTATE ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS PICNIC**

Mr. Boyle stated that the Upstate Association of Towns will be holding a picnic at noon on September 24, 2020, at Pavilion 3 at Schnurbusch Park.

**DRAINAGE**

Mr. Boyle stated that the Town is “making good headway on drainage.”

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**BAKE SALE/SV HONOR SOCIETY/ELECTION DAY**

Town Clerk Sherrie Jacobs stated that she received a request from Mary Nolan to allow the Susquehanna Valley Honor Society to hold a bake sale/basket raffle in the Town Hall and Community Center on Election Day to raise money to help provide Christmas gifts for families in need in the SV community. The Board approved the request, with the requirement that social distancing be observed during check out of baked goods and raffle ticket purchases. Face coverings are required in the Town Hall and Community Center.

**REMOVAL OF ASH TREES**

Mr. Coddington reported that his crew is working on removal of ash trees throughout the Town. The trees have been damaged by ash borers.

**PARKS/WATER/SEWER/MAINTENANCE**

Parks/Water/Sewer Superintendent Tom DeLamarter stated that there are no unforeseen costs in his department's budget for 2021, adding that much of the work that has been planned will be done by Town personnel.

Mr. Dumian stated that he kept the budget line of a part-time maintenance worker, even though that position is currently vacant. He stated that it may be necessary to hire someone to that position next year.

**SOUTHERN TIER 8 BROADBAND EVALUATION**

Mr. Dumian stated that he reached out to the Southern Tier 8 Broadband Evaluation, adding that the Town has still not received a response from Spectrum regarding the lack of broadband service on part of Gratsinger Road.

**CAMPERS ON VACANT PROPERTY**

Mr. Pappas stated that there is nothing in the Town Code that prohibits parking a camper on vacant property. Mr. Dumian and Town Attorney Cheryl Sacco stated that there are zoning restrictions that prohibit parking a camper on property that does not have a principal structure in areas zoned R12 (Residential), so the camper in question must be moved. She suggested the Town consider creation of an overlay district for campers.

**RESO 2020-103: EXECUTIVE SESSION/SPECIFIC PERSONNEL ISSUE**

Mr. Dumian moved to close the Regular Town Board Meeting at 7:23 P.M. and move into Executive Session to discuss a specific personnel issue.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

An Executive Session of the Town Board of the Town of Conklin was held at the Conklin Town Hall at 7:23 P.M. with Supervisor William Dumian presiding. Present were: Supervisor Dumian, Mr. Boyle, Mr. Farley, Mr. Platt, Mr. Francisco, and Attorney Cheryl Sacco. Ms. Sacco assumed duties of secretary of the meeting.

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A discussion was held pursuant to Public Officers Law section 100 of the State of New York regarding the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation.

**RESO 2020-104: RE-OPEN REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**

Mr. Dumian moved to close the Executive Session and re-open the Regular Town Board Meeting at 7:44 P.M.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Platt moved for adjournment, seconded by Mr. Farley. The meeting adjourned at 7:44 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherrie L. Jacobs  
Town Clerk