

**Regular Town Board Meeting
March 26, 2020**

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,
Present by Telephone: Town Clerk Maguire

No one other than the Town Supervisor and the Town Board members were allowed into the Town Hall to attend the meeting due to the COVID- 19 virus.

A motion was made by Councilman Cook and seconded by Councilwoman Tremper to accept the minutes of the regular meeting on February 25,2020 as submitted by the Town Clerk.

All in favor.

Code Enforcement Officer Report: Tabled

Assessor's Report: Tabled

Water District Report: Tabled

Recreation Report: Tabled

Business:

1. **1. A motion** was made by Councilman Cook and seconded by Councilwoman Tremper to set the Second Notice Fee for the 2020 Town and County Taxes to \$2.00.

All in favor.

Highway Report: Tabled

Recreation Committee Report: Tabled

Supervisor Votra reported that last week after checking with the Town Board members, the Town of Parishville would be shutting down all non-essential activity within the township due to the COVID-19 virus. This is keeping with guidelines provided by St. Lawrence County and New York State. A copy of the notice posted on the website and at the Town Hall is as follows:

Effective immediately, by order of the Town Board, the Town of Parishville will be shutting down all **non-essential** activity.

Town offices will be closed to the public and all business will be conducted via phone, email and or regular mail. *Phone (315) 265-2131 or email tcp Parishville@yahoo.com*

Highway Department employees will not be required to report to work unless directed by the Highway Supervisor, and will only be called in for essential services (plowing, road clearing, etc.). *Phone (315) 265-6832 or email stevehartparishvilletown@yahoo.com*

The **Park** will remain closed until further notice, employees will only report to work at the request of the Parks and Recreation Director Jeff Woods and with approval from the Town Supervisor/Deputy Supervisor. *Phone (315) 265-8308 or email pvillewater@yahoo.com*

The **Code Enforcement** and **Assessors Office** will operate via phone and email from home, town offices will be closed until further notice. *Phone (315) 265-2131 or email burlleman@gmail.com*

The **Town Court** will be closed until further notice, anyone needing to address the Court can do so by phone or email. *Phone (315) 265-2131 (ext. 226) or email lgale@nycourts.gov*

The **Transfer Station** will operate as usual. We ask patrons, please do not congregate or engage with the attendant unnecessarily. This will help alleviate the chances of contamination through personal contact.

The regular Town Board meeting scheduled for March 24th will be held in closed session. Board members only, will meet to approve payment of necessary bills and discuss continued steps regarding the current shut down. All other business will be tabled until the Town returns to business as usual.

The Town is working with a very small group of concerned citizens in an effort to prepare for the possibility of enhanced preventative action in regards to the Coronavirus. In doing so, we are interested in gathering a list of residents that may be at higher risk and in need of assistance. If you are aware of residents in need of assistance, you can contact the **Town Supervisor's office at (315) 265-2131 extension 2** or the **Town Clerk's office at (315) 265-2131 extension 1** and leave a message that includes your name and phone number. Someone from the Town Board will return your call and assist you.

The Town Board asks that all residents exercise caution and practice preventative measures as suggested by Public Health and the CDC. We are hopeful that this pandemic will pass in a timely fashion and the Town will be able to resume business as usual.

Best wishes,
Rodney Votra
Supervisor, Town of Parishville

This policy will be revisited when decisions are made by St. Lawrence County Health.

The Town Board unanimously told Ms. Maguire to conduct business at the Town Clerk's Office as she deems necessary. The Deputy Clerk's will not be working until further notice. The Town Board is in full support of whatever is the safest for the public and her office.

New York State has shut down the Justice Courts for at least 45 days.

Employees will be paid as usual until further notice.

Bills:

A motion was made by Councilman Demo and seconded by Councilwoman Tremper to accept the bills and Clerk Report as follows:

1. General Account Bills: \$21,956.05
2. Highway Account Bills: \$17,048.36
3. Water Account Bills: \$1720.74
4. Payroll #10 – 02/29/20 (General \$4,486.11, Highway \$13,888.51, Water \$212.72)
Payroll #11 – 03/07/20 (General \$9,266.12, Highway \$ 9,266.92, Water \$496.41)
Payroll #12 – 03/14/20 (General \$3,765.14, Highway \$ 8,975.28, Water \$296.45)
Payroll #13 – 03/21/20 (General \$9,783.11, Highway \$ 9,310.44, Water \$703.91)
5. Town Clerk’s Monthly Report- Connie Maguire

All in favor.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Tremper and seconded by Councilman Cook to adopt the following resolution:

**TOWN OF PARISHVILLE
ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY
RESOLUTION NO. 03-2020**

**A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO THE GOVERNOR’S BUDGET PROPOSAL KNOWN AS
“TE PART JJ”, AMENDING THE ARTICLE 10 SITING PROCESS AND REMOVING LOCAL
MUNICIPAL INPUT ON THE SITING OF RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS**

WHEREAS, on Friday, February 21, 2020 Governor Cuomo released his 30-day amendments to the Executive Budget which included a new proposal, “TED Part JJJ”, on the siting of renewable energy facilities, which include solar, wind, and other types of renewable energy facilities, and

WHEREAS, renewable energy projects that are currently being reviewed by the Public Service Commission under a process known as “Article 10” could use this new procedure that “fast tracks” renewable energy siting procedures, and

WHEREAS, the Governor’s proposal would institute a new Article 23 of the Economic Development Law and create a new office, the Office of Renewable Energy Siting, under the Division of Economic Development which would be responsible for issuing permits for renewable energy facilities, and a decision would have to be rendered within one year of the application being deemed complete, and

WHEREAS, if the Office of Renewable Energy Siting does not make a decision within one year of the application by the developer, the application would be deemed approved. Additionally, the proposal creates Title 9-B under the Public Authorities Law, which gives NYSERDA authority to take necessary steps to secure permits, property interests and agreements to create “build-ready sites” for renewable energy projects, and

WHEREAS, the proposal removes the current Real Property Tax Law § 487(9)(a) requirement that the taxing jurisdiction (e.g.//town, school, county, etc.) notify a developer of its intent to require a

Payment in Lieu of Taxes (“PILOT”) agreement within 60 days of having received notice and, instead, NYSERDA would have to be consulted in developing PILOT agreements, and

WHEREAS, Article 10, while arguably flawed, allowed for community involvement and local municipal input in that Applicants had to create a Public Involvement Plan; hold public statement hearings and trial-type evidentiary hearings; local municipalities had intervener status and could use intervener funds for purposes related to the proposed project, and

WHEREAS, the newly proposed TED Part JJJ has removed most of these provisions in that while municipalities would still be able to apply for funds from a local agency account it’s unclear how these could be accessed, and

WHEREAS, the new budgetary proposal would remove the requirement of an applicant to have a hearing unless the municipality can raise a “substantive or significant” issue that requires adjudication, and

WHEREAS, the Public Involvement Plan under Article 10 currently requires an applicant for a renewable energy project to give the potential host community notice that an application may be forthcoming, however, under TED Part JJJ, language in the proposal would suggest that municipalities will not be given notice of a project until after the Office of Renewable Energy Siting already approves a draft permit, and

WHEREAS, under the current Article 10 process, projects 25MWs or smaller had to go through local zoning and a State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) process however the TED Part JJ proposal reduces the megawatt threshold of projects that obtain a state permit from 25MWs to 10 MWs, thus removing local municipal authority over smaller renewable energy projects,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Parishville Town Board opposes the proposition in the Governor’s Budget, released on February 21, 2020 and known as TED Part JJ, amending the Article 10 siting process and removing local input on the siting of renewable energy projects, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Town of Parishville shall forward a copy of this Resolution to Senator Patty Ritchie, Senator Joe Griffo, Senator Betty Little, Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush, Assemblyman Mark Walczyk, Assemblyman D. Billy Jones, and Assemblyman Robert Smullen..

Resolution adopted March 24, 2020 by the Town Board of Parishville.

Connie Maguire- Parishville Town Clerk

A motion was made by Councilman Sweeney and seconded by Councilwoman Tremper to adjourn the meeting at 5:15 PM.

All in favor.

Meeting Dates:

April 21, 2020 @ 5 PM

Auditors: Councilman Cook and Councilwoman Tremper

Connie Maguire
Town Clerk