

May 17, 2016

State of New York  
County of Fulton  
Town of Oppenheim

Minutes of the Oppenheim Regular Board meeting held on May 17, 2016 at the Oppenheim Town Hall located at 110 Route 331, St. Johnsville, NY 13352.

**Present**

Cynthia Breh	--	Supervisor
Patricia Haberek	--	Councilwoman
Cheryl Lynch	--	Councilwoman
John Houle	--	Councilman
Stephanie Gray	--	Councilwoman
Gloria Brys	--	Town Clerk
Brian Miller	--	Assistant Highway Superintendent

**Absent**

Joanne Capek-Young	--	Bookkeeper
Gary Getman	--	Dog Control Officer
Scott DeNinno	--	Highway Superintendent
Scott DeNinno	--	Codes Enforcement Officer

Supervisor Cynthia Breh called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm with the Pledge to the Flag.

**Public Hearing**

Supervisor Breh opened the public hearing at 6:45 pm on the Senior Citizen Exemption. The purpose of the local law is to increase the maximum income from \$19,999.99 to \$22,999.00 for 15% exemption. The increase will apply to assessment rolls based on taxable status dates on or after January 1, 2017. This increase is necessary so that the cost of living adjustments in Social Security do not make currently qualifying senior citizens ineligible for the exemption. The local law will be effective March 1, 2017.

**Bookkeeper report**

Bookkeeper Joanne Capek-Young had a monthly report for the board members.

**Codes Enforcement Report**

Codes Enforcement Officer Scott DeNinno was absent

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### **Dog Control Officers Report**

Gary Getman was absent but gave a report of the calls that he answered.

### **Water Tested**

A sample of the water at the Town Hall was taken and tested by the Gloversville Water Laboratory. It was found that there was presence of Coliform Bacteria and it was absence of E. Coli Bacteria. The report stated that the water does not meet NYS Department of Health requirements for coliform bacteria in drinking water.

Supervisor Breh said that she will purchase a water cooler for the town hall.

### **Engineers Report on Town Hall**

Engineer Charles R Ackerbauer inspected the town hall and the highway garage. His report stated that several areas of the masonry wall are deteriorated due to water and weather exposure and the walls and roof are not insulated to meet the energy code. It does not appear the wall separating the garage from the office meets the current standard for fire separation that the New York State Building code dictates and the building is not protected by a sprinkler system. The office area is small and inadequate in size to meet the requirements for the proper operation of the town business and there is no provisions made to operate the Town Court in an acceptable manner. The restroom facilities are not in conformance with today's standards. The boiler and utility room is cramped and unsuitably fire protected and the furnace appears to be old and inefficient by current standards.

Mr. Ackerbauer stated that the building has outlived its usefulness and has become a burden to operate and maintain in a sound manner. The cost to bring the facility up to current code would be too costly.

Mr. Ackerbauer said that it is his professional opinion that the best course of action is to develop a plan to construct a new building or buildings that would house the highway garage, efficient office and record storage space, town court facility and restrooms that meet the standards of today's codes. He stated that the town board should pursue a plan to secure funding from any federal, state or local entity that would aid in completing this much needed project.

Supervisor Breh said that she would try to contact someone who maybe could help us get a grant to do this project.

### **Public Hearing**

Supervisor Breh closed the public hearing at 7:20 pm. No one was present to speak for or against the local law for the Senior Citizen Exemption.

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### **Mowing of cemeteries**

Supervisor Breh stated that she wants to see the cemeteries mowed because it is a service to the town.

John Houle said that we are trying to save the town some money. It takes 5 highway employees 3 days to mow the cemeteries and the town does it 3 times a year. He stated that we budget \$1,000.00 a year and it costs about \$4,000.00 a year.

Stephanie Gray said that she would like to see the cemeteries mowed for Memorial Day and maybe one other time during the year.

### **Highway Report**

Superintendent Scott DeNinno was absent but Assistant Superintendent Brian Miller was present.

The prep work for paving is almost complete on Kringsbush, Twin Church, and Stahl road.

The prep on Mill, Gray-Youker and Flanders Road will begin next week.

Paving is scheduled to begin the first week in June tentatively on Kringsbush Road.

Half of Mill road, from St. Johnsville town Line and extending 1.5 miles will be cold in-place recycled this year and the plan is to complete the remaining 1.5 miles next year.

The highest bid for the Oshkosh was \$1,334.00 and the highest bid for the York Rake was \$1,826.00.

Need permission to put the 2000 International Plow Truck on the auction site

### **Purchasing of new trucks**

Scott DeNinno received new quotes from Leasing 2 Company. The quotes were for 5 years. The Ram 5500 Dump Truck is \$62,300.00 with the trade in of the 2007 Chevrolet Pick-up for \$6,300.00. The total payment would be \$12,498.70 a year for 5 years. The Tandem Dump Truck is \$215,000.00 which would be \$47,014.05 a year for 5 years. There will be no balloon payment and after 5 years the town would own the trucks.

Supervisor Breh and Councilwoman Haberek said that they will vote only for one truck.

It was decided to table the purchase of the Ram 5500 Dump Truck until next month

### **Motions**

Motion made by Cheryl Lynch and seconded by Patricia Haberek to continue to mow the cemeteries.

Adopted

Ayes - 4 Lynch, Haberek, Gray, and Breh

Nays - 1 Houle

May 17, 2016 (cont)

Motion made by Patricia Haberek and seconded by Cheryl Lynch to adopt Local Law #1 for 2016 which is the Senior Citizen Exemption to increase the maximum income from \$19,999.99 to \$22,999.00 for 15% exemption.

Adopted

Ayes - 5 Haberek, Lynch, Gray, Houle and Breh

Nays - 0

Motion made by Patricia Haberek and seconded by Stephanie Gray to sell the Oshkosh for \$1,334.00 and the York Rake for \$1,826.00

Adopted

Ayes - 5 Haberek, Gray, Lynch, Houle and Breh

Nays - 0

Motion made by Stephanie Gray and seconded by Cheryl Lynch to purchase the Tandem Dump Truck from Leasing 2 for \$215,000.00 and the first payment due 2/1/2018

Adopted

Ayes - 5 Gray, Lynch, Haberek, Houle and Breh

Nays - 0

Motion made by Stephanie Gray and seconded by Patricia Haberek to put the 2000 International plow truck on the auction site.

Adopted

Ayes - 5 Gray, Haberek, Lynch, Houle and Breh

Nays - 0

Motion made by Cheryl Lynch and seconded by Patricia Haberek to authorize payment of The vouchers

Adopted

Ayes - 5 Lynch, Haberek, Gray, Houle and Breh

Nays - 0

May 17, 2016 (cont)

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion made by John Houle and seconded by Cheryl Lynch to approve the minutes of April 19, 2016.

Adopted

Ayes - 5 Houle, Lynch, Haberek, Gray and Breh

Nays - 0

With no further business on a motion by Councilwoman Haberek and seconded by Councilwoman Gray the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm

Respectfully submitted

Gloria J. Brys, Town Clerk