

## **Regular Town Board Meeting August 24, 2021**

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, Assessor and Code Enforcement Officer David Burl, Ryan Jacot-Recreation Department, Town Clerk Maguire

**Others Present:** Jahn Hitchens, Barb McBurnie, Madeline Pennington, Elbridge E. Randall, Legislator Rick Perkins, Doug Witherell, Lori Witherell, Mary Witherell, Wayne Ackley, Kurstin Stowell, Bob Phillips, Frank Sisto

*A motion* was made by Councilman Cook and seconded by Councilman Sweeney to accept the minutes of the regular meetings on June 22, 2021 and July 27, 2021 as submitted by the Town Clerk.

*All in favor.*

### **Legislator Report:**

Legislator Perkins gave a brief report on the latest meeting of the legislators which was August 2, 2021 held at the Gouverneur Fair. There were 38 resolutions passed and the usual business of contracts and budget modifications. The County Property Tax Foreclosure Auction will be held online on September 11, 2021. The preliminary 2020 Census information has been received and is showing the population of St. Lawrence County has decreased by 3.07%.

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

Code Enforcement Burl reported a slow month with permit renewal letters being sent out for permits that have not been closed out. There was one complaint received by Mr. Burl's office for uncut grass on Route 72.

*A motion* was made by Councilman Demo and seconded by Councilman Sweeney 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 12 property transfers and 1 map correction. The land/home sales so far this year appear to be approximately 25% to 35% above the assessed value of the properties.

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

*All in favor.*

**Water District Report:**

Councilwoman Tremper reported that water hydrant flushing and maintenance was done this month and there were no issues reported. Supervisor Votra reminded everyone that the Town is responsible for the service to the curb stop and after that point, any problem is the responsibility of the homeowner. The curb stop can be shut off to allow for repairs to be done.

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

*All in favor.*

**Recreation Report:**

Ryan Jacot reported a successful Summer Program with no issues reported. The Park has been busy with the hot weather. Supervisor Votra asked Mr. Jacot if the punch list for safety suggestions from St. Lawrence County for the Park and Water Plant had been taken care of. Mr. Jacot said that it had and he will get a copy of that to him this week. Cassie Hayes contacted Mr. Jacot on behalf of the Senior Class of PHCS to hold a Corn Hole Tournament at the park on September 25<sup>th</sup>. She is asking that the rink rental fee be waived. The board agreed to waive the \$100 fee.

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

*All in favor.*

**Business:**

1. Supervisor Votra reported that the new gazebo for the O'Neil project will be delivered on 08/30/21.
2. Barbara McBurnie and Madeline Pennington presented a resolution to be passed by the Town Board recognizing September 17<sup>th</sup> through September 23<sup>rd</sup> as Constitution Week as read by Supervisor Votra as follows:

***Proclamation***

*Whereas: September 17, 2021, marks the two hundred and thirty fourth anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States of America by the Constitutional Convention; and*

*Whereas: It is fitting and proper to accord official recognition to this magnificent document and its memorable anniversary, and to the patriotic celebrations which will commemorate the occasion; and*

*Whereas: Public Law 915 guarantees the issuing of a proclamation each year by the President of the United States of America designating September 17 through 23 as Constitution Week,*

*Now, Therefore I, Rodney Votra by virtue of the authority vested in me as Supervisor of the Town of Parishville do hereby proclaim the week of September 17 through 23 as*

***Constitution Week***

*and ask our citizens to reaffirm the ideals the Framers of the Constitution had in 1787 by vigilantly protecting the freedoms*

*guaranteed to us through this guardian of our liberties, remembering that lost rights may never be regained.*

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Town of Parishville to be affixed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of August of the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-one.*

**A motion** was made by Councilman Sweeney and seconded by Councilwoman Tremper to adopt the resolution for Constitution Week as presented by the Daughter's of the American Revolution.

**All in favor.**

3. Supervisor Votra indicated that he has received correspondence that the Town of Parishville will be receiving approximately \$208,000.00 from COVID relief. Part of the funds will be received this year and the rest will come next year. There will be more information coming on what this money can be spent on.
4. The work on the Museum was discussed. Insulation board and siding have been done on the front part of the Museum as well as new framing around the windows. More work is scheduled for next year and will be included in the 2022 budget.

**Correspondence:**

- 1.DANC- Monthly Summary Report-Water

**Highway Report:**

Highway Superintendent Hart reported that the Picketville Road is being prepared for next year's paving. The roads have been graded and the beaver dams have been checked and monitored for flooding. Regular equipment maintenance has been done and sidewalk repairs have been completed as well.

Town Clerk Maguire opened the only bid received for screened sand. The bid was received from Parishville Sand and Gravel for \$4.75 per ton.

**A motion** was made by Councilwoman Tremper and seconded by Councilman Sweeney to accept the bid from Parishville Sand and Gravel for screened sand for \$4.75 per ton.

**All in favor.**

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

**All in favor.**

**Recreation Committee Report:**

Councilwoman Tremper reported the soccer season has finished up and it was a successful season. She is hopeful that she has found a few younger volunteers to help with the PARC activities.

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

**Bills:**

**A motion** was made by Councilman Cook and seconded by Councilman Demo to accept the bills as follows:

1. General Account Bills – \$28,274.44
2. Highway Account Bills – \$5,573.87
3. Water District No. 1 Bills - \$1,691.29
4. Payrolls:
  - Payroll #31 - 07/31/21 (General \$12,503.30, Highway \$8,149.67, Water \$168.45)
  - Payroll #32 - 08/07/21 (General \$17,149.91, Highway \$7,979.45, Water \$331.70)
  - Payroll #33 - 08/14/21 (General \$12,033.20, Highway \$8,086.07, Water \$172.01)
  - Payroll #34 - 08/21/21 (General \$10,453.68, Highway \$8,362.46, Water \$323.63)

*All in favor.*

### **Privilege of the Floor**

Lori Witherell asked if the Town Board if they had thought about opting out of the NYS Law that would allow the legal sale of Marijuana. Supervisor Votra indicated he has no interest in opting out of the law at this time, but if it is something that is wanted, he would be willing to look into it. Mrs. Witherell provided the Town Board with documents and a sample “opt-out” law to look.

Parishville Hilltopper President, Barbara McBurnie thanked the Town Board for their continued support of the Senior Citizen Club. They were able to have a picnic at the park on August 10<sup>th</sup> and she wished to thank Ryan Jacot and his employees for their help that day. Mrs. Burnie said as a citizen of Parishville, she is proud of this town. She walks everyday and loves the atmosphere and the sidewalks are well maintained. Mrs. McBurnie said the Park is beautiful and Mr. Jacot should be proud of the appearance and upkeep that is being done.

There was a heated discussion on the Stop sign on Rosenbarker Drive. Jahn Hitchens addressed the Town Board and adamantly asked that this Stop sign issue be addressed. He suggested the Stop sign be removed and replaced by 2 Yield signs. Councilwoman Tremper said she would go down and look at the intersection again and report at the next Town Board meeting.

Frank Sisto, a Rosenbarker Drive resident, stated that he doesn't feel there is a speed problem on that private road. Mr. Sisto also said that he is very satisfied with the way the road is maintained and does not feel anything else needs to be done. There is a sign reminding motorists of the school bus stops and that is enough.

*A motion* was made by Councilman Sweeney and seconded by Councilman Cook to adjourn the meeting at 5:44 PM.

*All in favor.*

### **Meeting Dates:**

**September 28, 2021 @ 5:00 PM**

### **Auditors:**

**Councilman Sweeney and Councilman Demo**

---

Connie Maguire  
Town Clerk