

**TOWN OF BRUNSWICK
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 11, 2016, 7:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL**

Board Members Present: Supervisor Herrington, Councilman Sullivan and Councilman Casale.

Board Members Absent: Councilman Christian and Councilman Balistreri.

Also Present: Town Attorney, Thomas Cioffi, and Town Clerk, William J. Lewis.

Supervisor Herrington called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

All joined in with the salute to the flag.

VISITORS WHO WISH TO SPEAK:

None

BUSINESS MEETING:

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

Councilman Sullivan made a motion to accept the Minutes of the previous meetings, seconded by Councilman Casale. Approved.

REPORTS:

Town Clerk: William J. Lewis

Mr. Lewis submitted a written report for the month of July. \$7,086.59 will be remitted to the Supervisor's office. Recycling, Dog License and Community Center use fees made up the majority of monies received. Motion to accept the Town Clerk's Report was made by Councilman Casale and seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Highway Superintendent: Doug Eddy

Mr. Eddy read his report for the month of July. Road work included road sweeping, tree and brush trimming, mowing roadsides, prepping roads for paving and paving. They also assisted Rensselaer County, the Town of Berlin and the Town of Grafton, supplying trucks to haul paving materials. The monthly brush pickup was completed as scheduled. Culvert replacements continued and the Water Department was assisted with a major repair on Pinewoods Ave. Motion to accept the report was made by Supervisor Herrington and seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Water & Sewer Report: Bill Bradley

Mr. Bradley read his report for the month of July. All required water samplings and Dig Safely requests were completed. He performed site inspections of completed infrastructures for the Highland Creek project, also consulting on the relocation of water and sewer lines. They replaced water valve boxes on Pinewoods Ave. and the generator at the Route 7 sewer pump station. Mr. Bradley also met with an engineering firm assessing the scope of work which would be required for water and sewer connections for a proposed Stewarts store to be located at the intersection of NY 7 and Sweet Milk Creek Rd. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Casale and seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Code Enforcement: Karen Guastella

Ms. Guastella read her report for the month of July. The report showed \$6,320.20 was collected for Building Permit and Zoning Variance/Planning Board Fees. 28 new building permits were issued, 142 building inspections were performed and active permits totaled 402. The department had 1 code call out, 12 code complaints and 12 code complaint inspections were made. Additionally, 2 fire inspections and 10 follow up inspections were completed.

Motion to accept the report was made by Supervisor Herrington and seconded by Councilman Casale. Approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Town Attorney: Thomas Cioffi

Mr. Cioffi gave his report for the month of July. Other than routine matters, he has been working with the Supervisor's office on personnel issues. Motion to accept the report was made by Supervisor Herrington and seconded by Councilman Casale. Approved.

Town Historian: Sharon Zankel

Mrs. Zankel read her report for the month of July. She wished to dedicate her report to the memory of Robert Cipperly, who passed away August 8th. He was a 50 year resident and served the town and county on numerous boards, committees and associations. He was a great asset to the community and will be missed. Sharon continues to work on locating graves at Forest Park Cemetery for a descendent who would like to place a tombstone at the site. She also assisted with genealogy research for two individuals and for the history of a resident's 19th century home. The Center Brunswick Cemetery Association is now soliciting donations in order to continue regular maintenance of the cemetery's recently manicured grounds. After some more research, it was determined that the round stone found on the banks of the Poesten Kill during bridge reconstruction is most likely a grinding stone used in the manufacture of tools at a factory once located on the stream. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Casale. Approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Recycling Coordinator: Thomas Engster

Mr. Engster read his report for the month of July. After expenses, there were revenues of \$3,388.86. 42.95 tons of material were recycled and landfilled for the month. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Casale and seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Library Report: Ms. Natalie Schipano

Ms. Schipano read her report for the month of July. The month saw a large increase in print circulation (3345) and patron visits (2657). Computer sessions, WIFI connections, e-books and digital audio books all saw a large increase last month. The regular programs have been running well and will continue. The Summer Reading Program ends August 27th with a free Renaissance Fair @ 1:00 pm. She is still working out a reveal date for the Free Little Library project. They have had a few issues to address this past month. The air conditioner for the program room needs to be replaced at a cost of over \$2,000.00. They have several bids and will be making a decision soon. County Waste has missed several trash pickups. Town Clerk Lewis has a contact person at CW, and will share that information after the meeting. Full schedules & news items are available at www.brunswicklibrary.org. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Casale. Approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 55 Resolution Appointing and Fixing Compensation of Town Employee. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Casale and seconded by Councilman Sullivan, was put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Balistreri, Voting Absent; Councilman Christian, Voting Absent; Councilman Casale, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Resolution No. 56 Resolution Appointing and Fixing Compensation of Town Employee. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Casale, was put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Balistreri, Voting Absent; Councilman Christian, Voting Absent; Councilman Casale, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Resolution No. 57 Resolution to Accept the Water and Sewer Maintenance Roll for the Period of 01/01/2016 Through 06/30/2016. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Casale, was put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Christian, Voting Absent; Councilman Casale, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Absent; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Resolution No. 58 Resolution Declaring Items to be Surplus Property. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Supervisor Herrington, was put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Christian, Voting Absent; Councilman Casale, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Absent; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Resolution No. 59 Resolution Accepting Proposal for Re-design and Build of the Town Website and Related services. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Casale, was put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Christian, Voting Absent; Councilman Casale, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Absent; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

WARRANTS:

Warrants No. 160814 through 160936, No. 72916001 through 72916013 and No. 81216001 through 81216012 were presented. Councilman Casale made a motion to approve the warrants, seconded by Supervisor Herrington. Approved.

FURTHER COMMENTS FROM VISITORS:

Mr. Jim Tkacik, 387 Brunswick Rd., addressed the board with several questions. He had inquired last month why a building permit for a large scale solar panel installation had been denied, and wanted some clarification. It was his understanding that the Town Board had advised the Code Enforcement Officer not to issue it and if this was even legal, or if it was an arbitrary decision seeing as the moratorium didn't even exist.

Mr. Cioffi, Town Attorney, stated it was not a board decision. The reason for denial was that nowhere in the town zoning ordinance was this type of installation listed as a permitted use and was therefore not allowed. This was being addressed in the current complete zoning regulation update.

Mr. Tkacik, on the subject of the zoning update, was concerned why it was taking so long and, if in fact, there was any "completion date" in the contract with the engineering firm that had not been met. He also questioned what expertise the firm had in solar installations or how or from whom they were collecting relevant information on which to base the regulations they will ultimately recommend. He understood that while solar farms were new to Brunswick, many towns in the area had already developed and instituted regulations and did not see why Brunswick could not do the same, as separate legislation, without waiting for the completed zoning update. There were plenty of examples to look at for information and guidance. Also, if by absence of "permitted use" designation and regulations solar farms are not permitted, why even be considering a moratorium. He feels it is not necessary and a waste of time which would be better spent developing regulations.

While not able to immediately address all of Mr. Tkacik's questions, Supervisor Herrington also expressed his frustration with the time it has been taking to roll out the new zoning ordinance and assured him that he has been pressuring the engineering firm towards completion. He noted however, that he wants to be absolutely sure that the new ordinance meets the town's *specific* needs and is not an "off the shelf" generic compilation. A few people being frustrated now is preferable to having a terrible document that the whole town is upset with. It will still need to be scheduled for public hearings upon completion and wants to be confident it will bear up to review..

ADJOURNMENT:

Supervisor Herrington made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Lewis
Town Clerk

Note: An audio compact disc of this meeting is available at the Town Clerk's Office.