

Supervisor Mark Illig called the regular meeting of the Pulteney Town Board to order at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, September 14, 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; Town Clerk Erica Giambra; and Bookkeeper Rebecca Kirch.

Bill Weber took a moment of reflection to speak of the recent passing of (3) Pulteney residents. One of the legendary Grand ladies of Pulteney, Peg Fischer, passed away just shy of her 95th birthday. She established Fischer's Point, was an excellent gambler, golfer, and pioneer of Bone Builders, to name just a few accolades. Joe Sullivan lived in Pulteney over 30 years and was a neighbor of Councilman Yastremski. He was a master craftsman and builder. He also was a Veteran of the US Army and passed too soon at the age of 69. Lastly, Fred Mueller was one of the backbone members of this community. Residents like Fred are what this Town was built on. He was a farmer that led a simple life, but along with his wife Ella, gave so much. They all will be fondly remembered and sadly missed.

Councilman Musso made motion seconded by Councilman Burns to accept the minutes of the August 10, 2016 regular Board meeting. All in favor. Carried.

Supervisor Illig noted there were no transfers this month.

Councilman Musso made motion seconded by Councilman Yastremski to pay General Bills in the amount of \$8,679.20 being voucher No. 16-199 and vouchers No. 16-200 to No. 16-216. Roll call vote: Councilman Goodwin, yes; Councilman Musso, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Councilman Burns, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. Supervisor Illig commented the main expense this month for General was to pay the approved 1/3 payment for the new flooring being installed in the Ambulance building.

Councilman Goodwin made motion seconded by Councilman Musso to pay Highway Bills in the amount of \$57,787.64 being voucher No. 16-167 and vouchers No. 16-168 to No. 16-185. Roll call vote: Councilman Goodwin, yes; Councilman Musso, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Councilman Burns, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. Supervisor Illig noted that the main expense this month for Highway was to purchase road maintenance supplies, in which we will be reimbursed as we are able to use CHIPS funding.

Councilman Yastremski made motion seconded by Councilman Goodwin to pay Water District #1 Bills in the amount of \$17,194.72 being vouchers No. 16-81 to No. 16-82 and vouchers No. 16-83 to No. 16-93. Roll call vote: Councilman Goodwin, yes; Councilman Musso, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Councilman Burns, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried. The main expense for Water this month was for the previously approved repair of the floors at the Master Meter and Roff Hill sites.

Regarding reports, Clerk Giambra noted that donations are still being collected in memory of Barb Welles for a bench/gazebo in the community garden.

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 just noting it is a busy time of year.

Water Operator Dluzak commented, as noted in his report, DOH annual inspections were done last week in which everything went well and we are in good shape. He attached before and after pictures of the newly refinished floors in the Master Meter and Roff Hill sites to his monthly report. The malfunctioning operating system is almost completely fixed, with the assistance of our IT specialist and Empire, as well as with the software supplier, Aqualogics. Our chlorine analyzer is in need of fixing. The company wanted to send someone out to repair, however that would have been very costly to the Town. Water Operator Dluzak will instead send the actual analyzer to the distributor to repair. If they cannot fix in this manner we will have to look into getting quotes to buy a new one. He also reported that we are currently at 366 customers.

Highway Supt. Gibson provided his monthly report, adding the new grader is in and they have been grading and putting gravel down on roads. The County came in and ground up Dug Road and Chidsey Hill Road. Dug Road will get gravel this year and Chidsey Hill will next year. As mentioned previously, our equipment trailer is no longer serviceable and needs replaced. For the present time Highway Supt. Gibson has been using his personal trailer. He did find a possible used trailer, however he didn't pursue until he heard further from the Board. Supervisor Illig stated for Highway Supt. Gibson to go ahead and pursue with full permission to make a decision on a used equipment trailer. The funds can come out of the General fund or also in the Highway budget there is an equipment fund.

Supervisor Illig reported he spoke with Assessor Dave 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.

Along with the Justice report, Supervisor Illig noted that Judge Benedict's term is up at the end of this year and it is confirmed fortunately she will run again in November. She does an excellent job and everything runs smoothly.

As far as the Supervisor report, Supervisor Illig stated he will defer his comments till later in speaking of the budget and process.

Supervisor Illig commented that he has received some feedback regarding the website and how it has not been updated on a regular basis. Clerk Giambra sends the agenda, approved minutes and any other important information to be posted, however it does not always make it on the website in time. Supervisor Illig will contact our webmaster and see how we can improve this system.

Supervisor Illig commented the Planning Board met this past Monday and there is no Planning Board meeting scheduled for the month of October due to the Columbus Day holiday. There will be a meeting as normal in November and the Planning Board has scheduled Steuben County Planning and Development to come and discuss solar power. Municipal Services Manager Welch reported there currently is an interest in establishing a solar field near Stever Hill winery. It would be for private use not commercial. The plans are on hold currently as he told the interested parties it would at least be until November (after the Planning Board meeting) before any permit would be issued and until solar procedure is discussed with the County.

Supervisor Illig reported the Zoning Board is up to date with all recent applications concluded. Nothing new on the horizons.

Under old business, Highway Supt. Gibson reported that the new truck and all season body have both been ordered so now its just a matter of time in waiting. Also, financial arrangements still need to be finalized.

At the August meeting, the condition of the Town roads were brought up by the public stating they were in general sub par and need improvement. Councilman Musso volunteered to head a committee to look into how we can improve our Town roads while maintaining financial responsibility. Councilman Musso stated Councilman Yastremski, Highway Supt. Gibson, and himself have met on a few occasions in which they mainly concentrated on looking at gravel roads. Thanks to Councilman Yastremski, he provided a detailed color coded map of all our Town roads and how many miles in length they are. It specifies which roads are black top; oil and stone; and gravel. Councilman Musso reported there are approx 12 1/2 miles of road that the committee would like to bring up from gravel to oil and stone. The cost per mile will depend on how much base is needed. The committee will have to look at the condition of those 12 1/2 miles, get a ball park figure on how much it will cost and go from there, including researching what programs are available to assist with the cost. Councilman Musso spoke with Legislator Mike Hanna who stated the County has grant writers that could assist the Town, in addition set up a meeting with Vince Spagnoletti, Commissioner of the County Public Works Dept. Clerk Giambra mentioned that at the August meeting it was stated by residents that oil and stone was not ideal for road construction and maintenance. Councilman Musso agreed, however after researching concluded that this is at least what we can do for the time being, especially taking dirt roads up to oil and stone. Councilman Musso stated we need to continue with the idea of a 5 year plan and set up maintenance and new construction schedules. Councilman Musso will continue to give a monthly report and update the residents of the availability and progress finding external income.

Regarding the tennis courts, Councilman Yastremski expressed how difficult it has been to get vendors to come up and look at the courts. He did finally receive 4 different quotes. EZ Paving out of Fulton provided 2 separate quotes, which were made available to the Board explaining what the proposals include. The first quote was for \$31,800.00. This would entail (AFTER the Town routed and repaired the cracks) color surfacing while applying an armor crack repair system. The second quote was for \$18,600.00. This is to repair the cracks and have an over lay. Fortunately, Councilman Yastremski also found less expensive quotes to seal, fill cracks, heat, and bring back up to make the courts safe again. Larry's Paving out of Corning quoted the Town for \$1200.00, while Allison Asphalt out of Avoca quote was \$800.00. Councilman Yastremski explained it all depends on what we want to do with the courts. The paint is still good, but there is approx. 700ft of cracks. He suggests at least this year to efficiently seal, in which now is the time to do when the cracks are the widest before it gets cold. It has been noted it could potentially cost over \$100,000 to completely redo the courts so he recommends we try this first to see if we can bring the cracks back up to level again. This obviously would be the least expensive option, while hopefully making the courts safe for now and down the road. Councilman Burns expressed concern that we have tried sealing the courts in the past and we are back where we started continuing trying to "repair" the cracks, which has appeared to be a waste of time and money. She believes they need to finally be fixed correctly. Councilman Yastremski stated when they were sealed in the past, that is all that was done. The process of filling in cracks, heating, and then bringing

to level was not attempted. Supervisor Illig suggested to the Board they authorize Councilman Yastremski to try to repair the cracks up to \$2000.00, in which if that does not work the Board will need to take a strategic look at the future of the courts. Councilman Musso made motion seconded by Councilman Goodwin to accept this suggestion and authorize Councilman Yastremski to continue with the above said. Roll call vote: Councilman Goodwin, yes; Councilman Musso, yes; Councilman Yastremski, yes; Councilman Burns, yes; Supervisor Illig, yes. Carried.

Under new business, Supervisor Illig wanted to further discuss the 2017 Town Budget, in particular the actual tax cap process. The State tax cap this year is at .68%, in which Supervisor Illig reported at the August meeting it was a misinformed 1%. Attorney Prossick reviewed and explained the tax cap process, along with charts that outlined the timeline for a tentative Town budget that requires a tax cap override. It is expected we will be able to maintain and provide the same services in 2017, while still falling under this .68% difficult tax cap. Other budget material was made available, including an overall calendar of timelines for the budget process and a report from the Office of the NYS Comptroller. This report confirms that 2017 will again present the challenge of dealing with limited property tax levy growth to fall within the tax cap. Supervisor Illig believes the main goal of the tax cap, which is a mandate from the State, is to consolidate government and schools. In all essence, to decrease the number of municipalities and schools. The tax cap is present to financially starve local Towns. In reviewing the charts and calendars, Supervisor Illig confirmed with Attorney Prossick it is still possible to move along with the budget at our scheduled regular meetings. Bookkeeper Kirch will begin to establish expenses, while herself and Supervisor Illig will meet with all 3 department heads. 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 plan to remain at \$125/quarter, with a 10,000 gallon limit, with an extra charge if a customer goes over that. With 366 customers currently, there is hope of eventually reducing the quarterly amount. Continuing with budget discussion, Supervisor Illig stated he will present the tentative budget at the October Board meeting, in which once reviewed and revised as needed, will be voted on to become the preliminary budget. After this occurs a hearing will be set for the November Board meeting, in which to adopt the final budget. Councilman Musso questioned Supervisor Illig if he is going to have a separate budget workshop, in which he said he will not. The workshop will be a part of the October regular meeting. The Board requested that Supervisor Illig send the tentative budget to all Board members a week before the October meeting so they have time to review. Supervisor Illig stated he will certainly make sure they have all necessary budget documents a week prior.

Under public comments, there was nothing further from the public, however Highway Supt. Gibson did want to discuss when Attorney Jimenez was here this past spring, he mentioned there are grants available that we could look into getting to survey Glen View Cemetery. We are extremely low on space and without a proper survey we do not know exactly where the property boundaries are for us to use for additional space. Supervisor Illig asked what a typical survey of this magnitude would cost, in which Attorney Prossick stated it should be anywhere between \$500-\$1000, but not more than that. Supervisor Illig commented this would be a wise investment and that Clerk

Giambra and himself will contact a surveyor to get an estimate and move forward with this plan without waiting for and/or attempting to receive a grant.

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 Burns to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Town Clerk