

June 11, 2020

The Newfield Town Board Business Meeting was held via the ZOOM platform due to the COVID-19 pandemic June 11, 2020, at 7:05 PM. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Michael Allinger and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag led by Councilperson Laughlin.

Present were: Supervisor Michael Allinger, Councilperson Joanne James, Councilperson Christine Laughlin, Councilperson Casey Powers and Councilperson Heather McCarty. Also present were Planning Board Members: Leo Tidd, Jim Haustein, Brenda Lapp, Building Code Enforcement Officer Alan Teeter, Bookkeeper Blix Taetzch, Town Clerk-Karen Miller Kenerson.

**Agenda Additions and Approval-** No additions were offered

**Communications-** None

### **Presentations**

*Ryan Schumacher- Part 2 of his Eagle Scout Project-* Ryan asked to add a memorial bench honoring DeJour Grandy to his Eagle Scout project in the Mill Park. The original project includes fixing the broken water line and making the drinking fountain handicap accessible. The bench would be placed near the upper section of the park near the sidewalk. The Board requested a written proposal, sketch of the bench and a rough draft of the dedication plaque.

*Norm Aidun- Girl Scout service badge projects for approval.* Mr. Aidun was absent, Supervisor Allinger reported the projects for approval included a swinging seat, team benches for the football and soccer fields and planter boxes. The Board Members are all in support of the proposed project. The Scouts will be asked to submit plans for their projects for presentation at the next Board Meeting.

### **Approval of May Board Meeting Minutes**

Motion was made by Councilperson Laughlin to approve the May 14 & 28, 2020 Business and Board Meeting Minutes, seconded by Councilperson Powers.

Vote	AYES	5	Allinger, James, Laughlin, Powers and McCarty
	NAY	0	

Carried

### **Approval of Abstract 6 Vouchers**

Motion was made by Councilperson Laughlin to approve the payments, seconded by Councilperson McCarty. The Board authorized the payments of the following amounts:

General Fund	\$18,420.78
Recreation	\$7,952.14
Highway Fund	\$258,302.25
Streetlight Fund	\$734.96

June 11, 2020

Sewer Fund	\$1,020.40
Water District 1 Fund	\$2,704.27
Water District 2 Fund	\$3,277.20
Trust & Agency	\$3,149.72

Vouchers were audited by Councilpersons Laughlin and McCarty

Vote	AYES	5	Allinger, James, Laughlin, Powers and McCarty
	NAY	0	

Carried

## REPORTS

*Highway-* Highway Superintendent Berggren was absent. Supervisor Allinger reported the Highway Department has finished ditching on Cayutaville, Black Oak and Tower Roads. Cross Culverts were installed on Douglas, Fishkill, Irish Hill Roads and Stone Haven Circle.

Drain tile on Cayutaville and Jackson Hollow Roads. Dirt roads were graded and roadside mowing has begun. Cross Culverts will be installed on Burdge Hill Road next week, this will include temporary road closure.

*Water/Sewer Department-* no report

*Recreation-* no report, Recreation Department is on hiatus. Due to the COVID 19 Recreation Director Kuzchek is furloughed for the time being.

*Building Code Enforcement-* Alan Teeter reported 6 building permits had been issued: 1 garage/shop, 1 new home, 1 ramp, 1 new roof, 1 deck and 1 remodel basement conversion. Mr. Teeter reported construction is back in full swing and he is conducting inspections with PPC.

*Finance & Personnel-* Bookkeeper Taetzsch provided a written report reviewing the May 2020 financials, Budget Modifications, Final Town Audit Draft, financing for culvert project, Draft Personnel Manual, Summer camp deposits have been returned, Summer Beautification/Youth Employment Program and programs funded by the Brown Family fund.

*Planning Board-* Planning Board Chairperson Leo Tidd reported the Site Plan Review for Mid-State Basement to build a storage building was approved. Mr. Tidd stated he hoped to hear from Cornell Connect in the fall, and that the New York State Main Street Program is on hold due to COVID.

*EMC-* Michelle Henry reported there had been a presentation by an entomologist regarding ants and their migration due to climate change. Sub-Committees have been established for data centers to fund power stations on the lake.

*TCCOG-* Councilperson James reported there was nothing to report at this time.

*Supervisor Report-* Supervisor Allinger reported the culvert project would be beginning soon and work would take place thru August. Supervisor Allinger will update on the town website. Supervisor Allinger also reported the Cayuga Lake Watershed project is requesting information for water quality and restoration for future grant projects. Michelle Henry will lead a tour of the effected creek areas in Newfield. Supervisor Allinger and Councilperson Laughlin and others will be meeting with the Tompkins County Hazard Mitigation Planners. Supervisor Allinger stated he had received communication from a neighboring property owner of the Short

June 11, 2020

Lane storm water pond asking about the Town mowing and overgrown trees. Supervisor Allinger reported he had been contacted regarding a junk situation on Van Buskirk Road. Supervisor Allinger stated he had reached out to Casey Mastro from NYPA regarding the NYSEG offer regarding streetlights. Next steps would involve new lease agreements from NYSEG and purchase agreements to review. Open Meeting Laws- Supervisor Allinger stated the Town Board is authorized to hold in person meetings provided social distancing can be observed with limited attendance and video/audio conferencing. CDC advises limiting 10 persons or less. Nothing definitive from New York State yet. The water study is 85% complete, best option is a ground water supply well. Infiltration/outflow study is ongoing, with an updated engineering report to come.

**ACTION ITEMS**

*Approval of June 2020 Budget Modifications*

**RESOLUTION NO. 37-2020 – Approval of June 2020 Budget Modifications**

WHEREAS, it is necessary to modify the 2020 budget based on updated estimates of revenues and expenses in 2020, and

WHEREAS, a detailed listing of each budget adjustment by Fund has been provided below, be it therefore **RESOLVED**, that the Newfield Town Board approves the budget modifications as outlined below.

Account #	Account Name	Original Budget	Increase/ (Decrease)	Modified Budget
<b>GENERAL FUND EXPENSES</b>				
A1110.112	Town Justice - Court Clerks	\$ 30,960.00	\$ (2,250.00)	\$ 28,710.00
A1110.19	Town Justice - Emergency Closing	\$ 2,320.00	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 4,570.00
A1410.11	Town Clerk - Deputy Clerk	\$ 18,475.00	\$ (1,730.00)	\$ 16,745.00
A1410.19	Town Clerk - Emergency Closing	\$ 1,525.00	\$ 1,730.00	\$ 3,255.00
A3310.1	Traffic Control - Personal Services	\$ 3,960.00	\$ (590.00)	\$ 3,370.00
A3310.19	Traffic Control - Emergency Closing	\$ 480.00	\$ 590.00	\$ 1,070.00
A1610.413	Central Services - Office Supplies	\$ 2,500.00	\$ (100.00)	\$ 2,400.00
A1610.499	Central Services - Other Contractual	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 2,100.00
A5010.11	Superintendent of Highways - Clerk	\$ 11,033.00	\$ (660.00)	\$ 10,373.00
A5010.19	Superintendent of Highways - Emergency Close	\$ 680.00	\$ 660.00	\$ 1,340.00
Total Expenditure Adjustments			\$ -	

<b>RECREATION FUND EXPENSES</b>				
CR7020.1	Recreation Admin - Personal Services	\$ 24,000.00	\$ (1,050.00)	\$ 22,950.00
CR7020.19	Recreation Admin - Emergency Closing	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 2,050.00
Total Expenditure Adjustments			\$ -	

<b>HIGHWAY FUND EXPENSES</b>				
DA5130.499	Machinery - Misc Contractual	\$ 15,000.00	\$ (10,000.00)	\$ 5,000.00
DA5130.463	Machinery - Repairs	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
Total Expenditure Adjustments			\$ -	

June 11, 2020

Motion was made by Councilperson James approving the June 2020 budget modifications as presented. Motion seconded by Councilperson Laughlin

Vote	AYES	5	Allinger, James, Laughlin, Powers and McCarty
	NAY	0	

Carried

### *Climate Smart Community Pledge*

Councilperson James moved the adoption of the Climate Smart Communities Pledge and Councilmember Powers seconded that

#### Resolution No. 38-2020 Climate Smart Communities Pledge

WHEREAS, the effects of climate change may endanger our infrastructure, economy and livelihoods; harm our farms, orchards, and ecological communities, including native fish and wildlife populations; spread invasive species and exotic diseases; reduce drinking water supplies and recreational opportunities; and pose health threats to our citizens; and

WHEREAS, we believe that our response to climate change provides us with an unprecedented opportunity to save money, and to build livable, energy-independent and secure communities, vibrant innovation economies, healthy and safe schools, and resilient infrastructures; and

WHEREAS, we believe the scale of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions required for climate stabilization will require sustained and substantial efforts;

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that Town of Newfield, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate, adopts the New York State Climate Smart Communities pledge, which comprises the following ten elements:

- 1) Build a climate-smart community.
- 2) Inventory emissions, set goals, and plan for climate action.
- 3) Decrease energy use.
- 4) Shift to clean, renewable energy.
- 5) Use climate-smart materials management.
- 6) Implement climate-smart land use
- 7) Enhance community resilience to climate change.
- 8) Support a green innovation economy.
- 9) Inform and inspire the public.
- 10) Engage in an evolving process of climate action.

Councilmember James moved the adoption of the Climate Smart Communities Pledge and Councilmember Powers seconded that

Discussion-Councilperson James thanked Councilperson McCarty for the resolution's modifications.

Councilpersons McCarty and Powers will co-chair the Climate Smart Committee, reporting to the Board quarterly.

June 11, 2020

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Carried

*Hamlet Beautification ROOP and Funding Confirmation*

Funding has been confirmed by Bookkeeper Taetzsch with a disbursement document provided to the Board. Rebecca Roe, the Hamlet Beautification Youth Supervisor has met with Ms. Taetzsch regarding ROOP. Ms. Roe will provide a written plan to Ms. Taetzsch.

**OLD BUSINESS**

*Draft Personnel Manual-* Board Members and Supervisory personnel were given draft copies of the proposed personnel manual for review prior to its formal Board review June 25<sup>th</sup>.

*Subdivision Law-* Supervisor Allinger commented the need to move the Subdivision draft law forward. Motion to hold a public hearing July 9, 2020 for public opinion and comment regarding proposed Local Law No. 2-2020 and second public hearing for the water study review by Councilperson Laughlin, seconded by Councilperson Powers.

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Carried

**NEW BUSINESS**

*Mill Park Music Series-* Councilperson James reported 3 concerts are scheduled: July 29- Richie & Rosie, August 12- JP Payton & EC Tiger and August 26-Whistlingville. Councilperson James stated spaces will be marked out for social distancing, masks will be required, and the time will be shortened to 6:00 - 7:30 PM.

Councilperson James noted an incomplete sentence for the May 14, 2020 minutes. Town Clerk Kenerson will complete the sentence to correct. The May 14, 2020 minutes will be resubmitted for reapproval at the July 9, 2020 meeting.

At 8:18 PM a motion was made by Councilperson Powers to adjourn, seconded by Councilperson Laughlin.

Respectfully Submitted,

June 25, 2020

Karen Miller Kenerson  
Newfield Town Clerk