

**TOWN OF BRUNSWICK
SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING
JUNE 24, 2020 7:00PM
TOWN HALL**

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

Board Member Absent: None.

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

Recording Begins:

Supervisor Herrington: Welcome. At this point I'd like to ask the Town Board to please rise.

[Pledge of Allegiance recited]

Supervisor Herrington: OK. Well, welcome to the June 24, 2020 special meeting of the Town of Brunswick Town Board. As you probably know, this meeting is being held this evening because we postponed the June 11, 2020 regular meeting. Before getting down to the regular business of this meeting, I'd like to explain to you why we needed to postpone the June meeting. On Monday, June 8, 2020, around midday, we learned that one of our Town Office staff had tested positive for Covid-19. Thankfully, the employee did not report to work that day, having been tested a couple days prior and having made the wise decision to await the rest results before reporting to work. Upon learning of the positive test results, we immediately contacted the Rensselaer County Health Department. We also questioned our remaining staff to determine who had personal contact with this individual who had tested positive with the past ten days. We remained in close contact throughout the rest of the day with the Rensselaer County Health Department, and by the end of the day had learned that the positive result was verified. We were advised that the Town Office building needed to be shut down completely and professionally cleaned and disinfected. No staff were to report to the building except for one or two individuals to answer the phone in case of any emergency calls until the cleaning and disinfecting was complete and the building was safe to reenter. We were also informed that all Town Office staff who had been in close contact with this individual who tested positive, would be placed on a quarantine list by the Health Department through June 18, 2020. Now I want to stress that our office here is a very small office and frankly most of our staff had been in close contact with the individual during this period in question. So just to be clear, by close of business on June 8, 2020, the Town Office was off limits to the staff and some 90% or more of our office staff was on quarantine orders and prohibited from reporting to work. So, during this period, we made a difficult decision to postpone the June 11, 2020 regular Town Board meeting. On June 10, the Town Office was professionally cleaned and sanitized. The following day, the Health Department approved our having a few staff members come to the office on a very limited basis to attend such things that could not wait. For example, the payroll. I note that on June 11, the original scheduled date of the meeting that was postponed, all of our office staff who had quarantined underwent the Covid-19 testing under arrangements made by the Health

Department. Fortunately, there were no other positives among the staff and all quarantined office staff remained in quarantine through June 18, 2020. Some returned to work on the following day, which was June 19, while the others returned to work on June 22. With that, let me first address the issue of whether we should have postponed the June 11 Board meeting. That's pretty easy in my mind. I stand by the decision to postpone that meeting and would do again if the same circumstances arose. I have been here over 20 years and I can't remember ever postponing a Board meeting. There have been blizzards, as a matter of fact the Highway Department had to basically plow our road so we could get down here and I've never cancelled a meeting. But this is a very, very serious situation. Conducting a Town Board meeting requires support staff and officials to be present. At least four individuals outside of the Board members would have needed to be in attendance, and all of those people were under quarantine. As of the date of the meeting cancellation, and the original meeting date itself, no test results regarding those under quarantine had been received. For all we knew at that time, some or all of staff could have been positive for the virus. It would have been irresponsible under the circumstances to risk any possibility of the spread of this virus between and among support staff and our Board members. Moreover, even just appearing for the meeting as scheduled by support staff would have been extremely problematic under the circumstances as access to the Town Office and the office equipment had been restricted. A separate issue was raised as to why I was less than detailed in the notice of meeting postponement. I was circumspect about the reason largely because of privacy concerns, not only for the employee who tested positive but also for all those under quarantine. As I mentioned, ours is a very small office and we have a closely knit community where people talk to one another, and I felt that if a lot of details were provided, it could result in pain and embarrassment for some even if the names weren't mentioned. Also at the time I decided to postpone the meeting, I had no idea how this whole situation was going to play out. For all I knew at the time, the virus could have already been spread among many of our staff which would cause serious problems for many families, not to mention our continuing operations. Just on a personal note, my administrative assistant, Tracey, pretty thrilled she just became a grandmother for the first time, a baby girl, and all of a sudden she was in complete panic because she just got done visiting the baby and holding the baby and now she finds out somebody tested positive, so this is pretty serious stuff. Thank God Tracey was OK and the rest of the office staff was OK, but I wasn't going to have a meeting just for the sake of having a meeting if I didn't see any reason why we couldn't wait a week and that's what happened. I didn't want to needlessly cause any public concern. Moreover, this being a close knit community, it became soon after the meeting was cancelled that word had already leaked out about the positive test result. I understand it was already on Facebook and of course not to mention Stewart's. Things are changed these days so there are no secrets. For my feelings that there were no pressing reasons to go into greater details about what was transpiring until we knew where we stood on the tests. It was my belief that most people would read between the lines that the notice postponing the meeting due to unanticipated Covid-19 complications, worded to that effect, could surmise what happened. In conversation I've had with people since, many did just that. I think if a large number of people were dissatisfied with the way that this whole cancelled Board meeting was handled, which was a judgment call on my part, I would have heard from somebody. Again, I did not hear about anybody being unhappy besides one individual in the Town. Now I always fully wanted to explain this and why we needed to postpone the meeting and of course that's what I just did now. This incident is a real eye opener for me. Like many, I was growing tired of the restrictions placed on us due to this Covid-19 and

I was anxious for them to be over. As hard as it was for us to continue normal operations with a mandatory staff reduction and the loss of revenue caused by the government reaction to the pandemic, I felt that we had escaped largely unscathed in a serious way. By all accounts, confirmed cases, hospitalizations and deaths are now on a downward trend. I figured we were out of the woods and then all of a sudden, bang, one of our staff. So it does get your attention that this is out there. This virus is out there and we're all getting pretty comfortable but this thing can effect anybody and the minute it affects one person, whoever that person has been in contact with, as I mentioned babies and everyone else, this is pretty serious stuff. Anyone feels that Covid-19 is no longer a cause for concern or no longer needed to be considered should ask my staff member who tested positive and still is unable to come back to work. Or ask the bulk of our office staff who relies on a routine that was significantly interrupted through no fault of their own and who had to endure worry and concern. Trust me, when this hits close to home, everybody was affected. And the night before the tests I contacted every one of our staff and wished them luck and every one of them was pretty darn nervous because every one of them had contact with their families. So, we did the right thing. There was no need to have a Board meeting. We could wait a few days, which we're doing now, and I wanted to explain exactly what happened and again 20+ years I can't remember ever doing this before. So, with that, I think we can move into our Board meeting. The minutes?

Town Clerk Lewis: On that note, I respectfully request that the minutes be pulled from consideration for this meeting tonight. It came to my attention that, inadvertently, I had omitted some correspondence which should have been actually included in the meeting. While they will be in the meeting record, they should have been referenced and addressed appropriately during the Board meeting and were not. And I will amend and resubmit for authorization.

Supervisor Herrington: OK, thank you Mr. Lewis. Also, I believe all our department heads have handed in their reports.

Town Clerk Lewis: Yes we have reports from each department, I am just missing highway at this point.

Supervisor Herrington: So, I'd like to make a motion to approve the reports as handed in except for the highway report.

Councilman Christian: I second.

Supervisor Herrington: Do we need a roll call?

Town Clerk Lewis: Supervisor Herrington made a motion to accept the reports, seconded by Councilman Christian. Roll call vote as follows: Councilman Christian?

Councilman Christian: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Sullivan?

Councilman Sullivan: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Balistreri?

Councilman Balistreri: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Cipperly?

Councilman Cipperly: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Supervisor Herrington?

Supervisor Herrington: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: OK the reports are accepted.

Supervisor Herrington: OK, written resolutions, Bill?

Town Clerk Lewis: Resolutions for June 24, 2020. Resolution No. 43. Resolution Adopting the Town Highway Plan. Need a motion.

Councilman Christian: I'll make a motion.

Councilman Sullivan: Second.

Supervisor Herrington: This is just a list of the roads that we plan on paving this year.

Town Clerk Lewis: Resolution was offered by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Roll call vote: Councilman Christian?

Councilman Christian: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Sullivan?

Councilman Sullivan: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Balistreri?

Councilman Balistreri: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Cipperly?

Councilman Cipperly: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Supervisor Herrington?

Supervisor Herrington: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: The foregoing resolution is adopted. Resolution No. 44: Resolution Designating Freedom of Information Law Appeals Officer. May I have a motion?

Councilman Balistreri: I'll offer it.

Town Clerk Lewis: May I have a second?

Councilman Cipperly: I'll second.

Town Clerk Lewis: The foregoing resolution was offered by Councilman Balistreri and seconded by Councilman Cipperly. Roll call vote: Councilman Christian?

Councilman Christian: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Sullivan?

Councilman Sullivan: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Balistreri?

Councilman Balistreri: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Cipperly?

Councilman Cipperly: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Supervisor Herrington?

Supervisor Herrington: Aye. Just one note on Resolution 44, just correct the spelling on Councilman Sullivan's name please.

Town Clerk Lewis: Good catch, Supervisor. So noted. The foregoing resolution was adopted. Resolution No. 45: Resolution Joining in Request for the Rensselaer County Department of Engineering and Highways to the New York State Department of Transportation to Consider a Reduction of the Maximum Speed Limit on the Entirety of North Lake Avenue (County Route 144) in the Town of Brunswick. May I have a motion?

Councilman Christian: I'll make the motion.

Councilman Balistreri: I'll second.

Supervisor Herrington: What this is, is there's been concern and been accidents on North Lake and we were approached by quite a few of the neighbors to take a look at it. It's a County road, however we want to do a resolution and ask DOT to consider lowering the speed on North Lake to 30. Because anybody that travels on that road knows that speed is a factor. So that's what this resolution is about.

Town Clerk Lewis: Motion was made by Councilman Christian, seconded by Councilman Balistreri. Roll call vote: Councilman Christian?

Councilman Christian: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Sullivan?

Councilman Sullivan: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Balistreri?

Councilman Balistreri: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Cipperly?

Councilman Cipperly: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Supervisor Herrington?

Supervisor Herrington: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: The resolution is adopted. Resolution No. 46 of 2020. Resolution Appointing and Fixing Compensation of Town Employee. May I have a motion?

Councilman Christian: I'll make the motion.

Supervisor Herrington: I'll second it. We had a long time mechanic retire, Mr. Delsano, and he can with social security and everything else, work very limited hours. Like, 12 hours a week. But our remaining mechanics here plus our highway staff asked if there's any way to bring Jim back. Because, with 30 years plus experience, he knows all the equipment. He's the one who did the park inventory on the computer. He's the one that does the computer stuff. He understands the warranties. He's just very, very valuable and to be perfectly honest it's a bargain for the Town for him to come back at a max of 12 hours a week and gives him something to do. Gets him out of the house, he tells me. So I'm very, very happy with this.

Town Clerk Lewis: The foregoing resolution was offered by Councilman Christian and seconded by Supervisor Herrington. Roll call vote: Councilman Christian?

Councilman Christian: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Sullivan?

Councilman Sullivan: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Balistreri?

Councilman Balistreri: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Cipperly?

Councilman Cipperly: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Supervisor Herrington?

Supervisor Herrington: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: The foregoing resolution is adopted. Resolution No. 47: Resolution Approving and Authorizing Supervisor to Execute Letter of Engagement and Retainer. May I have a motion?

Councilman Sullivan: Offered by Councilman Sullivan.

Councilman Christian: Second.

Town Clerk Lewis: The foregoing resolution was offered by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Christian. Roll call vote: Councilman Christian?

Councilman Christian: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Sullivan?

Councilman Sullivan: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Balistreri?

Councilman Balistreri: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Cipperly?

Councilman Cipperly: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Supervisor Herrington?

Supervisor Herrington: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: The foregoing resolution is adopted. Resolution No. 48 of 2020: Resolution Appointing Member to Zoning Board of Appeals.

Councilman Balisteri: I'll offer.

Supervisor Herrington: I'll second.

Town Clerk Lewis: The foregoing resolution was offered by Councilman Balistreri and seconded by Supervisor Herrington. Roll call vote: Councilman Christian?

Councilman Christian: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Sullivan?

Councilman Sullivan: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Balistreri?

Councilman Balistreri: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Cipperly?

Councilman Cipperly: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Supervisor Herrington?

Supervisor Herrington: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: The foregoing resolution is adopted. Resolution No. 49 of 2020: Resolution Authorizing Execution of Agreement for Payment in Lieu of Taxes.

Supervisor Herrington: Hey Bill? I thought one of these resolutions we were going to pull because I'm not sure.....Attorney Gilchrist called, correct Tom? The payment in lieu of taxes I believe it would be, right? I thought there was still concern about working out the details.

Town Clerk Lewis: I didn't get anything emailed as far as I know...

Attorney Cioffi: Just give me a minute and let me look and see if I can find anything.

Supervisor Herrington: There's a payment in lieu of taxes in one of these for the solar companies and we have to make sure everybody is agreed, all the parties involved. You only had one Bill?

Town Clerk Lewis: There's two. The other one is escrow for the subdivision.

Attorney Cioffi: My recollection is, I did speak to Mr. Gilchrist today and he told me that there was a problem with one of the agreements; that one party didn't want to go forward with it and it needed to be pulled and I'm assuming that it's the payment in lieu of taxes agreement, the one that involves a PILOT, because that's one that involves the school district. And that's what he said so I'm thinking that's the one that's supposed to be pulled.

Supervisor Herrington: I agree with you, Tom.

Attorney Cioffi: Bill, I think there might be....he said he was going to send you an email.

Town Clerk Lewis: If you'd like me to I can quickly just dash back to the office to check my email or call him.

Supervisor Herrington: A commercial break. Ha. Tom, can we jump down to new business?

Attorney Cioffi: Certainly, yes we'll just hold this one. Well, I'm not sure that he's going to be needed for that.

[inaudible]

Attorney Cioffi: So he did send an email?

Town Clerk Lewis: No, I called him.

Supervisor Herrington: Which one? What's going on?

Town Clerk Lewis: The payment in lieu of taxes, that one.

Attorney Cioffi: You were right, it's the PILOT resolution that needs to be pulled. So that's number 49.

Town Clerk Lewis: Resolution No. 49 of 2020 is being pulled from consideration for this evening's meeting. OK, so continuing. Resolution No. 50 of 2020: Resolution Authorizing Execution of Escrow Agreement.

Councilman Christian: I'll offer.

Councilman Sullivan: I'll second.

Town Clerk Lewis: The foregoing resolution was offered by Councilman Christian, seconded by Councilman Sullivan. Roll call vote: Councilman Christian?

Councilman Christian: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Sullivan?

Councilman Sullivan: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Balistreri?

Councilman Balistreri: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Cipperly?

Councilman Cipperly: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Supervisor Herrington?

Supervisor Herrington: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: The foregoing resolution is hereby adopted.

Supervisor Herrington: Any old business? New business for the Board to consider, I want to talk a little bit about our Town beach. I've been receiving phone calls asking whether we're going to open up the beaches here. As you know, I think many of you know, twice a week County Executive McLaughlin has a Zoom conference that I participate in and when I can't Deputy Supervisor Christian attends for me. And we try to follow the Governor's executive orders, they change quite often. And it's been a little challenge, but at this point, there's a possibility that we could open it. I'm just trying to get a feel from the Board what they think; whether they want to try to open the beach, I guess that's what I'm wondering.

Councilman Christian: I think it can be done. I think what the number is, what 163 people in there? We have cut it in half, to 83 I believe, for capacity. We have adequate coverage on the lifeguards. I believe we're covered pretty good at the gate. So I think if we run by the State guidelines and try to keep the numbers down, I think it's a possibility. From what I understand, the amount of Covid that would live on a picnic table is very very minimal by the CDC standards I believe. And I may be wrong but that's what I'm getting through the news, if you can trust it. It does not transmit well through water at all. So I'm OK with giving it a go, I don't know what the rest of you guys feel on it.

Supervisor Herrington: I did contact the head lifeguard who's been with us many years and the big majority of the lifeguards are all college students and she talked to a lot of them and they're willing to give it a try with the protocalls and as I mentioned somebody is going to be at the entrance to make sure everything is done right. There's some things we have to follow, but, I mean we have these 90 degree days and a Town beach as beautiful as ours, and the Town residents as a family don't have many things they can do or places they can go, for me it's a little hard to keep it closed. So I'd like to try it and see what happens, personally. And we'll monitor it. You don't need a large number of lifeguards like we would have because our camp has been closed. There's no way we can pull that off with 150 kids being in one room. But over the beach area we have a larger area to spread out. So personally I'd like to give it a try and if it's not being attended I think we can probably shut it down cost-wise because I know that the dollars are on everybody's mind here too. I mean we'd have to staff it, so. Anybody else?

Councilman Cipperly: I'm somewhat concerned about congregating under the pavilion. You know, we can spread out nicely on the beach in the park but I'm a little worried about gatherings under the pavilion and then also wondering about sanitation of the rest rooms themselves.

[no name given] What do you think if you went to the pavilion there and eliminated some of the picnic tables right from it? Would that eliminate some of the congregation in there?

Councilman Cipperly: Oh I'm sure, with a lack of seating would make it less attractive.

Town Clerk Lewis: We do take reservations and reserve the pavilion for functions. Now there are some reservations on the books, and people have been calling. Are we on, are we not on? We've been saying possibly not, in the worst case scenario. But, I got a call the other day and it's not until August. My comment to that person was, well one thing that's going to happen is we're probably only going to be at 50% capacity. And it's going to have to be social distancing, it's going to have to be masks. I mean, I think if these people were warned and were

careful about how many people are actually coming to the park. Because lots of times, it happens with the community center too, “Oh I don’t know, we might have 70” and then 30 show up. Or it could go the other way. So it’s going to have to be, if there’s something booked, or should we allow the pavilion to be booked?

Councilman Cipperly: I’m wondering, so if you have a booking in the pavilion and our capacity is down to 81, you run the potential of closing the beach down for the rest of the Town in order to host that reservation under the pavilion.

Town Clerk Lewis: If it were a big crowd, yeah. I mean even if you had 50, is that fair to the rest of the Town? Yeah we should probably discuss that. I just want you to know that we do have those reservations. So, whatever you decide.

[no name given] Now do we take the temperatures of these people as they’re coming through the gate?

Supervisor Herrington: Yeah, there’s a whole protocol that has to be followed, which we would have to do. But, again, we have some adult staff over there that could do that. What do you think, Mark?

Councilman Balistreri: I’d be OK with it as long as we can follow the CDC guidelines and NYS Health Department guidelines and I think we’ve cut back on the maximum occupancy. I think we probably want to put up some signs reminding people of social distancing, and possibly consider limiting the number of people at the pavilion to leave it open for residents that want to just come to the beach with their families. So I’m in favor of doing that.

Supervisor Herrington: Jim?

Councilman Sullivan: Same thought.

Supervisor Herrington: I’m just trying to get an idea here, so I’ll continue...I mean we don’t usually open it up until after school...the first full week of July. So, I mean I’ve been in contact with the lifeguards and I believe the Health Department gave a little bit of time to get recertified but many of them, we’ve got a great staff of lifeguards and I call them kids but at my age anyone under 60 is a kid. So, young adults, for supervision. So, I believe we have the staff and I’ll continue looking into this. Anybody else have any other things going on?

Pat Poletto?: [inaudible]...went out to Grafton to see what they’re doing up at the State park. She said that the pavilions at the State park are closed, you can’t even use them.

Supervisor Herrington: So that’s how they covered that.

Councilman Cipperly: And they removed a great deal of their picnic tables, put them in storage or back into the woods.

Supervisor Herrington: Well as you know, the beach is restricted to Brunswick residents. So I can see a Brunswick resident has a party being booked then other people could be coming in. Who knows what kind of parties they have, whether people are traveling from different states

for family reunions. But it's not like people are coming from Florida to swim and fish in Brunswick generally. All good points. What else do we have, anything?

Town Clerk Lewis: We have what would be correspondence. We need to acknowledge we've received correspondence. Now in lieu of people being able to publically speak, you had offered as to how these meetings are going to be run, that written comments would pretty much be considered visitors speaking and would be made part of the record of the meeting. So we need to acknowledge that several of these letters have come in via email, what I have in front of my right now actually. But I have to address that they are here and the Board members will be made aware, if they're not already, of all these concerns. Which would be the proper order of business if a person were standing here. So on that note, briefly, we had from Mr. Dylan Keenan of 62 Moonlawn Road, three requests to be addressed by the Board members at some point and wanted this to be read out. One June 3 we had an email he is requesting a police report and video surveillance or camera footage from the Town relating to an alleged incident that happened here at Town Hall. The June 12 email which is asking if the Town Board has assessed his ongoing dispute with the Building Department, specifically Chuck Golden, and slight altercation with Supervisor Herrington, these need to be addressed. And the June 26 email in regards to correspondence that he had previously submitted for the last meeting, the May 14 meeting which should have been and which is part of the issue of why the minutes are going to have to be amended, which should have been included in those minutes. So that needs to be addressed also. So that would be considered correspondence as well as visitors who wish to speak and will be made part of the meeting record.

Supervisor Herrington: OK. Anything else? Old business, new business? How about the warrants?

Councilman Christian: I make a motion to pay our bills.

Councilman Sullivan: I'll second.

Town Clerk Lewis: Alright, roll call vote: Councilman Christian?

Councilman Christian: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Sullivan?

Councilman Sullivan: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Balistreri?

Councilman Balistreri: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Cipperly?

Councilman Cipperly: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Supervisor Herrington?

Supervisor Herrington: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: The warrants are approved for payment.

Supervisor Herrington: Does the Board have anything else? Let me just make a statement here. We're getting toward the end of the meeting. This is the third Town Board meeting that we have conducted without making provisions for attendance of the public and enabled them to make comments to the Board. While we believe that we have acted lawfully and in all respects given the Governor's temporary suspension by executive orders of certain Open Meetings Law requirements, which still remains in effect, we are fully cognizant it is time to return to our normal format. Given the current status of the phased reopening and notwithstanding the temporary setback we had this month, I would like to move forward and at our July 9, 2020 regular Board meeting, I would like to open it back up to the public. People that know me know I enjoy the public, that's what I do. This is killing me to set up here and read these statements. I do it because everything recorded, everything is legal. I don't want to miss anything. But I'd rather go face to face and talk to people. We can do the Zoom, I'm not afraid of that. However I think that we have capacity in here enough that we can have our meeting. I might ask our staff to continue handing in their reports to keep the numbers down. There's certain protocols that we would have to follow, i.e., we'd have to take temperatures coming in to the meeting room, provide cleaning and sanitizers, so on and so forth. Now, that's my intention now. I mean I'd like to do that. However, as we know, this is changing day to day. If the Governor all of a sudden gets concerned and there's a spike in this Covid-19 and he comes out with another executive order, and he feels there's a danger, as I mentioned I'm not going to risk outbreaks of any kind so there might be a change. But, at this point, I think we can wear the masks and spread out and I would like to give it a try. So at this point that's my game plan. Now just for information for the public and for the Board, sales tax revenue. Rensselaer County, as I mentioned we have a Zoom conference for supervisors, in March sales tax revenue in Rensselaer County was up 7.7%. In April, the first half, sales tax was up 5%. As we know the economy was just flying. Our sales tax were increasing, we were doing great. The businesses along Route 7 were all doing exactly what we wanted, creating sales tax and was helping the Town operate. And that's what we were looking for. Then came the crisis, I'm going to call it. In the second half of April, all of a sudden the County informed me that their sales tax was down 15%. Now once it May, the first half of May sales tax to them were down 25%. Second half of May, sales tax is down 39%. June, first half of June, sales tax in Rensselaer County was down 35%. The second half it looks like they're down about 54% revenue from sales tax. Now a large part of our Town revenue comes from our share of the County sales tax. And to say that these numbers concern us is very true. We are paying attention, we have an excellent staff here. We're monitoring this situation. It scares the heck out of me. One thing this Town Board, I'm very proud, we've always operated this Town as a business and doing so over the years as many people in the Town know, I think we have a reputation. Your taxes have not risen very much in the last 20+ years, the Town taxes. And that's because we have a rainy day fund. And we're solid, we've got a nice revenue. We're comfortable. But let me point out, this rainy day fund was not meant to be a rainy month fund and this is going on month after month. Now, we're starting to see some stores opening up. We're starting to see some activities. The County Executive is encouraged that the numbers are going to come back the other direction. But we're watching this very, very close. It's been a lot of comfort to me to see so many Brunswick

businesses finally starting to open up a little bit. And it's real heartwarming to see our Brunswick community rally in support of our Brunswick businesses. I kind of chuckled a little bit when Duncan's Dairy Bar decided to sell pizza. I mean, I've been here, born and raised on McChesney Avenue which is behind Duncan Dairy Bar, and the entertainment was walk when you're 8 years old up over the farm hills and go to Duncan's for ice cream because they served ice cream. So I've been going to Duncan's for a good many years and I've never seen a pizza come out of Duncan's. And when he said they're going to start making pizza, I thought "how's this going to work?" The first weekend they told me they sold 70 pizzas. The good thing about that is the cheese for the pizza came from Sycaway Creamery, another Brunswick business. The were thrilled because they've never sold so much cheese I don't think. Brunswick was rallying around. And at this point, you know, I don't want to start thanking different people because I always get myself in trouble when I do that but, our staff...I say my staff because I always think of Tracey Broderick who's my administrative assistant, and I will mention Bill Lewis over here our Town Clerk, and Becky our controller....the whole staff went above and beyond. Tracey and Bill were here, one of them was here every single day. When we had our situation, they were here by themselves, nobody else was around but they wanted to make sure someone was going to be here to answer the phone in case there was an emergency. They wanted to serve the people. Becky does an outstanding job with our records. She took over for Mr. Poletto and Mr. Poletto has been working with her and she's doing outstanding. So I asked her to start following these protocols and there's a big sign when you come in the door, "Don't move until Becky takes your temperature". So that's how you're greeted when you get here in the morning. She is very thorough. She knows what she's doing. The staff is comfortable and I'm very happy and want to say thank you. And we had a Town resident also, and there's a lot of Town residents that went above and beyond, our fire people, some of the fire companies are still making calls when the alarm goes off they're being very careful. Everybody is above and beyond. But I do want to mention Jennifer Mann, a Brunswick resident who started a Facebook page, and told us about the Covid-19 developments, kept the Town informed. Now the Advertiser, which is part of the Times Union as many people know, they ran a special there a few weeks ago about the Town of North Greenbush saying North Greenbush is open for business. And it had a list of the stores and businesses in North Greenbush that were open. It was one page. Jennifer Mann saw this, contacted me, asked me if I thought it was a good idea if she could contact businesses and see if there's any interest in promoting their business being open. I of course am personally OK with any Town resident who wants to go above and beyond so the next week there was two pages of Brunswick businesses which listed their websites and said that Brunswick was open for business. So I want to thank Jennifer, and many many other individuals who helped support our neighbors. I've always been so proud of being your Supervisor and many of you know because you get tired of hearing it. My wife and myself were born and raised here. We both loved and still love and always will love the Town of Brunswick and I can't imagine living any place else. Although my daughter is out to Santa Monica and at one point we went out to visit and it looked pretty comfortable laying on that beach to be honest with you, but we love the Town of Brunswick. We've got a great community. You've seen it with the schools, Averill Park and Lansingburgh and Troy High and Tamarac. Tamarac and Averill Park just tried to celebrate the senior graduating and there's drive-throughs, and this is just a great community. We can keep moving ahead, we have to be careful. Trust me, I don't have a mask on now because I want people to understand me when I talk, but I keep my distance from everybody and we're very careful. And again I want to thank everybody. With that, I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

Councilman Christian: I'll make the motion.

Councilman Balistreri: I'll second.

Supervisor Herrington: Roll call please?

Town Clerk Lewis: Roll call vote for adjournment. Councilman Christian made a motion, Councilman Balistreri seconded. Roll call vote: Councilman Christian?

Councilman Christian: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Sullivan?

Councilman Sullivan: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Balistreri?

Councilman Balistreri: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Councilman Cipperly?

Councilman Cipperly: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: Supervisor Herrington?

Supervisor Herrington: Aye.

Town Clerk Lewis: The meeting is now adjourned.

Supervisor Herrington: Thank you.