

WORK SESSION
APRIL 12, 2022

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Work Session at 6:00 P.M. on April 12, 2022, 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
Code Officer	Nick Pappas
Highway Superintendent	Brian Coddington
Zoning Board of Appeals	William Brodsky

GUESTS: Country Courier Elizabeth Einstein
Laurie Francisco
Arthur Shafer

CONKLIN/KIRKWOOD WATERLINE EXPANSION

Mr. Dumian stated that Broome County Legislator Kelly Wildoner sent him an application for funding, which he will submit tomorrow, April 13. He stated that he is waiting for Town Engineer John Mastronardi to provide estimates for the cost of the waterline expansion project, adding that it depends upon the results of testing. Mr. Dumian stated that an alternative possibility would be to tie into the City of Binghamton water system.

TOWN HALL ROOF & HVAC

Mr. Boyle states that New York State is pushing to only allow heat pumps for new installations, instead of baseboard heat, etc., adding that this is still only in discussion. Mr. Dumian stated that he will have a quote for the HVAC system by the April 26 meeting, adding that quotes are only accurate for perhaps 30 days in the current economic climate.

Mr. Dumian asked if the Town will be able to install a peaked roof with the HVAC equipment located on the roof. Mr. Boyle thinks that is a viable possibility while contractors have indicated they think the Town should install another flat roof that is pitched away from the center, instead of the current pitch toward the center. Mr. Dumian stated that the Town will be going out to bid for both the roof and the HVAC project, adding that the bid specs need to be written and sent out soon. Mr. Mastronardi will write the bid specifications. Mr. Dumian stated that the bid specs will be in place by either the April 26 or May 10 meeting.

TOWN YOUTH SPORTS

Mr. Dumian stated that the participation in Town baseball and softball is very high and there are many teams in both Town of Binghamton and Town of Conklin, and some from the Town of Kirkwood. He added that the Parks Department will install a temporary fence on the big lighted field to create another playing field. Mr. Dumian stated that there will be more Friday night games, as well as games on Saturday, adding that Youth Commissioner Justin Parker is responsible for making sure the fields are in good condition. Mr. Farley stated that the Kiwanis Pitch, Hit, and Run will have to be held on Sunday this year, as there is too great a demand for the fields on Saturday.

Mr. Dumian stated that he has been looking for property that the Town could purchase, or have donated, to create more ball fields, but so far has not found anything. He stated that the field behind the Town Hall might be useable for Coach's Pitch games. Mr. Dumian also stated that improvements could be made to the field at Conklin Forks Park to make it more useable. Code Officer Nick Pappas suggested that the program might be able to utilize the ball field behind the Town of Binghamton Community Center on Coleman Road. Several suggestions were made,

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including the property that the Town already owns across from the Town Hall, the Hobart property across from Schnurbusch Park, or Town-owned lots on Alta Road or River Boulevard. Town Attorney Cheryl Sacco asked if the Town can use FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) Buyout properties and Mr. Dumian stated that he will research this possibility. Mr. Finch asked how long the agreement runs with CHOW to use the area on River Boulevard for gardens, adding that it might be possible to find CHOW a different location and use the area they have now for new ball fields.

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
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The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Regular Town Board Meeting at 6:30 P.M. on April 12, 2022, 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
Code Officer Nick Pappas
Highway Superintendent Brian Coddington
Zoning Board of Appeals William Brodsky
Planning Board Sandra Beam

GUESTS: Country Courier Elizabeth Einstein
Laurie Francisco
Arthur Shafer

MINUTES: MARCH 22, 2022 REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

Mr. Finch moved to approve the March 22, 2022 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:

DRAINAGE ISSUES ON CALABRISI ROAD

Mr. Art Shafer of Kirkwood spoke on behalf of his daughter, Dawn Shafer, who lives on Calabrisi Road, stating that water drains onto her property and adding that the problem is getting worse. He stated that the sluice pipe directs water onto Ms. Shafer's property, adding that a larger sluice pipe is needed and he is asking the Town for help. Mr. Shafer stated that the drainage downgrades his daughter's property, adding that they have been planting grass and bringing in topsoil to try to alleviate the damage. Highway Superintendent Brian Coddington stated that some water could be re-directed to property owned by Broome County but not all of the excess water, adding that the County would have issues if that happened. If would, however, reduce the flow on Ms. Shafer's property. Mr. Shafer stated that the Town does not have an easement onto his daughter's property, adding that it is illegal to divert water onto private property. Mr. Dumian stated that the Town will look at options with which to address this problem.

REPORT: CODE OFFICE

Code Officer Nick Pappas reported that all of the annual fire inspections are completed and 13 of the three-year inspections are completed. He reported that Laing Corporation is moving to Phase 2 with its storage units, wishing to install 75 to 100 portable pods. Laing would own the pods and rent them for storage. Mr. Dumian asked how this would impact the appearance of the property, and asked if it must go back to the Planning Board as a site plan modification.

Mr. Pappas reported that the site on Millburn Drive with Code violations has been cleaned up inside and out, and the house on Muckey Road will be cleaned up by the property owner. The situation at 880 Powers Road, which was deemed unsafe after a fire and placarded by the Town,

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resulted in an aggressive tenant. The property owner is planning to evict the tenant and will clean up the site. Mr. Pappas stated that the “trailer park” on Stillwater Road does not show any Code violations that can be seen from the road, and he cannot legally go on the property. He will send a letter to the property owner stating that the Town has received complaints about the property, adding that the Town may need to take this to the next legal level.

REPORT: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Mr. Coddington stated that Stanley Albrechta is retiring effective April 30, adding that he would like to advertise for a replacement for Mr. Albrechta.

RESO 2022-50: ADVERTISE/COUNTRY COURIER/HIGHWAY LABORER

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin authorizes advertisement in the **Country Courier** for a Highway Laborer, CDL preferred.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

Mr. Coddington stated that he would like to purchase a new John Deere loader, which the department trades every two years, for a net cost of \$27,539 (\$175,539 original cost minus \$148,000 for trade-in). Mr. Coddington stated he will also check Auctions International to see if the Town can get a better price selling the surplus loader.

**RESO 2022-51: AUTHORIZE PURCHASE ORDER/JOHN DEERE 2022 544P WHEEL
LOADER**

Mr. Dumian moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin authorizes a Purchase Order, not to exceed \$175,539, less trade or sale price, for purchase of a John Deere 2022 544P Wheel Loader.

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

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

**RESO 2022-52: ADD JEFF HAYES/DEPUTY HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT/CELL
PHONE REIMBURSEMENT LIST**

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves adding Jeff Hayes, Deputy Highway Superintendent, to the cell phone reimbursement list, for reimbursement at the rate of \$50 per month for use of personal cell phone for Town business.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

REPORT: SUPERVISOR’S OFFICE

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

OLD BUSINESS:

DEDICATION/STONE FOR LORETTA TREVARTHAN

Mr. Dumian thanked Mr. Finch for working with Roberts Quarry, who donated the stone for Loretta ("Lettie") Trevarthan. Mr. Finch is working on getting a plaque for the stone ordered, and ZMK Construction will set the stone. The memorial will be dedicated on Opening Day for softball and baseball.

COMMUNICATION DURING EMERGENCIES

Mr. Dumian stated that with the new phone system, water emergency information can be added to the phone number for the Water Department at a cost of \$5 per month. He stated that Nick Platt and Colin Casey from the Water/Sewer/Parks Department can now access the website to update any emergency water information. Mr. Dumian stated that he reached out to the Susquehanna Valley School District about its texting system to provide information to students and parents. Mr. Dumian stated that changes have been made to the Home Page of the website installing "easy buttons" for Utility Payments and Youth Sports. Town Clerk Sherrie Jacobs stated that she would like more training on programming for the website.

VIDEO DOOR ENTRY SYSTEM

Mr. Dumian reported that the installation of the video door entry system has been completed, adding that the key fob for the back door was provided free of charge. He stated that the installation was "perfect timing," in light of recent threats against the building and/or personnel.

CODE/GRASS COMPLAINTS

In addition to the Code updates mentioned earlier, Mr. Pappas stated that with spring weather approaching, grass complaints will be increasing.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESO 2022-53: ADOPT FEES, FORMS & PROCEDURES RELATED TO CONKLIN CEMETERY/CARLIN ROAD

At a regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Conklin, held at Conklin Town Hall, 1271 Conklin Road, Conklin, New York, on the 12th day of April, 2022, the following resolution was offered by Mr. Finch and seconded by Mr. Boyle:

WHEREAS, pursuant to a Resolution adopted on January 25, 2022, the Town of Conklin is responsible for the management of the Conklin Cemetery, located at 254 Carlin Road, Conklin; and

WHEREAS, as part of said management, the Town shall require the completion and submission of the attached Plot Purchase Form & Rules. The rules, restrictions, and procedures listed therein on said Form shall be followed by all existing and future plot owners.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Plot Purchase Form & Rules, attached hereto, shall be required for all plots located in the Conklin Cemetery, and the rules, restrictions, and procedures shall be adhered to as set forth hereinabove; and further

RESOLVED that this resolution will take effect immediately.

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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 Conklin Town Hall, 1271 Conklin Road, Conklin, New York on the 12th day of April, 2022. Said resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote:

Supervisor William Dumian, Jr	YES
Councilman Dell Boyle	YES
Councilman William Farley	YES
Councilman Charles Francisco	YES
Councilman James E. Finch	YES

Dated: April 12, 2022

Town of Conklin Seal

Sherrie L. Jacobs, Town Clerk
Town of Conklin

Mr. Francisco stated that he is working with Nick Platt to ensure a smooth transition in management of the cemetery.

**RESO 2022-54: AMEND RESO 2021-80/PURCHASE OF 2022 JOHN DEERE
BACKHOE**

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin amends Resolution 2021-80 (purchase of 2022 John Deere backhoe) increasing the approved cost from \$82,814.36 to \$84,084.75, with approval based on terms and conditions of the Purchase Order.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

**RESO 2022-55: RATIFY PAY RATE INCREASE/CODY SMITH/WATER
CERTIFICATION**

Mr. Boyle moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies a pay rate increase of \$.50 per hour for Cody Smith, Water/Sewer/Parks Laborer, effective April 8, 2022, based on his obtaining of his water certification.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

RESO 2022-56: APPROVE PAYMENT/CLAIMS #22-00250 - #22-00320/\$251,590.13

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves payment of the following Claims #22-00250 through #22-00320, which have been audited and approved for payment, in the total amount of \$251,590.13:

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General	\$ 36,319.08
Highway	110,717.02
Light Districts	1,326.02
Water Districts	7,724.52
Sewer Districts	91,014.49
Non-Budgeted	<u>4,489.00</u>
Total	\$ 251,590.13

Seconded by Mr. Finch.

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

**RESO 2022-57: ACCEPT RETIREMENT/STANLEY ALBRECHTA/
EFFECTIVE 5-2-2022**

Mr. Finch moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin accepts the retirement of Stanley Albrechta from the position of Highway Laborer effective May 2, 2022.

Seconded by Mr. Boyle.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

FLOOD PLAIN LEGISLATION

Mr. Dumian stated that Town Engineer John Mastronardi has contacted the DEC (New York State Department of Environmental Conservation) about compensatory storage. Town Attorney Cheryl Sacco stated that the Town can either adopt DEC verbiage or amend the current local law. She distributed a proposed local law and Mr. Dumian asked that any questions be directed to Ms. Sacco. The Board plans to introduce the proposed local law at the April 26 meeting and schedule a Public Hearing on it for May 10.

THANK YOU/MEMORIAL STONE FOR LETTIE TREVARTHAN

Mr. Finch thanked Roberts Quarry for their generous donation of the memorial stone for Lettie Trevarthan.

UPSTATE ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS MEETING

Mr. Boyle stated that the Upstate Association of Towns will meet April 14 in Candor.

COMPLAINTS/SPEEDING ON WOODCREST WAY

Mr. Farley stated that he has received complaints of people speeding on Woodcrest Way. Mr. Dumian stated that complainants should be instructed to call law enforcement. Mr. Coddington suggested that a radar/speed machine could be set up in the area. Mr. Francisco stated that he has seen a stronger police presence on Conklin Road, so people are taking a shortcut through the back streets.

CONKLIN CEMETERY

Mr. Francisco stated that he will give the funeral homes the new rates for the Conklin Cemetery. He and Mr. Platt are searching for a back-up person to dig graves if the primary person is not available.

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THANK YOU/SUPPORT FOR EASTER PARTY

Town Clerk Sherrie Jacobs thanked the Board for its support for the Town Easter Party, which she stated was a great success.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Finch moved for adjournment, seconded by Mr. Farley. The meeting adjourned at 7:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherrie L. Jacobs
Town Clerk