

**TOWN OF BRUNSWICK
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 12, 2019, 7:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL**

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

Board Members Absent: None.

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

Caroline Trzcinski, Carroll's Grove Road, first thanked the Board for posting tonight's Resolutions on the town web site. Next she asked for an update on the historic plaque for Spiak's Garage and the Tamarac Road adopt a highway recognition sign for Grace Reynolds. Mr. Golden, Code Enforcement, has been in touch with the owners of the Sunoco station (formerly Spiak's) and the sign has been ordered. Supervisor Herrington has been informed by the County that the Reynolds sign is also in the works. Sue Mullahey, 9 Russell Court had a complaint about open burning by a neighbor on Plank Road, asking if there were any town ordinances addressing this. Noting there were no town regulations, the Board discussed the fact that the NYS DEC has regulations and possibly the County would have some involvement. Supervisor Herrington offered to contact the DEC for further advice. Veronica Kolkhorst, 7 Russell Court, agreed that the burning has been a problem. Also she inquired about the status of a residence at 5 Chester Court. It had been listed as abandoned but there has been some cleanup of the property and occasionally there are cars and a few dogs there. The main problem is the property is overgrown, has not been mowed and she even encountered a mangy fox one day while walking by. She is worried about people's safety if wild animals are living there. She was also concerned about the safety of a woman whose mailbox is obscured by roadside weed and brush growth on the blind corner when first entering Russell Court from Plank Road. Mr. Golden noted he is aware of the Chester Court issue and has been in touch with the people regarding mowing and will push to getting it taken care of. He also recommended that the mailbox on the blind corner could be moved to the other side – there are boxes on both sides - where crossing the road would not be necessary. Dan Weeks, 6 Broadview Court, has been following the DEC mandated town work on the Vanderhyden Reservoir dam. He knows there were time limits imposed and was concerned the DEC may lose patience, sue in court to complete the work, and financing/grant options may disappear. Laberge Engineering has been consulting with the DEC on this project and Supervisor Herrington has talked to our bank about possibly bonding it. The cost is estimated to be 1.2 million dollars and he is still researching grant possibilities. Deputy Supervisor Patrick Poletto advised that there has been quite a bit of work done. The causeway valve was replaced with a 4' culvert, equalizing the pressure on both sides of the reservoir; The reservoir was drained to inspect the release valves, which were found to be in good shape; It was drained a second time, to document to the DEC that their requirement this could be accomplished within 10 days was met, taking only 5 days. The town keeps in contact with the DEC and the project continues to

move forward. Frank Brenenstuhl, 27 Dusenberry Lane, after last month's meeting had reviewed the Town's Zoning Regulations for large scale commercial installations and felt they were lacking in detail, especially relating to the actual construction/mechanics involved. He questioned if during the planning review process we had the expertise to assess the quality of materials, construction and the manner in which they would be operated. Mr. Andrew Gilchrist, Planning and Zoning Board attorney, noted that the Town Engineer was qualified to assess the details and also worked for a large engineering firm which could offer assistance if necessary. Mr. Golden, Code Enforcement, also pointed out that independent electrical inspections were required by law and National Grid becomes involved as the installation directly connects to their grid.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

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

REPORTS:

Town Clerk: William J. Lewis

Mr. Lewis gave his report for the month of August. \$9,500.55 will be remitted to the Supervisor's office. Recycling fees accounted for \$4,963.22, Community Center rental fees for \$2,100.00 and Pavilion rental fees for \$100.00. The Community Center is now booked solid on weekends through 2019, except for three dates after Christmas. The pavilion fee was the first booking for 2020. Dog Licensing fees of \$642.00 and miscellaneous fees of \$1,695.33 were also collected. 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 not able to attend the meeting. A written report was received and is filed in the Town Clerk's Office.

Water & Sewer Report: Bill Bradley

Mr. Bradley was not able to attend the meeting. A written report was received and is filed in the Town Clerk's Office.

Code Enforcement: Charles Golden

Mr. Golden gave his report for the month of August. The report showed \$7,746.15 was collected for Building Permit and Zoning Variance/Planning Board Fees. 22 building permits were issued or renewed, 87 building inspections were performed and active permits totaled 289. The department had 2 code call outs, 8 code complaints, 10 code complaint inspections, 4 fire inspections, an additional 12 follow up inspections and continued inspecting vacant/abandoned properties. 2 additional vacant/abandoned properties have been identified with the Assessment Department. There are 9 Planning Board projects open or approved and 4 with the Zoning Board. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Casale. 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 August. Other than routine matters, his work included the following: Researched and developed rules and a liability waiver for use of the dog park at Keyes Lane; Continued working with consulting engineers on the Community Center damp-proofing project; Participated in discussions with the Supervisor's office and several department heads regarding personnel out on leave; Participated in discussions concerning an employee out on Workers Compensation leave; Prepared a letter to the accountants regarding the 2018 audit which is now under way; Prepared the Town Attorney's 2020 budget sheet; Participated in discussions concerning the proposed Sharpe Road Subdivision; Reviewed procedures for government contract truck purchases with the Supervisor; Prepared Resolutions for this evening's meeting; Worked with the Assessor on a filed tax grievance. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Casale and seconded by Councilman Balistreri. Unanimously approved.

Town Historian: Sharon Zankel

Mrs. Zankel gave her report for the month of August. She received and responded to one local history inquiry, Forest Park Cemetery ancestral burial information and a request to conduct paranormal research at the cemetery. She forwarded information for the first two requests and, as the Town's position has always been, denied the research request. There have been inquiries as to the date for this year's Forest Park tour and it is now scheduled for Saturday, October 26th. Members of the Brunswick Historical Society will be assisting and more volunteers are needed. She has continued reviewing information about the Eagle Mill's Christian Church and is planning a series of articles and a permanent file for the historical society. The Brunswick Community Library is celebrating 10 years since purchasing their new building and she has suggested a web page with photographs of the grand opening and historical information she has forwarded to the director. The Rensselaer Land Trust and the Rensselaer Plateau Alliance have successfully purchased 76 acres of land along the Poesten Kill located in Troy and Brunswick where they plan a nature area and walking trails. A few upcoming events: The Brunswick Historical Society is holding their annual Tag and Bake Sake on Saturday, September 14th, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Historic Eastwood Village in Nassau will be holding its annual Founders Day on Saturday, September 21st 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. There is a \$20 admission fee. The Friends of Oakwood Cemetery will host "Oakwood by Lantern Light: a Living History Tour" on Saturday, September 28th between 5:45 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. Reservations are required and there will be a fee. 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.

Recycling Coordinator: Thomas Engster

Mr. Engster gave his report for the month of August. Revenues for the month were \$4,998.37 and expenses were \$3,839.39. 31.06 tons of materials were recycled and 19.54 tons landfilled for the month. Motion to accept the report was made by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Casale. Unanimously approved. A copy of the written report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Library Report: Sara Hopkins

Ms. Hopkins gave a Power Point presentation for her report which included statistics and pictures of events at the library. The library is consistently seeing over 4,000 physical items circulated, over 1,000 digital items circulated and a customer count of over 3,000 per month. Beyond focusing on these numbers, which are excellent even compared to larger libraries with larger budgets, she pointed out that it also serves the community for wellness and mental health. An especially important health hazard is loneliness, and she is committed to using the library to offer programs and opportunities for people to come out and engage with others. They can be a tremendous help to individuals and benefit the community as a whole. As for value added to residents by use of the library, she had used an algorithm calculator supplied by the American Library Association to crunch some numbers. For the months of July and August, if there had been a fee for all the free programs offered, the cost to the community would have been approximately \$21,000.00 and, if the value (purchased price) of all the distributed items were added, the total would be around \$173,000.00. She is very pleased that this rivals or exceeds many area libraries. The library will be hosting a Community Party on Sunday, September 27th, to celebrate the 10th year at their current location. 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 Christian and seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Unanimously approved. A written report will be submitted and when available will be on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 62 Resolution Reappointing Sole Assessor. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Supervisor Herrington and seconded by Councilman Balistreri, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Christian, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Casale, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Resolution No. 63 Resolution Appointing and Fixing Compensation of Temporary Town Employee. 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 Casale, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Resolution No. 64 Resolution Approving and Establishing Rules of Use and an Acceptance of Risk, Waiver and Release of Liability, and Indemnification Agreement Form, Pertaining to the Use of the Town of Brunswick Dog Park at the Keyes Lane Community Center. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Casale, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Christian, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Casale, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Resolution No. 65 Resolution Approving Outside Sewer District User Agreement. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Balistreri, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Christian, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Casale, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Resolution No. 66 Resolution to Accept the Water and Sewer Maintenance Roll for the Period of 01/01/2019 Through 06/30/2019 August 2019, Water and Sewer Roll. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Casale and seconded by Councilman Sullivan, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Christian, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Casale, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Town Board Members discussed setting a date for a Special Meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to distribute the Town of Brunswick's 2020 Tentative Budget to all Board Members. The Board unanimously approved holding the Special Meeting on Tuesday, October 1, 2019, commencing at 5:30 p.m. at Brunswick Town Hall.

WARRANTS:

Warrants No. 190893 through 191000, No. 82319001 through 82319010, and No. 90619001 through 90619006 were presented. Councilman Sullivan made a motion to approve the warrants, seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved.

Individual fund expenses were as follows:

General	\$	110,845.79
Highway	\$	207,695.91
Water	\$	3,788.14
Sewer	\$	50.62
Special Sewer District	\$	0.00
Special Water District #11	\$	0.00
Special Fire Districts	\$	0.00

FURTHER COMMENTS FROM VISITORS:

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Christian made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Supervisor Herrington. Unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Lewis
Town Clerk