

The June 10, 2021 regular business meeting was held via Zoom in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order 202.1. Meeting instructions were on the Town website.

Present via Zoom: Michael Allinger, Supervisor, Councilmembers- Joanne James, Christine Laughlin, Heather McCarty, Casey Powers, Town Bookkeeper Blixey Taetzsch, Town Attorney Tom Smith, Town Clerk Karen Miller Kenerson and 3 others.

Supervisor Allinger called the Town Board Meeting to order at 7:00 PM, Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilperson Laughlin.

Agenda Approval- Action Item addition- amend the Highway 284 Plan, Old Business addition- NY Stretch public hearing documents.

Privilege of the Floor- none

Approval of May 13, 2021 and May 27, 2021 Minutes

Motion was made by Councilperson Laughlin to approve the May 13, 2021 Business Meeting Minutes and May 27, 2021 Board Meeting minutes, seconded by Councilperson Casey.

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

Carried

Approval of Audit and Claims of Abstract 6 Vouchers

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

General and Lighting Fund Vouchers 135-165	\$23,486.52
Newfield Community Park Voucher 1	\$90.00
Highway Fund Vouchers 89-101	\$371,560.98
Recreation Fund Vouchers 8-10	\$1,211.55
Sewer Fund Vouchers 27-34	\$1,154.60
Water District 1 Fund Vouchers 45-56	\$3,736.85
Water District 2 Fund Vouchers 37-43	\$2,615.82
Trust & Agency Vouchers 15-17	\$3,087.66

Vouchers were audited by Councilpersons McCarty and Powers.

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

NAY 0
Carried

Reports

Highway Department- Highway Superintendent Kevin Berggren was absent. Supervisor Allinger reported the Bridge New York application for the Shelter Valley bridge has been submitted.

Water/Sewer Department- Water Supervisor Berggren was absent. Supervisor Allinger reported the corrections had been received by the DEC regarding the discharge permit application. Supervisor Allinger also commented there has been comment from DEC regarding the infiltration report asking for concerns to be addressed, i.e., grease traps, storm water runoff, broken septic covers. These items will need to be addressed.

Recreation- Recreation Supervisor Austin was absent, a report was provided reporting on the spring sport update, Summer Camp update, Town Park and Recreation plans.

Code Enforcement- Code Enforcement Officer Alan Teeter was absent. Building Permits issued in May included- 2 deck permits, 2 mobile home permits, 1 wood stove permit, 1 reroof, 1 home solar, and 1 metal prefab building.

Planning Board- Jim Haustein reported Justin Chandler has joined to the Planning Board and the Cornell Design Connect presentation was attended via Zoom by 25 people. The Planning Board will be contacting the Cornell Design Connect team to discuss an internship and possibly a grant writer. The Design Connect presentation has been uploaded to the Planning Board tab on the Town Webpage. Mr. Haustein commented after the draft solar law has been totally reviewed by the Town Board and Planning Board it will be submitted to the Town Board for local law adoption.

Tompkins County Legislature- Representative McKenna was absent. Supervisor Allinger reported on communication from Danby Representative Dan Klien regarding the old growth forest vote.

Finance and Personnel- Bookkeeper Blixty Taetzsch reported the Workers Compensation Insurance billing was less than budgeted and that the Town received additional State aid allocations for the Highway Department. Resulting with a budget modification to increase the budgeted revenue and expenses for highway improvements. The Recreation and Camp Directors have completed interviews. Group sessions will take place next week to complete paperwork and brief employment orientation. Ms. Taetzsch will forward information about the opportunity to work in the summer beautification program to the students who were not hired at summer camp. The Town also hired a new MEO in the Highway Department beginning June 1, 2021 and Matt Watros officially retired May 28, 2021.

Hamlet Beautification Committee- Randy Brown reported the at this point there are no student applications. Summer projects include caring for the gardens at the Town Hall, Covered Bridge Overlook area, Fire Hall and the Welcome sign. Mr. Brown stated the sign near the Covered Bridge is in need of repair as it is unstable. Mr. Brown commented he had attempted a quick repair for the Covered Bridge Overlook stairs, and that the Highway Department should be looking into it. Supervisor Allinger, Highway Superintendent Berggren and Mr. Brown will meet to look at the situation. Mr. Brown also stated the Beautification Committee would like to install a visitor box at the Covered Bridge, it would include a laminated sheet that could be scanned for information about the Covered Bridge. Mr. Brown also noted concerns about invasive plants and how to properly dispose of the materials. Mr. Brown also brought to the attention of the Board, the Mill Park Pavilion needing attending to before the music series begins.

Climate Smart Communities – Councilperson McCarty reported the Climate Smart Communities has 8 actions with 71 points, a total of 120 points are needed for bronze level certification. EV chargers are being explored for the future.

Tompkins County Broadband- Supervisor Allinger reported due to confidentiality the committee working on the broadband study cannot talk about the project outside of the group meetings.

Supervisor's Report- Supervisor Allinger reported of the water study ARC funding has been received by the Town. And that DEC has accepted the EPG program- Infiltration and Inflow study with rehabilitation suggestions.

ACTION ITEMS

2022 Tax Cap Public Hearing

Motion was made by Councilperson Laughlin approving to convene a Public Hearing to hear public comment regarding Local Law -2021: A Local Law to Override the Tax Levy Limit Established in General Municipal Law section 3-c, August 12, 2021 at 7:00. Motion seconded by Councilperson McCarty.

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

Carried

Resolution Number 33-2021- Discontinuance of Summerton Hill Road

Motion was made by Councilperson Powers to approve the discontinuance of Summerton Hill Road, motion seconded by Councilperson Laughlin.

RESOLUTION 33-2021

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF NEWFIELD DISCONTINUANCE OF SUMMERTON HILL ROAD AS A PUBLIC HIGHWAY

WHEREAS, Summerton Hill Road is situated within Connecticut Hill Wildlife Management Area, and located totally on land owned in fee by the People of the State of New York and being

under the care, custody, and control of the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Bureau of Wildlife; and

WHEREAS, that portion of Summerton Hill Road situated between the Catherine town line and the Cayuta town line was reputedly discontinued by the Town of Catherine on March 11, 1947; and

WHEREAS, the remaining portion of Summerton Hill Road being about 0.7 miles in length may be all or in part situated in the Town of Newfield; and

WHEREAS, the DEC has notified the Supervisor of the Town of Newfield that DEC intends to issue an order for the Discontinuance of public use of Summerton Hill Road as a highway pursuant to Highway Law section 212, as amended by Chapter 161 of the Laws of 1988; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Newfield Highway Superintendent determined that the town Highway Department is not currently performing maintenance work on Summerton Hill Road; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Newfield Highway Superintendent further determined it is appropriate for the NYSDEC to seek a Discontinuance of all that portion of Summerton Hill Road located in the Town of Newfield as depicted on the attached map annexed hereto as Exhibit "A" and being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the junction of the centerline of Alpine Road and the centerline of Summerton Hill Road, thence along said centerline of Summerton Hill Road the following fourteen (14) courses and distances:

1. S 13° 09' 21" W 394.76 feet;
2. S 08° 24' 29" W 132.26 feet;
3. S 13° 23' 44" W 191.26 feet;
4. S 11° 30' 58" W 643.31 feet;
5. S 14° 09' 25" W 142.40 feet;
6. S 16° 32' 45" W 187.07 feet;
7. S 13° 17' 07" W 681.48' feet;
8. S 09° 56' 19" W 175.07 feet;
9. S 14° 20' 29" W 212.61' feet;
10. S 09° 04' 06" W 158.77 feet;
11. S 11° 51' 52" W 153.00 feet;
12. S 17° 13' 26" W 59.58 feet;
13. S 08° 51' 25" W 118.21 feet;
14. S 11° 23' 34" W 199.46 feet;

Thence Southerly to the northern terminus of 1947 discontinuance; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Newfield is in support of the determination of the Town of Newfield Highway Superintendent;

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Newfield does not express or offer any objections regarding the Discontinuance of Summerton Hill Road by DEC; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Newfield does not now nor will it in the future seek to obtain any monetary or other such damages resulting from the Discontinuance of Summerton Hill Road by DEC.

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

Carried

RESOLUTION NO. 33-2021 – Approval of June 2021 Budget Modifications

WHEREAS, it is necessary to modify the 2021 budget based on updated estimates of revenues and expenses in 2021, 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
HIGHWAY FUND REVENUE				
DA3501	CHIPS	\$ 240,000.00	\$ 233,000.00	\$ 473,000.00
Total Revenue Adjustments			\$ 233,000.00	
HIGHWAY FUND EXPENSES				
DA5112.4	Permanent Improvements - Contractual	\$ 380,000.00	\$ 233,000.00	\$ 613,000.00
Total Expenditure Adjustments			\$ 233,000.00	

Motion was made by Councilperson Powers approving the June 2021 budget modifications as presented. Motion seconded by Councilperson James.

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

Carried

Resolution 35-2021 Amending Modified Highway Department 284 Plan
Motion was made by Councilperson McCarty accepting the modified Highway Department 284 Plan. Motion seconded by Councilperson James.

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

Carried

OLD BUSINESS

New York Stretch press release- Councilperson McCarty asked for confirmation regarding the Public Hearing regarding the New York Stretch Energy Code at the Town Hall. A plan is in place for those wishing to speak in person for a public hearing.

Supervisor asked consensus of the Board to begin meeting in person beginning July 8, 2021. The Board Members all agreed.

At 8:27 pm motion was offered by Councilperson James to move to an executive session to discuss a particular person, seconded by Councilperson Laughlin.

At 8:45 the regular meeting resumed.

At 8:45 pm Motion was offered by Councilperson Powers to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

June 24, 2021

Karen Miller Kenerson, RMC
Town Clerk