

WORK SESSION
APRIL 9, 2024

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Work Session at 6:00 P.M. on April 9, 2024, at the Conklin Town Hall. Mr. Dumian, Supervisor, presided.

PRESENT:	Town Board Members	Boyle, Farley, Francisco, Dumian Finch (Excused)
	Town Counsel	Mark Spinner
	Town Clerk	Sherrie L. Jacobs
	Town Engineer	John Mastronardi
	Secretary to the Supervisor	Teresa Bamber
	Administrative Assistant	Mary Plonski
	Planning Board	Sandra Beam
	Zoning Board of Appeals	Elizabeth Einstein
	Zoning Board of Appeals	William Brodsky
GUESTS:	ST8	Ashley Seyfried
	Abundant Solar	Matt McGregor Laurie Francisco

STORMWATER COALITION

Town Engineer John Mastronardi, the Town's representative to the Broome-Tioga Stormwater Coalition, and Ashley Seyfried of ST8, which supports the Coalition, came to the meeting to discuss the newest requirements from the state and federal governments and the Coalition's role in meeting those requirements. Mr. Dumian commented that the fee to belong to the Coalition has increased and asked what the benefits are to the Town in belonging to the Coalition. Mr. Mastronardi explained that the MS4 (Municipal Sanitary Sewer Stormwater System) plan is required. He added that the State currently has six goals, the first two of which are outreach to the public and public participation, noting that these are minimum control goals. Mr. Mastronardi stated that a new permit went into effect on January 3, 2024, which has new regulations and requires more stringent mapping. One of the requirements is the mapping of outfalls, the end of culverts or pipes. He stated that outfalls must also be inspected, adding that the Town of Conklin has at least 12. Mapping must include the size of the pipe, where stormwater is collected, etc., and the Coalition will help with the mapping.

Mr. Mastronardi stated that the DEC wants the whole boundary of the Town and all the watershed and stormwater systems mapped, adding that the goal is to control and reduce pollutants and contamination. With the mapping, if pollutants are present, it would be easier to determine the source of the contamination. The Town must identify any illicit pollutants, stated Mr. Mastronardi, adding that local laws require the Town to meet MS4 requirements. He added that the Town has been audited by the DEC (State) but not by the EPA (federal), as of yet, but he is aware of two towns in Broome County that were audited by the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) and were fined heavily for being out of compliance.

Ashley Seyfried of ST8 stated that the increase in dues from \$2,200 to \$3,000 will maintain the current system and implement new mapping software. She added that the Town has five years to meet the mapping requirements, and if it is not a member of the Coalition, then it is responsible on its own to meet the DEC requirements. Mr. Dumian asked who would be doing testing and Mr. Mastronardi replied that the Coalition would take care of testing, adding that it will test 25% of the outfalls each year. Mr. Mastronardi and Code Officer Nick Pappas will do the inspections. Ms. Seyfried stated that the Coalition will pursue grants from the DEC, adding that the Coalition is more favorable to receive these grants than a single municipality. Mr. Francisco asked about retention of historical documentation and Mr. Mastronardi stated that the information for the audit resets annually, and the DEC will be adding the requirement of a semi-annual report. Mr. Dumian stated that the Board will discuss this further at the April 23 meeting.

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REPAIRS/SOFTBALL DUGOUTS

Mr. Dumian stated that the Town received an estimate of \$9,400.00 from K.B. Materials to repair the softball dugouts, which he stated he thought is too high. He will reach out to an independent contractor in the area to obtain a second estimate.

SOLAR MORATORIUM

Mr. Dumian stated that the Town is working on the new law for development of solar facilities. Town Attorney Mark Spinner explained that the law will cover the entire process. He stated that the Board has the first working draft of the law, adding that he has a second draft to distribute to them this evening. Mr. Spinner stated that the new draft provides a few more details, adding that the proposed law is "90% done." The Board is asked to email Mr. Spinner with any comments or questions by April 16 at the latest. The Board will discuss this further at the April 23 meeting.

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
APRIL 9, 2024

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Regular Town Board Meeting at 6:30 P.M. on April 9, 2024, at the Conklin Town Hall. Mr. Dumian, Supervisor, presided. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Town Board Members Boyle, Farley, Francisco, Dumian
Finch (Excused)

Town Counsel Mark Spinner
Town Clerk Sherrie L. Jacobs
Secretary to the Supervisor Teresa Bamber
Administrative Assistant Mary Plonski
Planning Board Sandra Beam
Zoning Board of Appeals Elizabeth Einstein
Zoning Board of Appeals William Brodsky

GUESTS: Abundant Solar Matt McGregor
Laurie Francisco

MINUTES: MARCH 26, 2024 REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

Mr. Francisco moved to approve the March 26, 2024 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes as presented.

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

CORRESPONDENCE:

COMPLAINTS/BRIDGE ON ROUTE 7

Mr. Dumian stated that he continues to receive complaints regarding the roughness of the road on the bridge on Route 7. New York State DOT has promised to look at this situation, but to date no changes have occurred.

REPORT: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Superintendent Jeff Hayes sent a written report stating that his crew has been working on several projects, including painting and storing the plows for summer, ditch work, cutting and cleaning up dead trees, picking up trash on the roadsides, and cold patching the roads.

REPORT: CODE OFFICER

Mr. Dumian stated that the Court hearing regarding the property located at 1298 Conklin Road has been postponed, as the property owner has recently acquired an attorney to represent him.

Mr. Dumian stated that Municipal Cleanup Days will be held May 17 and 18, 2024.

REPORT: PARKS/WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT

Parks/Water/Sewer Team Leader David Kilmer provided a written report detailing the projects he and his department have been working on. These include installing a parking area in front of the Little League fields; cleaning, painting, and repairs to the Little League concession stand;

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preparing ball fields for upcoming season; report of vandalism at Schnurbusch Park and need for more cameras; repairs to ceiling heater at JR Park; installation of cameras at Community Center; 35 markouts done for the gas company; installation of meters and radios; continuation of SCADA project; backup generator on Carlin Road sewer station installed; and all truck maintenance done in preparation for summer.

Mr. Dumian stated that the Town has \$75,000.00 in ARPA funds that must be allocated by December 31, 2024, and spent by December 31, 2026. He stated that the Board will make plans in June and July as how best to utilize these funds.

REPORT: SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE

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

OLD BUSINESS:

NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS

Mr. Dumian stated that he is especially concerned with the issue of Neighborhood Commercial Transportation Systems in the area of Conklin between the railroad tracks and the Susquehanna River, adding that there is commercial property available in the Town of Conklin if people want to pursue having a business here. He stated that the law is currently open to interpretation, so he believes the Board needs to define the terms more clearly. Mr. Dumian stated that one consideration for the transportation systems would be the size of the vehicles being used.

BUILDING/CODE LAWS WITHIN FLOOD PLAIN

Mr. Dumian stated that the Compensatory Storage Law should be the first item in Section 76, adding that the entire section could be clarified and simplified. He will meet with Administrative Assistant Mary Plonski, Mr. Pappas, and Mr. Spinner at 9 AM on April 12 to discuss proposed changes. Mr. Dumian asked the other Board members to get their comments to Ms. Plonski before the meeting, adding that the Neighborhood Commercial Transportation Systems issue will also be discussed at this meeting.

Mr. Dumian reiterated that the Board's "homework" included submitting comments regarding the solar law, the Neighborhood Commercial Transportation Systems issue, and the Section 76 Flood Plain Code discussion.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESO 2024-69: AUTHORIZE PURCHASE/AKUVOX DOOR INTERCOM & INSTALLATION/MYERS SECURITY

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin authorizes the purchase of an Akuvox Door Intercom and Installation from Myers Security for a cost of \$2,252.00, per Quote #Waterdoor1, dated March 21, 2024.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

Mr. Dumian clarified that this is the entrance by the Water/Parks Department.

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RESO 2024-70: AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF DOUBLE DOOR CRATE/DOG CONTROL OFFICER VEHICLE

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin authorizes the purchase of a Double Door Crate, 40” Wide x 44” Deep x 30” High, for the Dog Control Officer vehicle, from TransK9 USA for a purchase price of \$1,580.00, Quote #1237.

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

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

RESO 2024-71: RATIFY PAYMENT/THE HARTFORD/2024 DISABILITY INSURANCE

Mr. Boyle moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies payment in the amount of \$149.94 to The Hartford for 2024 disability Insurance.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

RESO 2024-72: RATIFY PAYMENT/CONKLIN SENIOR CITIZENS/SENIOR BUS TRIP/11-08-2023 – 11-10-2023/LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA

Mr. Boyle moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies payment in the amount of \$1,000.00 to the Conklin Senior Citizens for a Conklin Senior Citizens Bus Trip November 8, 2023, through November 10, 2023, for a two-night trip to Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

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

RESO 2024-73: RATIFY PAYMENT/RICOH USA, INC./RENTAL/TOWN CLERK COPIER/04-14-2024 – 05-13-2024

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies payment in the amount of \$67.91 to RICOH USA, Inc., for rental of the Town Clerk copier for the period of April 14 through May 13, 2024.

Seconded by Mr. Boyle.

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

RESO 2024-74: ACCEPT RESIGNATION/JENNIFER GRIFFIS/ASSESSOR CLERK

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

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Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin accepts the resignation of Jennifer Griffis from the position of Assessor Clerk, effective April 17, 2024.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

RESO 2024-75: APPROVE PAYMENT/CLAIMS #24-00289 - #24-00333/\$67,415.58

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 #24-00289 through #24-00333, which have been audited and approved for payment, in the total amount of \$67,415.58:

General	\$ 13,209.25
Highway	2,836.80
Sewer District #1	1,539.33
Sewer District #1, Ext. 2	3,267.44
Sewer District #1, Ext. 4	6,741.68
Sewer District #1, Ext. 5	15,840.88
Water District	<u>23,980.20</u>
Total	\$ 67,415.58

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

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

RESO 2024-76: RATIFY TRANSFER OF FUNDS/TO USE ARPA FUNDS FOR SENSUS
RADIO READERS

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies the transfer of funds, effective April 4, 2024, to use ARPA Funds for 142 Sensus Radio Readers (see attached).

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

RESO 2024-77: RATIFY MODIFICATION TO 2024 BUDGET/EFFECTIVE 04-04-2024

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies the modification of the 2024 Budget, effective April 4, 2024 (see attached).

Seconded by Mr. Boyle.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

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PICKLEBALL COURT/JR PARK

Mr. Boyle stated that he gave a layout for a pickleball court at Julius Rogers Park to Mr. Kilmer.

CONKLIN POOL

Mr. Dumian stated that he is already receiving inquiries about graduation parties this summer and the use of the Conklin Pool, although the dates requested occur before the pool usually opens for the season. He stated that the Board must make a decision whether or not to open the pool for the 2024 season, knowing that it will require the use of extra water and chemicals.

Mr. Francisco stated that he has learned that Governor Hochul has allocated \$150 million for repairs to pools as an effort to prevent drownings. He stated that he is drafting a letter to Lea Webb, New York State Senator, asking for help.

Mr. Dumian stated that the Board might consider removing the pool after the 2024 season. He stated that it is estimated that it will cost \$250,000 for repairs to the trough and a new liner, plus the pool is operating on very old equipment. He thinks it can “limp along” for 2024 IF the Town can hire enough lifeguards and/or there are no major repairs required. Mr. Dumian went around the Board: Mr. Boyle – No, citing 15,000 gallons of water plus chemicals added daily); Mr. Farley – Yes; Mr. Francisco – Yes. Mr. Dumian stated that “if safety becomes an issue, we must make a decision to close.” Mr. Farley will inquire if the Susquehanna Valley School District is offering Lifeguard training, and the ad will be prepared to run in the **Country Courier**.

BATTING CAGES

Mr. Francisco asked for an update on the batting cages and Mr. Farley stated that he talked to Youth Commissioner Justin Parker about them, and Mr. Parker planned to talk to Mr. Kilmer, but so far Mr. Farley has heard no follow up on the project.

CEMETERY CLEANUP

Mr. Francisco stated that the deadline to remove decorations from the cemeteries has passed and the cemeteries will be prepared for the upcoming mowing season.

SCHNURBUSCH PARK

Mr. Boyle asked if one good camera could be placed at Schnurbusch Park, but Secretary to the Supervisor Teresa Bamber stated that Internet would be required. Mr. Dumian stated that more of the less expensive cameras can be added. Mr. Boyle stated that the Town should not allow radios at the pool other than what the Lifeguards play, because people cannot hear the Lifeguards over the loud music and some of the music is objectionable in a family setting. Mr. Dumian stated that Mr. Kilmer added parking near third base.

RESO 2024-78: EXECUTIVE SESSION/LEGAL & PERSONNEL ISSUE

Mr. Farley moved to close the Regular Town Board Meeting and move into Executive Session at 7:17 P.M. to discuss a specific personnel issue and to receive legal advice.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

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RESO 2024-79: RE-OPEN REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

Mr. Dumian moved to close the Executive Session and re-open the Regular Town Board Meeting, seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

RESO 2024-80: APPROVE INCREASE IN PAY RATE TO \$21.00 PER HOUR/ELIZABETH EINSTEIN

Mr. Dumian moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves an increase in pay rate to \$21.00 per hour for Elizabeth Einstein, effective April 9, 2024.

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

VOTE: 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 vote to close the meeting was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherrie L. Jacobs
Town Clerk