

WORK SESSION
MAY 11, 2021

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Work Session at 6:00 P.M. on May 11, 2021, at the Conklin Town Hall. Mr. Dumian, Supervisor, presided.

PRESENT:	Town Board Members	Finch, Boyle, Farley, 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
GUESTS:	Country Courier	Elizabeth Einstein
	Conklin Fair Committee	Don Einstein
	Conklin Fair Committee	Frank Mower
	Conklin Fair Committee	Darcy Mower
		John Colley
		Laurie Francisco

HIGHWAY GARAGE FIRE

Mr. Dumian reported that the representative from Adjusters International stated that the insurance company's building consultant agrees with the proposal for repairs to the building, adding that he hopes to have final numbers by the end of this week. He stated that the insurance company agreed to replace all ten doors, instead of their original offer to replace four and repair the other six, adding that it will take 10 to 12 weeks before the new doors arrive. Mr. Dumian stated that salvage will remain with the Town of Conklin. He stated that two companies will be estimating cost of roof repairs.

Mr. Dumian stated that a second adjuster has been added to look at the damaged vehicles regarding repair or giving cash value, adding that the insurance company wanted this second opinion. He stated that the electrical and heating repairs have been completed, adding that building materials are expensive and hard to obtain.

BROOME COUNTY PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN ALLIANCE

Mr. Dumian stated that he compared the County's proposed plan to the Town's current insurance plan and there are only nine people that would be affected, with a savings of \$150 each, making it a miniscule amount that would be saved by adopting the County plan. He added that he will be "looking at the details with great care." Mr. Dumian stated that while adopting the plan might make sense for Broome County or a large municipality, he doesn't "see a lot of benefit for us."

CONKLIN FAIR

Conklin Fair Committee members Frank and Darcy Mower and Don Einstein spoke to the possibility of holding the 2021 Conklin Fair, seeking the Board's approval to hold the Fair on Town-owned property, as usual. Mr. Mower stated that the New York State Fair and the Broome County Fair are both scheduled to happen this year. He added that the rules changed recently to allow rides and games along with the food vendors. Mr. Mower stated that he has no guidance yet regarding the possibility of holding the annual parade.

Mr. Dumian stated that he thinks getting the COVID vaccine is a "personal choice" and people need to be responsible for their own health decisions, adding that many restrictions will be lifting by July 1. The Fair is tentatively scheduled for July 15-17. Mr. Dumian stated that he "doesn't see a problem but New York State could change its rules again. Mr. Mower stated that local

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vendors will not be required to pay for their spots until opening day of the Fair. The Fair Committee will be able to use the Community Center kitchen, office, and bathrooms as they have in the past. Mr. Mower stated that this year marks the 50th anniversary of the first Conklin Fair. Mr. Dumian suggested that the Committee plan a parade with the hope of it being allowed to take place.

ASH TREES AT SCHNURBUSCH PARK

Highway Superintendent Brian Coddington stated that the ash trees at Schnurbusch Park that have been killed by the Emerald Ash Borer have been cut down. He added that the next natural pest will be the cicadas which are awakening from underground as part of their 17-year cycle.

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
MAY 11, 2021

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Regular Town Board Meeting at 6:30 P.M. on May 11, 2021, at the Conklin Town Hall. Mr. Dumian, Supervisor, presided. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Town Board Members Finch, Boyle, Farley, 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

GUESTS: Country Courier Elizabeth Einstein
John Colley
Laurie Francisco
Sandi Beam

MINUTES: APRIL 27, 2021 REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

Mr. Francisco moved to approve the April 27, 2021 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes as presented.

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

REPORT: SUPERVISOR’S OFFICE

The Supervisor’s Report is on file in the office of the Town Clerk.

OLD BUSINESS:

CONKLIN POOL

Mr. Dumian stated that a telephone poll of the Board members resulted in a 4 to 1 vote to keep the Conklin Pool closed this year, with Mr. Boyle being the “No” vote. Mr. Dumian stated that it is unfortunate the Town residents will not be able to use the pool, but cited rising cost of chemicals for the pool and the current 50% capacity restriction among the reasons not to open the pool this year.

TEMPORARY BALL FIELD FENCING/BALL FIELD EXTENSIONS

Mr. Dumian stated that the Town is looking at inexpensive temporary fencing to use at the Pool Field to create two separate ball fields. The fencing costs approximately \$1,000 for 200 feet of fencing. He stated that the Town has made an offer on property on Powers Road across from Schnurbusch Park, with the hope of locating more ball fields on that property, and added that he should have more information later in the week.

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RAILROAD CROSSING AT CARLIN ROAD

Mr. Farley stated that the railroad crossing at Carlin Road, which is closed to vehicle traffic, is a private crossing belonging to the Town of Conklin and has made that known to the railroad company, as part of the Town's request to have that crossing declared a "No Whistle" crossing.

LIGHTS

Mr. Francisco has been in discussion with NYSEG (New York State Electric and Gas Corporation) about the remaining eight street lights that need to be converted to LED lights. He stated that the Town will save approximately \$17,000 over the next ten years, and that the Town will not be responsible for repairs. The eight lights are in Broome Corporate Park and various locations near Schnurbusch Park and Julius Rogers Park, and one on Conklin Road near River Boulevard.

REPORT: CODE OFFICER

Code Officer Nick Pappas gave the Board an update on properties in the Town with ongoing Code violations. He stated that he issued a Stop Work order on one property on Conklin Road, adding that if a property is in the flood plain or floodway, plans must be submitted to the Town Engineer and a permit obtained with payment of a \$200 permit fee.

Mr. Pappas stated that one resident on Millburn Drive moved to South Carolina and left everything behind, asking what his next step should be. Town Attorney Cheryl Sacco asked where the property stands on taxes being paid and Mr. Pappas stated that he doesn't think the property is at foreclosure status yet but he will check with Broome County.

Two long-standing properties with Code violations were discussed. Mr. Pappas stated that the owner of 703 Conklin Road has had many Court dates scheduled and has been a "no show" at all of them, adding that the building is not secured and progress stopped during the COVID-19 pandemic. The owner has a new trial scheduled. Mr. Pappas stated that the owner of 848 Conklin Road has also been a "no show" at his Court appearances. Mr. Finch stated that this kind of behavior spreads if it goes unchecked and urged Mr. Pappas to act on it as soon as possible. Mr. Boyle stated that it was difficult to take anyone to Court in the past year because of the pandemic. Mr. Farley stated that the owners have been repeatedly notified over the past six years, adding that the Town should proceed with legal action. "Go after them," stated Mr. Francisco. Mr. Dumian stated that Mr. Pappas should identify the buildings as abandoned, have the owners pay the fee for abandoned properties, and make sure they get the work done that is required.

LOCAL LAW REGARDING PONDS

Ms. Sacco stated that she sent the Board sample legislation regarding ponds. Mr. Dumian stated that he spoke with the property owner whose property was damaged by the dam break of the pond in question, adding that the Town needs a permitting process, "to keep people safe." Mr. Boyle stated that New York State has regulations regarding ponds and asked if the Town is liable if its local laws are more lenient than State laws. Ms. Sacco stated that the local laws would regulate things like setbacks from property lines. Mr. Dumian asked if a resident building a pond would need certified stamped plans from a certified pond builder, and Mr. Pappas replied that this would be hard to enforce. "Is this an isolated case?" asked Ms. Sacco. "Today it is," replied Mr. Dumian. Ms. Sacco stated that if this is a neighbor vs. neighbor dispute, there are methods of private relief that do not involve the Town. The Board agreed to discuss this issue at the June 8 meeting.

REPORT: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

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Mr. Coddington stated that his department wants to purchase a 2022 Silverado 2500 truck on New York State bid for the cost of \$37,303.52, plus an 8 foot to 10-foot plow for \$6,885.00. There was some discussion of purchasing a second truck at a later date. There was discussion between Mr. Boyle and Mr. Coddington about the extended cab, for an extra \$200 cost, and various other aspects of the truck. Mr. Francisco commented that they were “arguing over petty stuff,” adding that “a lot of it is standard equipment now.” Mr. Coddington stated that he will wait on the purchase of the plow.

RESO 2021-63: AUTHORIZE PURCHASE/2022 SILVERADO 2500 TRUCK

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin authorizes the purchase by the Highway Department of a 2022 Chevrolet Silverado 2500HD 4 Wheel Drive Double Cab Truck, on New York State bid price, using unappropriated fund balance, from Joe Basil Chevrolet, Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$37,303.52.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

REPORT: PARKS/WATER/SEWER SUPERINTENDENT

Parks/Water/Sewer Superintendent Tom DeLamarter stated that he would like to move ahead with purchasing the temporary fencing for the pool field. He stated that he would move the pitcher’s mound in so that both fields are 65 feet. Mr. DeLamarter stated that a portable pitcher’s mound costs approximately \$1,000, adding that he will get two more quotes.

Mr. DeLamarter reported that there was a leak in a pipe at Well 6 but it has been repaired.

NEW BUSINESS:

**RESO 2021-64: ACCEPT \$100 FROM SUPERVISOR’S PETTY CASH/APPROVE
DISSOLUTION OF PETTY CASH IN SUPERVISOR’S DEPARTMENT**

Mr. Finch moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin accepts \$100.00 from the Supervisor’s Petty Cash and approves the dissolution of Petty Cash in the Supervisor’s Department, effective April 30, 2021.

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

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

**RESO 2021-65: ACCEPT \$200 FROM JUSTICE’S PETTY CASH/AMEND BALANCE
OF JUSTICE PETTY CASH DRAWER TO \$100.00**

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin accepts \$200.00 from the Justice’s Petty Cash and amends the balance of the Justice Petty Cash drawer to \$100.00 from \$300.00, effective April 30, 2021.

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Seconded by Mr. Finch.

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

RESO 2021-66: APPROVE TOM DELAMARTER/ATTEND W2O WORKSHOP FOR CONFINED SPACE & COMPETENT PERSON TRAINING

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves Tom DeLamarter to attend the W2O workshop for Confined Space & Competent Person Training in Cortland, New York, on May 28, 2021, also approving a registration fee of \$100.00 plus per diem meal allowance and mileage.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

RESO 2021-67: APPROVE PAYMENT/BILL LIST/05-06-2021/\$52,789.72

Mr. Francisco 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 May 6, 2021, in the total amount of \$52,789.72:

General	\$ 32,852.57
Highway	4,439.99
Water Districts	11,020.75
Sewer Districts	1,447.57
Non-Budgeted	<u>3,028.84</u>
Total	\$ 52,789.72

Seconded by Mr. Boyle.

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

RESO 2021-68: APPROVE CONVERSION/EIGHT HIGH-OUTPUT STREETLIGHTS TO LED/APPROVE PAYMENT TO NYSEG FOR UNEXPIRED LIFE COST

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves the conversion of the following eight high-output streetlights to LED and approves payment to NYSEG for the unexpired life cost of \$2,230.77 (see attached).

Seconded by Mr. Boyle.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

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RV USE ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

Mr. Boyle stated that his research found the two neighboring municipalities, the Towns of Kirkwood and Windsor, allow property owners to park RVs on their property for a certain time period, as long as they are licensed and insured.

YOUTH SPORTS

Mr. Farley reported that tee ball and softball are going well. He stated that the Town is trying to put together a Teener League for baseball.

LIGHTS AT SCHNURBUSCH PARK

Mr. Francisco stated that he and Mr. DeLamarter met with Musco Lighting regarding lights at Schnurbusch Park and Musco Lighting will be putting together a quote.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Francisco moved for adjournment, seconded by Mr. Farley. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherrie L. Jacobs
Town Clerk