

HOPEWELL TOWN BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 21, 2020 7:01 PM

The regular scheduled Town Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at 7:01 P.M., with Supervisor Bateman presiding.

Present:	Supervisor	Ted Bateman
	Council Member	Erin Everson
Necessarily Absent	Council Member	Adam Sanford
	Council Member	Jeff Trickey
	Council Member	Matt Goodman

Others Present: Tom Geer, Cliff Wagner, Highway Superintendent Matt Curran, Water Superintendent Ken Potter, Code Enforcement Officer Justin Bruen and Town Clerk Denise Hood

A motion was made by Council Member Goodman, seconded by Council Member Everson to approve the Minutes of the Town Board Special Meeting of September 30, 2020.

Adopted: Vote 4 Nays 0

Privilege of the Floor

Cliff Wagner stated he had submitted a complaint to Code Enforcement Officer Justin Bruen. Mr. Wagner is new to the town of Hopewell and has purchased the property next to Karl Housel, the "Halloween House", on County Road 4. People are throwing garbage on his property, parking on his property, there are people screaming till 10 pm, and is finding it unsafe to pull out of his driveway because of the cars parked on the side of the road. Mr. Wagner is asking for relief, because he feels this is affecting the value of his property. Code Enforcement Officer Justin Bruen indicated he has spoken to Karl Housel and has set a meeting with him on Friday, October 23, 2020. Code Enforcement Officer Justin Bruen stated he has spoken with Karl Housel regarding the safety concerns and asked to, beginning immediately, to close at 9pm, since Mr. Wagner isn't the first to complain. Mr. Wagner indicated he has spoken to Karl Housel. Mr. Housel has helped remove the people off of Mr. Wagner's property and has supplied rocks to keep people away from Mr. Wagner's driveway. It was discussed with the Town Board that something needs to be done. Conversation ensued regarding ideas and solutions. Code Enforcement Officer Justin Bruen has heard everyone's concerns and will come to a resolution during his meeting with Karl Housel on Friday, October 23, 2020.

Communications and Reports

The following communications and reports were received since the last meeting.

- a. Inside Dirt-Cornell Cooperative Extension-October 2020
- b. Planning News-New York Planning Federation-Fall 2020
- c. The Chronicles-Ontario County Historical Society-Sept 2020
- d. ARC LIFE-Ontario County-May thru Aug 2020
- e. Clifton Springs Fire Dept.-Monthly Report-July, August, September 2020

Old Business

Town Officials Monthly Report

A motion was made by Council Member Goodman, seconded by Council Member Trickey to approve the monthly reports from the Town Clerk, Code Enforcement Officer, Water Superintendent and Supervisor.

Adopted: Vote: Ayes 4 Nays 0

Audited Vouchers-Abstract # 10

A motion was made by Council Member Trickey, seconded by Council Member Everson to pay the following Audited Vouchers for Abstract # 10:

Vouchers #232-263	\$40,033.02	General
Vouchers #1125-1135	\$5,830.42	Highway
Vouchers #2191-2215	\$62,102.29	Water

Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays 0

HOPEWELL TOWN BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 21, 2020 II

Budget of 2021

Supervisor Ted Bateman made the Board Members aware of some changes that have been made to the 2021 Budget, a typo and some incorrect information. Council Member Trickey asked Council Member Everson to inform Supervisor Bateman of the comparison of salaries of the Town of Hopewell Employees to the other Ontario County Town Employees. The change of salaries will not be in the 2021 budget because of COVID, but in January the Board will give that the attention. Supervisor Bateman informed the Board Members the Dog Control amount has increased. Supervisor Bateman stated the court has filed for a grant to cover the cost of the requirements for the new Assistant District Attorney. There is a focus on replacing a couple new Town Trucks for the Highway Department in the coming year. Supervisor Bateman informed everyone the Budget for 2021 is very conservative and under the Tax Cap. Conversation ensued in regards to the concerns COVID is having on the economy. Unpaid water bills will not be levied to the 2021 Town and County Tax bills per Governor Cuomo's Executive Order. There will be letters going out to the residents with a balance on their water bill stating their water will not be turned off and offering a payment plan.

Supervisor Ted Bateman stated there will be a Relevy on Water Districts #4 and #6 per verification from Jeff Graff, the Town's Lawyer and Ontario County. Supervisor Ted Bateman asked the Town Board if they would like to have the residents make one payment or two. If two payments, it would affect the Tax Cap. The amounts would be \$455.90 for Water District #4 and \$514.42 for Water District #6. Conversation ensued regarding whether there should be one payment or two. There were a few residents with specific questions and Supervisor Bateman is investigating answers. The Town Bookkeeper is out for a month recovering from hip surgery, so there may be a delay in answering the residents' questions. There was a concern that there may be an interest charge if the Water District levy would be paid in two years. Supervisor Bateman will speak with Jeff Graff, the Town Lawyer, as to if there would be an interest charge.

A motion was made by Council Member Goodman, seconded by Council Member Everson to approve the Tentative Budget as the Preliminary Budget.

Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays 0

New Business

Updates by Town Officials

Town Clerk-Denise Hood

Town Clerk Denise Hood reported that Halloween Drive Thru will be on Saturday, October 31, 2020 from 6:00-8 PM at the Hopewell Transfer Station on County Road 47, behind the Town Barns. We look forward to seeing all Hopewell Residents in joining us for some Halloween fun! I will also be sending the Property Maintenance Bills (for mowing, brush removal and removing trees from unkept properties) on October 31, 2020. These balances will be a Relevy on the 2021 Town and County Tax Bills.

It was discussed regarding whether the Hopewell computer system was safe from hackers. John Allen, of Ace Computer, verified The Town of Hopewell computer system is safe.

The Ontario County Municipal Clerks Association had a meeting in the Hopewell Court Room today and discussed the concerns of the area Municipal Clerks. Everyone enjoyed themselves.

Highway Superintendent-Matt Curran

Highway Superintendent Matt Curran indicated the Highway crew has been cutting down trees, widening driveways and installing pipes. Plow frames are on the trucks and the Highway crew will be assisting a town to put down blacktop tomorrow. The grater has a wing on it to help plow snow. Highway Superintendent Matt Curran stated the entire Highway Department will be acclimated to all equipment.

Code Enforcement Officer – Justin Bruen

Code Enforcement Officer Justin Bruen indicated this is his third week in his position. He has done 15 permits and closed 12 of them. He stated he had a meeting with Water Superintendent Ken Potter, regarding a new development with Genecco. Code Enforcement Officer Justin Bruen has been busy with complaints, PAUSE complaints (COVID related) and learning the computer system. He appreciates everyone's patience.

HOPEWELL TOWN BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 21, 2020 III

Water Superintendent-Ken Potter

Water Superintendent Ken Potter stated Badger Meter use to provide us with the radio read trace units. Badger Meter has discontinued the trace and went to Orion. The Water Department has a reader and it died. They are unable to find a replacement or get it repaired. The Hopewell Water Department has sent out letters to the residents that have the units affected by this, and at least 50 have been replaced at this time. There are approximately 75 more units left to replace.

Water Superintendent Ken Potter indicated he had received a set of plans for a sidewalk project on County Road 50(Lakeshore Drive) which is a County project. The sidewalk will be installed over the water main. There is a concern because the Water main was installed in 1966, which is asbestos cement, which means if there is a water main break; it would be a huge issue to tear up the cement. Water Superintendent Ken Potter will be presenting his concerns to the County regarding the fact if there is a water main break, would the Town of Hopewell have to cover the cost of the sidewalk? He doesn't feel we, the Town of Hopewell would have to pay, because the waterline is pre-existing. Water Superintendent Ken Potter has asked for feedback from the Town Board Members on this matter. Supervisor Ted Bateman invited Water Superintendent Ken Potter to join him to the next Public Works meeting.

To expand on the meeting Water Superintendent Ken Potter attended along with Code Enforcement Officer Justin Bruen and the Genecco's regarding County Road 18, Genecco would like to build 8 town homes. There is a concern as to where the water would come from. The process is just getting started and they would like to begin construction in the spring. Conversation ensued in regards to the concern of water. The decision depends on the Department of Health.

Supervisor-Ted Bateman

Supervisor Ted Bateman mentioned he had attended the dedication of the round-about on Shortsville Road. He stated the Town of Hopewell will be installing a round-about next year on the intersection of Smith Road and County Road 46. Conversation ensued regarding accidents in the area.

Supervisor Ted Bateman stated COVID is on everyone's mind. It has affected some schools in New York, such as South Seneca School which has gone remote as well as Fishers. Movie Theaters will be opening, with strict restrictions. Code Enforcement Officer Justin Bruen indicated he had received this notification and will be reaching out to the movie theater.

There will be a Public Hearing scheduled on Wednesday, November 4 at 7pm to discuss the Preliminary Budget for 2020-2021.

A motion was made by Council Member Trickey, seconded by Council Member Goodman to hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, November 4, 2020 and 7pm to finalize the 2021 Budget.

Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays 0

A motion was made by Council Member Trickey, seconded by council Member Goodman to deobligate the funding from USDA for Water District #4.

Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays 0

Privilege of the Floor

Tom Geer asked Supervisor Ted Bateman if the Town of Hopewell exceeds the Tax Cap next year will there be a penalty to the tax payer? Supervisor Ted Bateman indicated there is a form that is different every year, but yes there is a penalty. Yet, Hopewell is trying to NOT go over the tax cap, as stated by Supervisor Ted Bateman. Mr. Geer indicated it affected his STAR exemption.

A motion was made by Council Member Goodman, seconded by Council Member Trickey to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 PM

Adopted: Vote Ayes 4 Nays 0

Respectfully submitted, Denise L Hood - Town Clerk October 27, 2020

Next Meeting will be the 2021 Preliminary Budget Hearing - November 4, 2020 at 7:00 PM to be followed by Hopewell Town Board Meeting.