

**TOWN OF BRUNSWICK
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
MARCH 12, 2020, 7:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL**

Board Members Present: Supervisor Herrington, Councilman Sullivan, Councilman Christian, and Councilman Cipperly.

Board Members Absent: Councilman Balistreri.

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

Supervisor Herrington called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
All joined in with the salute to the flag.

VISITORS WHO WISH TO SPEAK:

The following speakers were all referencing the current collective bargaining negotiations being held between the Town of Brunswick and the CSEA, which represents the Town Highway and Water Departments.

Jim Sponable, 156 Bulson Road. While understanding controlling the budget and staying within the mandated 2% cap is necessary, he feels the Highway Department is the most important asset for residents of the town and should be treated as such. He has attended a union meeting and is aware of some of the issues on both sides including the claim that office employees have better benefits. He thinks there should be more give and take on both sides to calm things down and make for a more friendly work environment.

Mark Baudy, 3 Nicholas Drive, 13 year resident, 3½ years with the Town Highway Department and Union President for the Town workers. Mr. Baudy made the following comments/claims: They have been trying to negotiate a contract since the fall to no avail; At the recent fourth meeting they were prepared to make counter proposals and to meet part of the way however, management refused to bargain at all; All the Union's proposals were shot down on the basis it would change previous contracts – isn't that the point?; Management has contempt for the workers, denying similar benefits allowed for the office employees; Employees are pressured to be available for overtime work and then it is given it to supervisors; Special treatment and favors are given to a few at the expense of the others.

George Hebert, Cohoes, retired Cohoes DPW worker, likened the highway department to fire and rescue as they respond at any time night or day. Continuing as is could prompt dedicated workers to leave for better opportunities. They just need a fair slice of the pie

BUSINESS MEETING:

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

Councilman Sullivan made a motion to accept the Minutes of the previous meetings, seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved.

REPORTS:

Town Clerk: William Lewis

Mr. Lewis gave his report for the month of February. \$7,451.60 will be remitted to the Supervisor's office. Recycling fees accounted for \$4,798.00, Community Center fees \$1,650.00, Pavilion fees \$100.00, dog license fees \$450.00 and \$452.00 in miscellaneous fees making up the balance. The Community Center had 11 new reservations and all weekend dates through April are now booked. Motion to accept the report was made by Supervisor Herrington and

seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Highway Superintendent: Brandon Hill

Mr. Hill was unable to attend the meeting. A written report has been submitted. Motion to accept the report was made by Supervisor Herrington and seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Water & Sewer Report: Bill Bradley

Mr. Bradley gave his report for the month of February. Department work included the following: Completed all monthly water testing; Completed meter readings in preparation for the mailing of water bills; Continued with planning and review of the Brunswick Acres proposed PDD as well as other projects in the Town; Repaired a 16" water main on Pinewoods Ave. This repair had been planned and the residents informed, however an additional unmapped valve was discovered which to repair required additional shutdowns. The voice/text messaging system used worked well for the initial notifications but proved difficult for notifying the additional residents. He will be working with Tracy Broderick to modify the call zones to be more flexible. Water meter replacements in the Eagle Mills area will begin soon. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Code Enforcement: Charles Golden

Mr. Golden gave his report for the month of February. The report showed a total of \$11,116.50 was collected by the department. This includes fees for Building Permits, Zoning Variance/Planning Board applications, vacant building registrations and FOIL requests. 7 building permits were issued or renewed, 47 building and property inspections were performed and active permits totaled 278. The department had two (2) code call outs, nine (9) code complaints, nine (9) code complaint inspections and five (5) fire inspections. An additional twelve (12) follow up inspections were completed. There are eight (8) Planning Board projects open or approved and twelve (12) with the Zoning Board. No new abandoned/vacant properties were identified. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Unanimously 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 February. Other than routine matters, his work included the following: Worked with the Supervisors Office on purchasing and personnel matters; Finalized bid documents for the removal of brush and wood at the Town Landfill; Assisted the Town Clerks Office on a foil request; Attended a meeting with the County Engineer and Attorney on a highway issue; Performed various legal research projects and provided legal assistance for Town officers and employees; Attended a special meeting regarding fire pre-plan software; Continued to work on and attend meetings concerning collective bargaining negotiations with the union representing the Town's highway and water personnel. Motion to accept the report was made by Supervisor Herrington and seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved.

Town Historian: Sharon Zankel

Mrs. Zankel was unable to attend the meeting. When received, a copy of the written report will be on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Recycling Coordinator: Thomas Engster

Mr. Engster gave his report for the month of February. Revenues for the month were \$4,798.54 and expenses were \$2,857.16. 24.49 tons of materials were recycled and 12.93 tons landfilled for the month. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Cipperly. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Library Report: Sara Hopkins

Ms. Hopkins gave her report for the month of February. For the month there were 5541 total circulated items, 1347 digital – E-books & E-Audiobooks - 4194 physical, and the customer count was 2852. The computers logged 121 sessions. There were 50 programs with 836 total attendees. There were 292 participants in children's events and 544 participants in adult events. Special events during February included: Adult Winter Reading Program which registered 166 people and produced 7,000 reading hours together; Neck Pain Workshop; Acupuncture workshop; Live Music; Community Folk Dance. Due to the Coronavirus outbreak the library will unfortunately have to cancel community events and will be working on ways to serve residents remotely going forward, Schedule changes, hours and information on available services during the pandemic will be available at www.brunswicklibrary.org. Motion to accept the report was made by Supervisor Herrington and seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 33 Resolution Appointing and Fixing Salary of Part-Time Town Employee. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Christian, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Christian, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Absent; Councilman Cipperly, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Resolution No. 34 Resolution Appointing and Fixing Salary of Deputy Superintendent of Highways. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Sullivan, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Christian, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Absent; Councilman Cipperly, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Resolution No. 35 Resolution Approving and Authorizing Acceptance of quotation for Purchase and Delivery of One (1) New 2020 Felling FT-45-2 LP Deck Over Plus Package trailer with 24' Main Deck Length, 7' X 38" Plus Tapered Approach Wood Inlaid Air, with Hydraulics, Attachments and Accessories, Pursuant to Sourcewell (Formerly National Joint Powers Alliance) Cooperative Contract. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Sullivan, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Christian,

Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Absent; Councilman Cipperly, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Supervisor Herrington received a letter from Diane Petersen praising the Town Beach operations last summer. She and her grandchildren enjoyed it very much and found the employees courteous and the facilities and grounds well maintained. It is an asset, helping to make the Town a great place to live. Thank you!

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

WARRANTS:

Warrants No. 200215 through 200313, No. 22120001 through 22120010 and No.30620001 through 30620006 were presented. Councilman Christian made a motion to approve the warrants, seconded by Supervisor Herrington. Unanimously approved.

Individual fund expenses were as follows:

General	\$ 141,184.68
Highway	\$ 61,933.75
Water	\$ 13,734.53
Sewer	\$ 1,219.60
Special Sewer District	\$ 842.60
Special Fire Districts	\$ 1,699,097.25

FURTHER COMMENTS FROM VISITORS:

Marney Rounds, 685 5th Avenue, Troy, Rensselaer County Local President, was attending in support of the Town of Brunswick union employees. She stated: The workers are available to be called in at any time; Their families shop in our local stores; As family people, would you (addressing the Board Members) agree that 20 year old standards are appropriate today?; Please negotiate a fair contract.

George Hebert, Cohoes, wanted to thank the Board on behalf of all attending for the opportunity to speak and be heard. Not all communities seem to have this available to their residents.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Christian made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Cipperly. Unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Lewis, Town Clerk