

Supervisor Mark Illig called the regular meeting of the Pulteney Town Board to order at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, February 10, 2016, at the Pulteney Town Hall with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were: Supervisor Mark Illig; Councilman Mark Goodwin; Councilman Richard Musso; Councilman Kathleen Burns; Highway Superintendent Terry Gibson; Attorney Patricio Jimenez; Bookkeeper Rebecca Kirch; and Town Clerk Erica Giambra.

Supervisor Illig asked for the present public to introduce themselves as well.

Councilman Musso made motion seconded by Councilman Goodwin to accept the minutes of the January 13, 2016 organizational and regular Board meeting. All in favor. Carried.

Supervisor Illig reported on the finances and explained the Town and County tax collection procedure. He explained how in the next few weeks there will be a transfer of tax income into the proper and necessary accounts. Supervisor Illig asked the Board if they had any questions/comments regarding the profit and loss statements and/or balance sheet that were made available to view. With no questions/comments, Supervisor Illig noted there were no transfers this month.

Councilman Musso made motion seconded by Councilman Burns to pay General Bills in the amount of \$53,144.89 being vouchers No. 16-20 to No. 16-22 and vouchers No. 16-23 to No. 16-48. Roll call vote: Councilman Musso, yes; Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Goodwin, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. Supervisor Illig pointed out that the main expensive vouchers were from Workman's Compensation and Self-Insurance and to the Pulteney Free Library for tax income that was received by the Town on their behalf. This was voted on and approved in the November 2015 election.

Councilman Goodwin made motion seconded by Councilman Musso to pay Highway Bills in the amount of \$25,478.31 being vouchers No. 16-14 to No. 16-17 and vouchers No. 16-18 to No. 16-40. Roll call vote: Councilman Musso, yes; Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Goodwin, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. The main expensive voucher for the Highway was like General, the Workman's Compensation and Self-Insurance.

Councilman Burns made motion seconded by Councilman Goodwin to pay Water District #1 Bills in the amount of \$11,150.42 being vouchers No. 16-07 to No. 16-08 and vouchers No. 16-09 to No. 16-15. Roll call vote: Councilman Musso, yes; Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Goodwin, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes; Carried. Again, Workman's Compensation and Self-Insurance (which is a one time payment) is the main expense.

Regarding reports, the Highway, Water Department, Municipal Services, Historian, and Justice reports were all available to review. Clerk Giambra reported there is no dog report for January per John Ballam, DCO. Municipal Services Manager Welch commented that January was a slow month, however welcomed since activity will be picking very soon.

Highway Superintendent Gibson commented in his report they have been busy hauling in sand, ditch cleaning, cutting brush, and rebuilt the power steering pump on the Highway roller. He also reported the cost of the culvert pipe that will need replaced on the Lower Middle Road is \$32,640.00. The pipe is approximately 120ft x 6ft in length. Jeff Parker, from Steuben County Soil and Water, will be assisting with the replacement. The Highway Department will enlist current CHIPS funding to pay for the pipe. Highway

Supt. Gibson reported they have trimmed tree limbs in Glenview and Thomas Cemeteries, however he is going to bring estimates to the March meeting to hire a professional tree cutter. There are several trees that need attended to and maintained. Attorney Jimenez suggested there is a grant application the Town can apply for regarding cemetery funding and assistance. Highway Supt. Gibson and Attorney Jimenez will work together to get ideas and information on what specifically needs done with the cemeteries i.e, maintenance, surveys, tree cutting, and will report back in March. This funding would also assist to prevent the Town cemeteries from being deemed abandoned in the future. Lastly, Highway Supt. Gibson announced there will be a new retail shop in Town this spring. Supervisor Illig commented that the Planning Board did a great job and it seems from an overall Town perspective, that individuals are pleased with the outcome.

At this time Supervisor Illig introduced County Legislator Mike Hanna. Mr. Hanna had called and asked to speak regarding a few upcoming County projects. He stated the County will undergo a fairly extensive building project as there is a need for space. The additional space will be used for voting and records storage, as well as office space and a conference facility. This project will cost approximately \$8-\$9 million, in which the County will borrow half and they will use their reserve funds for the remaining half. He also stated that animal cruelty is now under the Sheriff's Department rather than the SPCA as it was before. This will allow for 24hr/7day availability. Therefore, now when you suspect or encounter an animal cruelty situation call 911. Mr. Hanna updated the Town in regards to the County landfill stating that in the future there could be some major changes. As it is now, the County landfill struggles to break even every year. They take in approx. 95,000 ton of waste when their optimum amount is 125,000 ton. One option is flow control (which can take in 130,000 ton) to mandate all County waste come thru the landfill. This however will obviously certainly hurt any competition within the County. Mr. Hanna encourages the public to come to future open hearings to voice their opinion regarding this matter. It was asked from the public if fracking waste was being taken into the landfill, in which Mr. Hanna denied stating all incoming waste is approved by the DEC.

At 7:30 pm Supervisor Illig called for the sealed 2016 Town mowing bids to be opened. A public notice was placed in the Southern Tier Shopper for 2 weeks prior to the Board meeting, explaining the Town will be receiving bids for the 2016 mowing season including what Town properties were involved. The notice also explained the bidding application process and related pertinent information. Supervisor Illig requested Clerk Giambra open the bids. There were 7 bids total. The lowest bid was for \$6,000.00 and the highest was for \$30,200.00. Supervisor Illig recommended to the Board that he and Highway Supt. Gibson discuss the bids, specifically the lower 2 or 3 bids, interview the applicants, and come back to the Board at the March meeting with a recommendation. The Board agreed this process would be sufficient. Supervisor Illig thanked all the applicants for their expressed interest.

Under old business, Supervisor Illig turned the floor over to Attorney Jimenez to discuss the library deed transfer issue. After reviewing the abstract, there are 2 reversion clauses in the deed restricting the Town to transfer the property over to the library. In the deed it states that the property would go back to the previous owner if the property was used for anything other than for Town Hall purposes. If the Town specifically is not occupying the property the land must revert back. Attorney Jimenez explained the only

realistic option is to file an Article 15, locate the decedents of the original grantor, ask them if they agree to the transfer, if yes, they would abandon the deed and waive any claim to the property. This would involve going back decades, approx 1930's. The only other option, however fairly unrealistic, is to re-survey the land so that it shows that no clauses exist that would affect the transfer. Supervisor Illig commented there will be a joint meeting between the library and the Town Board, in which Supervisor Illig will represent the Board, as to where to go from here with the current situation. To pursue anything further, file an Article 15, will obviously cost more money for the library. Supervisor Illig mentioned a possible proposal for the Town to potentially pay for half of the accruing bill as the Town did with the payment for the abstract. Alise Irwin mentioned that the library cannot apply for any funding without receiving the title for the property. She fears the momentum is dwindling and anxiety will set in if the process is delayed further. Further information and updates will be provided in March.

At the Board meeting in January it was brought up by the public and Supervisor Illig to look into "sprucing up" the Town Hall to present a more professional view. Supervisor Illig recruited Clerk Giambra and Bookkeeper Kirch to form a committee to enhance the Town Hall. The committee took the time to go over what improvements can be made, but also being economically sound in regards to purchasing. The committee made available a report that included the scope of work including contents and contracting work. Supervisor Illig read over the report highlighting items. He asked the Board of any comments or recommendations on their behalf. He stated in regards to the contents he recommend to lot a certain amount to purchase with Board approval. The committee will establish estimates for all contents and bring to the Board for review. For contracting work he recommended publishing a desire to hire a contractor on a hourly basis and have interested applicants bid the job. Mr. Hanna mentioned to also look at work crews from the County that might be available. When asked if any specific questions/concerns regarding contents/contract work from the Board, Councilman Musso asked if rather than getting new monitors and software for the Clerk and Bookkeeper, if it would be more beneficial to get entire new computers. Clerk Giambra will contact our IT consultant and get more information regarding the current computer situation. Councilman Musso made motion seconded by Councilman Burns to approve Supervisor Illig and Clerk Giambra to write a bid form proposal regarding the contract/labor work, and email the proposal to the Board members prior to publishing in the Shopper. Roll call vote: Councilman Musso, yes; Councilman Burns, yes; Councilman Goodwin, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried.

Supervisor Illig commented the Town submitted its first article in the Grapevine Newsletter that is published quarterly. Supervisor Illig agreed this was the best vehicle for the Town to use the Grapevine to provide the community members with information and updates. Supervisor Illig stated this issue focused on an introduction of the Town Board. The next issue will focus on the Town employees, and the third issue will be financial information. Councilman Goodwin asked who received this newsletter, in which Councilman Burns stated they get the mailing addresses from the Real Property Tax list for Pulteney, therefore all taxpayers should receive the newsletter. Supervisor Illig again thanked the library and Councilman Burns for their contributory efforts in publishing the Newsletter.

Supervisor Illig announced at the January Board meeting there currently is a Town Board vacancy. He called the Board of Elections to ensure proper procedures are being followed. Clerk Giambra faxed the Board of Elections Supervisor Illig's resignation as Town Councilman along with the Board approval from the December 9, 2015 meeting. It is now up to the Town Board to appoint a Councilman for the remainder of this year. Therefore, that individual will be appointed for a year but then needs to run in the November 2016 election to finish the term until December 31, 2017. Clerk Giambra published a notice regarding the Board vacancy in the Shopper that ran for 2 weeks prior to tonight's meeting. Supervisor Illig proposed the Town Board interview the interested candidates so the Board has an opportunity to ask questions of the individuals. An executive session then would be held in the Town Clerk's office. Once a vote and appointment has been made that individual will be sworn in this evening and serve beginning tonight until December 31, 2016.

The first interest candidate to speak was Jane Russell. Jane stated she has lived on Roff Hill in Pulteney since 1979. She was Town Supervisor for a 2 year term in 2011-2012. She explained she has shown the ability to organize funds, manage money, and keep to a budget. She noted when she came into office the Town bank balances were in the "red" and she turned them around to gain a profit by the time her term ended. She has shown good communication skills and has experience participating on other State Boards. Her interests in moving forward as Councilman would be to work with solar heating and have solar panels on all the Town buildings, work with the community garden and be able to distribute a full garden of vegetables to the Town, and restrict speeding on the Town roads as she was a victim of an accident due to speeding. Highway Supt. Gibson asked where she and her interests were at the time of the election this past year. She explained she wanted to allow others to get involved and a full slate of individuals ran. She also was just finishing work on one of her Board seats and now she has more free time to give to the Town Board.

Mike Yastremski was the next candidate that spoke. He has lived in Pulteney all his life and has lived on Stone Rd for the last 33 years. He was an active member on the Fire and Ambulance Corp for several years. He previously worked for the Town for over 25 years, 10 years as Highway Superintendent. He is now retired from the County and has time to contribute to the Town Board. He feels he left the Town Highway Superintendent position on his own terms and considers this Board as being a good working Board and headed in the right direction. Councilman Musso asked if he would agree to run in the election in November, in which he stated he would.

Next up was Dale Dickerson. He has lived in Pulteney since 1992 and owns a small farm. He owned a school bus company for 14 years in which he sold. He then went to work at Prattsburgh Central School as a Teacher's Assistant for 12 years until he retired. He now drives school bus for Prattsburgh part-time and works on his farm. He also has the time to give to the Town Board. Councilman Musso asked if he had any previous Board work experience, in which he commented he has not.

Enoch Conger next spoke. He is a cattle and equipment hauler to various farms. He lives on Armstrong Road. He wanted to simply see what the Town Board was all about and express an interest.

Supervisor Illig made motion seconded by Councilman Musso to adjourn the regular meeting and go into an executive session. All in favor. Carried.

Councilman Musso made motion seconded by Councilman Burns to close the executive session and return to the regular meeting. All in favor. Carried.

Supervisor Illig wanted to thank all the interested candidates and also mention that there might be in the future a need on some of our other Town Boards (Planning, Zoning, etc.) that these individuals might enjoy and make a good fit. He explained the Councilman position is \$2000.00 per year paid quarterly. At this time Supervisor Illig made motion seconded by Councilman Musso to have the Board cast their vote. All in favor. Carried.

Councilman Goodwin, Mike Yastremski; Councilman Musso, Mike Yastremski; Councilman Burns, Mike Yastremski; Supervisor Illig called the vote unanimous and hereby appoint Mike Yastremski. Clerk Giambra gave Councilman Yastremski the Oath of Office and made arrangements for all other necessary documents to be completed this week with the Town Clerk and Bookkeeper. Welcome Mike!

Supervisor Illig mentioned that the next KWIC/KLOC meeting will be in Pulteney held at the Town Hall. The meetings are held the 4th Monday of every month. Between Supervisor Illig and Councilman Goodwin sitting on the KWIC/KLOC Board, this leadership position gives Pulteney more exposure.

Clerk Giambra provided the Board with a tax collection report to date. As of February 10, 2016 the amount collected is \$2,405,230.99 and the amount unpaid is \$496,283.14. There are a total of 1,693 bills that the Town collects with 1,319 bills collected so far and 374 unpaid.

Clerk Giambra announced Thursday, March 31, 2016 is the 20th annual regional leadership conference at Corning Community College. Anyone interested should contact Clerk Giambra. This conference is beneficial for all Town Board members, including Planning and Zoning, Clerks, Justices, CEO's and all other interested officials.

Supervisor Illig mentioned Memorial Day is quickly approaching and the Town would like to include more participation. Supervisor Illig asked Councilman Burns to coordinate the event and get in touch with contacts/speakers and possibly include more Fire Departments to enhance the parade and celebration.

As asked at the January Board meeting, Supervisor Illig looked into since selling the gravel pit, if our Town insurance will go down, in which it was stated from Sprague Insurance that the gravel pit did not reflect on Town liability, therefore it will not decrease.

Under public comments and concerns, Jane Russell thanked the Highway Department for sanding, plowing, and keeping up with the Town roads and for consistently answering the phones at the Town Barn.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Town Clerk

