

**TOWN OF BRUNSWICK
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 14, 2021, 7:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL**

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

Board Members Absent: Supervisor Herrington

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

Supervisor Herrington was on vacation. Deputy Supervisor Christian presided, calling the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

All joined in with the salute to the flag.

***VISITORS WHO WISH TO SPEAK:**

Betty Fucci, 36 Killock Ave., had concerns with drainage resulting from construction on the lot next to hers. She stated that water is being directed onto her properties, both across the street and also out close to her homes septic system. There have been discussions about ditching the property across the road to direct the flow to an existing storm drain on Woodward Ave. She feels the Town does not give enough attention or assistance with this type of problem on smaller projects. Water Superintendent Bradley has met with her about this and Councilman Christen noted the Town was willing to do the ditch work but it's not the right time of year. Mr. Bradley will be asked to keep up with this.

Louis Hutter, 228 White Church Rd., first wanted to compliment Supervisor Herrington (even in his absence) on the newsletter article referencing the zoning review on two family and multi Family construction projects. He agrees this is needed. Next he discussed the flooding over and around Route 351 (Farm to Market Rd.) at White Church Road which has been occurring, especially during the past July 15th storm. Roden Field has been underwater and homes on the other side of Route 351 have been flooded. He knows the culvert in question is the State DOT responsibility but felt that the Town should be contacting them to address the situation. Councilman Christian will discuss this with Superintendent Bradley concerning this issue.

Sharon Zankel, 734 Pinewoods Ave., related her frustration with internet service and the fact that many areas have no access to it and its cost. She had information from a Consumer Reports article "Better Internet for Less". She read a portion of the article which explains the issue and program for Broadband Affordability Initiative" where individuals would take an internet speed test, respond to a short questionnaire and send it in with a copy of their bill. The information will help them learn how much people are paying in neighborhoods across the country, whether they are receiving what was promised and whether the prices are fair. /the results could help pressure providers into better access, service and pricing.

BUSINESS MEETING:

***MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Councilman Sullivan made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 9, 2021 regular meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Balistreri. Unanimously approved.

REPORTS:

**Town Clerk:* William Lewis

Mr. Lewis gave his report for the month of September. \$9,275.82 will be remitted to the Supervisor's office. Rounding numbers, recycling fees accounted for \$6,613.00, Community Center fees for \$450.00, Dog License fees for \$672.00 and \$1,540.00 in miscellaneous fees making up the balance. The Community Center had 3 new reservations and inquiries are picking

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up. 2021-2022 Hunting licenses were selling well, earning the Town \$516.00 commission on \$9,337.00 in sales. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Cipperly and seconded by Councilman Sullivan. 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 September. Work included: patched and paved roads (shared service with Rensselaer County); ditched roads and replaced culverts; picked up brush and lawn bags, hauling to landfill; mowed roadsides and ballfields; hauled recyclables. 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 attending to an emergency water break repair on Pinewoods Avenue and was unable to present a report. Arriving near the end of the meeting, he updated the Board on the break and other matters. Fortunately the break was an old fire hydrant tap which failed. While difficult to repair, it didn't require cutting sections of pipe out. It also required a lot of effort to properly backflow the system to keep service interruptions to a minimum. For regular business, work has started at Leon project, with attention to the Kentucky Fried Chicken side first. This needs to be completed by the end of October to turn over to the franchise owners. They have had to remove fill which was unsuitable for a building pad. The Hannaford project on Lord Ave. is close to final approvals for storm water planning which will allow for site work to begin. Other routine department work has been completed. A copy of the written report, when available, will be on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

*Code Enforcement: Charles Golden

Mr. Golden was unable to attend the meeting. His written report has been submitted. 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 September. He had prepared the Resolutions for this evening's meeting; attended the special meeting for presentation of the 2022 Tentative Budget; worked with the Supervisors Office on time and attendance issues involving an employee; worked with the Supervisors Office regarding large purchases; worked with the Assessment Department on the appointment to the Board of Assessment Review; worked with the Building Department regarding several code enforcement issues; attended and participated in weekly meetings regarding the review of overall zoning regulations, including those pertaining to two family and multi-family housing regulations; participated in discussions regarding the application to extend Sewer District #3 in order to accommodate the Hannaford project; performed legal research as requested by officers and employees; provided legal opinions and interpretations; conducted legal research for officers and employees on a variety of matters as needed. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Balistreri. Unanimously approved.

*Town Historian: Sharon Zankel

Mrs. Zankel gave her report for the month of September. Her research through NYS Archives and the Library of Congress into the origins of the naming of the GAR (Grand Army of the Republic) Post #658 in Cropseyville, has finally concluded that it was named the Henry Ensign Post not the Henry A. Ensign Post. That matter is closed. She was happy to report that two of our local restaurants, The Plum Blossom and Duncan's, were once again on the Times Union's top

100 restaurants list. She has been working with Brunswick Historical Society President Tracy Broderick on the Forest Park Cemetery tour. The cemetery will be open Saturday, October 23rd from 1:00 to 3:00pm., and while reservations are appreciated (by contacting the Historical Society) they are not required. The tour will be more self-guided this year for reasons of social distancing. There will be an informational brochure about the cemetery, a map, more markers on the main paths and signboard exhibits with photos. They are still working on ways to also keep the sign-in process safe. She also recognized Tracy Broderick for all her efforts on the tombstone repair project, on which \$10,250.00 has been spent over three years for resetting stones. Tracy has also been tracking down and researching records to identify plots and people interred. Many burials were not Brunswick residents, but from neighboring cities and towns. She was very happy to note that the Town of Brunswick residents did a wonderful job of reporting for the 2020 census. We were one of the outstanding towns in Rensselaer County in this respect. The Census Bureau issues weekly reports on many topics, such as area jobs, employment data etc., and people can sign up on their website to receive them. Lastly, she is still on the hunt for any photographs of Brunswick people and places as well as for oral histories, especially relating to the COVID pandemic and how it affected them. 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. A report for the month of September has been submitted. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

**Community Library:* Sara Hopkins

Ms. Hopkins gave her report for the month of September. Last month there were 2964 physical checkouts, 25 pickup appointments, 1,498 walk in visitors and 2,346 digital checkouts. 516 people participated in various programs. They received a \$5,000.00 grant from Humanities NY to support programs, museum passes and book purchases. They also received a \$600.00 grant from Poets and Writers for a writing workshop with author Susannah Risley. Fall Fest was a success with over 200 attending, and Sara thanked the town for donating a portable toilet for the day. They are planning a Halloween Trail for October 29th through the 31st. Volunteers are needed for decorating, and donations of candy, small toys and paper bags would be appreciated. Program schedules (new and continuing), special events and news items are available at www.brunswicklibrary.org 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.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 58 Resolution Appointing Member to Board of Assessment Review. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Balistreri 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 Absent. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Resolution No. 59 Resolution Approving and Authorizing Supervisor to Execute Planned Service Agreement with Johnson Controls, Inc., Pertaining to HVAC Equipment at the Town Office Building. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Balistreri, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Cipperly, Voting Aye; Councilman Christian, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye;

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

Resolution No. 60 Resolution Approving 2022 Tentative Budget as 2022 Preliminary Budget of the Town of Brunswick. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Balistreri, 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 Absent. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

A Public Hearing to accept comment regarding the 2022 Preliminary Budget was scheduled for Thursday, November 4, 2021, to be held at Town Hall commencing at 6:15 pm. Unanimously approved.

Resolution No. 61 Resolution to Accept the Water and Sewer Maintenance Roll for the Period of 01/01/2021 Through 06/30/2021 – August 2021 Water and Sewer Roll. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Balistreri, 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 Absent. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Resolution No. 62 Resolution and Order Accepting Petition for Extension of Town of Brunswick Sewer District No. 3, to be Known as Extension 3-B, and Scheduling Public Hearing. 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 Absent. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

A Public Hearing to accept comment regarding the Sewer District Extension, was scheduled for Thursday, November 4, 2021, to be held at Town Hall commencing at 6:00 pm. Unanimously approved.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Two notes were received from the Brunswick Community Library. The first thanking Pat Poletto and Supervisor Herrington for allowing them to participate in the Summer Concert 50/50 raffles. They raised over \$1,000.00! The second note thanked Town Clerk Lewis and Supervisor Herrington for procuring the portable toilet for their Fall Fest.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

***WARRANTS:**

Warrants No. 210943 through 211065, No. 91721001 through 91721009, No. 93021001, No. 100121001 through No. 100121006 and No. 101521001 through 1015211006 were presented. Motion to approve the warrants was made by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Balistreri. Unanimously approved. Individual fund expenses were as follows:

General	\$	146,175.84
Highway	\$	155,851.83
Water	\$	370,456.75

Sewer	\$	9,676.82
Special Sewer	\$	558.34
Special Fire	\$	55,242.53

FURTHER VISITORS WHO WISH TO SPEAK:

***ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilman Sullivan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilman Balistreri. Unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Lewis
Town Clerk