

April 23, 2020

The Newfield Town Board was held via the ZOOM platform due to the COVID-19 pandemic April 23, 2020, at 7:04 PM. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Michael Allinger and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag lead by Councilperson Laughlin.

Present were: Supervisor Michael Allinger, Councilperson Joanne James, Councilperson Christine Laughlin, Councilperson Casey Powers and Councilperson Heather McCarty. Also present were Bookkeeper Blixly Taetzch, Town Clerk-Karen Miller Kenerson and Susie Chaffee

Agenda Additions- none

Communications

Newfield Public Library Director Susie Chaffee stated the Library is still not circulating materials through the library. She commented at the last food pantry the library passed out sanitized DVD's and cookbooks that normally would have been sold at the spring book sale. Tech classes, story time and an after-school programs are being well attended via Zoom. Mrs. Chaffee also commented the Old Homes Day Committee would be meeting on April 28th and the decision would be made if there would be an Old Homes Day this year. The Town Clerk stated the blue box on the Town Hall porch is accepting homemade masks for distribution.

Supervisor Allinger stated he had received a request from the Newfield Senior All Night Party committee requesting permission to hang banners with pictures of the graduating seniors on the light poles in the hamlet on Main Street. Supervisor Allinger will speak to Highway Superintendent Berggren.

Supervisor Allinger reported the County is in a holding pattern regarding summer camps.

Supervisor Allinger stated the County has approached the Town regarding several tax foreclosure properties. This will be a business agenda item.

Councilperson James commented the Mill Park Music Series is postponed at the moment.

Terry Carroll will be presenting on Climate Smart Communities at the May 14, 2020 Business Meeting.

Councilperson Laughlin reported the Health Care Insurance Consortium will be covering COVID 19 testing member employees.

Councilperson Powers commented on a communication from Cathy Covert regarding \$273,897 COVID aid to be received from the State. This hasn't been fully ratified yet.

Junk Code Officer Randy Brown submitted his plan of procedure letter to Supervisor Allinger. Supervisor Allinger and Blixly will restructure the letter.

Animal and Noise Law Update- 2 Planning Board Members are willing to work on those.

County Tax Foreclosures

Supervisor Allinger stated he has received notice from Tompkins County of properties in Newfield that will be going up for foreclosure sale: Beach Road, parcels on Rt 13 and the storm water ponds on Short Lane and Van

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Ostrand Road. Beach Road- It was felt this property really does not benefit the Town taking over. Route 13 parcels-It was felt this was not the right time to take on more land. Castle Peak Storm water ponds on Short Lane and Van Ostrand Roads, Supervisor Allinger commented the Town of Danby has a similar situation with storm water ponds and is creating a Storm Water District where the maintenance cost of the storm water pond district is levied onto the adjoining property tax bill. It was proposed to have a meeting with the neighboring properties to discuss the situation and possible solutions.

Old Business

Employee Manual- no update

Capitol Improvement- Supervisor Allinger commented on a discussion brought to him regarding a property for sale on Main St. It was suggested the Planning Board look into possible plan for uses for the property and or a plan for purchase.

Budget- Boiler replacement for the Town Hall before the next cold season. Councilperson McCarty suggested a new heating system could be part of Smart Climate work.

Facebook- Councilperson McCarty suggested sharing the Newfield page to friends to promote more views.

Internet Service- Supervisor Allinger suggested working on improving broadband internet service for Newfield.

At 8:23 PM a motion was made by Councilperson Powers to adjourn, seconded by Councilperson McCarty.

Respectfully Submitted,

May 14, 2020

Karen Miller Kenerson
Newfield Town Clerk