

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Scott held April 13, 2021, by computer commencing at 6:00 P.M.

Zoom meeting was held because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

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

Recording Secretary: Tamara Congdon, Town Clerk

Other Present: Daniel J. Ellis II, Town Attorney
David Putnam, HWY Superintendent
Kevin Fitch, District 8, County Legislator
Russ Phelps, Court Justice
Teri Phelps, Court Justice Clerk

The Regular meeting of the Town of Scott was called to order at 6:01 pm by Supervisor Dr. Guy Ruoff and followed with the Pledge of the Allegiance.

Supervisor Guy Ruoff asked that there be a motion to go into an executive session. Councilwoman Paula Arnold made a motion to go into executive session and was seconded by Councilman Trevor Adams. All in favor, none opposed, the motion carries. Councilman Louis Martin did not vote due to technical difficulties. At a later point in the meeting, he expressed he would have not agreed to the proceeding of an executive session.

Supervisor Dr. Guy Ruoff then explained how he was going to put everyone in attendance, but not allowed in the executive meeting in a virtual waiting room. After the meeting, he would come back and put everyone back in the regular open Board Meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Present by Zoom: Dr. Guy Ruoff, Supervisor
Neeca Root, Councilwoman
Paula Arnold, Councilwoman
Louis Martin, Councilman (left early & did not vote)
Trevor Adams, Councilman

Recording Secretary: Tamara Congdon, Town Clerk

Other Present: Daniel J. Ellis II, Town, Attorney

After a private decision amongst the Board, the following was resolved.

Supervisor Dr. Guy Ruoff made a motion to remove Councilman Louis Martin from the Parks and Recreation Committee and was seconded by Councilwoman Paula Arnold. All in favor, none opposed, the motion carries. Councilman Trevor Adams abstained from the vote.

Supervisor Dr. Guy Ruoff made a motion to remove Hanna Martin from the Parks and Recreation Committee and was seconded by Councilwoman Paula Arnold. All in favor, none opposed, the motion carries. Councilman Trevor Adams abstained from the vote.

Supervisor Dr. Guy Ruoff made a motion to disallow Councilman Louis Martin from calling the Town Clerk Tamara Congdon at home or work for the rest of his elected term and was seconded by Councilwoman Paula Arnold. All in favor, none opposed, the motion carries. Councilman Trevor Adams abstained from the vote.

Supervisor Dr. Guy Ruoff made a motion to close the executive session and was seconded by Councilwoman Paula Arnold. All in favor, none opposed, the motion carries. Councilman Trevor Adams abstained from the vote.

Reopening of the Regular Meeting

Councilman Louis Martin explained that he was kicked out of the meeting and it was an illegal executive session and asked that they go back in. Highway Supervisor David Putnam asked if they would finish the meeting and then go back to their discussion.

Attention to the Floor:

Ann Swisher the hired Architect, for the Town Bathroom Grant, explained she had submitted the drawings to the engineer to be stamped. He will add in all his markups and will have all the specs written up. Ann will make sure to send them to Dan (Town Lawyer) and Tammy (Town Clerk) when they are done. Tim (Engineer) will be sending them to the County for approval and Dan can then proceed to get the permits from the DEC & Army Engineer Corps.

Ann Swisher explained they will be removing the 500 gallons. above ground tank and replacing it with a no float inground tank. They will also be removing the grinder needed for the indoor tank.

Councilwoman Paula Arnold asked how long it will be to get the specs. Ann replied that Tim is very busy, and it may take a couple of weeks. She also recommends that Dan reach out to Tim to push him along.

Approval of March 2021 Minutes:

Councilwoman Paula Arnold made a motion to approve the March minutes and was seconded by Councilman Trevor Adams. All in favor, none opposed the motion carries.

Approval of Abstracts #4:

Councilman Trevor Adams made a motion to approve the General Abstract #4 totaling \$9,044.45 and was seconded by Councilwoman Neeca Root. All in favor, none opposed, the motion carries.

Councilwoman Paula Arnold made a motion to approve the Highway Abstract #4 totaling \$43,186.71 and was seconded by Councilwoman Neeca Root. All in favor, none opposed, the motion carries.

Councilman Trevor Adams made a motion to approve the Water Abstract #4 totaling \$1,944.47 and was seconded by Councilwoman Paula Arnold. All in favor, none opposed, the motion carries.

Town Supervisor (Treasurer) Report:

Councilwoman Paula Arnold made a motion to approve the January and February Supervisor's reports and was seconded by Councilman Trevor Adams. All in favor, none opposed the motion carries.

Town Clerk Monthly Report:

Councilwoman Paula Arnold made a motion to accept the February Clerk Reports and was seconded by Councilwoman Neeca Root. All in favor, none opposed, the motion carries.

Revenue:

Building Permits	\$ 75.00
Decals	\$ 25.00
Dog Licenses	\$ 15.00
Marriage License	\$ 40.00
Total Revenue	\$155.00

Disbursements:

Paid to the Supervisor	\$106.88
Paid to Animal Population Program	\$ 2.00
Paid to NYS DEC	\$ 23.62
Paid to NYS Health Dept.	\$ 22.50
Total Disbursements	\$155.00

Legislator Report: County Legislator Kevin Fitch said he wanted to give Putnam a heads up that the County will be approving amnesty day in 2 weeks from Thursday. They will be waiving 30 tons of tipping fees. He explained the County Fireworks will be on July 3rd. He also explained they are working on the governor’s opposition about firearms on County property. The County is putting cameras on the school buses to take pictures of cars passing. They are trying to get the Senior Centers rolling out, they hope to get them up and running in the Fall. The Health Dept. is working on getting the vaccine out. (5303 have had a shot, 2044 have had 2nd shot) Ag/planning are working on getting Cortland Transit to reach out to Scott and Preble to help people get to the doctors. Finger Lakes Heritage is reaching out to Town Historians to look at documents. This means money for municipalities and grants to help with invasive species. The County will be getting back into foreclosures in the fall of 2021. The last time they did this was in 2018. The Town of Scott will be receiving \$6,709.83 for mortgage tax distribution. Legislator Finch also announced there will be a special meeting on April 19th, 202, at 5:30 by zoom or WebEx. They will also be in person at the legislator chambers, room 304. This will be for the County Senior Center proposal. The plan for opening and how they are going to operate. Lastly, He explained how there will be a meeting on April 29th, 2021 about Workman’s Comp and what to expect for 2022.

CEO Report:

Building Codes Officer sent a report to Supervisor Guy Ruoff because he was unable to attend the meeting.

- Cody Sweet built his barn.
- Permit for stop-work order.
- He has 2 tests in the morning.

Town Historian:

Town Historian Teresa Phelps turned into the Board a monthly report. She asked the Board if there was anyone opposed to her posting her fun facts in the Town Hall. This month’s fun facts are about the oldest State Park in NYS being on Hewitt Road. The Board agreed to the posting of her fun facts and thanked her for all her work.

Highway Report:

Highway Superintendent David Putnam announced he would like to have Amnesty Day Clean Up on Saturday, May 8th from 7:00 am-12:00 & 12:30- 4:00. He also explained how he would like residents to sort their metals before coming up. Superintendent Putnam will also be contacting the insurance company to find out if they require volunteers to sign waivers.

ZBA Report:

Town Lawyer Dan Ellis the ZBA members will be meeting on the 20th to discuss an application and will be having a public hearing shortly after.

Old Business:

Bathroom Grant: Town Lawyer Dan Ellis explained he does not know how long it will take to get the permits renewed.

Zoning Book: Councilwoman Paula Arnold explained that she is waiting for building Codes Officer Tim Bearup to finish reviewing the changes she was inquiring about.

MEPB: Councilwoman Paula Arnold explained how she could not make any correction to the bill because it was in a PDF format. Supervisor Ruoff offered to see if he can make any changes to the structure of the saved bill.

Boat Storage: Dan Ellis explained the town is currently waiting for them to get a use variance. He also explained how Building Code Officer Tim Bearup was in contact with them about a runoff issue, but he believes this has been resolved. Highway Superintendent David Putnam stated they had done a lot of work down there and it looks a lot better.

New Business:

Training Classes added by Councilman Louis Martin: Supervisor Guy Ruoff asked if anyone had any discussion on this and no one spoke out.

Health and Safety Officer added by Councilman Louis Martin: Supervisor Guy Ruoff asked who was inquiring about this and Town Clerk Tamara Congdon explained how Councilman Louis Martin had requested it be added to the agenda. Councilman Louis Martin explained how he took a class, and they said that we should have someone in that position. Supervisor Ruoff explained that this falls on the shoulders of the supervisor.

Amnesty Day Clean up added by Paula Arnold: Previously Discussed

Appointment to ZBA and BAR- Town Clerk Tamara Congdon explained how Town Resident Jeff Paul had come in and inquired about a posting on the Town Webpage, looking for Board positions and offered his services. Supervisor Ruoff asked if he could be on both Boards. Town Clerk Tamara Congdon explained she had previously checked with the County and they said it was okay.

Councilwoman Neeca Root made a motion to accept the appointment of Jeff Paul to the ZBA and the BAR and was seconded by Councilman Trevor Adams. All in favor, none opposed the motion carries.

Town Clerk Tamara Congdon also explained that Mark Meiczinger's appointment for the BAR was up. She had reached out to him to let him know and see if he was willing to be reappointed. Mark agreed and is asking for the Board's approval for a second term on the BAR.

Councilman Trevor Adams made a motion to accept the appointment of Jeff Paul to the ZBA and the BAR and was seconded by Councilwoman Neeca Root. All in favor, none opposed the motion carries.

Councilwoman Paula Arnold asked if they already had a quorum why they would need to redo the executive meeting. Town Attorney Dan Ellis explained they would not need to.

Councilman Louis Martin mentioned that the Executive Session was illegal because it was not one of the 8 reasons. Town Attorney Dan Ellis explained to him otherwise.

Councilman Louis Martin then announced he resigned from the Recreation Committee.

Adjournment:

Councilwoman Paula Arnold motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 pm and was seconded by Councilwoman Neeca root. All in favor, one opposed, the motion carries.

Councilman Louis Martin voted Nay.