

Minutes

Town of Persia Regular Board Meeting

8 West Main Street, Gowanda, NY 14070

July 9, 2020

Workshop 6:00pm to discuss COVID-19 pandemic

Supervisor John Walgus calls meeting to order at 7:00pm.

All stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Supervisor: John T. Walgus: present
Councilperson: Theresa A. Girome: present
Councilperson: Gloria J. Tomaszewski: present
Councilperson: Robert O. Dingman: present
Councilperson: Seth H. Howard: present

Others present:

Highway Superintendent: Daniel H. Ackley
Town Clerk: Denise M. Trumpore
Dog Warden Tammy Grimmer
Building Inspector Mel Shaw (7:30)
Jack Broyles

Supervisor John T. Walgus: * As we move forward into Phase 4 of the NY FORWARD SAFETY PLAN, we need to remember to **follow** the towns written re-entry protocols. There have been two more confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the area. * I informed our Dog Control Officer that court will **NOT** be in session this month. I did ask her to submit a six-month summary of activities. * I met with GFD Chief Steve Raiport and our Highway Superintendent at the Valentine Flats parking area to discuss the NYS DEC's plan to expand the parking area there and construct a handicapped accessible trail system to the area of the south bank of the Cattaraugus Creek and back. Because the road becomes clogged with cars and makes it impossible for emergency vehicles to access the area, the Gowanda Fire Dept., Gowanda Rescue Company, Gowanda Ambulance and the Gowanda Rope Rescue Team, along with advice from the NYS Forest Ranger R. Roberts have requested that the town post no parking signs on the east side on the Valentine Flats Road to try and alleviate the traffic congestion problem. I have sent emails to Senator Borrello and Assemblyman Giglio about the ever-expanding problems at the Valentine Flats area and the Forty Road parking lot. This past Sunday there were 144 cars parked on the Flats Road with the Forest Rangers acting as

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parking attendants. They closed Valentine Flats Road and Forty Road until cars left these parking areas. Our area's emergency service organizations including rescue teams from all over Cattaraugus County will be having a mutual aid drill on the end of Valentine Flat's Road. * On July 12th; the road will be closed to traffic from approx. 8:00am to 12 noon. * 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 * I have referred the contracts with Version in regards to the installation of a cell antenna (mini tower) atop the town hall to the town's attorney and the town's insurance for review. * There are no town employee birthdays this month. * I discussed Cyber Security at the workshop with the board; Councilman Howard agreed to read over the information from NIMIR and come up with a policy for the town. * I also received a call from a lady expressing how nice we keep the Broadway cemetery which I told her Bill Mansfield is the person who keeps it in such nice shape.

Highway Superintendent Daniel H. Ackley: * Read highway bills. * Regarding putting up no parking signs on Valentine Flats which would start at 10180 and end at the state barricade on the South side, I believe we need an ordinance or resolution. * I completed the CHIPS project, the towns East Otto, Perrysburg, Dayton, and New Albion helped us with oil & stoning the roads. As you will see on the bill to Midland Asphalt, the account DB5112.2 is our CHIPS account which I spent 80% of our total CHIPS we may receive, my opinion is we may only receive 80% unless we get federal aid, hopefully we may get 100% which would be great. I wanted to get this done prior to August because if history prevails there is an allotment where you have to send in copies of cancelled checks and paperwork for reimbursement and seeing it could take up to three weeks for a company to cash a check I wanted to get on it. * The 89 Mack truck will go up for auction on Auctions International on July 29th and ending August 12th. * The Village of Gowanda Highway helped us clean out the trash rack.

Councilperson Theresa A. Girome: * Reported that the next Village board meeting will be on August 11th at 6:00pm. * Completed the NYS Discrimination and Harassment training online course through NIMIR. * The Planning and Zoning board will meet on July 20th at 7:00pm. * Will call other towns on who they use for their computer support specialist. Feels town computers should only be used for town business.

Councilperson Robert O. Dingman: * Reported that the Chamber of Commerce postponed date for the Spirit of Gowanda Dinner will be in September. * Music in the Park will be at Chang Hu Park this summer not the American Legion. * The Happening is being discussed as to if the Chamber is going to do it next year or at all.

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Councilperson Seth H. Howard: * Read general bills. *I attended the GOWANDA AMBULANCE BOARD meeting on June 16th. At this meeting, I learned that the Gowanda Ambulance Service responded to 141 calls in the month of May, with 2 of those being in the township of Persia. That is just 1.42% of all the calls for the month. Out of the 141 calls that went out, 3 calls were missed, due to all ambulances and personnel being on other calls. *Training on Gowanda 820, the bariatric and much larger ambulance donated by Gernatt is ongoing. It is anticipated that all members will be completely trained in the next few weeks. *Samantha Gullickson has been hired. She is an EMT and in the process of receiving her on the job training. *The gun raffle remains scheduled for August 29th. Tickets are still available. *The October 300 club drawing has been CANCELLED. * A drive thru chicken BBQ has been scheduled for July 22nd, and the Legion, from 4pm until sold out. The overwhelming positive feedback of WIEDNERS CHICKEN has led the ambulance board to that decision. This time, presale tickets are available by contacting ANNE MERKT at 257-9275. * I attended the GOWANDA AMBULANCE BOARD emergency meeting on Wednesday, June 24th. The purpose of this meeting was to replace Gowanda 817. 817 had 127,356 miles on it at the end of May and the cost of keeping it alive was becoming more and more astronomical financially. The board approved bidding on a newer unit from a reputable auction site. Additionally, we agreed to place 817 on the market as well. On July 6th, I learned that OLD 817 was purchased for \$3,600 and will be picked up today, July 9th. From the purchaser. Also, our bid was accepted and the NEW 817 currently resides at its new home, awaiting the transfer of radios and emergency equipment installation. * The next meeting is scheduled for July 21st at the Aldrich Street hall. 8 I ask for a resolution to place no parking signs along Point Peter on either side of Deer Lick Nature Sanctuary for a location deemed appropriate in either direction for safety. Was told this was done by ordinance back in the 90's. No action taken. * Asked for a resolution to have a public hearing to erect no parking signs on the South Side from 10180 Valentine Flat Road to the State barricade heading North. * Asked to have a workshop on August 13th at 6:00pm to discuss COVID-19, the dump truck, computers, no parking signs on Valentine Flat and Deer Lick. * Feels we should explore other computer support specialists. * Will read over the NIMIR Cyber Securities guidance policy to put a policy together for Persia.

Councilperson Gloria J. Tomaszewski: * Reported the Healthy Community Alliance has a pilot program. They have discussed with the Village on having the pilot capped at \$13,000 until the expiration term, which is 2027. The Village will amend the agreement with Healthy Community Alliance. This year's payment is due July 20, 2020. * Was notified by Judge Schindler that the court is back in session, but then saw on Facebook via the town that it has now been adjourned until further notice.

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Assessor Kate Harrington * (by email) * The 2020 roll year has been finalized as of July 1st. These are the assessments that will be used for all of 2020 taxes. Changes can no longer be made to the roll, and any complaints will need to go through the Cattaraugus County Dept. of Real Property Tax Services. * Persia's equalization rate will be 66% for the 2020 roll year. * Grievance Day was June 2nd. Two properties were reviewed by the BAR. All assessments that were changed because of a grievance determination have been added to our system. These should be reflected on the county's parcel search website and on the final roll for 2020. * The Assessor's Office is still open Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 5:00pm. * Corresponded with several property owners about their assessments, tax bills, and exemptions. * Added no property transfers for the month of June, these cannot be added until July 1st.

Town Clerk Denise M. Trumppore: *

Total transactions for June - 111

Total Collected: \$ 1,542.00

Towns Portion: \$ **433.38**

*I ask for a resolution to accept the minutes from June 11th. * There will be a rabies clinic on July 11 from 9am to noon at the Cattaraugus County Fairgrounds for dogs, cats, and ferrets. * I am asking for a resolution to adopt the Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-1) to be effective August 1, 2020.

Building Inspector Mel Shaw: * Reported to have received four permits; two for barns, one for a roof and one for a breezeway. * The town will have to apply for a non-monetary permit for Verizon to install a tower on the town hall. * Believes the town should have a public hearing for the no parking signs to be put up on Valentine Flat Rd. or at the least, receive public input.

Dog Warden Tammy Grimmer: * Reported to be up to 304 miles and 8 tickets written. * With the courts being closed due to COVID I have been giving out curtesy warnings to people with barking or unleashed dogs, it seems to be keeping people happy so far. * I do have some tickets I have to send out, one is for a dog which I picked up on North Chapel , someone had found her there and I brought her to K-9 Clippers which she sat for a week , rather than her then going to the SPCA where she would sit I adopted her out to the lady who found her, she paid all the fees. I did find out who the original owner was through digging around on Facebook, and she is going to get several tickets. Another dog I picked up the owner said he

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did not want the dog and the original owner wanted to re-adopt it so she paid the fees to get the dog back and got it spayed it in Jamestown and I followed her to Sheridan where she registered it. * I have no date to put on the tickets right now until the courts open back up.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Jack Broyles: Reported that the other day unbeknownst to him there was a guy who slept in his back yard, Jack left his house and when he returned there was an ambulance in his driveway with the guy who was in his back yard. He knew the guy, he was drunk, but the way the men on the ambulance treated him I feel was demeaning and impatient. They asked him many questions and I told them I knew the guy. I think people in these positions should get some training on how to deal with the public and have some respect. Considering this happening, I would like to know if I could attend an ambulance meeting to voice my concern. Councilman Howard gave Mr. Broyles the next date the ambulance is having a meeting.

RESOLUTION # 57 Audit of Claims

On a motion of Councilperson Dingman

Seconded by Councilperson Howard

The following was

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

NAYS – 0

RESOLVED that the bills contained on Abstract #7 for General and Highway have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts:

Abstract 7 – General Vouchers # 99 to # 108 Total: \$1,476.91

Abstract 7 – Highway Vouchers # 37 to # 43 Total: \$ 68,059.93

RESOLUTION #58 Approval of Minutes

On a motion of Councilperson Howard

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

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

NAYS - 0

RESOLVED to approve the minutes from June 11, 2020

RESOLUTION #59 Supervisors report

On a motion of Councilperson Girome

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Seconded by Councilperson Dingman

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

NAYS - 0

RESOLVED to accept the Supervisor report for June 2020.

RESOLUTION #60 Financial Report

On a motion of Councilperson Howard

Seconded by Councilperson Girome

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

NAYS - 0

RESOLVED to accept the financial report for June 2020.

RESOLUTION #61 Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-1)

On a motion of Councilperson Girome

Seconded by Councilperson Dingman

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

NAYS – 0

RESOLVED by the Town of Persia that Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-1), issued pursuant to Article 57-A of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Law, and Containing minimum retention periods for local government records, is hereby adopted for use by all officers in legally disposing of valueless records listed therein.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that in accordance with Article 57-A:

- (a) Only those records will be disposed of that are described in Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-1) after they have met the minimum retention periods described therein;**
- (b) Only those records will be disposed of that do not have sufficient administrative, fiscal, legal, or historical value to merit retention beyond established legal minimum periods. Effective August 1, 2020.**

RESOLUTION #62 Appoint Councilman Seth Howard as Cyber Security Guidance Policy Chairman.

On a motion of Councilperson Girome

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

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

NAYS – 0

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RESOLVED to appoint Councilman Seth Howard as Cyber Security Guidance Policy Chairman.

RESOLUTION #63 Table Acme Business proposal for \$1335 for computer specialist help until the next board meeting.

On a motion of Councilperson Girome

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

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

NAYS – 0

RESOLVED to table Acme Business proposal for #1335 for computer specialist help until the next board meeting.

RESOLUTION #64 Public Hearing Notice

On a motion of Councilperson Howard

Seconded by Councilperson Girome

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

NAYS – 0

RESOLVED to have a public hearing on August 13, 2020 at 7:00 to receive comment on erecting no parking signs on Valentine Flat Road from 10180 Valentine Flat Road to the State barricade.

RESOLUTION #65 Workshop

On a motion of Councilperson Howard

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

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

NAYS – 0

RESOLVED to have a workshop on August 13, 2020 at 6:00pm to discuss COVID-19, the dump truck, computers, parking on Valentine Flat and Deer Lick.

Hearing no objection, Supervisor Walgus adjourned the meeting in memory of Timothy McCall, Patricia Mooney, Thomas Kielar and Anne Kielar at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise M. Trumpore

Town Clerk

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