

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
MARCH 28, 2023

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Regular Town Board Meeting at 6:30 P.M. on March 28, 2023, 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	Mark Spinner
	Town Clerk	Sherrie L. Jacobs
	Highway Superintendent	Brian Coddington
	Secretary to the Supervisor	Teresa Bamber
	Code Officer	Nick Pappas
	Administrative Assistant	Mary Plonski
	Parks/Water/Sewer Team Leader	David Kilmer
	Planning Board	Sandra Beam
	Zoning Board of Appeals	William Brodsky
GUESTS:	Country Courier	Elizabeth Einstein
	Country Courier	Donald Einstein
		John Colley
		Laurie Francisco

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PUBLIC HEARING
TO RECEIVE INPUT REGARDING PROPOSED LOCAL LAW 1, 2023
“A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 119 OF THE TOWN CODE ENACTING A
PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND
AMBULANCE WORKERS PURUSANT TO SECTION 466-a OF THE REAL
PROPERTY TAX LAW”

PRESENT: Same as above.

Mr. Dumian declared the Public Hearing open at 6:31 P.M. and asked those present to speak either for, or in opposition to, proposed Local Law 1, 2023, “A Local Law Amending Chapter 119 of the Town Code Enacting a Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Ambulance Workers Pursuant to Section 466-a of the Real Property Tax Law.”

There being no comments or questions, Mr. Dumian declared the Public Hearing closed at 6:32 P.M.

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MINUTES: MARCH 14, 2023 REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING & WORK SESSION

Mr. Farley moved to approve the March 14, 2023 Regular Town Board Meeting and Work Session minutes as presented.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

RECOGNITION FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE/DON & ELIZABETH EINSTEIN

Mr. Dumian thanked Donald and Elizabeth Einstein, owners of the **Country Courier**, for their “many years of community service with the **Courier** and many volunteer organizations.” The

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Einsteins are retiring from the newspaper business after several decades of service to the community. The Board presented Don and Elizabeth Einstein with a Certificate of Appreciation and a cake.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mr. Dumian stated that he has started receiving the usual spring complaints about the need for properties to be cleaned up.

REPORT: PARKS/WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT

Mr. Dumian stated that the new grinder pump for Sewer Station 1 will cost approximately \$55,000 plus \$2,500 to install. It is a single source supplier. Mr. Dumian stated he would want a resolution with a price not to exceed \$60,000.

Parks/Water/Sewer Team Leader David Kilmer stated that his crew has been busy with preparations at Schnurbusch Park, including painting the pavilions. He stated that a larger conduit has been installed at Sewer Station 1 and a fire hydrant has been replaced on Corporate Drive.

Mr. Dumian stated that the Town is working with Poster and Jaeckle, who will install the boiler system upgrades at the Town Hall, to get a quote on Trane owning the whole system so that the Town has one point of contact.

Mr. Kilmer asked when the parks usually open to the public and Mr. Dumian replied, "Whenever they are ready."

Broome Bituminous has supplied two different quotes for blacktopping the Community Center parking lot, including one which would provide three inches of blacktop plus sealant, but no topcoat. The Board is considering just patching the Town Hall parking lot for 2023 and budgeting to repave it next year. Mr. Finch asked if Justin Marchuska, who owns the building adjacent to the Community Center, would pay part of the cost of re-paving but Mr. Dumian stated that there is no easement in place between the Town and Mr. Marchuska.

REPORT: CODE OFFICER

Code Officer Nick Pappas stated that he is almost finished with the fire inspections for this year.

Mr. Dumian stated that the Supreme Court case against the Stillwater Road resident is moving forward, adding that the defendant was in Town Court for a dangerous dog case, but walked out in the middle of the proceedings. The dogs have currently been removed from the premises by the owner.

REPORT: HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Highway Superintendent Brian Coddington stated that the annual brush and white goods pickup will occur between May 8 and May 12, 2023. He stated that his crew has been cleaning roads and preparing to stone and oil the roads on the southern end of Town using money from the CHIPS Program.

OLD BUSINESS:

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MUNICIPAL CLEAN-UP DAYS

Mr. Dumian stated that the Town will plan to hold municipal clean-up days, similar to what Town of Binghamton hosts, in the fall of 2023. The application is due to Broome County by March 31. Mr. Pappas will get the waiver dates from the County.

TOWN HALL SECURITY CAMERAS UPGRADE

The Town received two quotes for upgrades to the Town Hall security camera system. BlueStorm Technologies originally quoted \$7,987, then added \$2,356 for changes for the Town Court. Randy Bidwell (Procom) quoted \$2,775. He would use the same cameras, add an additional camera to the back of the building, and install a new hub. Meier Security had also offered a quote for approximately \$17,000. The Board discussed security cameras at the Community Center/Dog Park, with some believing that Mr. Bidwell has two cameras that were purchased for that area and which are not yet installed.

BATTING CAGES/SCHNURBUSCH PARK

Youth Commissioner Justin Parker submitted a proposal for two permanent structured batting cages at Schnurbusch Park. One would be placed on the 1st base side of the Little League field, and the second would be placed on the 3rd base side of the big, lighted field. The cost would be \$2,573.76, with additional cost of ground preparation, turf and asphalt to be done by the Town Parks Department. Mr. Dumian stated that there can be no grass inside the batting cages, adding that the Town would remove the sod and put in artificial turf or millings and a special “glue” or blacktop. It was noted that the nets can be raised in the event that the park floods. Mr. Francisco asked if it might be wise to buy additional nets.

Mr. Francisco stated that the Town used to have a pitching machine and wondered if it is still in storage somewhere. Mr. Kilmer will look into it, as no one remembers seeing one recently.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESO 2023-50: ADOPT LOCAL LAW 1, 2023,

“A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 119 OF THE TOWN CODE ENACTING A PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND AMBULANCE WORKERS PURSUANT TO SECTION 466-a OF THE REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW”

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 28th day of March, 2023, the following resolution was offered by Mr. Finch and seconded by Mr. Farley:

WHEREAS, the Town Board scheduled a public hearing for March 28, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. for Local Law No. 1 of the Year 2023 entitled “A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 119 OF THE TOWN CODE ENACTING A PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND AMBULANCE WORKERS PURSUANT TO SECTION 466-a OF THE REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW”; and

WHEREAS, notice of said public hearing was duly advertised in the official newspaper of the Town and posted on the Town Clerk’s signboard; and

WHEREAS, said public hearing was duly held on the 28th day of March, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. and all parties in attendance were permitted an opportunity to speak on behalf of or in opposition to said proposed Local Law, or any part thereof; and

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WHEREAS, pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act, it has been determined by the Town Board that adoption of the proposed Local Law constitutes a Type II action as defined under 6 NYCRR 617.5(26) and (33); and

WHEREAS, the Town Board, after due deliberation, finds it in the best interest of the Town to adopt said Local Law.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin hereby adopts said Local Law as Law No. 1 of the Year 2023 entitled "A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 119 OF THE TOWN CODE ENACTING A PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND AMBULANCE WORKERS PURSUANT TO SECTION 466-a OF THE REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW", a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof; and further

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk be and hereby is directed to enter said Local Law in the minutes of this meeting and give due notice of the adoption of said Local Law to the Secretary of State; and further

RESOLVED that this resolution will take effect immediately upon filing with the Department of State.

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 28th day of March, 2023. 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: March 28, 2023

Town of Conklin Seal

Sherrie L. Jacobs, Town Clerk

Town of Conklin

RESO 2023-51: AUTHORIZE PAYMENT/CLAIMS #23-0244 - #23-00295/\$61,172.17

Mr. Finch moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin authorizes the payment of the following Claims #23-00244 through #23-00295, which have been audited and approved for payment, in the total amount of \$61,172.17:

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General	\$ 32,129.65
Highway	5,106.79
Light Districts	1,400.31
Sewer District #1	9,448.98
Water District	12,811.44
Non-Budgeted	<u>275.00</u>
Total	\$ 61,172.17

Seconded by Mr. Boyle.

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

**RESO 2023-52: AUTHORIZE EXPENDITURE/CAPITAL RESERVE/\$60,000/
TOWN HALL HVAC SYSTEM/SUBJECT TO PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM**

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin authorizes expenditure of \$60,000 from Capital Reserve, subject to permissive referendum, with monies to be used for Town Hall HVAC system.

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

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

**RESO 2023-53: AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR/SIGN CONSENT FOR ASSIGNMENT/
LANDFILL OPERATIONS REVIEW/HUNT ENGINEERS, SURVEYORS &
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT, D.P.C.**

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin authorizes the Supervisor to sign the Consent for Assignment of the October 19, 2021 Landfill Operations Review contract between the Town of Conklin and Shumaker Consulting to Hunt Engineers, Surveyors & Landscape Architect, D.P.C., due to acquisition of Shumaker by Hunt.

Seconded by Mr. Finch.

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

**RESO 2023-54: APPROVE PURCHASE & INSTALLATION/VAUGHAN CHOPPER
PUMP/SEWER STATION 1**

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves the purchase and installation of a Vaughan S6U4-460V-103 Chopper Pump for Sewer Station 1, to be a duplicate of serial number 148651-10/19, by W2O, at a cost not to exceed \$60,000.

Seconded by Mr. Finch.

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

**RESO 2023-55: APPROVE PURCHASE & INSTALLATION/TOWN HALL SECURITY
CAMERA UPGRADE/ADD ONE CAMERA ON BACK OF BUILDING**

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Mr. Finch moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves the purchase and installation of upgrades to the Town Hall security camera system, with the addition of one camera on the back of the Town Hall building, by Randy Bidwell at a cost not to exceed \$2,775.00.

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

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

RESO 2023-56: AUTHORIZE POSTLER & JAECKLE CORPORATION/REPLACE TOWN HALL BOILER SYSTEM/COST NOT TO EXCEED \$58,000

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin authorizes Postler & Jaeckle Corporation to replace the boiler system in the Town Hall at a cost not to exceed \$58,000.00.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

RESO 2023-57: APPROVE MILLING INSTALLATION/COMMUNITY CENTER PARKING LOT/COST NOT TO EXCEED \$31,000/BROOME BITUMINOUS

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves Broome Bituminous to mill and install approximately 312 tons of asphalt at the Maines Community Center, per Broome County bid, at a cost not to exceed \$31,000.00.

Seconded by Mr. Finch.

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

CAMERAS & AUTOLOCK AT COMMUNITY CENTER

Mr. Finch suggested that the Town look into installing security cameras and an autolock system at the Community Center, which utilizes a card to gain access to the building. Mr. Kilmer will get quotes for this project.

RESO 2023-58: REQUEST REDUCTION OF SPEED/MONTROSE DRIVE (ROUTE 7)/45 MILES PER HOUR FROM PENNSYLVANIA STATE LINE TO CONKLIN ROAD

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin requests that New York State reduce the speed limit on Montrose Drive (Route 7) to a uniform 45 miles per hour from the Pennsylvania State Line to the intersection with Conklin Road.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

MILLINGS IN CONKLIN CEMETERY

Mr. Boyle commented that the millings in the Conklin Cemetery look good and thanked the Highway and Parks Department for their work in installing them. Mr. Francisco commented that the millings are such a help that, even with a lot of rain recently, the Town did not have to close the cemetery roads.

UPSTATE ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS MEETING

Mr. Boyle stated that the next Upstate Association of Towns meeting will be held on April 13, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. in Candor.

YOUTH SPORTS

Mr. Farley reported that the baseball and softball teams are all set and practices are beginning. He stated that the Town wrestling program sent eight boys and three girls to the New York State Wrestling Tournament. He stated that five of the boys and all three of the girls placed, out of over 1,000 wrestlers.

Mr. Dumian stated that he will talk to Mr. Parker about Opening Day for baseball/softball, with a parade and opening pitch. He stated that the Town will coordinate with the Youth Boosters regarding food. No date has been set yet for Opening Day.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Town Clerk Sherrie Jacobs reminded those present that the annual Easter Party will be held on April 8 at the Community Center. She also received word from Susquehanna Valley School District that the Homecoming Parade will be held on October 14, 2023.

RESO 2023-59: EXECUTIVE SESSION/LEGAL COUNSEL

Mr. Francisco moved to close the Regular Town Board Meeting and move into Executive Session at 7:33 P.M. for legal counsel.

Seconded by Mr. Finch.

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

RESO 2023-60: RE-OPEN REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

Mr. Dumian moved to close the Executive Session and re-open the Regular Town Board Meeting at 7:57 P.M.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Dumian moved for adjournment, seconded by Mr. Francisco. The meeting adjourned at 7:57 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherrie L. Jacobs, Town Clerk

