

The July 8, 2021 regular business meeting was held in person at the Newfield Town Hall.

Present were: Michael Allinger, Supervisor, Councilmembers- Joanne James, Christine Laughlin, Heather McCarty, Highway Superintendent Kevin Berggren, Town Bookkeeper Blixys Taetzsch, Town Attorney Tom Smith, Town Clerk Karen Miller Kenerson and 6 others. Councilperson Powers was absent.

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

*Agenda Approval-* No additions

*Privilege of the Floor-*

Alan Chaffee: Newfield Historical Society President presented the Town Board with its 2022, 2023 and 2044 budget requests.

David Humphrey: stated his concerns of the shift in traffic and speed on Bank Street since the roundabout had been installed on State Route 13. Mr. Humphrey asked if the Town could install speed bumps, traffic cams from the Covered Bridge south to New York State Route 13. Supervisor Allinger will reach out to the Tompkins County Sheriff's Department for enforcement coverage.

**Approval of June 10, 2021 and June 24, 2024 Minutes**

Minutes for June 10 and June 24, 2021 will be approved at the August 12, 2021.

**Approval of Audit and Claims of Abstract 7 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, Lighting District and Fire District Fund Vouchers 166-203	\$131,813.73
Highway Fund Vouchers 107-126	\$62,429.90
Recreation Fund Vouchers 11-13	\$355.64
Sewer Fund Vouchers 35-43	\$18,292.48
Water District 1 Fund Vouchers 57-67	\$2,568.62
Water District 2 Fund Vouchers 44-51	\$1,936.96
Trust & Agency Vouchers 18-19	\$2,618.30

Vouchers were audited by Councilpersons James, Laughlin and McCarty.

Vote            AYES    4    Allinger, James, Laughlin and McCarty

NAY	0
ABSENT	1 Powers
Carried	

### **Reports**

*Highway Department-* Highway Superintendent Kevin Berggren stated work had begun on Old Payne Road and that paving would begin when weather permitted. Superintendent Berggren stated other projects included: culvert pipe installs, dirt roads were being cut over, dust oil and calcium were being applied and roadside mowing. The Covered Bridge steps and the Mill Park Pavilion issues have been corrected.

*Water/Sewer Department-* Water Supervisor Berggren reported the Town is still waiting for the water withdraw permit from the DEC for the new Pine Circle well.

*Recreation-* Recreation Supervisor Austin reported camp was in its second week and going well, the Pawlewicz family has completed the score board construction, it will be installed soon. The Girl Scouts will be presenting their service projects for the Community Park July 15, 2021 at 3:00 PM. Austin reported the Van Kirk Road Park Committee has discussed a ribbon cutting ceremony for the park, dedications and sponsorship signs need to be done. Fund raisers of a chicken BBQ and a 5 K run are being planned for the future. The Committee is looking for Board approval for field dedication names, this will be discussed at a future meeting.

*Code Enforcement-* Code Enforcement Officer Alan Teeter was absent. Building Permits issued in June included-3 deck permits, 2 mobile home permits, 2 reroof, 1 home solar, and 1 pool and 2 new construction permits.

*Planning Board-* Leo Tidd reported a job description is being drafted for an intern position to help with amending the comprehensive plan. Mr. Tidd reported that TG Miller has been asked to design a plan for crosswalks at the Main St/Shaffer Road intersection. The solar law edits have been completed and a visual setback map will be presented at the next work session.

*Finance and Personnel-* Bookkeeper Blix Taetzsch reported half of the recovery act funds will be available in 2021 and the second half in 2022. Summer camp is in full swing and this week was the first payroll. Supervisor Allinger and Bookkeeper Taetzsch met with Hunt Engineering to discuss what could be submitted using the State consolidated application. Bookkeeper Taetzsch is also gathering information to submit for the remaining \$15,000 of the State EPG grant for the sewer study now that it is complete.

*Climate Smart Communities-* Councilperson McCarty asked who was recording the information for the Bench Marking Resolution that was passed in 2018.

*TCCOG-* Councilperson James reported that TCCOG has passed a resolution regarding public and Zoom meetings, so that members may either attend in person or continue to Zoom in to attend

*WRC/EMS-* Michelle Henry was absent, a report included the approval and endorsements of the Tompkins County Harmful Algal Bloom Strategy. EMC July 8<sup>th</sup> meeting had a tick presentation by the Upstate Medical Tick Lab.

*Supervisor's Report-* Supervisor Allinger reported the Cayuga Lake Water Shed IO has a new fee structure and that Liz Thomas will be presenting to the Newfield Town Board at the August business meeting. Supervisor Allinger reported the Town of Newfield is the most underserved town in Tompkins County. Supervisor Allinger reported Sunny Miller from the Newfield School District working on grant funding with the FCC and school for over the air WIFI and satellite service. TCCOG is waiting for the Broadband STN study. Supervisor Allinger also reported he had received a call regarding the condition of the Newfield Garden Apartments. Supervisor Allinger called the Ithaca Neighborhood Housing and progress of remedying the situation are in order. Supervisor Allinger also reported he had received complaints regarding fireworks. This will be included when the noise ordinance is revisited.

### **Old Business**

#### *Report On Grants Meeting with Hunt Engineering June 25, 2021*

Supervisor Allinger and Bookkeeper Taetzsch discussed with Hunt Engineering using the State Consolidated Grant Application for sewer projects and water infrastructure projects. Hunt Engineering has a grant writer on staff who can assist the town with these projects. Bookkeeper Taetzsch also commented the possibility of Community Development Block Grant funding for private septic issues that impact the Town's sewer system.

### **New Business**

Bookkeeper Taetzsch reported the new phone system has been installed.

At 8:11 PM motion was offered by Councilperson James to adjourn, seconded by Councilperson McCarty.

Respectfully Submitted,

July 14, 2021

Karen Miller Kenerson, RMC  
Town Clerk