

The February 10, 2022 business meeting was held in person at the Newfield Town Hall and remotely via Zoom.

Present in person were: Supervisor Michael Allinger, Councilmembers- Joanne James, Christine Laughlin, Attorney Tom Smith, Town Bookkeeper Blixly Taetzsch, County Legislature Representative Randy Brown, Highway Superintendent Kevin Berggren, Town Clerk Karen Miller Kenerson, and one other. Attending via Zoom were Councilpersons Heather McCarty and Casey Powers, Planning Board Clerk Jim Haustein and three others.

Supervisor Allinger called the Town Board Meeting to order at 7:01 PM, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda Approval- Councilperson McCarty asked to add Town Hall mask updates to New Business.

Privilege of the Floor-

Michelle Henry- stated she had communicated with the NYSDOT regarding the incomplete work on Routes 34/96.

Communications- Supervisor Allinger reported Amy Gaines from Louella's Space gave notice to the Town the business is applying for a liquor license. The Town received notice from the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets regarding the Tompkins County SPCA report.

Approval of January 13 and January 27, 2022 Minutes

Motion to approve the December 9, 2021 minutes was offered by Councilperson Laughlin, seconded by Councilperson James.

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

Carried

Vouchers were audited by Councilmembers McCarty, Powers and James.

Approval of Audit and Claims of Abstract 2 Vouchers

Motion to approve the Abstract 2 vouchers was offered by Councilperson McCarty seconded by Councilperson James.

Abstract 2

General, Fire and Lighting District Vouchers 22-56	\$40,639.45
Highway Fund Vouchers 9-35	\$71,869.63
Recreation Fund Vouchers 1-2	\$2,383.32
Sewer Fund Vouchers 2-7	\$2,063.82
Water District 1 Fund Vouchers 4-16	\$13,176.37
Water District 2 Fund Vouchers 3-12	\$133,451.60
Trust & Agency Vouchers 3-5	\$3,827.32

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

ABSENT 0

Carried

Reports

Highway Department- Highway Superintendent Kevin Berggren reported they had been plowing, moving snow and bringing in more materials. Superintendent Berggren suggested the Town Board look into a parking ordinance due to cars being parked on the road during snow events making it dangerous.

Water/Sewer Department- Water Supervisor Berggren reported there had been three breaks last month. Supervisor Berggren reported he had ordered the materials for the new well hook up at Pine Circle. The ETA is March/April.

Recreation- Recreation Supervisor Austin Kuczek was absent, his report included Recreation Basketball has been playing games away due to Covid. The Recreation Committee plans to meet in February. The Recreation Department will be applying for a United Way Grant for Summer Camp. Adult basketball is running smoothly. Spring programs should be taking place at the VanKirk Road Park as soon as the weather permits and Summer Camp is being discussed.

Code Enforcement- Code Enforcement Officer Alan Teeter was absent, his report included 5 building permits were issued in January 1 heat pump, 1 ramp, 1 building repair for a building damaged by fire and 3 reroofs.

Planning Board- Jim Haustein reported on the NHARP schedule of events that include 2 community meetings, FAQ and a Webpage for the NHARP project. Presently the focus is on the intersection of Main and Bridge Streets parking. It was noted a letter from the Code Enforcement Officer needed to be sent to the owners of the Solar Array on Burdge Hill and Millard Hill Roads regarding the screening vegetation plantings.

Finance and Personnel- Bookkeeper Blixty Taetzsch reported the audit field work has been completed, but felt there may be some follow up questions. The Annual Update Document report is ready to be submitted. The Town is still waiting for information regarding the WQIP award.

Tompkins County Legislature- Representative Randy Brown reported the Legislature had elected Shauna Black as the Chairperson, and has approved a raise for the Tompkins County Sheriff. Representative Brown also stated the County had received twenty million dollars of ARPA Funds and that 7 million would be distributed to county not for profit organizations.

Climate Smart Communities- Councilperson McCarty reported 2 priority actions are nearing completion for Bronze Certification. The Energy Study is underway for grant funding from NYSERDA.

Clean Energy Committee- Councilperson McCarty reported 300 points had been earned with the Clean Heat program and that the committee is looking into an intern.

EMC- Michelle Henry reported there had been a presentation on Bio-sequestration/Better Top Soil Aquifer Management.

Supervisor' Report- Supervisor Allinger reported the Town had received official notification of the grant award from the NYS DEC on January 11th, the Town is currently awaiting the approval of the DEC's documentation from the State Comptroller's Office, once that happens the DEC will provide the Town with information to help get a contract in place. Broadband in North and Mid Newfield- information sessions were held at the library. Point Broadband anticipates connecting to homes in the Millard Hill Rd corridor as early as the week of February 14th. The Mid-Newfield project is set to commence as soon as the ground thaws. Tompkins County Sheriff Sub-Station- Sheriff Osborne provided a draft contract for approval to move forward to establish a satellite station here at Town Hall. Meeting with Randy Brown and Sue Chaffee for County Grants- County Representative Brown shared information regarding news of a grant program the County is establishing, \$7M has been set aside from the ARPA funds to support municipalities and not for profits in projects that will have a transformative impact on the Community. Phone call with Hunt Engineering, our primary contact has accepted a position with another engineering firm, the Town was assured the firms work with the Town would not miss a beat. Hunt Engineering will be discussing how to maximize the WQIP Grand funds to obtain and install the flow meters and manhole covers that are part of the flow management plan with the DEC. Supervisor Allinger also will be setting up a meeting with Thoma Development regarding the survey of the town around the needs of the sewer district residents.

Action Items

Board Approval for Supervisor to sign 2022-2024 Animal Control Contract with Tompkins County Animal Control

Motion was offered by Councilperson James approving Supervisor Allinger sign the 2022-2024 Dog Control Contract with Tompkins County Animal Control, seconded by Councilperson Laughlin.

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

Carried

Approval to set Public Hearing for Town Water District No. 1 and Water District No. 2 Improvements and Newfield Sewer District No. 1 Improvements

Motion was offered by Councilperson Laughlin to hold a Public Hearing March 10, 2022 at 7:00 pm for the Town of Newfield Water District No. 1 and Water District No. 2 Improvements and a Public Hearing immediately following at 7:05 PM for Improvements to the Newfield Sewer District No. 1 Improvements, seconded by Councilperson Powers.

RESOLUTION No. 28-2022 OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF NEWFIELD, TOMPKINS COUNTY, NEW YORK CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING IN ACCORDANCE TO SECTION 202-b OF THE TOWN LAW WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS TO TOWN OF NEWFIELD WATER DISTRICT NO. 1 AND WATER DISTRICT NO. 2 FACILITIES

WHEREAS, the Town Board (the “Town Board”) of the Town of Newfield (the “Town”) is considering authorizing certain improvements to the facilities serving Town of Newfield Water District No. 1 and Water District No. 2, as set forth and described in a certain engineering report as prepared by Hunt Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors & Landscape Architect DPC (the “Engineer”) dated September 2020 as revised October 2021 (the “Project”), and on file in the office of the Town Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has now been advised by the Engineer that the estimated maximum cost of undertaking the Project is \$4,828,253; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board now intends to conduct a public hearing in accordance with Section 202-b of the Town Law with respect to undertaking the Project at such estimated maximum cost.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board as follows:

Section 1. A public hearing shall be held at a public meeting of the Town Board to be held on March 10, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Newfield Town Hall, 166 Main Street, Newfield, New York 14687, to consider if it is in the public interest to undertake the Project at an estimated maximum cost of \$4,828,253 and to hear all persons interested in the subject matter thereof.

Section 2. The Town Clerk is hereby directed to cause notice of such public hearing to be published in the *Ithaca Journal* and posted on the Town Bulletin Board at 16 Main Street, Newfield, New York, 14687 in the manner prescribed by Section 193 of Town Law.

Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

	AYES:	NAYS:
Councilmember Joanne James	x	
Councilmember Christine Laughlin	x	
Councilmember Casey Powers	x	
Councilmember Heather McCarty	x	
Supervisor Michael Allinger	x	

The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

RESOLUTION No. 29-2022 OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF NEWFIELD, TOMPKINS COUNTY, NEW YORK CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING IN ACCORDANCE TO SECTION 202-b OF THE TOWN LAW WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS TO TOWN OF NEWFIELD SEWER DISTRICT NO. 1 FACILITIES

WHEREAS, the Town Board (the “Town Board”) of the Town of Newfield (the “Town”) is considering authorizing certain improvements to the facilities serving Town of Newfield Sewer District No. 1, as set forth and described in a certain engineering report as prepared by Hunt Engineers, Architects, Land Surveyors & Landscape

Architect DPC (the “Engineer”) dated May 2021 as revised October 2021 (the “Project”), and on file in the office of the Town Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has now been advised by the Engineer that the estimated maximum cost of undertaking the Project is \$1,113,485; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board now intends to conduct a public hearing in accordance with Section 202-b of the Town Law with respect to undertaking the Project at such estimated maximum cost.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board as follows:

Section 1. A public hearing shall be held at a public meeting of the Town Board to be held on March 10, 2022 at 7:05 p.m. at the Town of Newfield Town Hall, 166 Main Street, Newfield, New York 14687, to consider if it is in the public interest to undertake the Project at an estimated maximum cost of \$1,113,485 and to hear all persons interested in the subject matter thereof.

Section 2. The Town Clerk is hereby directed to cause notice of such public hearing to be published in the *Ithaca Journal* and posted on the Town Bulletin Board at 16 Main Street, Newfield, New York, 14687 in the manner prescribed by Section 193 of Town Law.

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The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

	AYES:	NAYS:
Councilmember Joanne James	x	
Councilmember Christine Laughlin	x	
Councilmember Casey Powers	x	
Councilmember Heather McCarty	x	
Supervisor Michael Allinger	x	

The resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted by a vote of 5 ayes and 0 nays.

Approval of Highway Expenditures for Repairs to Van Buskirk Gulf, Van Kirk and Adams Roads
Motion to approve the 284 Contract for Highway Expenditure for repairs to Van Buskirk Gulf, Van Kirk and Adams Roads was offered by Councilperson Laughlin, seconded by Councilperson James

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

Carried

Approval to authorize Karen Miller Kenerson as signature of the Town Clerk and Tax Collector bank accounts
This was overlooked during Annual Authorizations and recently noticed by the Tioga State Bank.

Motion to authorize Karen Miller Kenerson as a signer to the Town Clerk and Tax Collector bank accounts was offered by Councilperson Laughlin, seconded by Councilperson Powers.

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

ABSENT 0

Carried

Old Business

Contract for the Satellite Sheriff Station

Motion to approve Supervisor Allinger to sign the Contract with the Tompkins County Sheriff Department was offered by Councilperson Laughlin, seconded by Councilperson James.

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

NAY 0

ABSENT 0

Carried

New Business

Updating Town Hall Mask Rules

The Town of Newfield will follow the advisement of Tompkins County.

February 24, 2022 Work Session – Critical Environmental Area presentation by Jeffner Allen
Noise Ordinance review, Local Parking Ordinance review.

At 8:29 pm, motion was offered by Councilperson James to adjourn, seconded by Councilperson Laughlin.

Respectfully Submitted,

February 25, 2022

Karen Miller Kenerson, RMC
Town Clerk