

**Regular Town Board Meeting**  
**March 29, 2022**

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:** Parishville Fire Chief Ed Cool, Douglas Witherell, Legislator Rick Perkins, Barbara McBurnie, Elbridge E. Randall, Mary Witherell, Wayne Akley

*A motion* was made by Councilman Demo and seconded by Councilman Cook to accept the minutes of the regular meeting on February 22, 2022, as submitted by the Town Clerk.

*All in favor.*

**Legislator Report:**

Legislator Perkins submitted a brief summary of the March 7<sup>th</sup> Board of Legislators meeting. Councilman Cook asked if there was any progress on the cell phone service on the White Hill area. Legislator Perkins stated that it is still being worked on.

**Code Enforcement Officer Report:**

Code Enforcement Burl reported the annual Code Report has been submitted to New York State as required. Code Enforcement Officer Burl reported that he had an honest resident call him and stated that he built a larger than permitted building and wanted to pay the difference for the additional square footage. There are still honest people in the area and a thank you letter was sent from the Assessor's Office. Councilman Cook asked Code Enforcement Officer Burl to pay a visit and issue a letter for property clean up on a residence on State Route 72 and one on the Old Potsdam Parishville Road. Mr. Burl will look into this issue.

*A motion* was made by Councilwoman Tremper and seconded by Councilman Cook 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 that all the agriculture and nonprofit exemptions have been done as well as all the split parcel changes. The tentative assessment roll will be completed and turned into Real Property tomorrow morning. Assessor Burl said that a full revaluation for the Town of Parishville has not been done since 1952. He will be working with the County to get a Data Collector to help him with this project. Assessor Burl provided the Board with a list of the towns in St. Lawrence County and their equalization rates. The rate for Parishville is 5.6% which is down from 6.9% last year. Town Clerk Maguire stated that she had received lots of positive remarks about the Assessor's office during the time that Assessor Burl was out of town. He returned emails

and phone calls and kept up on his correspondence and the residents were happy with that.

*A motion* was made by Councilwoman Tremper and seconded by Councilman Demo 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 stated that it was a slow month at the park with no ice. The summer equipment is all set to go and just waiting for some warmer and drier weather to start all the outdoor work. Councilwoman Tremper indicated that the old fire station will need to be painted on the inside, a neutral color that will cover the existing decals on the walls.

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

*All in favor.*

**Business:**

1. *A motion* was made by Councilman Cook and seconded by Councilwoman Tremper to approve the \$2 Second Notice Fee for the 2022 Town and County Taxes.

*All in favor.*

**Correspondence:** None

**Highway Report:**

Highway Superintendent Hart reported a busy month with lots of plowing and sanding and on the nice days, the sand is being cleaned up. Equipment is being repaired from normal wear and tear from the winter and equipment is being prepared for the spring and summer weather ahead. The new truck cab and chassis has been delivered to Tenco to have the plow equipment installed on it. It should hopefully be ready in another 4 to 6 weeks. Phillip Remington is retiring in April and will be replaced with a part timer that has been there for 3 years.

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

*All in favor.*

**Recreation Committee Report:**

Councilwoman Tremper reported that the bitty basketball program was going great at the old fire station with no conflicts. There are more than 40 kids signed up for basketball and sign ups will be soon for t-ball and baseball. A few community members have asked

to use the facility for other uses such as a home-schooling play day. An insurance waiver for facility use was discussed and Councilwoman Tremper will look into this.

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

**Bills:**

*A motion* was made by Councilman Demo and seconded by Councilman Cook to accept the submitted Town Clerk Report and bills and payrolls as follows:

1. General Account Bills – \$278,616.36
2. Highway Account Bills – \$43,731.57
3. Water District No. 1 Bills - \$4,393.44
4. Payrolls:
  - Payroll #09- 02/26/22 (General \$9,669.17, Highway \$17,485.78, Water \$124.33)
  - Payroll #10- 03/05/22 (General \$5,540.31, Highway \$14,460.21, Water \$88.42)
  - Payroll #11- 03/12/22 (General \$8,057.89, Highway \$13,968.09, Water \$88.42)
  - Payroll #12- 03/19/22 (General \$4,073.31, Highway \$10,347.38, Water \$176.85)
  - Payroll #13-03/26/22 (General \$9,706.79, Highway \$8,996.96, Water \$705.68)

*All in favor.*

**Privilege of the Floor:**

Parishville Fire Chief Ed Cool addressed all present and reported that the Parishville Fire District, which includes the Rescue Squad, responded to 440 calls last year and 713 so far this year which ends in March. He gave each board member a spread sheet with all the calls that were made, with a breakdown of where the call was and what kind of call it was. He is aware that there are complaints among the taxpayers because many calls that are answered are in Potsdam and not all are in the Town of Parishville. There is an agreement for mutual aid in the county which stipulates that when a department is toned out to respond to a call within the county, they are expected to answer it. Supervisor Votra and Councilman Demo will join Fire Chief Cool and attend board meetings for the Village and the Town of Potsdam to see if there is anything they can do to help them out. 270 calls for Fire and EMS have been for Potsdam and 278 calls have been for Parishville. Waddington and St. Regis Falls are compensating the department when they can by making monetary donations. They are at least trying to help offset some costs. Fire Chief Cool estimated the amount of man hours the department used was over 2 million dollars and he stressed that this a volunteer department only. More volunteers are needed as with all area departments and Supervisor Votra and Fire Chief Cool are working on incentives to attract new members. The town board thanked Fire Chief Cool for bringing this eye-opening information to be discussed. Fire Chief Cool also suggested there a few fire hydrants with the town that are hard to access and could use risers installed. Councilwoman Tremper said that she would get together with Maintenance Supervisor Jacot and would look into this and possibly do a few a year.

Barbara McBurnie, Parishville Hilltopper Senior Citizen Club President thanked the town board for their continued support for their organization. The Club would like to purchase

some hanging baskets for the Town Hall and the park by the entrance sign. They would also like to purchase a tree for the O'Neil Park.

*A motion* was made by Councilman Sweeney and seconded by Councilman Demo to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 PM.

*All in favor.*

**Meeting Dates:**

**April 26, 2022 @ 5:00 PM**

**Auditors: Councilman Cook and Councilwoman Tremper**

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Connie Maguire  
Town Clerk