

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Scott held October 13th, 2020, by computer commencing at 6:00 P.M.

This is the town's fifth, zoom meeting held because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Present by Zoom: Dr. Guy Ruoff, Supervisor
Trevor Adams, Councilman
Neeca Root, Councilwoman
Louis Martin, Councilman
Andrew Fuller, Councilman

Recording Secretary: Tamara Congdon, Town Clerk

Other Present: Daniel J. Ellis II, Town, Attorney
David Putnam, HWY Superintendent
Kevin Fitch, County Legislator
Kim Fairchild, CEO
Russ Phelps, Court Justice
Teri Phelps, Court Justice Clerk

Town Residents: Shirley Clerk
Paula Arnold

The Regular meeting of the Town of Scott was called to order at 6:00 pm by Supervisor Guy Ruoff and followed with the Pledge of the Allegiance. He thanked everyone for coming and welcomed them. He then explained that they will now be recording the meeting and it will be posted on the town webpage.

Legislator Report:

Supervisor Dr. Guy Ruoff asked if the County Legislator Kevin Fitch had any news. Yes, I do he responded, today around 1:30 we got our tentative 2021 budget. The tentative budget we are going to be spending \$137 million for the county which was a decrease of spending by \$5 million from 2020. The tax levy is just under \$137,500.00 that to be raised by taxes. The County tax cap is 1.56% and even though we had a decrease in spending the county budget is going over the tax cap by 2.75%. The reason why we have that is pretty much due to Covid. The grants that we have we don't know what the State is going to give us in some of these grants. We anticipated a sale taxes decrease by 10-20% but it was late last week that we were notified that we are actually only going to be seeing a 3% reduction. So that is good for the county and good for the municipalities. The problems that we have with those sales taxes is now we have that AIM coming off the top for the incentive for the municipalities. I think you guys get ruffly about \$4,000-\$5,000 I think. So, you are still going to get that it's just coming off of the sales tax revenue and then we got hit because of the Covid, there is a hospital and nursing home revitalization tax that is also being taken off the top our sales tax. So, for instance, the County we are going to give them \$166,000 of that so every municipality is getting a little bit off from that. We don't know what is going to happen with the CHIPS funding so that's another one we think is going to keep the infrastructure and everything and try to build on that, so we don't think that is going to be an issue. So being said what that means for the Town of Scott is that the tax rate is going up .26 per \$1,000, to 1653 for the town of Scott from 1627. So, it's not a huge increase I think it's you're looking at an average for the Town of Scott for a \$100,000 home is about \$15.00 or so. One of the things the county has been doing is trying to find efficiencies and one of things we had to do is we cut 25 positions but most of those were terminating positions that weren't filled. So, it's not 25 people its position so between that and the volunteer retirements and then we did have some layoffs. The last thing I had to touch base on I was workman's

comp. So, workman's comp. by county law that we have you can only increase your primum by 5%. So that is what you probably should do for your budget. The increase from your 2020 budget, increase it by 5% and you should be fine. The problem you are going to have with that is the law is going to be changed. It's been kind to figure what your premium is not reflexing what you are paying. I think you are right around \$7-8,000 for 2020 but what it really cost the group is I do believe right around \$10-11,000. But because you capped at 5% you don't see that. So, we had a meeting and with the municipalities about a month ago. That the county law is going to change, and I anticipate your increase will be a lot more next year. I will try to make sure to let you know when the meeting is.

Approval of September 2020 Minutes:

Councilman Andrew Fuller made a motion to approve the September minutes and was seconded by Councilman Trevor Adams. All in favor, none opposed, the motion carries.

Town Councilman Louis Martin asked that an amendment be made to the September minutes. He stated the correct title of the book he had mentioned at the meeting was the Roberts Rule of Order and he had not recently purchased it. He had recently purchased one for the Town Clerk and Mr. Adams, but he has had his for a little while now. He also wanted the completion of a statement he was trying to make at the last meeting, but he was interrupted. He then repeated the sentence in completion "Any Board member can bring up new business at any time, where the chair can not prevent making a legitimate motion or deprive any member the right to introduce a legitimate business by hurrying through a proceeding".

Approval of Abstracts #10:

Councilman Andrew Fuller made a motion to approve the General Abstract #10 totaling \$4,857.02 and was seconded by Councilwoman Neeca Root. All in favor, none opposed, the motion carries.

Councilman Trevor Adams made a motion to approve the Highway Abstract #10 totaling \$20,836.13 and was seconded by Councilwoman Neeca Root. All in favor, none opposed, the motion carries.

Councilman Andrew Fuller made a motion to approve the Water Abstract #10 totaling \$672.14 and was seconded by Councilman Louis Martin. All in favor, none opposed, the motion carries.

Town Supervisor (Treasurer) Report:

Councilman Andrew Fuller made a motion to approve the September Supervisors Report as long as the Bookkeeper Brian McIlroy made a correction to the fire account and was seconded by Councilwoman Neeca Root. All in Favor, none opposed, motion carries.

Town Clerk Annual Report and Monthly Report:

Councilman Trevor Adams made a motion to accept the September Clerk Reports and was seconded by Councilman Andrew Fuller. All in favor, none opposed, the motion carries.

Revenue:

Dog License	\$ 99.00
Building Permits	\$ 552.00
Sub-Division Fees	\$ 300.00
Boat Launch Donations	\$2,289.00
Certified Copies- Marriage	\$ 40.00
Certified Copies- B/D/	\$ 50.00

DECALS	\$ 953.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$ 40.00
Total Revenue	\$4,323.00

Disbursements:

Paid to the Supervisor	\$3,384.06
Paid to the NYSDAM for the ACP	\$ 16.00
Paid to the NYS Health Dept.	\$ 22.50
DECALS	\$ 900.44
Total Disbursements	\$4,323.00

CEO Report:

Building Permits:

1. Mr. Sullivan- 6533 Stevens Road- Sunroom- \$110
2. Mr. Hayes- 7401 Fair Haven Road- Addition- \$207.00
3. Mr. Hapgood- 6790 Rt. #41- Garage- \$165.00
4. Mr. Norby- 7536 Fair Haven Road- renovations - \$70.00
5. Mr. Sweet- 6640 Creek Road- storage Building- \$217

Certificate to Occupy:

1. Ripley hill MFH Park lot #4- Need for permit \$150.00.

Zoning Complaints:

1. Webber MFH Park- Lots of junk and zoning issues. I knocked on doors with the park owner to discuss issues with tenants. A dump trailer will be left at the site for residents to use.

Other:

Property Zoning and building search for title company- \$40.00.
 The Town received back a canceled check for training. \$350.00

Code Enforcer Officer Kim Fairchild told the Board he has submitted his letter of resignation to the Town Clerk.

Animal Control: Town Clerk Tamara Congdon told the Board that she received a report from Country Acres Animal Shelter that they picked up three dogs in Scott and one was deceased.

Highway Report:

Highway Superintendent David Putnam told the Board they have finished up Blacktopping and some work on Hewitt Road. Councilwoman Neeca Root stated the swings looked wonderful. Supervisor Dr. Guy Ruoff explained he had called the insurance company to add them on and it did not change the Towns premium. Councilman Louis Martin asked if they would be taking them down for the winter. Superintendent Putnam said they were good for all weather. Superintendent Putnam told the Board he has had security cameras put in at the Highway Garage. Supervisor Ruoff asked how they were backed up and explained that this could reduce the cost of their insurance premium. He will call the insurance company and find out.

Park:

Councilman Andrew Fuller told the Board on 10/01 he turned in \$518.00 and right now for the year \$8959.84. He went on to explain he is hardly getting anything now and we need to clean out the

channel. Councilman Fuller also explained the channel is down about 3 feet and they did better this year than any past year.

Supervisor Rouff said we have a great ability to fix the park up and this is something we really need to do. He explained we will be talking more about this.

Old Business:

Supervisor Guy Rouff explained that they had left the vote open for the resolution to eliminate the cost for the Boat Launch fees to town residents. He wanted to allow anyone who wanted to, to write in with concerns or comments. He then asked if anyone had received anything regarding this. Councilman Fuller was the only one that heard from anyone. He said two people told him why don't they leave it alone? It is town law and it's not that much money. Supervisor Rouff then asked that the Parks and Recreation Committee to get together for another meeting and discussing a few of the questions he has about the Boat launch before they made a final decision on the resolution.

Councilman Andrew Fuller Asked County Legislator Kevin Fitch if he had any paperwork on the DASNEY Grant. He said he already submitted it to the clerk. Town Clerk Tamara Congdon asked which clerk it was given to, and he responded with you. Town Clerk Tamara Congdon responded that she did not receive this paperwork. Councilman Trevor Adams asked if we could get another copy and Legislator Fitch said he would look for it.

Councilman Fuller said he had another old business; the creek has not been cleaned out yet. Legislator Fitch explained that Covid happened, and the county is still working with the engineer. He also said the DEC held it up, but it would be done in 2021.

Supervisor Rouff brought to the attention of the Board the new Zoning book that needs approval. Councilman Louis Martin said to Code Enforcer Officer Kim Fairchild that the last time they brought this up he had mentioned there were a few things that need to be changed. CEO Fairchild explained that they should update it to the new NYS codes. They just need to update the language in the book because Councilwoman Root and himself put this together over a year ago. CEO Fairchild said he thought Councilman Martin mentioned wanted to change something to the trailers. Councilman Martin said yes, he wanted to change it from one unlicensed trailer when many of them have several unlicensed trailers. Councilwoman Neeca Root explained she had already changed the regulation on the trailers for Councilman Martin. CEO Fairchild explained it was one sentence that needs to state the regarding of the new NYS codes. Councilwoman Neeca Root said she would fix it before the next meeting. CEO Fairchild also stated that the town needs it badly. This book is very important especially, for the new guy to take over his position.

New Business:

Supervisor Dr. Guy Ruoff brought to the attention of the Board's new business request by Councilman Louis Martin regarding the County Solar Project. Councilman Martin then asked County Legislator Kevin Fitch to explain.

Legislator Fitch explained the details of a recommendation from the county. They would like the town to adopt a new resolution to determine the dollar amount from the megawatt of a possible solar project. This resolution will allow IDA to negotiate a deal for the town if a solar project gets offered. Town Attorney Dan Ellis will call the County IDA and read the resolution for the board meeting next month.

Supervisor Dr. Guy Ruoff brought to the attention of the Board that there was property damage to the Towns Pump House #1. The authorities were called by Water Superintendent Brian Congdon and while the police were investigating a town resident (name restricted because he is a minor) turned himself in. He and a friend were playing with airsoft guns, while hiding behind the building they shoot the siding putting holes into it. The parents have asked to pay and replace the siding themselves to reduce the cost. After a brief discussion, it was decided the Town Lawyer Dan Ellis would write up an agreement to present to the parents and the Judge presiding over the case.

Supervisor Dr. Guy Rouff asked if there was any new business and Councilman Louis Martin said yes sir. He explained that this would be a question for Supervisor Rouff and Mr. Ellis. Councilman Martin said he was just on a meeting that was talking about a new law, the public employer mandatory emergency planning requirement signed by Governor Cuomo on September 7th, 2020, and it must be completed by April 1st. He asked if this was something that they heard of or is this something we should be on top of? Supervisor Rouff said this was new to him and Attorney Ellis asked for the name again. Councilman Martin continued to explain, the new law requires New York public employers to create plans to protect employees and contractors in the event of another public health emergency declaration in NYS. Attorney Dan Ellis said this is something he can look into.

Councilwoman Neeca Root brought to the attention of the Board that the supervisor's report states the Town Clerk has \$80.00 petty cash and she will need more money in her cash box for the upcoming tax collection. Town Clerk Tamara Congdon explained she does not have any petty cash, but she does not have enough money in her cash boxes to make change. Supervisor Rouff asked that we bring this up next month after we think about it. HWY Superintended Putnam explained that he was told he should have \$400.00 in petty cash but when taking over the position was only given \$200.00.

Adjournment:

Councilman Andrew Fuller motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 pm and was seconded by Councilwoman Neeca Root. All in favor, none opposed, the motion carries.

Supervisor Dr. Guy Ruoff Thanked everyone for logging in and their input.