

August 13, 2020

The Newfield Town Board Business Meeting was via the ZOOM platform due to the COVID-19 pandemic August 13, 2020, at 7:01 PM. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Michael Allinger and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag led by Councilperson Christine Laughlin.

Attending were: Supervisor Michael Allinger, Councilperson Joanne James, Councilperson Christine Laughlin, Councilperson Casey Powers and Councilperson Heather McCarty. Also attending were Planning Board Members: Leo Tidd, Jim Haustein, Bookkeeper Blixxy Taetzch, Town Clerk Karen Miller Kenerson, Attorney Tom Smith and 11 others

**Agenda Additions and Approval-** Councilperson Powers asked to add Smart Climate Task Force to Old Business.

**Privilege of the Floor-** none

**Communications and Supervisor Report:** Supervisor Allinger reported the Main Street Culvert project was in the final phase and that there would be 2 weeks of single lane traffic.

**Approval of July 9, 2020 Public Hearing, July 9, 2020 Business Meeting & July 23, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes**

Motion was made by Councilperson Laughlin to approve July 9, 2020 Public Hearing, July 9, 2020 Business Meeting and July 23, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes, seconded by Councilperson Powers.

May 14 and June 11, 2020

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

                  NAY     0

Carried

**Approval of Abstract 08 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	\$26,922.13
Community Park	\$1,400.00
Recreation	\$100.61
Highway Fund	\$147,081.29
Streetlight Fund	\$2,572.01
Sewer Fund	\$15,000.00
Water District 1 Fund	\$25,888.33
Water District 2 Fund	\$22,513.77
Trust & Agency	\$4,216.66

Vouchers were audited by Councilpersons Laughlin and McCarty

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

Carried

## REPORTS

*EMC-* Michelle Henry reported there are harmful algae blooms on the lake and that EMC is on summer break. Ms. Henry reported creek samples had been collected and that the next sampling would be in October 2020.

*Planning Board-* Jim Haustein reported that due to Covid the Cornell Connect Project with the Newfield Planning Board has been bumped.

*Highway-* Highway Superintendent Berggren was on vacation. Supervisor Allinger reported the bid opening for the laminated wood decking had taken place earlier in the day, there was one bid of \$21,309.00. Motion to table approval decision until the August 27, 2020 meeting.

*Recreation-* Recreation Supervisor Austen Kuzcek reported he has submitted plans for reopening fall sports to the Tompkins County Health Department. September 6, 2020 there will be a golf tournament at the Trumansburg Gold Course to benefit the Recreation Department.

*Code Enforcement-* CEO Alan Teeter reported he issued 10 building permits for July: 5 new roofs, 1 pool, 2 decks, 1 pole barn and 1 foundation repair. Mr. Teeter also reported he has been taking online classes to maintain his State Certificate and that he also just had completed sexual harassment training. Mr. Teeter also stated he had received a call regarding replacing fuel tanks at Sunny's Convenience.

*Tomkins County Legislature-* Representative David McKenna reported the budget committee had met and project there may be a 6-11-million-dollar deficit for 2020. Budget meeting dates are set and are posted on the County website

*Finance & Personnel-* Bookkeeper Taetzsch provided a written report reviewing the July 2020 financials, July Budget Modifications, Recreation Program and 2021 budget preparations.

## ACTION ITEMS

*NYS DEC Request to acquire land in the Connecticut Hill area*

Supervisor Allinger reported New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has requested the Town's approval to purchase open space on Connecticut Hill on the corner of Carter Creek and Rowell Hill Roads to add to the State Lands.

Motion was made by Councilperson Powers that the Town of Newfield NY has not objection to the NYS DEC to proceed with purchasing property on Carter Creek and Rowell Hill Roads by Councilperson James

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

Carried

August 13, 2020

*Subdivision Review Law*

Resolution No. 41- 2020

WHEREAS, the Town of Newfield proposes to enact a Local Law regarding subdivisions (the “Local Law”)

WHEREAS, pursuant to the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act, Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law and associated regulations including 6 NYCRR 617.7, et seq, ( “SEQRA”) the Town is required to undertake a review of potential environmental impacts associated with the Local Law;

WHEREAS, the Town has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment Form regarding the Local Law including Parts 1 and 2 (the “EAF”)

WHEREAS, based upon the information contained in the EAF and the knowledge and review of the Town Board members and after due deliberations;

NOW, THEREFORE, upon motion duly made by Councilperson James and seconded by Councilperson McCarty it is

BE IT RESOLVED, as follows;

Upon a thorough review and due consideration of the EAF, which the Town now adopts, the Town makes the following findings:

- 1.The Town has considered the Local Law pursuant to the criteria set forth in applicable law and regulation, including SEQRA;
- 2.The Town has taken a hard look at possible environmental impact of the Local Law pursuant to SEQRA regulations;
- 3.The Town determines, for those reasons set forth in the EAF, that the Local Law will have no significant negative environmental impact and hereby issues a negative declaration under SEQRA

Vote

AYES	5	Allinger, James, Laughlin, McCarty and Powers
NAYS	0	

Carried

*Motion to adopt Local Law No. 2- 2020- SUBDIVISION CONTROL REGULATIONS FOR THE TOWN OF NEWFIELD, NEW YORK- SUBDIVISION REVIEW LAW*

Motion was made by Councilperson Powers to enact Local Law No. 2-2020 Subdivision Control Regulations for the Town of Newfield New York- Subdivision Review Law, seconded by Councilperson James

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

Carried

*Authorize Supervisor to pay Main Street Culvert project application # 2*

Supervisor Allinger requested approval to pay the Main Street Culvert Project contractor the application 2 payment prior to the September Business meeting (abstract 9).

Motion was made by Councilperson Laughlin authorizing Supervisor Allinger to pay the Main Street Culvert Project Application 2 payment prior to the September Business meeting, motion seconded by Councilperson James.

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

Carried

*August 2020 Budget Modifications*

RESOLUTION NO. 40-2020 – Approval of August 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 REVENUE</b>				
A2705	Gifts and Donations	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 8,500.00
<b>Total Revenue Adjustments</b>		\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 8,500.00
<b>GENERAL FUND EXPENSES</b>				
A7310.4	Youth Programs - Hamlet Beautification	\$ 6,500.00	\$ (5,500.00)	\$ 1,000.00
A7310.1	Youth Programs - Personnel Services	\$ -	\$ 6,700.00	\$ 6,700.00
A7310.41	Youth Programs - Student/Family Garden	\$ -	\$ 2,300.00	\$ 2,300.00
<b>Total Expenditure Adjustments</b>			\$ 3,500.00	

Account #	Account Name	Original Budget	Increase/ (Decrease)	Modified Budget
<b>HIGHWAY FUND EXPENSES</b>				
DA4130.46	Machinery - Parts	\$ 40,000.00	\$ (15,000.00)	\$ 25,000.00
DA5130.462	Machinery - Tires	\$ 15,000.00	\$ (5,000.00)	\$ 10,000.00
DA5130.463	Machinery - Repairs	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 70,000.00
<b>Total Expenditure Adjustments</b>			\$ -	

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Account #	Account Name	Original Budget	Increase/ (Decrease)	Modified Budget
RECREATION FUND EXPENSES				
CR9010.8	State Retirement	\$ 4,565.00	\$ (705.00)	\$ 3,860.00
CR9040.8	Worker's Compensation	\$ -	\$ 705.00	\$ 705.00
Total Expenditure Adjustments			\$ -	

Account#	Account Name	Original Budget	Increase/ (Decrease)	Modified Budget
COMMUNITY PARK REVENUE				
CD2-599	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 18,600.00
Total Revenue Adjustments			\$ 1,100.00	\$ 18,600.00
COMMUNITY PARK EXPENDITURES				
CD2-7110.4	Parks - Contractual	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 18,600.00
Total Expenditure Adjustments			\$ 1,100.00	\$ 18,600.00

Motion was made by Councilperson James approving the August 2020 budget modifications as presented, motion seconded by Councilperson Powers.

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

Carried

*Approve bid on Beach Street Bridge decking*

*Tabled until the August 27, 2020 meeting*

*Approve Sale of Highway Equipment sold at auction*

Motion was made by Councilperson Laughlin to accept the sale prices for surplus items that were sold at Auctions International, seconded by Councilperson Powers.

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

Carried

**OLD BUSINESS**

August 13, 2020

*Discussion of Internet in the Town with guest Eric Hartz*

Acting Newfield School District Superintendent Eric Hartz spoke of his concerns for the need of reliable cell and internet service because of the pandemic. Mr. Hartz shared the results of a survey the school taken by the school regarding internet: 30% reported no reliable internet, 30% reported no access, 61% reported no highspeed internet, 42% reported no reliable cell service at home.

Mr. Hartz reported 20% of families have opted to keep their children home with virtual schooling. Mr. Hartz stated he will be involved with Senator O'Mara's efforts for rural internet improvements. Supervisor Allinger reviewed the build out map from Clarity Connect. Mr. Richard Driscoll suggested inviting Chuck Bartosh from Clarity Connect to come speak with the Board.

*Smart Climate Task Force-* Councilperson Casey Powers reported she and Councilperson Heather McCarty had met. A document will be drafted to be put onto the Town website looking for residents to participate.

*Discussion of the Newfield Recreation Fields*

*Van Kirk Road Park-* Norm Aidun reported the soccer fields were prepared the past Saturday and are ready for modified and up teams, although the goals are short. Football fields had been laid out, Basketball Court has been striped and GPS coordinates have been set, all that is needed are the rims and nets. The score board is being built by the Pawlewicz family. The benches have been set and anchored. He is looking to have pole guards donated. The baseball field backstop is put together holes being augured; cement will need to be ordered. Mr. Aidun commented he would like to have feedback regarding the niceties list he provided. Mr. Aidun also requested a discussion regarding park use and access. Supervisor Allinger commented he had spoken to the Director of the Tompkins County Health Department and then reviewed the Tompkins County Health Department guidelines for sports and recreation reopening. At this point no organized football or basketball games can be played. Soccer and baseball can move forward with social distancing in place. The Town will order signs to be placed at the fields regarding use with social distancing.

Councilperson McCarty commented she felt Covid symptoms need to be clarified before the fields are open for use. Mr. Aidun suggested the Town keep the community updated regarding the park progress via social media. Councilperson James asked if there would be a ribbon cutting ceremony for the opening. Mr. Aidun suggested to have a soft opening this year and then have a nice opening next year.

*Discussion of the Water Study Findings and status of the Water Districts*

Supervisor Allinger reported the pump from the Pine Circle well could not be pulled and that the Town needed to move forward getting Pine Circle Well #3 online. Supervisor Allinger stated he had gotten an extension of 60 days for the Community Block Development Grant with a letter of verification from Hunt Engineers. Supervisor Allinger discussed the possibility of a new capital project where the Town taking on debt and levying it as a user fee in water rates.

**NEW BUSINESS-** none

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At 9:11 PM a motion was made by Councilperson Laughlin to move into an Executive Session to discuss pending legal litigation, seconded by Councilperson McCarty.

At 9:23, the Meeting was called back to the Regular Meeting of the Newfield Town Board. Councilperson Laughlin offered a motion to move to adjournment at 9:23 PM seconded by Councilperson Powers.

Respectfully Submitted,

August 20, 2020

Karen Miller Kenerson  
Newfield Town Clerk