

Regular Board Meeting of the Town of Poland Board March 9, 2021

Supervisor Kelly Snow called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 6:59 p.m. with the pledge to the flag. In attendance were Town Council members Corey Swanson, Stevan Hatfield, Norman Gustafson and Terry Walker. Also present were Highway Superintendent Larry Mee, Zoning Officer George Gustafson, Assessor Heather Young-Deyell, Legislator John Davis, and town residents Rob Smith, Steve Stanton, and Post Journal Stringer Rose Mary Carver.

Supervisor Snow asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes from the February 9th Regular Board Meeting. There being none, *Councilman Swanson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Gustafson to accept the minutes as written.*

Ayes: Snow, Swanson, Hatfield, Gustafson, Walker

Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- 1) Town Hall - In February of 2019, Ridouts was called for a service call and found that when the remodeling took place, the lines added to heat the new offices were joined to the unit lower than the air bleeder. Air has been building up in the system until it air locked. The Ridout worker perched and drained the system to get it circulating again. They then suggested that after the winter weather breaks, we call and have them fix the initial problem. Due to Covid-19 pandemic hitting, this did not happen. The board decided to table it until the next meeting.
- 2) Court Update - still day by day, but court is still closed for now.
- 3) EOP - A Highway EOP was submitted to the highway union last month. An EOP meeting will be held on March 16th at 6:00 pm.
- 4) Memorial Day - Town Clerk Wallace received permission from the State DOT to submit an application for a special use permit for the Memorial Day Parade. The first meeting will be schedule for April 13th at 6:00 pm.
- 5) Access Chautauqua County TV - on hold
- 6) Celebrate CHQ Grant opportunity - The idea the board agreed on last month was the "Music in the Park". The Community Foundation would rather not use the grants for parks due to Covid-19 restrictions. Supervisor Snow suggested cemetery flags for the veterans to be submitted for the grant. After board approved, Supervisor Snow announced that she would submit this idea to the Community Foundation for the grant. Town Clerk Wallace has placed an order through Congressman's Tom Reed's office for 150 3x5 flags for the town light pole. The town may have to pay for shipment due to the size of the order.
- 7) NY Street Lighting LED Project - Supervisor Snow will meet with Mr. Meyer, from STW, to go through the new NYSERDA Grant.

****First Privilege of Floor**** - none

LEGISLATOR

- 1) Shared Councilman Gustafson's concerns of loose and uncovered loads of garbage causing a problem on Falconer-Frewsburg Road. There is a likelihood of increased enforcement from the Sheriff's Department.

2) As a member of the Public Facilities Department, I have discussed with multiple Highway Departments the salt vs. salt/sand mix for fiscal & environmental reasons.

NEW BUSINESS

1) 2020 AUD Report was submitted and accepted on February 23rd

2) HSA accounts were funded on February 11th

3) *Councilman Swanson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hatfield to appoint Jason Fischer to the Board of Assessment Review with a term to expire December 31, 2025.*

Ayes: Snow, Swanson, Hatfield, Gustafson, Walker

Motion carried.

SUPERVISOR

The Town of Poland will be receiving money through the American Rescue Plan Covid-19 Relief Bill.

COUNCILMAN SWANSON

Received a complaint that the sidewalk plow blade was cutting into the edge of the lawns. Councilman Swanson referred them to speak with the Highway Superintendent.

TOWN CLERK

1) Tax collection is going well.

2) Town offices are open to the public as of today

ASSESSOR

1) The exemption renewal deadline has passed, and inspections of new construction and demolition will take place through March.

2) NYS ORPTS has issued preliminary equalization rate information for Chautauqua County. Our rate is going to drop from 100% to 98% for 2021. This is based on unprecedented sales activity. I have included the rate sheet for our entire county, as I would like to point out that all rates are set to drop in unparalleled fashion. Of all towns that conducted reassessment projects for 2020, only one municipality retained their 100% rate. As you will see this town had a calculated rate over 100% last year. We are able to use a 5% adjustment factor to claim 98% from the states calculated ratio. While this is incredibly disappointing to all towns that have conducted recent reassessments, we cannot dispute the fact that the current market is volatile. This is not localized to Chautauqua County or New York State. There is a nationwide housing shortage. The Town of Poland is not scheduled to conduct another Town wide reassessment until 2024. However, I would encourage that we have a discussion about the significance of our equalization rate.

3) The Board discussed the possibility of reassessing in two years.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

1) Have plenty of salt

2) Brush hogging

3) Asked permission from board to trade in the mowing tractor for lease to own new tractor. Superintendent Mee already has the money in his budget for this tractor.

After board discussion, Councilman Walker made a motion, seconded by Councilman Gustafson to enter into the municipal 4-year lease for a new John Deere 6110M Tractor.

Ayes: Snow, Swanson, Hatfield, Gustafson, Walker

Motion Carried.

ZONING OFFICER

- 1) Area Variance for next week's Zoning Board Meeting
- 2) Planning Board has lots of important things to discuss

MONTHLY REPORTS

JUSTICE JUDITH SHIELDS - reported 41 Vehicle & Traffic with \$2,357.00 forwarded to Supervisor.

CEMETERY- ALAN SHORT- 2/10/21-3/9/21: All is well at this time and nothing new to report.

DOG CONTROL BRIAN KING - March Report - no report

LIBRARY - March 9, 2021. I will be meeting with the contractor for the construction project this Thursday. The drawings have been completed and we can start moving forward. Finally.

We have hired a new assistant - Dawn Swanson!!!! Her experience as a librarian assistant has proven priceless. She was able to fill in for me at a drop of a dime while I was dealing with family emergencies.

The annual report has been completed as has a grant application for additional money for the construction project. I will know more about the grant by April.

The materials quarantine has been lifted by CCLS - meaning we no longer have to quarantine our books and DVDs for four days after they have been returned. It has been left to the director's discretion as to whether or not to continue quarantining. I have decided to quarantine materials for 24 hours after they have been returned.

We are hoping that construction will be starting before the end of March. If it does, we may be doing things such as children's story hour and possibly paint nights outside starting this spring.

The library will be closed Saturday, April 3rd for Good Friday.

Diane Carey, Kennedy Free Library

PLANNING BOARD - no report

ZONING BOARD - no report

RECREATION (REBECCA LINDQUIST) - no report

HISTORIAN - REBECCA LINDQUIST- no report

TOWN CLERK BONNITA WALLACE reported \$658.39 paid to Supervisor with \$1,049.93 total disbursed.

ZONING OFFICER GEORGE GUSTAFSON - (ZONING REPORT) reported zero (0) Complaints received, one (1) Notice of Violation issued and \$145.00 in fees forwarded to Town Clerk.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER ERIC YAGER - (BUILDING CODE REPORT) zero (0) Inspections Performed, and zero (0) Certificates of Occupancy were reported.

SUPERVISOR SNOW distributed prior to the meeting the Agenda and Monthly Supervisor's Reports for General Fund, Highway Fund, Payroll Fund, Money Market accounts and General & Highway Budget Reports.

Supervisor Snow asked if there were any questions on the bills. *Councilman Hatfield made a motion, seconded by Councilman Swanson to pay General Vouchers (69-104)*

totaling \$24,189.75, Highway Vouchers (38-54) totaling \$41,221.01, Light District #1 Voucher (3) in the amount of \$936.20, Light District #2 Voucher (3) in the amount of \$256.18 and Justice Court Voucher (3) in the amount of \$1,286.00.

Ayes: Snow, Swanson, Hatfield, Gustafson, Walker

Motion carried.

The next Board Meeting will be Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall.

Other meetings: March 16th - EOP meeting at 6:00 pm; and April 13th - Memorial Day Meeting at 6:00 pm

At 7:58 p.m. Supervisor Snow made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hatfield to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Snow, Swanson, Hatfield, Gustafson, Walker

Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnita R Wallace, Town Clerk