

**TOWN OF BRUNSWICK
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 10, 2022, 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: 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:

Christy Fronhofer, 72 Oneida Avenue, voiced concerns that heavy trucks were increasingly using their neighborhood streets as a shortcut around Hoosick Road traffic. She noted the thought had been brought up about closing off Lord Avenue or possibly making it one way. Nothing has progressed on this and attorney Cioffi was not sure of the legalities involved but would look into it further. Ms. Fronhofer also mentioned she had some damage to her home from blasting nearby. Supervisor Herrington informed her that the Code Enforcement Department had forms for reporting this.

Jennifer Mann, 91 Hill Road, speaking for Louis Hutter. He was asking if the Town Board meeting times could be altered as the meeting was the same time and days as the school board meetings. He has approached the school and they seemed receptive to changing some.

BUSINESS MEETING:

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

Councilman Sullivan made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 13, 2022 Regular Meeting and the January 13, 2022 Public Hearing. Motion seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved.

REPORTS:

Town Clerk: William Lewis

Mr. Lewis gave his report for the month of January. \$7,219.82 will be remitted to the Supervisor's office. Rounding numbers, recycling fees accounted for \$3,845.00, Community Center fees for \$1,800.00, Dog License fees for \$530.00 and \$1,045.00 in miscellaneous fees making up the balance. The Community Center had 12 new reservations and bookings are well into May. 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.

Highway Superintendent: Terry Scriven

Mr. Ed O'Donnell, Deputy Highway Superintendent, gave the report for the month of January. Work included: installed grates and spinners on plow trucks; plowed and sanded roads; hauled sand; picked up Christmas trees; cut brush back on roadsides; hauled brush and leaves to landfill; hauled recyclables; washed and waxed trucks. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Balistreri. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Water & Sewer: Bill Bradley

Mr. Bradley gave his report for the month of January. All required waiter testing for the month was completed. He continues to monitor the Leon project. Blasting at the site has disturbed some residents and Chuck Golden is keeping track of complaints. This and the Hannaford project have

slowed on account of weather. The Sharpe Road subdivision is underway and he will begin monitoring/inspecting going forward. There have been a few water line breaks recently. One was a 16" main at the intersection of Routes 2 and 278, requiring a temporary fire hose bypass, which prevented a major shutdown. Mr. Bradley thanked Rich Elder, Rensselaer County Health Department and Jay Wilson, Rensselaer County Emergency Management as well as several fire departments for their assistance. 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. 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 January. The report showed \$13,838.60 was collected for Building Permits and Zoning and Planning Board Fees. 11 building permits were issued or renewed, 99 building/property inspections were performed and active permits totaled 362. The department had 6 code call out with inspection, 9 code complaints, 7 code complaint inspections, 5 follow up complaint inspections and 1 fire inspection. No additional vacant/abandoned properties were identified. There are 6 Planning Board projects open or approved and 3 with the Zoning Board. 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.

Town Attorney: Thomas Cioffi

Mr. Cioffi gave his report for the month of January. He had attended and participated in weekly meeting in regards to the Zoning Law updates as they pertain to two and multi-family housing construction; prepared Resolutions for this meeting; continued working with the Supervisors Office regarding selection of new phone system; worked on the Request for Proposals for an engineering firm to work with the Planning Board on a regular basis; worked with the Supervisors Office regarding personnel matters; prepared and reviewed various legal documents, and performed legal research and advisement as requested by town officials and employees; Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Balistreri and seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved.

Town Historian: Sharon Zankel

Mrs. Zankel gave her report for the months of December and January. December: Due to the new virus variant situation she was not able to not able to engage with the community as much as usual with closures and restrictions etc. Several oral history interviews needed to be postponed due to the virus and also snowy weather. The mystery of the 1800's Eagle Mills postage cancellation stamp is still unresolved. She recognized Ms. Stacey Pomeroy Draper who is retiring as Curator for the Hart-Cluett Museum for over 40 years. She was an inspiration to other historians, offering her knowledge guidance to all. She was also instrumental in the development of exhibits. January: There were no historical inquiries last month and plans for oral history interviews were again thwarted by illness and weather. She has been doing online research on the advent of electricity in the town. Anyone with knowledge of its development back in the day is encouraged to call her. On a Corona Virus update: On February 8th Rensselaer County out of 1,531 test, 38 were positive. Over the last week, Brittonkill Central School District has only had a few positive test on various days last week. The Erie Canal Museum in Syracuse is offering an online presentation on February 17th at noon, of the life and times of Garnet Douglass Baltimore, engineer on the Erie Canal and recognized as the designer of Brunswick's Forest Park Cemetery.

NYS Archives issued a reminder that the deadline for the “Local Government Record Management Improvement Funds” grant is March 30th. A new app has been developed to encourage the identification and reporting of invasive species. A zoom training program will be held February 17th at 7 p.m. More info at www.NYinvasives.org February is also Black History Month. New York was the first state to enact legislation in 1817 for the total abolition of slavery by constitutional amendment setting July 2, 1827 as the date of final emancipation. There were many twists and turns dealing with property ownership and voting rights. It was not until 1870 with the enactment of the 15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution that voting rights were extended to black men in New York. Motion to accept the reports was made by Councilman Balistreri and seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Copies of the written reports are on file in the Town Clerk’s Office.

Recycling Coordinator: Thomas Engster

Mr. Engster gave his report for the month of January. Revenues for the month were \$4,015.43. Expenses were \$3,230.14. 16.22 tons of materials were recycled and 15.86 tons landfilled for the month. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Balistreri. Unanimously approved. 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 January. Last month there were 3,288 physical checkouts, 17 pickup appointments, 1,620 walk in visitors and 2,408 digital checkouts. 306 people participated in various programs. They are planning a Valentine’s Day book sale, and the day after St. Patrick’s Day they are hosting Jeff Snow, a Celtic musician and storyteller. Throughout the year the library does raffle baskets and to enter patrons have to answer a question. The Valentine’s raffle question asked what people liked about the Town of Brunswick, and she shared the responses with the board. 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 Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Cipperly. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk’s Office.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 24 Resolution Appointing Member to Zoning Board of Appeals. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Supervisor Herrington 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 Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Resolution No. 25 Resolution Approving Certified List of Volunteer Firefighters of the Brunswick Fire Company No. 1, Inc. (Fire Company) Who Have Earned at Least Fifty (50) Points During the Calendar Year 2020 Under the Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) Sponsored by the Town of Brunswick for the Said Fire Company, Thereby Qualifying Them for a Year of Service Credit, and Directing That the Said Certified List be Returned to the Fire Company for Posting for a Minimum Period of Thirty (30) Days. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Christian 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 Abstain; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

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Resolution No. 26 Resolution Approving Certified List of Volunteer Firefighters of the Volunteer Fire Company of Center Brunswick, Inc. (Fire Company) Who Have Earned at Least Fifty (50) Points During the Calendar Year 2020 Under the Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) Sponsored by the Town of Brunswick for the Said Fire Company, Thereby Qualifying Them for a Year of Service Credit, and Directing That the Said Certified List be Returned to the Fire Company for Posting for a Minimum Period of Thirty (30) Days. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Supervisor Herrington 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 Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Resolution No. 27 Resolution Approving Certified List of Volunteer Firefighters of the Mountain View Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. (Fire Company) Who Have Earned at Least Fifty (50) Points During the Calendar Year 2020 Under the Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) Sponsored by the Town of Brunswick for the Said Fire Company, Thereby Qualifying Them for a Year of Service Credit, and Directing That the Said Certified List be Returned to the Fire Company for Posting for a Minimum Period of Thirty (30) Days. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Christian, 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. 28 Resolution Accepting Quote and Approving and Authorizing Execution of Quote and Basic Services Agreement for Lease of Telephone Hardware Equipment and Cloud Based Hosted PBX Telephone Service at Brunswick Town Office. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Christian, 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. 29 Resolution Increasing Water Rates. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Christian, 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.

LOCAL LAW:

Introductory Local Law No. 1 of 2022 entitled “A Local Law Extending a Moratorium on the Filing, Acceptance, Review, or Determination of any Land Use Application Pertaining to Two-Family Dwellings and Multi-Family Dwellings in the Town of Brunswick” was introduced by Councilman Cipperly. With unanimous approval, a public hearing to accept comment on the introductory local law was scheduled for March 10, 2022, to be held at the Town of Brunswick Town Hall, commencing at 6:45pm. The hearing notice will be posted on the town website the office bulletin board and published in the Eastwick Press.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Supervisor Herrington asked to schedule a special meeting regarding the zoning change request by CVE North America Inc. This is to look over the SEQRA Review before it goes forward to the Planning Board.

WARRANTS:

Warrants No. 220092 through 220192, No. 12122001 through 12122009, No. 20222001, and No. 20422001 through 20422006 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	\$	83,310.00
Highway	\$	85,797.93
Water	\$	8,059.58
Sewer	\$	836.84
Special Sewer	\$	1,049.43
Special Water	\$	690.00

FURTHER VISITORS WHO WISH TO SPEAK:

Jim Tkacik, 387 Brunswick Road, began by pointing out that minutes for many past meetings are still not posted online. It seems to be a continuing problem and residents cannot keep up to date and knowledgeable about important town business. He said it is very difficult if not impossible at times to find information on the town website. It is very confusing and hard to navigate.

Document files are not dated, outdated or not relevant to town business. It also lacks any search capabilities. In other words it is not properly maintained or designed. He inquired that when there is a water break who pays for the lost water? He was informed it is paid by the people within all the water districts serviced by the town.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Lewis
Town Clerk