

APPROVED

Regular Meeting of the Cohocton Town Board
March 19, 2024

David Miller, Esq., Supervisor Judith Hall, Councilmember Peter Wallace,
Councilmember Geraldine Deusenbery, Councilmember Patricia Johnson
Absent: Councilmember Jim McCart

Judith Hall called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Pledge to the Flag

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

- Training for Police
- Letters for Vacancies
- Purchase Trailer from the Fire Department

CORRESPONDENCE

Judith read a letter from Patricia Yanda. She wants to apply for the vacant position on the Board of Ethics. Judith also received a letter from William Yanda. He wants to submit his name as a candidate for the Cohocton Board of Assessment Review.

Since there technically was not a Special Board meeting on February 15, 2024, a vote did not need to be taken to accept the summary because the meeting was not properly posted.

Motion made by Judith Hall and seconded by Patricia Johnson to accept the February 20th Board Meeting Minutes. Ayes 3 Noes 0 Abstains 1 (Peter Wallace).

Motion made by Geraldine Deusenbery and seconded by Patricia Johnson to accept the reports. Ayes 4 Noes 0.

Patricia Johnson had questions about the Staples invoice. She thought the invoice numbers did not match what was shown in the abstract. Judith showed her how they do match. Patricia also wondered about the Avoca Springwater invoice. Judith explained The Avoca Springwater Company provides jugs of water that is in the foyer and at the Town Barn. Peter Wallace wondered if we pay the ambulance and Judith said we pay CVAS because that is who we contract with for our volunteer EMTs.

Motion made by Patricia Johnson and seconded by Peter Wallace to accept the abstract. Ayes 4 Noes 0.

OLD BUSINESS

Water Loop Project (Greg Houghtaling from MRB Group and Matt McCarthy)-Greg and Matt came to discuss the water loop project with the board. A report has been submitted. A WIIA grant has been obtained for approximately \$2,100,000.00 which will cover nearly 60% of the project cost. Nearly 4100 hundred linear feet along Wayland Street near State Route 21 will need replacing, and a 2400-foot loop down Beecher Street will be put in to eliminate the long dead end. Matt explained that if there is a break in that part of the system, the whole northern end is without water. The PRV vaults need to be raised above grade to make them safer. They also want to target the well house to deal with some of the hard water and scaling issues. The Town of Cohocton has very hard water and causes problems for the customers of the North Cohocton Water District. The town would use EFC short term financing, and

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Rural Development for the long-term financing, which will offer a better interest rate and a longer term on the bond. Matt presented the proposal to the board for the project to move ahead with the design and requested that the board authorize Judith to sign the necessary contracts to keep the project moving forward.

Motion made by Peter Wallace and seconded by Patricia Johnson to authorize Judith to sign the contracts. Ayes 4 Noes 0.

Matt hopes to be able to put the project out for bids by the end of 2024.

Judith received the contract from Moody to have the wells flow tested.

Motion made by Peter Wallace and seconded by Patricia Johnson to sign the Moody contract. Ayes 4 Noes 0.

Prattsburgh Wind Filing, Petition for Party Status and Issues for Adjudication Pursuant to 19 NYCRR §900-8.4(c)-ORES approved Prattsburgh Wind to move ahead. Dwight Canyuck, the attorney representing the Town of Cohocton, has filed a Petition for Party Status and Issues for Adjudication Pursuant to 19 NYCRR §900-8.4. Prattsburgh Wind has exceeded Cohocton's law with higher tower heights, setback violations and putting in overhead lines instead of putting them in the ground (the Town of Cohocton required Prattsburgh Wind to put the lines underground). ORES has allowed them to disregard our laws in all three situations. Also, they are also not taking into account the people who are going to be living between the three projects, CCP, Baron Winds and the new Prattsburgh project. Baron Winds claims the CCP project is over the limit. Baron Winds asserts their project is not over the limit, but they should not be penalized because the other projects are over the limit. The Town of Cohocton is asking for further noise studies. ORES has not ruled on this yet.

Pool and Park-The board must decide what is going to be done with the pool. Judith said there are also issues with how the park is going to be staffed this summer. Kaya Rizzieri, President of the Wayland Cohocton PTSA, Elise Meldrum, PTSA member, and Corinne Chapman, PTSA secretary, came to discuss the possibility of applying for a grant to either repair the pool or replace it. Ms. Meldrum contacted the Governor's Office and discovered the governor is setting forth initiatives for pools. The person she talked with about this said Cohocton would be at the top of the list and told her about 3 specific grants. The vote for the grants is going to take place the first week of April if the grants are going to be available. At that point the contact person will give instruction on how to fill out the paperwork for the grants. There are many options to consider if the town is awarded a grant, such as work force development and enrichment which could cover some of the costs of staffing. Judith said there is no way this could happen this year, and the big hole in the ground from the empty pool must be filled in for safety reasons, or the park will not be able to open at all this year. Peter Wallace agreed to be a contact person for Kaya and Elise. Greg Houghtaling said a shared services agreement with neighboring towns might also be an option to offset the cost of the pool and maintain it. He suggested filling it with sand temporarily.

Motion made by Patricia Johnson and seconded by Geraldine Deussenbery to allow Ms. Rizzieri and Ms. Meldrum to check on the eligibility of the grants. Ayes 4 Noes 0.

A discussion took place about filling in the pool and what to fill it in with.

Motion made by Peter Wallace and seconded by Patricia Johnson to allow Richey to use sand to fill pool. Ayes 4 Noes 0.

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Zoning Amendments- So far, there has been no response to the letters Judith sent to surrounding areas regarding Cohocton being the Lead Agency for the amendments to the Zoning Law. Judith said next month the board should look at and discuss the amendments.

Quotes for Air Conditioner, Clerk's Office-Three quotes have been received to replace the air conditioner in the clerk's office. Comstock HVAC's bid was \$4800.00, John Billings was \$4950.00, and Peartree Mechanical was \$2268.00.

Motion made by Judith Hall and seconded by Patricia Johnson to accept the bid from Peartree Mechanical for \$2268.00. Ayes 4 Noes 0.

Received the PILOT Payments- Pilot payments One and Two have been received from Canandaigua Power Partners and Baron Winds. A letter was received from Jason Dagger saying we will receive the same number of payments, but Judith feels we should have received a payment for 2022 and 2023. We have only received one payment. They have not paid their taxes on the special districts yet.

NEW BUSINESS

Training Approval for Planning Board and ZBA Members-Two Planning Board members and Three Zoning Board members will be attending training at Corning Community College. The cost is \$75.00 per person.

Motion made by Peter Wallace and seconded by Patricia Johnson to send five people from the Planning Board and Zoning Board for the training. Ayes 4 Noes 0.

Ag District Public Hearing Notification-A letter was received and posted on the board in the foyer announcing that a public hearing will be held by the Steuben County Legislature on March 25, 2024 at 10:00am. The County Planning Board and the Agricultural and Farmlands Protection Board will be accepting recommendations. It is the recommendation of these two boards that the district be continued, subject to proposed modifications for the next 8 years.

Cintas AED Program-The Town of Cohocton is required to have AEDs in several locations. The cost to replace one of them is \$1800.00, and the batteries and pads need replacing frequently. A CINTAS salesman met with Judith to discuss a program where there is no upfront charge, they supply the AED, batteries and charge pads when needed, the cabinet, and a grab bag and a to-go bag. They also inspect them once a month. The choice of AED is Zoll and Lifeline. Judith received a quote of \$1800.00 a month for the service per AED. Patricia Johnson said Zoll has had issues with their software and recommended Lifeline as the best choice. The cost of Lifeline is \$1250.00

Motion made by Patricia Johnson and seconded by Judith Hall to join the CINTAS program and get the Lifeline AEDs.

Training for Police-Chief of Police Mark Barnhart would like to send 3 officers for training. It is an interrogation course and there is money in the Police budget for training. The training is in Alfred and the cost is \$300.00 per person.

Motion made by Peter Wallace and seconded by Patricia Johnson to send 3 officers for training. Ayes 4 Noes 0.

Letters for Vacancies- (Previously discussed in the CORRESPONDENCE section).

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Motion made by Judith Hall and seconded by Peter Wallace to appoint Bill Yanda to the Board of Assessment Review. Ayes 4 Noes 0.

The term for the Board of Assessment Review is 5 years.

Motion made by Judith Hall and seconded by Patricia Johnson to appoint Pat Yanda to the Ethics Board as the alternate. Ayes 4 Noes 0.

Purchase Trailer from Fire Department for the Maintenance Department-

Motion made by Patricia Johnson and seconded by Peter Wallace to purchase a used trailer from the Fire Department for \$1900.00 Ayes 4 Noes 0.

BOARD CONCERNS-None.

Motion made by Geraldine Deussenbery and seconded by Peter Wallace to adjourn. 4 Ayes 0 Noes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:47pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol M. Allen
Town Clerk