

## Bennington Town Board

February 10, 2021

7:30 p.m. Meeting

Work session began at 6:30pm. Councilmembers Mohun, Frounick, Gadd and Waite audited the vouchers. Superintendent Koch was in attendance to update the Board Members on what the Highway Department has been working on this month. Discussion held on proposed road projects on N. Burrough, Hoover @ French, Getman, Dersam and Blood Rd. Estimates are coming in at \$141K to cover these roads for the year in materials, but not labor. Rolled over CHIPS funding will be utilized to pay toward these projects. Don Roberts from the County Zoning Department came in to discuss the changes in fee structure for the County Zoning program that the Town agreed to utilize. The Board would like to craft a letter to the County Board of Supervisors voicing their displeasure over the increase in the cost per parcel going from \$2.72 to \$5.91 and asking for consideration of a credit or refund at year end if there has been a decrease in the per parcel amount.

Supervisor Grant called the meeting to order at 8:03pm. Councilman Waite was asked to lead the pledge of allegiance.

### Financial Matters:

Approve Williamson Law Book Software Maintenance Agreement

Motion by Gadd, seconded by Mohun to approve renewal of WLB accounting software maintenance agreement.

Ayes: 5                      Noes: 0                      Abstain: 0                      Absent: 0

General Fund vouchers #9 to #37 \$7,160.78

Highway Fund vouchers #2 to #18 \$49,457.66

Cowlesville Water vouchers #2 to #6 \$2,895.97

Cowlesville Light vouchers # 1to #2 \$19.83

Motion by Waite, seconded by Gadd to approve the vouchers for payment.

Ayes: 5                      Noes: 0                      Abstain: 0                      Absent:0

### Financial Reports

Motion by Mohun, seconded by Frounick to approve the Financial Reports ending January 31, 2021

Ayes: 5                      Noes: 0                      Abstain: 0                      Absent: 0

### Minutes of Previous Meetings:

Motion to approve minutes for the Organizational Meeting 1/6/21, made by Waite, Seconded by Gadd.

Ayes: 5                      Noes: 0                      Absent:0                      Abstain: 0

Communications: Certificate of analysis was received from Biotrax for the month of January. Monthly report from Wyoming County Zoning Department with December projects/permits/violations. Harris Corners Fire Department gave the Town Clerk the list of Officers for 2021 along with their budget. Supervisor Grant received Legislation Newsletter from Assoc. of Towns. Receipt from Treasurer on money coming to the Town for the 2020 year. \$166,594.54. Annual letter from Unified Court requesting audit of

Justice Court. Don Pryzbyl will come in and do week of 2/22. Notification Troop 474 is dis-banding. Keys returned and clearing out equipment. Letter from ISO regarding evals of fire systems for insurance purposes. They are updating the Cowlesville Fire Rating, should be completed in the Spring. Justice Court reports for the month of Dec. received. PJA clean energy looking to lease land for a ground solar system from the Town property. Certificate of Insurance from State Insurance fund for Geotherm and one from Brown and Brown, also for Geotherm. Receipt from treasurer regarding the Time Warner payment for 2020. Dave DiMatteo provided court case information regarding zombie property law to share with the Town Board.

Petitions and public concerns: None

Departments:

Town Clerk – Monthly report given out to Board Members. Gave update on the progress of tax collection in the Town so far. EZ pass update.

Motion to approve a bill for pre-paying for E-ZPass supplies; Motion by Mohun and second by Gadd. Voting all ayes carried.

Highway – Supervisor Grant referred to the work session meeting minutes as there were no residents in attendance this evening.

Assessor – Jim Kirsch has been very busy answering questions from residents on ways to reduce their taxes.

Zoning – Home Occupation Permit- Merlyn Bissel applied for a HOP to conduct Legal Services in his home. Motion made by Gadd to approve, seconded by Waite to approve the renewal contingent on receiving the proper paperwork/license. Voting all ayes; carried.

Water District – Supervisor Grant received an email stating the State is opening applications for water and sewer block grants. County may be looking to applying for upgrade of equipment and software in which we can participate.

Court – There are no court proceedings at this time due to COVID. Paperwork and fines are still being processed.

Old Business:

**Resolution #2021-2-1                      Authorize Agreement with County for Zoning Officer**

Be it Resolved, that the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized to sign an Intermunicipal Agreement with the County of Wyoming for the enforcement of Town Zoning Law for the period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 at a rate of not to exceed \$5.91 per parcel, to be paid in quarterly installments.

Motion by Mohun , seconded by Gadd

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

Health Disaster Emergency Operations Plan- Supervisor Grant sent the Board a proposal of the plan to the Board members for their review. Board held a brief discussion; Supervisor Grant will send to the Teamsters for their review and comment. Superintendent Koch has reviewed and shared with his crew for their input.

New Business:

**Resolution #2021-2-2 Agreement with Wyoming County for Dog Control Services**

Whereas, the Town of Bennington has had an agreement with the County of Wyoming for the provision of dog control services in accordance with NYS Agriculture and Markets Law Article 7 which expired December 31, 2020,

And Whereas, municipalities are required by New York State to provide said services, including an animal control officer and dog shelter pound facility, which the County has the ability to provide,

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved, that the Town Board hereby authorizes the Supervisor to execute an agreement with the County of Wyoming for said services for the period January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2025.

Motion by Waite; Seconded by Frounick

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 0

**Intermunicipal Agreement for Curbside Collection**

Supervisor Grant spoke with WM to ask what the costs would be just for the Town of Bennington to contract independent of the County program. He would not be able to give a dollar amount, but it would be significantly more since our municipality is so large and spread out. It would be much more costly than the County's collective contract. We would also have legal fees to negotiate and craft a contract. The Town had a complaint recently of a road in poor condition due to the weather situation. The County Planning department worked with the Town Highway department and were able to fix the road and WM was able to get down the road again. Royal Oak has been contacted to remove their bins from the Town property. Over the next year, WM will upgrade their fleet with an automatic arm that will pick up their bins. Bins will be provided consisting of one 64-gallon garbage tote and one recycle tote per parcel. A second one if requested will be billed to that parcel at a second full rate on their tax bill.

**Resolution #2021-2-3 Intermunicipal Agreement for Curbside Collection**

Be it Resolved, that the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Joinder of Participating Community to Waste Disposal Agreement, at rates and terms as negotiated and set forth in Section 2 of the Agreement between the County of Wyoming and Waste Management of New York, LLC.

Motion by Waite; Seconded by Gadd

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

Electronics Collection – Supervisor Grant would like to offer a collection to the Town. This will be an expense to the Town. Brief discussion was held.

Any other Business to Come before the Board/County Matters:

Press release going out to Alden Advertiser regarding the Schoellkopf Bridge. County awarded a contract yesterday to a Contractor that will complete the work. 1400 people have been vaccinated in the County. Vaccines are going out to Dr. offices in Arcade and Warsaw. Trends are going down in Wyoming County. Food Pantry will be distributing food on 3/4/21 and 4/1/21. Wyoming County will be receiving \$5.9 Million in State grant funds for upgrades to the Fire Training Center and the County 911 operations.

Councilman Mohun would like the Board to draft a letter to be sent out to Patrick Gallivan regarding Spectrum Services.

Meeting adjourned at 9:09pm by Councilman Mohun.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolyn Busch  
Bennington Town Clerk