

Supervisor Mark Illig called the regular meeting of the Pulteney Town Board to order at 7:02 PM on Wednesday, August 10, 2016, at the Pulteney Town Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were: Supervisor Mark Illig; Councilman Mark Goodwin; Councilman Richard Musso; Councilman Michael Yastremski; Councilman Kathleen Burns; Attorney Jennifer Prossick; Highway Superintendent Terry Gibson; and Town Clerk Erica Giambra. Absent was Bookkeeper Rebecca Kirch.

Bill Weber took a moment of reflection to speak of the recent passing of Pulteney native Ed Tyler. Ed was a former President of the Hammondspport Central School Board and also worked at Taylor Wine for 35 years. He will be fondly remembered and sadly missed.

Councilman Yastremski made motion seconded by Councilman Musso to accept the minutes of the July 13, 2016 regular Board meeting. All in favor. Carried.

Although Bookkeeper Kirch was not present, she prepared and made available the monthly financial packets. Supervisor Illig asked the Board if they had any questions/comments regarding the profit and loss statements and/or balance sheet. With no questions/comments, Supervisor Illig noted there were a couple transfers this month.

In the General Account from A9010.8 to A1620.43 in the amount of \$402.00; A1410.4 to A1670.45 in the amount of \$300.00; and A7310.2 to A1620.43 in the amount of \$1,200.00. Councilman Musso made motion seconded by Councilman Burns to transfer a total of \$1,902.00 within the General Account. Roll call vote: Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Goodwin, yes; Councilman Musso, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried.

In the Water District Account from SW8310.4 to SW8340.4 in the amount of \$1,000.00 and SW8340.42 to SW8340.41 in the amount of \$1,200.00. Councilman Goodwin made motion seconded by Councilman Yastremski to transfer a total of \$2,200.00 within the Water District Account. Roll call vote: Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Goodwin, yes; Councilman Musso, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried.

There were no transfers within the Highway Account this month.

Councilman Musso made motion seconded by Councilman Goodwin to pay General Bills in the amount of \$6,530.75 being vouchers No. 16-178 to No. 16-180 and vouchers No. 16-181 to No. 16-198. Roll call vote: Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Goodwin, yes; Councilman Musso, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. Supervisor Illig commented that nothing extraordinary stood out to him and asked the Board if they had any questions, in which there were none.

Councilman Goodwin made motion seconded by Councilman Yastremski to pay Highway Bills in the amount of \$28,523.31 being vouchers No. 16-151 to No. 16-152 and vouchers No. 16-153 to No. 16-166. Roll call vote: Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Goodwin, yes; Councilman Musso, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. Supervisor Illig noted that the main expense this month for Highway was to purchase oil, in which we are able to use CHIPS funding for.

Councilman Burns made motion seconded by Councilman Musso to pay Water District #1 Bills in the amount of \$6,813.38 being vouchers No. 16-66 to No. 16-67 and vouchers No. 16-68 to No. 16-80. Roll call vote: Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman

Goodwin, yes; Councilman Musso, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried.

Regarding reports, Clerk Giambra noted as a reminder hunting licenses and doe permits are now on sale as of August 1st.

The Highway Department, Municipal Services, Water Department, DCO, and Justice report were all available to review.

Aside from his report, Municipal Services Manager Welch did not have anything further.

Water Operator Dluzak commented, as noted in his report, that we took 1,970,000 gallons of water in July compared to 1,300,000 last July. Supervisor Illig reported we are making progress with the malfunctioning operating system, with the assistance of our IT specialist and Empire, as well as with the software supplier, Aqualogics. It is a work in progress, but at least we are in fact making progress. Also, the floors have been refinished in the master meter and Roff Hill sites. Water Operator Dluzak will bring pictures of before and after for the September meeting.

Highway Supt. Gibson provided his monthly report, adding that he ordered a new grader and it will be here the beginning of next week. He spoke with the County and they plan on grinding Dug Road and Chidsey Hill Road the end of August, placing them back to gravel.

Supervisor Illig reported he spoke with Assessor Oliver and there has been (1) grievance filed to the next level. All the information has been forwarded to Attorney Prossick and further information will be provided when available.

As far as the Supervisor report, Supervisor Illig wanted to mention that at the last KWIC/KLOC meeting and as Chairman of KLOC, which controls the water gates on Keuka Lake, it was reported that the 6th gate has been removed and is in the process of being redesigned. The 6th gate was wooden and has leaked for quite some time, however most recently sprung a large leak in July and the area has been dredged for a new gate.

Supervisor Illig commented there is no Planning Board meeting scheduled for the month of August and will continue as normal with a meeting in September.

Under old business, as discussed and last month approved, the Water Dept. truck has been ordered. Depending on how long the order takes to process, for budget purposes we will discuss with the dealer, but possibly will delay the order till September so that we can pick up and pay for the truck in January. Further information to come at the September meeting.

Continuing with old business, Councilman Yastremski and Highway Supt. Gibson received a quote from Peterbilt for \$132,452.00 for the truck and \$76,740.00 from Valley Fab for the side dump body box and snow plow equipment. After much consideration and research, they decided this is the best quote available. Delivery would be early next year. With funds from the gravel pit sale and surplus income, Supervisor Illig reported the payment plan would be as follows: \$109,129.00 would be paid up front with a 2 year lease. This would involve an approx. 2% interest rate, therefore the payment plan would involve 2 payments of \$50,000.00 in addition the 2% interest rate. Councilman Burns made motion seconded by Councilman Goodwin to allow for Board authorization to purchase the truck and enter into this payment plan and purchase agreement. Roll call vote: Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Goodwin, yes; Councilman Musso, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried.

Clerk Giambra will work with Highway Supt. Gibson to place the purchase order.

Regarding the tennis courts, Councilman Yastremski is still working on and waiting for quotes from 4 different vendors for grinding down, filling in and sealing the cracks. He will report back at the September meeting, in which will be good timing in relation to budget time.

As discussed at the June and July meetings, Councilman Musso provided a quote from Armor Tuff regarding the Ambulance garage floor for \$9,250.00. In addition, he brought a second quote from Garage Floor Coating of New York for \$5,750.00. The Armor Tuff is a floating floor that would be placed on top of what is there now. The other would be actually grinding the floor down and sealing over the concrete floor. Councilman Musso stated the Ambulance Corp has decided to go ahead with the floating floor from Armor Tuff. The Fire Dep't is willing to pay 1/3, he is asking the Town to pay 1/3, and the Ambulance Corp will pay 1/3. This would entail approx. \$3100.00 from each. The Ladies Auxiliary possibly might be able to contribute as well. Supervisor Illig made motion seconded by Councilman Musso for the Town to agree to share the 1/3 expense not exceeding \$3100.00. Roll call vote: Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Goodwin, yes; Councilman Musso, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried.

Under new business, Supervisor Illig commented that Town residents have asked to speak on behalf of our Town roads. Supervisor Illig mentioned that our Highway Dept. does an outstanding job with the resources we have. They are always working on equipment and as it stands maintain the roads in present state as best they can with the approved Highway budget we have. They have a great working relationship with the Town Board and are willing to take comments and suggestions from residents.

Richard Hulse, whom took the time to travel the Town roads with Supervisor Illig recently, requested that the Highway Dept. stop oil and stoning Town roads. He stated for the last 15 years the roads have gotten worse and worse. GPS routes take travelers through the rural areas in Town, in which the roads are not meant or made for high traffic areas. Three men on a Highway Dept. cannot properly take care of all the Town roads. Don Patoine agreed that oil and stone was not meant to make a road, it does not stay. Mike Tietjen stated he can't and won't drive on his own road due to the potholes and how rough the road is, nor when his clients test drive vehicles he explains to go down the hill to the Lake road. Roger Cole commented when Gallagher road was being worked on you could never see anything in front of you and there was always nothing but dust. Highway Supt. Gibson explained now that the gravel pit has been sold and depleted we need to increase our gravel budget and buy gravel on the open market. We have bought approx. 5000 ton with approx 2000 ton left. He also stated the grader has been down for 3 weeks. In fact, the Highway Dept. would rather use gravel than oil and stone. Larry Fischer commented to the Highway Dept.'s credit, with the drought this summer it is an on going battle to maintain roads without moisture. They are in essence spinning their wheels. It was reported that Prattsburgh has 7 men and Urbana has 5 on their Highway Dept. crew. Councilman Musso agrees that the roads are sub par as he addressed at the July meeting. He believes with all the dust and dirt from the roads, it can/will lead to health issues and the roads need to be covered. It will take a lot of funding to do so, however through Legislator Mike Hanna, Senator Tom O'Mara, and Assemblyman Phil Palmesano there are possible grants that can be researched. Councilman Musso continued stating a huge

difference between Pulteney vs. Prattsburgh and Urbana is that the soil conditions are completely different. Pulteney has clay and shale rock that make it impossible to build a road. Councilman Musso believes we should have a 5 year plan in which to take the worst 20 miles and recondition the roads. We have procrastinated raising the budget and the State tax caps only make it harder, therefore we have to work with a limited budget. Highway Supt. Gibson commented that 1 mile would cost \$550,000 to build. Supervisor Illig suggested that Councilman Musso head a formal committee, including Councilman Yastremski and Highway Supt. Gibson, to develop a 5 year plan regarding road maintenance and enhancement with the present adopted budget. Also the committee is to research what funding is available. The only Highway funding that is known of at this time is CHIPS, in which we are granted \$149,000 this year. Councilman Musso will give a monthly report of where the committee stands and what results have been reached at the September meeting.

Supervisor Illig and Clerk Giambra reported they had received notice from Steuben County Planning and Development that the Board should have sent in a referral form along with the Revised Comprehensive Plan and Revised Town Zoning Law. The Board was unaware the forms were necessary, therefore with no objection from the County, the Board needs to readopt the changes. Supervisor Illig made motion seconded by Councilman Goodwin to adopt the additions of the Town Comprehensive Plan, as well as adopt the revisions of the Town Zoning Law, in accordance and agreement with the Steuben County Referral Form (G.M.L. 239-M). All in favor. Carried.

Continuing with new business, Supervisor Illig wanted to begin discussing the 2017 Town Budget. The State tax cap this year is at 1%. The present 2016 budget is within the guidelines of the 2016 tax cap, therefore residents should receive another rebate check this year based on their property assessment. Supervisor Illig wants to establish a line item in the Water Dept. Funds for system repairs. A goal of \$50,000 is ideal to account for these issues. Water rates will remain at \$125/quarter, with a 10,000 gallon limit, with an extra charge if a customer goes over that. With 363 customers currently, there is hope of eventually reducing the quarterly amount. Continuing with budget discussion, the library is established as its own tax entity and a direct line item goes to the library. The library plans on exceeding the tax cap by \$1095.00. To do this they will need to get residents signatures and be placed on the ballot and voted on in the November election. Supervisor Illig asked the Board to comment on their thoughts regarding the 1% tax cap. Councilman Burns can't understand how we will be able to operate and stay below the 1% cap. Councilman Goodwin agreed with the information he has thus far. Councilman Musso stated eventually we are headed for a huge tax increase and it is irresponsible for us to consider falling below the cap yet again as in the previous years. It will soon become a snowball effect. He stated with consideration of fixing the roads, increasing the amount of men in the Highway Dept., fixing the tennis courts etc. we need to raise a large amount of revenue. Councilman Musso believes we should raise taxes slightly now, rather than not raise and eventually they become unbearable. Supervisor Illig commented that if you took an individual poll of taxpayers, if they want their taxes raised now vs. remaining the same while providing the same level of services as this year, they would certainly say to not raise them. You would need to talk with residents long before there would be a potential change in direction of a tax increase. In addition, you would need concrete numbers and data to provide to residents,

in which would take quite an extended time to even compile. Councilman Musso believes we should not maintain with business as usual just because the Government states we have to fall within a 1% cap. John Eckel requested to speak and stated there is no way we should raise taxes. The upcoming reassessment will be bad enough along with lack of local jobs, local schools dwindling, foreclosures, etc. Supervisor Illig maintained that the plan is to provide the same level of services and be under the 1% tax cap so that taxes will not have to be raised. He will announce when the Town will have budget workshops in the near future.

Supervisor Illig and Highway Supt. Gibson noted at the end of this year the Highway Dept. Union Contract is up. As in the past, the Supervisor along with (1) Town Councilman represents our Highway Union workers. Supervisor Illig asked Councilman Goodwin to assist him in renewing/renegotiating the contract in which he agreed.

Under public comments, there was nothing further along with no need for an executive session. Supervisor Illig wanted to thank all those for attending and their welcomed comments.

Councilman Musso made motion seconded by Councilman Yastremski to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Town Clerk