

TOWN BOARD MEETING

September 13 2021

6:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councilpersons: Kevin Armstrong, Patty Wood, Leonard Govern, Luis Rodriguez-Betancourt, Supervisor Joseph Cetta, Attorney Carly Walas, Highway Superintendent, Jeff Offnick and Town Clerk Ronda Williams

ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Beatrice Bennett, Nate Watkins, Robert Wilkie, Daryl McClenon, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Bennett, Barbara MacDonald - Reporter

FLOOR TIME:

Supervisor Cetta invited Beatrice Bennett to approach the Board to acknowledge her new book "Echoes of the Past" as well as accept her donation of a Weeds Bridge picture. As Ms. Bennett was returning to her seat, the Walton Town Board and Town Clerk surprised Ms. Bennett with a plaque recognizing her for all of the historical documents she has donated to the Town of Walton over the years as well as recognizing her knowledge and love of Walton's history and her willingness to share it with everyone. Joining Beatrice was her son Dennis and his wife Judy.

Supervisor Cetta invited Daryl McClenon to approach the Board. Mr. McClenon of the Trout Creek Fire Department requested use of two town roads on September 26, 2021 for a UTV Parade that the fire departments have organized as a fundraiser. The roads that would be utilized are Higley Road and Mclaughlin Roads. He went on to say there would be a pace car to keep the speed reasonable as well as Fire Police at intersections for traffic control.

RESOLUTION #109

USE OF TOWN ROADS

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Armstrong granting the Trout Creek Fire Department permission to utilized Higley and Mclaughlin Roads within the Town of Walton for a UTV parade on September 26, 2021 between the hours of 12:00 -2:00 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.

RESOLUTION #110

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt approving the minutes of August 9, 2021 as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Town of Walton
Code Enforcement Office
Stephen L. Dutcher, CFM

Monthly Summary Report
Month of August 2021

Building Permits Issued	6
Building Inspections Completed	44
Fire Inspections Completed	0
Notices of Violation Issued	0
Tickets Issued	0
Certificates Issued	13
Complaints Received	0
Floodplain Development	
Permits Issued	1
CO Searches	2

DOG CONTROL REPORT:

Martin J. Way, Jr.
Dog Control Officer, Town of Walton
129 North Street Walton,
New York 13856
August 2021
Dog Control Activity Summary

Complaints	6
Dogs Seized	2
Returned to Owner	0
Humane Society	2
Dangerous Dogs	0
Tickets Issued	11
Total Redemption Fees	0
Help Requested	2
Mileage	64 Miles

ASSESSOR REPORT:

1. I attended an online webinar about the new valuation model for solar energy projects. This discounted cash value formula will be issued by the State every year. Assessments will be adjusted every year on the projects if necessary. The 2022 valuation model is in the comment period now and expected to be finalized later in the fall.
2. There are dozens of building projects going on in the Town and Village. Assessor's data collection is ongoing and tentative 2022 assessments for all properties will be issued in May.
3. Representatives from Delaware County Soil and Water plan to attend the September Assessors Association meeting to speak about agriculture assessments.
4. Real estate listings and sales are still very active with new listings and sales happening every week.
5. Exemptions are being processed as they are filed. The deadline to apply for the 2022 tax year is March 1, 2022.
6. The Assessor computer, laptop, camera, and phone system are all working well. It is nice to have the phone message system we do because it provides a written record of the date, time and caller ID of the message.

FEMA COORDINATOR:

Reported that FEMA has closed several of the small projects associated with your Pre-application# PA-02-NY-4397-RPA-0059. This action is taken to signify that all work has been completed for these projects, and that no further actions will be processed for them.

Find attached the list of Subgrant Applications that have been closed as part of this transaction.

PA-02-NY-4397-PW-00073 - 79405 - Town of Walton Culverts

PA-02-NY-4397-PW-00194 - 110022 - Various Town Roads 5

PA-02-NY-4397-PW-00092 - 84315 - Marvin Hollow Rd. & Johnson Hill Rd. Integral S

PA-02-NY-4397-PW-00074 - 76549 - Town of Walton Various Roads (1)

PA-02-NY-4397-PW-00075 - 79235 - Various Town Roads (2)

SUPERINTENDENT OF HWY. REPORT:

Reported that the seasonal help is finished mowing for the year.

Reported that Northern Crushing has moved in to process our millings and he plans to start paving on September 13, 2021.

Reported that the MacGibbon mining permit renewal has been submitted to the DEC.

Reported that they have completed the paving on Beers Brook as this section of road will no longer be a seasonal road.

Reported that he is still looking for a mechanic.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:

Provided Financial Reports

Reported that I will be attending a NYSTCA educational session in Albany for NYS Retirement System on September 20, 2021.

RESOLUTION #111

USE OF FACILITY

A motion was made by Councilwoman Wood, seconded by Armstrong granting Cecil Davis II use of the Town Hall Board Room on October 26th and a date to be determined in November for the purpose of Medicare Presentations. All in favor, motion carried.

RESOLUTION #112

USE OF FACILITY

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt granting Joseph Cetta permission to use Veterans Plaza on September 30, 2021 for the purpose of a rally. All in favor, motion carried.

Reported that I have received notification the we will be receiving the \$50,000 DASNY grant funds on September 16, 2021. This was a grant written for the roof replacement and bathroom repair.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Supervisor Cetta presented the following resolution to the Board for consideration.

A Resolution to Authorize the Walton Town Justice to Apply for a JCAP Grant up to \$30,000

WHEREAS the Walton Town Court has identified areas of improvement to the court room to address safety issues and needed equipment and

WHEREAS the Walton Town Court is requesting the current chairs be replaced with ones that can be securely attached to the court room floor and

WHEREAS to establish a point of entry away from the Justice bench to provide a more secure area for the Judge and prevent encroachment from court attendees and

WHEREAS to replace worn court office furniture and other needed court improvements and

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Walton Town Board authorizes the Walton Town Court to apply for a JCAP grant in the 2021-22 grant cycle up to \$30,000.

RESOLUTION #113

AUTHORITATION FOR THE WALTON TOWN JUSTICE TO APPLY FOR A JCAP GRANT UP TO \$30,000

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Wood granting authorization for the Walton Town Justice to apply for a JCAP grant up to \$30,000. All in favor, motion carried.

Supervisor Cetta reported that there is a need for a public hearing in order to participate in the CDBG program. The Board was in agreement to hold a public hearing on October 4, 2021.

RESOLUTION #114

PUBLIC HEARING

A motion was made by Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt, seconded by Wood granting permission to hold a public hearing on October 4, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose hearing further information about the CDBG program. All in favor, motion carried.

Reported that he would like to hire EFPR Group to assist in consulting services for the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund established under the American Rescue Plan.

RESOLUTION #115

HIRE EFPR GROUP

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt granting permission for Supervisor Cetta to enter into an agreement with EFPR Group for consulting services for the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund. All in favor, motion carried.

Supervisor Cetta presented the annual Recreation Agreement between the Village and Town of Walton in the amount of \$32,000. It was noted that this agreement is not the original drafted agreement that addressed the water on Veterans Plaza.

Reported current Covid Vaccinations for Delaware County are 47.5% for the County and 49.1% for the Town of Walton. Discussion took place concerning the lack of information on the Delaware County Public Health's dashboard website and the fact that it does not show the number of positive cases of those that are vaccinated versus unvaccinated. Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt stated those that are vaccinated or have previously had COVID are less likely to die from the Delta variant and that there is a lot of misinformation out there and you need to speak with your doctor.

COMMITTEE REPORT:

Councilman Govern informed the Board for the need to explore funding for an ambulance service for the residents of Walton. He questioned if Delaware County is going to provide a service or not because this will have an impact as to whether or not the committee will proceed with exploring options. He reported that currently the department has 66 volunteers with only about 35 that are active.

He continued that Stamford did away with their ambulance service due to lack of volunteers and we don't want to find ourselves in that situation.

Supervisor Cetta wanted to express his gratitude and how proud he was of the number of residents that came out and helped look for a missing 4-year-old child.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

RESOLUTION #116

APPROVAL OF BILLS

A motion was made by Councilman Govern seconded by Armstrong approving the vouchers as presented for payment. All in favor, motion carried.

General Fund A	#141-159	\$10,131.01
General OV B	#8-9	\$32,066.74
General Hwy DA	#80-87	\$9,817.71
OV HWY DB	#30-32	\$4,559.42

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

RESOLUTION #117

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Wood to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing a contract. All in favor, motion carried.

Entered 7:05 p.m.

Motion by Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt seconded by Armstrong to close executive session. All in favor, motion carried.

Out 8:00 p.m.

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronda Williams
Town Clerk