

**TOWN OF BRUNSWICK
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
JULY 8, 2021, 7:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL**

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

Board Members Absent: None

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

Supervisor Herrington called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
All joined in with the salute to the flag.

VISITORS WHO WISH TO SPEAK:

Tamara White, 1 Maple Avenue, introduced herself and her husband as the new owners of the church at that address. While she and her husband intended to live there, they would like to use the congregation space for local residents use. A few uses they envision are: Space for local artists to rent; Space for local artists and community members to display and sell their homemade items; Space to rent for community events; Community garden; Donation library etc. They would like to hear from residents for opinions, or suggestions on their plan. They have started the process of obtaining permits for their building.

BUSINESS MEETING:

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

Councilman Sullivan made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 10, 2021 regular meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved.

REPORTS:

Town Clerk: William Lewis

Mr. Lewis gave his report for the month of June. \$19,796.00 will be remitted to the Supervisor's office. Summer Camp Registrations accounted for \$11,900.00, Recycling fees for \$4,899.98, Community Center fees for \$1,200.00, Pavilion fees for \$300.00, Dog License fees for \$461.00 and \$1,035.00 in miscellaneous fees making up the balance. The Community Center had 8 new reservations and the Beach Pavilion 3. Summer Camp opened on June 29th and other than the usual first day adapting it is running well. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Balistreri. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Highway Superintendent: Terry Scriven

Ed O'Donnell, Deputy Highway Superintendent gave the report for the month of June. Work included: swept and patched roars; ditched roads and replaced culverts; pinched up brush and leaf bags, hauling brush to landfill; mowed and trimmed limbs along roadsides; hauled recyclables; mowed ballfields; repaired tables at Town Beach. 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.

Water & Sewer: Bill Bradley

Mr. Bradley was unable to attend the meeting and a report was not available. When available, a copy of the written report will be filed in the Town Clerk's Office.

Code Enforcement: Charles Golden

Mr. Golden gave his report for the month of June. The report showed \$10,257.70 was collected for Building Permits and Zoning and Planning Board Fees. 29 building permits were issued or renewed, 64 building/property inspections were performed and active permits totaled 353. The department had 0 code call outs, 13 code complaints, 12 code complaint inspections, 10

follow up complaint inspections and 0 fire inspection. No additional vacant/abandoned properties were identified. There are 9 Planning Board projects open or approved and 6 with the Zoning Board. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Cipperly and seconded by Councilman Balistreri. 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 June. He had prepared the Resolutions for this meeting; worked with the Building Department on code enforcement and zoning matters; Worked with the Office of the Supervisor regarding a procurement issue; Attended and participated in a special Meeting on June 28th; Participated in discussions with individual Town Board Members on the proposed CVE solar project; Worked with counsel for National Grid regarding a building permit fee issue; Assisted various Town officials in preparing letters and other documents; Assisted various Town officials with legal research and opinions, Motion to accept the report was made by Supervisor Herrington and seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved.

Town Historian: Sharon Zankel

Mrs. Zankel gave her report for the month of June. Regarding the Covid-19 pandemic, she has observed that locally more people are moving about more freely. As of June 6th Rensselaer County reported that 69.2 percent of residents had been vaccinated with at least one dose. The push is still on for more people to get the vaccine. Mrs. Zankel has continued to work with a family looking to place a tombstone at Forest Park Cemetery. There have been inquiries about two homes for sale that date back to the late 1800s. She does not however have any specific information. She is still pursuing restoration efforts for the State historic markers. Last month, the upkeep of the cemeteries on NY 278 was raised. She has been informed that maintenance has lagged due to health issues with the usual volunteers and lack of funds. Information and guidance from the NYS Division of Cemeteries has been forwarded to the supervisors Office. The State Legislature passed a bill establishing a commission to prepare for the nation's 250th anniversary, in 2026, of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. This may make Federal and foundation funds available to the State. The States preservation and education departments will be working on this and encourage regional and local organizations to prepare appropriate history based commemorations. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Balistreri and seconded by Councilman Cipperly. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Recycling Coordinator: Thomas Engster

Mr. Engster was unable to attend the meeting. He had previously submitted a report for the month of June. His report showed, that after expenses, there were revenues of \$2,508.26. 26.91 tons of materials were recycled and 20.39 tons landfilled for the month. 6.21 tons of mixed cardboard/chipboard, 5.22 tons of baled cardboard, 4.75 tons of mixed metal, 8.39 tons of mixed glass/plastic and 2.34 tons of electronics were recycled. 9 appliances, 3 air conditioners, 18 tires and 17 televisions were recycled. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Community Library: Sara Hopkins

Ms. Hopkins give her report for the month of June. The library has opened to 50% capacity. Last month there were 2,939 physical checkouts, 31 pickup appointments, 1,288 walk in visitors and 2,021 digital checkouts. 404 people participated in various programs. Large increase in walk in traffic from an average of 10-20 to 40-50 people per day. They have applied for a

McCarthy Grant to build two pavilions and if unsuccessful, will try for a NYS DLD construction grant which opens soon. New bathroom construction has begun. Storytime on the lawn began June 6th and they hope to host more outdoor activities this summer. Garden Day on June 5th was a huge success and she thanked Supervisor Herrington and the Town for their support! There will be a Civil War Living History Event July 10th 10:30 – 2:00, featuring musket and cannon demonstrations and more. Stewart’s Shops will again be selling ice cream cones, with all proceeds being donated to the library. Beginning June 14th, the library will again be able to process passports. Program schedules (new and continuing), special events and news items are 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. 52 Resolution Awarding Service Contract for Solid Waste and Recycling Services. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Sullivan, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Cipperly, Voting Aye; Councilman Christian, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Resolution No. 53 Resolution Accepting Application for Amendment of the Zoning Law of the Town of Brunswick, Appointing Consulting Engineer and Special SEQRA Counsel, and Referring Application to the Planning Board and the Rensselaer County Department of Economic Development and Planning – CVE North America, Inc. – Belair Lane & North Lake Avenue – Tax Parcel No. 91-2-54. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Cipperly, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Cipperly, Voting Aye; Councilman Christian, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Tara Dinatio of the Capital District Regional Planning Commission spoke to the Board regarding the Clean Energy Communities Program. The program had been brought up at the June 10th Town Board Meeting she was appearing this evening to give a brief overview of the program and how her agency could help going forward. The project is administered by NYSERDA and was first offered in 2016. The first round of grants was exhausted quickly and for this next round (“leadership round”) new actions have been added and the process is a little more complex. To become a designated community, four out of the thirteen qualifying actions need to be completed, which then qualifies the Town for \$5,000.00 in grant money. The Town, based on population, would be eligible for up to \$70,000.00 in grants. As more actions are completed, more money is available. She noted that some of the energy saving projects the Town has already completed may qualify retroactively. Her office is available for free technical support for project implementation and for help with document preparations as well. Councilman Cipperly inquired as to how far into this new round we stood. The round started in January and since it is a bit more complex this time through, no grants have been awarded other than a few of the initial \$5,000.00 ones for becoming designated.

Councilman Christian gave an overview of the brush pickup program the Highway Department conducts every year. After Christmas, trees are picked up. A spring cleanup period follows, then monthly brush and yard waste pickups continue throughout the summer and fall. There is also an area at the Town Hall complex where residents can drop off these items. While we transport and hold the brush at our former landfill site, the Department of Environmental Conservation requires us to ultimately remove it. To that end we have to lease a tub grinder at substantial expense. Supervisor Herrington mentioned that due to this, we were monitoring brush drop off at our facilities to be sure non-residents or contractors were not taking advantage of the Town. Councilman Balistreri gave an update on the Veterans Banner Program, There are now 82 installed around town and approximately 3 to 5 are ordered each month. It takes about 4 weeks for an order to be received. He thanked Tracy Broderick for processing the orders and the Highway Department for installations.

WARRANTS:

Warrants No. 210600 through 210692, No. 62521001 through 62521009 and No. 709210 through 709210 were presented. Motion to approve the warrants was made by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Balistreri. Unanimously approved. Individual fund expenses were as follows:

General	\$	79,703.23
Highway	\$	84,179.47
Water	\$	53,036.97
Sewer	\$	477.80
Special Sewer	\$	476.95

FURTHER VISITORS WHO WISH TO SPEAK:

Jim Tkacik, 387 Brunswick Road, asked for more information regarding projects before the Planning and Zoning Boards be available on line, such as traffic and engineering documents. Next, with the continued commercial development, especially on Hoosick Rd., he suggested that other commercial areas described in the Town's most recent Zoning Laws be promoted to ease the pressure. The Town Comprehensive Plan was to try to utilize the other commercial zones such as McChesney Avenue. Mohawk Ambulance recently built its new facility there at the Town's urging. Lastly, he voiced his displeasure at the delay in posting of town Board minutes. This was acknowledged by Town Clerk Lewis.

Paul Buehler, 1054 NY 7, asked if there were any traffic mitigation plans in the works such as turn lanes or roundabouts? Supervisor Herrington noted that he has met with the State DOT on many occasions and they don't seem to consider an issue.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Christian made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Councilman Balistreri. Unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Lewis
Town Clerk