

**TOWN OF BRUNSWICK  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING  
JULY 14, 2022, 7:00 P.M.  
TOWN HALL**

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

**Board Members Absent:** Councilman Christian.

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

Supervisor Herrington called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

All joined in with the salute to the flag.

**VISITORS WHO WISH TO SPEAK:**

Jeanette Chambers, 60 Farrell Road, thanked the Town Board and Highway Department for the great job paving Liberty and Farrell Roads. Also to Tracy Broderick and Mike Bayly for being so responsive when she asked for help.

Deborah Renfrew, 3204 Brunswick Meadows Way, read a letter she composed extolling the works of retiring Town Historian, Sharon Zankel. She praised her long hours devoted to the Town for historic research, programs, Forest Park Cemetery restorations, outreach to schoolchildren, exhibits and so much more. She was always available and will be a hard act to follow. She thanks her for all she has done.

**BUSINESS MEETING:**

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Minutes of the June 9<sup>th</sup> meeting were not available.

**REPORTS:**

Town Clerk: William Lewis

Mr. Lewis gave his report for the month of June. \$30,559.87 will be remitted to the Supervisor's office. Rounding numbers, recycling fees accounted for \$4,925.00, Community Center fees for \$750.00, Beach Pavilion fees for \$300.00, Dog License fees for \$596.00, Summer Camp registration fees for \$22,900 and \$1,088.00 in miscellaneous fees making up the balance. 58 1050The Community Center had 5 new reservations and the Beach Pavilion had 3. Summer Camp has begun with 135 children enrolled. Hunting licenses go in sale August 1<sup>st</sup>. There should be no changes in poll locations for the second round of the Primary Elections on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Residents should go to their normal poll locations that day. As usual, early voting will be at Town Hall from Saturday August 13<sup>th</sup> through Sunday August 21<sup>st</sup>. 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.

Highway Superintendent: Mike Bayly

Mr. Bayly gave the report for the month of June. Work included: paved and patched roads; picked up leaves and brush; mowed ballfields; replaced culverts; mowed, cut brush and ditched sides of roads; cleaned up and made repairs at the town beach; hauled cardboard; worked with the Water Department on cut outs. He thanked the Board for their support as well as the support of the Highway Department employees for helping him get started in his new position as Superintendent. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Balistreri and seconded by Councilman Cipperly. 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 June. All required water tests for the month were completed. Ongoing projects: Sharpe Road subdivision water lines are all installed and work will be starting on the roads; Infrastructure at the 660 Hoosick Road site is almost complete. At the

Hannaford site, the water main on Lord Avenue has been installed and will soon be connecting to the Lord and Tucker Avenue existing main. The CVE Solar project has been approved and the contractor will be sending documents to the DEC for their approval to move forward. The new water meter reading software has been installed and is functional. The new meters can be remotely read and store up to 90 days' worth of downloadable readings. This will help with customer concerns such as high water bills. Motion to accept the report was made by Supervisor Herrington 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. Michael McDonald, gave the report for the month of June. The report showed \$7,990.61 was collected for Building Permits and Zoning and Planning Board Fees. 34 building permits were issued or renewed, 121 building/property inspections were performed and active permits totaled 408. The department had 0 code call outs. 11 code complaints, 9 code complaint inspections, 6 follow up complaint inspections and 1 fire inspection. Two additional vacant/abandoned properties were identified. There are 10 Planning Board projects open or approved and 5 with the Zoning Board. 15 meetings were attended. 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.

Town Attorney: Thomas Cioffi

Mr. Cioffi gave his report for the month of June. On July 11<sup>th</sup> he attended and participated in a Special Meeting and Public Hearing regarding the introductory Local Law amending the Town of Brunswick Zoning Law; participated in several meetings regard the zoning amendments in the prior weeks; prepared Resolutions for this evening's meeting; worked with the Building Department concerning outstanding alleged code violations and complaints; worked with the Supervisors Office on personnel and purchasing matters; worked with several departments on FOIL requests; performed legal research and advised town officials and employees on legal matters and documents as requested. Motion to accept the report was made by Supervisor Herrington and seconded by Councilman Balistreri. Unanimously approved.

Town Historian: Sharon Zankel

Mrs. Zankel gave her report for the month of June. This was her last report as she had announced her retirement last month. She continued researching Revolutionary War soldier Benjamin Brewster for a descendent of his. They are trying to locate the site of the Brewster farm which by 19<sup>th</sup> century maps, appears to be on Plank Road east of Gypsy Lane. She had a request from a Gloversville family for permission for their daughter to visit and photograph Forest Park Cemetery to complete a college level photography course about abandoned properties. A resident asked about the origins of the photographs displayed at the Town Hall. They are mostly from the collection of the Brunswick Historical Society. The framed ones were requested by and mounted for display by a chain restaurant in the Brunswick Plaza. When they closed, the pictures were donated back to the town. The foam board mounted photos were originally displayed at the Albany Airport on the town's 2007 Bicentennial. Photos in the glass cases were arranged by Tracy Broderick. The society is always looking for pictures documenting our town and its residents. A woman she once assisted with a research project, Ms. Mary Valek, has offered use of ground penetrating radar for help locating unmarked graves in Forest Park Cemetery. She has passed this on to her successor. Since announcing her retirement at last month's meeting, she has been overwhelmed with the outpouring of good wishes from colleagues and residents. Serving as historian has been a wonderful experience, and she ended with her heartfelt belief that even a little knowledge of your local history is a good thing and develops a sense of place.

Motion to accept the reports was made by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Balistreri. 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 June. Revenues for the month were \$4,977.56. Expenses were \$3,154.41. 25.53 tons of materials were recycled and 19.97 tons landfilled for the month. 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.

Community Library: Sara Hopkins

Ms. Hopkins gave her report for the month of June. They have launched their Summer Reading Program with 160 registered in the first week. 350-400 people attended Garden Day. They had a Quilt Art Show reception July 8<sup>th</sup> and the show is on display all summer. Last month there were 3,906 physical checkouts, 3 pickup appointments, 2,611 walk in visitors, 2,556 digital checkouts, 208 Wi-Fi users (26/day average) and 132 technical usage and assistance. 903 people participated in various programs/events and 11 passports were processed. Program schedules (new and continuing), special events and news items are available at [www.brunswicklibrary.org](http://www.brunswicklibrary.org). Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Balistreri and seconded by Supervisor Herrington. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

#### **RESOLUTIONS:**

**Resolution No. 53** Resolution Pertaining to the Repair of a Structure Located on Property at 383 North Lake Avenue. 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 Absent; Councilman Sullivan; Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

**Resolution No. 54** Resolution Authorizing and Directing Settlement of Litigation: Flintlock Corp. 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 Absent; Councilman Sullivan; Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

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

**Resolution No. 56** Resolution Fixing and Establishing Salary of Sole Assessor. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Balistreri, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Cipperly; Voting Aye; Councilman Christian, Voting Absent; Councilman Sullivan; Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Prior to a vote, Town Attorney Thomas Cioffi read the following Resolution in its entirety.

**Resolution No. 57** Resolution Recognizing Former Brunswick Town Historian Sharon Martin Zankel on the Occasion of Her Retirement After More Than 28 Years of dedicated Service to the Town of Brunswick. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Supervisor Herrington and seconded by Councilman Sullivan, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Cipperly; Voting Aye; Councilman Christian, Voting Absent; Councilman Sullivan; Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

A letter was received from Jim and Brenda Roots, thanking the Town for properly permitting the Rye Bread Festival held on Plank Road. Neighboring residents were well informed by the organizers about what to expect, and the attendees were very responsible throughout the event. Nancy McClosky, President of the Sycaway Seniors, wrote a note thanking Supervisor Herrington for his visit with them, speaking about the growth and changes in Brunswick and The members enjoyed the conversations, questions answered and the family history he shared. She invited him and his wife to attend the groups September 12<sup>th</sup> banquet at the Frear Park Pub. Elvis will be entertaining!

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None.

**\*WARRANTS:**

Warrants No. 220590 through 220601, No. 220604 through 220708 No. 62422001 through 62422010 and No. 70822001 through 70822007 were presented. Motion to approve the warrants was made by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Supervisor Herrington. Unanimously approved. Individual fund expenses were as follows:

General	\$	125,584.54
Highway	\$	291,007.14
Water	\$	14,284.30
Sewer	\$	307.03
Special Sewer	\$	776.96
Special Fire	\$	300.00

**FURTHER VISITORS WHO WISH TO SPEAK:**

Kathy Betzinger, 1 Valley View Drive, directly addressed Supervisor Herrington concerning his stating previously that she had had jumped in front of his truck at the Elise Stefanik meet and greet. She denied this stating she would never do anything like that. Supervisor Herrington disagreed and did not feel she was owed an apology.

Jennifer Mann, 91 Hill Road, said we should put the issues at the noted event behind us. She did feel however that Supervisor Herrington, in his position of authority should not be using private residents names to accuse them of things, especially if not 100% sure. Supervisor Herrington still maintains the confrontation did happen. She also inquired about a property on the corner of Sharpe Road and Spring Avenue which seems to be heavily clear cut, and if the town knew about this. It has been through the Zoning Board. She also wanted to advise voters, that at the August primary elections, affecting mostly Democrats, there will be two ballots. One special ballot for

the our newly defined NY 21 district and one for the temporary replacement for Delgato's seat in the old NY 19 district which we are still in at the present..

Jim Tkacik, 387 Brunswick Road, complimented the paving of Shyne Road. At the risk of offending anyone on the Board, he pointed out several grants that are available including one for water meter replacement.

Steve Purificato, 10 Lord Avenue, stated his displeasure with several items arising from the Hannaford construction and infrastructure. First, there has been no communication regarding the work being done which included an unannounced power interruption, the placement of a fire hydrant directly on his lawn without good reason and the possibility that Lord Avenue may be incorrectly surveyed. Changing alignment would cut well into his property and others. Why were the houses allowed to be built in the first place if this is true? The road has been there forever and they have been paying taxes on this land. Something needs to be done.

Christie Fronhofer, 72 Oneida Avenue, asked if any more thoughts or if remedies are in the works to address the problem of excessive traffic coming through their neighborhood to avoid congestion on Hoosick Road. Beside the volume of traffic, speeding is also a major issue and it is becoming dangerous to be walking or biking. This will probably be even worse with the Hannaford opening.

Ed Golden, 14 Lord Avenue, also had questions about the road. Initially the Planning Board had indicated that Lord Avenue would not be altered past the entrance to Hannaford. However, he has heard talk of widening it and mapping shows that if done it would almost cut into his house depending on setbacks. Mr. Bradley, Water Department Superintendent stated that the only way to figure this out is to have it surveyed again. As far as the road is concerned there are no plans to widen it.

At 8:35 pm, Supervisor Herrington made a motion to enter into executive session to ask legal questions and to seek legal advice with the Town Attorney. Motion seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Unanimously approved.

At 9:20 pm, Councilman Sullivan made a motion to return from executive session. Motion seconded by Councilman Balistreri. Unanimously approved. No actions or determinations were made during the session.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilman Sullivan made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Supervisor Herrington. Unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Lewis  
Town Clerk