

## **Regular Town Board Meeting September 26, 2023**

Supervisor Votra opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 5 PM.

**Roll Call:** Supervisor Votra, Councilwoman Tremper, Councilman Cook, Councilman Sweeney, Councilman Demo, Highway Superintendent Hart, Maintenance Supervisor Ryan Jacot Town Clerk Maguire

**Others Present:** David Burl (Sole Assessor and Code Enforcement Officer), Frank Sisto, Joe McGill (Historian), Marjorie Meashaw, Madeline Pennington, Kevin Fiske, Janet Bartlett, Luke Dailey, Kurstin Jacot

A moment of silence was observed for Judge Lester E. Gale Jr. who passed away unexpectedly on September 10, 2023. Supervisor Votra stated that Lester was a good friend to everyone and will be greatly missed.

*A motion* was made by Councilwoman Tremper and seconded by Councilman Sweeney to table the minutes of the regular meeting on August 22, 2023.

*All in favor.*

### **Legislator Report:**

Councilwoman Tremper read the monthly report submitted by Legislator Perkins aloud. She asked if there were questions, and none were offered.

*A motion* was made by Councilman Demo and seconded by Councilman Cook to accept the report from the meeting of the Full Board of the St. Lawrence County Legislators held on September 11, 2023 as submitted by Legislator Perkins.

*All in favor.*

### **Code Enforcement Officer Report:**

Code Enforcement Burl asked if there were any questions on his submitted report. There were none offered.

*A motion* was made by Councilman Sweeney and seconded by Councilwoman Tremper to accept the Code Enforcement Officer report as submitted by Code Enforcement Officer Burl and to be kept on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

*All in favor.*

### **Assessor's Report:**

Assessor Burl reported there were quite a few property transfers this month as well as a few divided assessments. There were many calls regarding STAR exemptions being removed. This mainly happens because correspondence is not being returned to New York State to verify the home owner's eligibility. The reevaluation project is approximately 55% complete with the inventory. Now, the inventory cards and computer need to be updated.

*A motion* was made by Councilman Cook and seconded by Councilwoman Tremper to accept the Assessor's report as given by Assessor Burl.

*All in favor.*

**Water District Report:**

A *motion* was made by Councilman Demo and seconded by Councilwoman Tremper to accept the Water District report as submitted by DANC.

*All in favor.*

**Recreation Report:**

Maintenance Supervisor Ryan Jacot reported the fall hours for the park have been changed to 9 am to 5 pm. He went around the hamlet and checked the valves. There were a couple that were stuck that he was able to fix and one was buried that was made accessible. A new water hook up on State Highway 72 was completed with help from the Highway Department. Mr. Jacot and his employees have been busy painting and getting cleaned up for winter.

A *motion* was made by Councilman Demo and seconded by Councilman Cook to accept the Recreation report as given by Maintenance Supervisor Ryan Jacot.

*All in favor.*

**Recreation Committee Report:**

Councilwoman Tremper reported

A *motion* was made by Councilman Demo and seconded by Councilman Cook to accept the Recreation Committee report as given by Councilwoman Tremper.

**Business:**

1. A *motion* was made by Councilman Cook and seconded by Councilwoman Tremper to reappoint Michael Tremper to a 5-year term on the Board of Assessment Review Board which will expire on 09/30/2028.

*All in favor.*

2. A *motion* was made by Councilman Demo and Councilman Cook to adopt Resolution 05-2023 as follows:

**Town of Parishville  
Resolution 05-2023  
AUTHORIZING TOWN COURT TO APPLY  
FOR JCAP GRANT**

**Whereas**, the Parishville Town Court would like to add a camera to the existing system to monitor the activity and traffic within the courtroom, and

**Whereas**, the Parishville Town Court would like to purchase a safe and a small, locked file cabinet to keep financial documents and important items secure,

**Whereas**, the Parishville Town Court would like to purchase a new “Gilbert’s Criminal Practice” publication, and

**Whereas**, the Parishville Town Court would like to purchase a coat rack for the Judge’s Office for hats, coats and other items, so

**Therefore, be it resolved that;** the Town Board of the Town of Parishville authorizes the Parishville Town Court to apply for a JCAP grant in the 2023-2024 grant cycle in the amount of up to \$3,000.

**Supervisor Votra- Aye**

**Councilwoman Tremper- Aye**

**Councilman Cook- Aye**

**Councilman Sweeney- Aye  
Councilman Demo- Aye  
Resolution Adopted.**

3. *A motion* was made by Councilman Sweeney and seconded by Councilwoman Tremper to adopt Resolution 04-2023 as follows:

**TOWN OF PARISHVILLE  
ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY  
RESOLUTION 04-2023  
RESOLUTION URGING THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR  
KATHY HOCHUL TO DRAFT AND ENACT LEGISLATION REGARDING A VOTER'S  
IDENTIFICATION PROCESS**

**WHEREAS**, this country was formed on the principles of democracy and our forefathers fought for our rights to elect our representation; and

**WHEREAS**, the majority of the states in the U.S. require a voter's identification to increase the public's confidence and ensure a fair election process; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Elections may not get notification of a voter registering in another location or of a death of a registered voter; and

**WHEREAS**, in an economy where the Board of Elections may not have sufficient funding or staffing to purge voters rolls of individuals who no longer live in each election district or county, as required; and

**WHEREAS**, in a day and age where the ability to work does not necessarily need to be where you live, this allows for more individuals to be transient in nature and the addition of voter's identification will assist in keeping all voter rolls current; and

**WHEREAS**, in the State of New York the requirement is to compare the signature on file, this doesn't necessarily help maintain current voter registration, as name and address changes are not necessarily communicated in the current process, also this would assist in the purging of the roles of individuals who are no longer active voters in that county; and

**WHEREAS**, the subject of the resolution is not an action as defined by 6 N.Y.C.R.R. §617.2 (b), and therefore no further SEQRA review is required.

**NOW, THEREFORE THE TOWN BOARD OF PARISHVILLE, NY HEREBY**

**REQUESTS** the New York State Legislature and Governor Hochul to draft and enact legislation to allow for a voter's identification process to assist with maintaining voter's registration rolls; and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Parishville Town Clerk is hereby directed to forward copies of this resolution to Governor Hochul, all representatives in government, leaders of both houses and all local government.

**Supervisor Votra- Aye**

**Councilwoman Tremper- Aye**

**Councilman Sweeney- Aye**

**Councilman Cook- Aye**

**Councilman Demo- Aye**

**Resolution Adopted on September 26, 2023.**

4. Supervisor Votra shared correspondence from the New York State appointing neighboring Town Judge Kevin Fisk from the Town of Stockholm, to fill the Justice vacancy through December 31, 2023. Judge Fisk stood and addressed all in attendance and introduced himself and gave a brief history of his experience. He

spoke about how Judge Gale came to Stockholm and filled a vacancy there for a few months and helped him out as a newly appointed Judge. He is hopeful he will do Judge Gale proud and is very sad to lose such a good friend.

5. ***A motion*** was made by Councilman Sweeney and seconded by Councilman Demo to appoint Frank Sisto as Parishville Town Justice for a one-year term to start on January 01, 2024.

***All in favor.***

Mr. Sisto addressed the Town Board and all present and introduced himself and thanked the Town Board for this appointment. Mr. Sisto said he has lived here for 6 years and moved here after retirement to be near his wife's family. He and Judge Gale had made plans for Mr. Sisto to shadow him and to get familiar with the job, before a replacement might be needed. Mr. Sisto said he realizes he has big shoes to fill and will do his best to do so.

6. Supervisor Votra provided the Board members with the current budget and where each line item stands. He would like them each to look this over to see where changes should or could be made. The date for the first budget meeting will be on October 17, 2024 at 5 PM.

### **Museum:**

Historian Joe McGill gave an update on what is going on the museum and with the Historical Association. The group has been very active with a few new members. Cataloging the collections is being done and some rearranging and cleaning is being done as well. Students from the school have been visiting. The Association has some goals for the museum and they are looking for help from the Town Board to get these achieved. Getting heat into the building is the greatest need at this moment. This would require some insulation and new windows at some point as well. Supervisor Votra and Councilwoman Tremper met with this group recently and have contacted an area heating company who is looking it over for ideas. Information will be passed along as it is received.

### **Correspondence: None**

### **Highway Report:**

Highway Superintendent Hart reported the Lenney Road has been completed. Four culverts were replaced to be ready for next year's work near Joe Indian Pond and some hot patching was done as well. Brush cutting has been done and the road sand is being put up right now. The Highway Department rented a dozer locally to help with the sand. The sidewalk work will not be done this year due to the cost and lack of availability of the concrete.

***A motion*** was made by Councilwoman Tremper and seconded by Councilman Demo to accept the Highway report as given by Highway Superintendent Hart.

***All in favor.***

### **Bills:**

***A motion*** was made by Council and seconded by Council to accept the bills as follows:

1. General Account Bills -\$17,845.18

2. Highway Account Bills – \$10,059.67
3. Water District No. 1 Bills - \$49,917.69
4. Payrolls:
  - Payroll 40 – 09/30/23 (General \$5,005.47, Highway \$7,856.73, Water \$ 90.84)
  - Payroll 41 – 10/07/23 (General \$9,825.18, Highway \$8,500.47, Water \$406.40)
  - Payroll 42 – 10/14/23 (General \$5,067.99, Highway \$8,377.67, Water \$181.69)
  - Payroll 43 – 10/21/23 (General \$9,791.35, Highway \$7,942.85, Water \$438.36)

*All in favor.*

**Privilege of the Floor:**

Luke Dailey spoke about the problem with the ATVs, dirt bikes, UTVs and CanAms on the Chapel Hill Road where she lives. The noise is bothersome and constant. She brought a copy of Local Law 02- 2013 and read part of the law that she disagrees with. This part addresses the enjoyment and public benefit of allowing this vehicle traffic on town roads. She questioned the traffic on undesignated roads and why this isn't being regulated better. She understands that the highway department is having to repair and replace gravel where the traffic is high. She feels there should signs She asked respectfully that the Town Board take a look at this and try to address it.

*A motion* was made by Councilman Sweeney and seconded by Councilman Demo to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 PM.

*All in favor.*

**Meeting Dates:**

**Budget Workshop date- October 17, 2023 @5 PM**

**October 24, 2023 @ 5 PM**

**Auditors:** Councilman Cook and Councilwoman Tremper

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Connie Maguire  
Town Clerk