

Minutes

Town of Persia Regular Board Meeting

8 West Main Street, Gowanda, NY 14070

November 14, 2019

Reorganization Workshop 6:30 pm

Supervisor John Walgus calls meetings to order at 7:00p.m.

Roll Call:

Supervisor: John T. Walgus: present

Highway Superintendent: Daniel H. Ackley: present

Councilperson: Theresa A. Girome: present

Councilperson: Gloria J. Tomaszewski: present

Councilperson: Robert O. Dingman: present

Councilperson: Seth H. Howard: present

Town Clerk: Denise M. Trumpore: present

Others present:

Jack Broyles

Supervisor John T. Walgus: * I have paid the pre-pays and have processed payroll. * I ask for a resolution to approve the Supervisors report and a resolution to accept the financial statement from Bahgat & Laurito Bahgat. * In your packets tonight, I have information I received from Officer in Charge Dennis Feldman. These horrendous changes in the way the courts and law enforcement will have to operate starting January 2020 will have a drastic effect on our town and our court. Please take the time to read the information. As of this date 60 people will be released automatically from the Catt. Co. Jail when this takes effect on the 1st. * There is an article that appeared in the Buffalo News concerning the former Peter Cooper Corp's site in Gowanda, now known as the Zoar Valley Gateway Park. On November 7th, President Mike Hutchinson and I as Secretary of the Board of Directors of GARC met with Sherryl Henry from the US EPA and Maurice Moore from the NYS DEC at Gateway Park for the final overview of GARC's efforts to mitigate the hazardous waste that once was at the park. After 30 years the site has been delisted from the US EPA's superfund list of the nation's worst toxic sites. The park also has been awarded approx. \$1.2 million from the NYS ESD Smart Growth grant program. GARC in conjunction with the Village of Gowanda hired C&S Engineers and JK Landscape Architects to help us develop the park. There are some conceptual

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photographs/drawings on the wall by the clerk's window. This is a tremendous milestone for the park and the area in general that the site is not hazardous to human health and has been given a clean bill of health. Monitoring will continue, and reports will be filed with the necessary governmental entities every 18 months. * this year I will ask that Councilmen Tomaszewski and Girome lead our efforts for the "Christmas in Gowanda" celebration on December 6th; this will take place from 5 to 7pm at the town hall open house and cookie contest, registration forms for the cookie contest are now available at the town hall. * I want to thank the Dog Control Officer Committee which consisted of Councilmen Girome and Tomaszewski with town resident Richard Bridges. for interviewing the applicants for a DCO. The committee will be making their recommendation to the town board tonight. * On November 7th I attended along with the towns' Disaster Coordinator Tom Povhe, the Catt. Co. Hazardous Mitigation Plan Update meeting; the plan was last updated in 2014. *In the budget as a FYI, the NYS Local Retirement increase for 2020 will be 8% with social security increasing 2%. The 3rd quarter sales tax was over what we had projected in the 2019 budget; sales tax is dedicated to the highway department. The Highway Superintendent will be speaking tonight about a budget transfer. * The Zoning Board will be meeting on November 18th; I will be presenting to them regulations from other towns in the area concerning the number of cats and dogs that can be harbored at an address in the town for their consideration. * I am asking the board for a workshop next month at 6pm to prepare for the reorganizational meeting in January. * After three years our NYSERDA CEC project is completed; I was notified by NYSERDA to submit our completion invoice which I have for \$25,000.00. * I learned from our insurance carrier that any new hire will now have to go through a background check. * I found a mistake on the Supervisor's report from September which I have given everyone a revised September report. * Happy Thanksgiving to all this month; just a reminder that the town hall will be closed on Thanksgiving the 28th and Friday the 29th. Happy Birthday to Judge Mark Schindler and Councilman Seth Howard this month.

Highway Superintendent Daniel H. Ackley: * read highway bills. * Forty Road starting at 10229 to the State parking area is now a seasonal limited maintenance road which started on November 1st and will end on April 1st. * I ask for a resolution to transfer \$10,000 to the Repair Reserve; this will increase the reserve for repairs and reduce to unappropriated fund balance.

Councilperson Theresa A. Girome: * I attended the Village Board meeting on October 15th. * I would like to thank Gloria Tomaszewski as well as Richard Bridges for assisting me with the interview process in hiring a Dog Control Officer. A decision was made from five candidates and Tammy Grimmer was chosen.

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Councilperson Robert O. Dingman: * I have flyers on the Christmas in Gowanda which will be December 6th and 7th. * The Chamber is planning a "Meet and Greet" at the Wicked Glen in January. * I attended the Brownfield Opportunity Assessment (BOA) second step meeting along with Supervisor Walgus on November 6th.

Councilperson Seth H. Howard: * No report

Councilperson Gloria J. Tomaszewski: * I attended the Healthy Community Fund Board meeting on October 16th; all the apartments are now occupied and there is a waiting list of six prospective tenants. They are planning an open house to showcase the apartments for future tenants. * I had two days of interviewing for the Dog Control Officer position along with Theresa Girome and Richard Bridges. Theresa will notify the lucky candidate and write letters to the others thanking them for their interest.

Assessor Kate Harrington: (by email) *I attended a training on October 1st. and took two classes: Tax Enforcement and Tax Mapping. * On October 18th, Jason, Liz and myself completed the Ethics component of the training requirements for new and re-appointed assessors in NYS * Fourteen property transfers were added for the month of September. * The Assessing office corresponded with several property owners about their assessments, tax bills, and exemptions.

Town Clerk Denise M. Trumpore: *

Total transactions for October: 83

Total Collected: \$ 1,975.00

Towns Portion: \$ **339.10**

*I ask for a resolution to accept the minutes from October 10th.

RESOLUTION # 100 Audit of Claims

On a motion of Councilperson Howard

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

The following was

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Howard, Tomaszewski, Girome, Dingman, Walgus

NAYS – 0

RESOLVED that the bills contained on Abstract #11 for General and Highway have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts:

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Abstract 11 - General vouchers # 181 to # 197 Total = \$ 30,051.67

Abstract 11 - Highway vouchers # 81 to # 92 Total = \$ 17,730.76

RESOLUTION #101 Approval of Minutes

On a motion of Councilperson Girome

Seconded by Councilperson Dingman

ADOPTED AYES - 5 Girome, Dingman, Tomaszewski, Howard, Walgus

NAYS - 0

RESOLVED to approve the minutes from October 10th.

RESOLUTION #102 Supervisors report

On a motion of Councilperson Girome

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

ADOPTED AYES - 5 Girome, Tomaszewski, Howard, Dingman, Walgus

NAYS - 0

RESOLVED to accept the Supervisor's revised report for September and the report for October 2019.

RESOLUTION #103 Financial Report

On a motion of Councilperson Tomaszewski

Seconded by Councilperson Howard

ADOPTED AYES - 5 Tomaszewski, Howard, Girome, Dingman, Walgus

NAYS - 0

RESOLVED to accept the financial report for October 2019.

RESOLUTION #104 Budget Modification

On a motion of Councilperson Howard

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

ADOPTED AYES - 5 Howard, Tomaszewski, Girome, Dingman, Walgus

NAYS - 0

RESOLVED to transfer \$10,000 to Repair Reserve. This will increase the Reserve for Repairs and decrease the Unappropriated Fund Balance.

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RESOLUTION #105 Reorganization meeting workshop

On a motion of Councilperson Dingman

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Dingman, Tomaszewski, Girome, Howard, Walgus
 NAYS – 0

RESOLVED to have a reorganization meeting workshop on December 12th at 6pm.

RESOLUTION #106 Dog Control Officer

On a motion of Councilperson Girome

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Girome, Tomaszewski, Howard, Dingman, Walgus
 NAYS – 0

RESOLVED to hire Tammy Grimmer as Dog Control Officer effective December 1st.

Hearing no objection, Supervisor Walgus adjourns the meeting in memory of all our brave men and women who gave their lives in defense of our country.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise M. Trumpore

Town Clerk