

**TOWN OF WINFIELD**  
**July 14, 2021**  
**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting of the Town of Winfield Board was called to order at 7 p.m. by Supervisor Charles Osborn.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Charles Osborn	----	Supervisor
Jay Kulczak	----	Councilman
Michael Peo	----	Councilman
Susan Korosec	----	Councilwoman
William Kwasniewski	----	Councilman

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Douglas Paul Jones	---	Superintendent of Highways
Tracy Donley	---	Town Clerk
Robert Royce	---	Park Commissioner
Keith Watkins	---	Zoning Board of Appeals Chairperson

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Andrew Gannon (WW Star), Howard Wakefield, Georgie Bligh, Jack Clark, Melanie Sterling, Deb Jones, Jim & Kari Thomson, Renee Dugan, Ellen Dincik, Christine Dincik, and representing NYSDOT were Mike Pimpinella, Mike Gallerani, Jim Piccola & David Facchini

General Fund claims #123 - #143 and Highway Fund claims #60 - #70 were listed on the Abstract of Voucher sheets.

- A motion was made by Councilman Kwasniewski and seconded by Councilman Kulczak to accept these Abstracts as presented.
  - The motion was carried unanimously.

The Supervisor's and Town Clerk's reports for June 2021 were audited by the Board Members present.

- A motion was made by Councilman Kwasniewski and seconded by Councilman Kulczak to accept the reports as audited.
  - The motion was carried unanimously.

The minutes from the Regular Board Meeting held June 16, 2021 were read and edited by each Board Member present.

- A motion was made by Councilman Kwasniewski and seconded by Councilwoman Korosec to accept these minutes as corrected.
  - The motion was carried unanimously.

#### SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

1. Supervisor Osborn received a quote from John Hammond of Cedar Lake Electric on electric meters for the electric charging station at the Municipal Building: 1 meter would be \$368 and 2 meters would be \$550. Charging a car costs approximately \$7 per charge.

#### HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

1. Councilman Peo inquired about the status of the rear bridge in the park. Superintendent Paul Jones asked Darrin Jones to look at the bridge and quote repairs needed. Possibly using steel beams. Mr Peo also inquired about the pavilion's rotting beams. A temporary fix may be bracing the beams or pour concrete around them as water pools around them.

#### PARK COMMISSIONER'S WRITTEN REPORT:

1. Mr. Royce submitted the pavilion reservations as follows:
  - July 10 Hisert B DayParty Pavilion 3
  - July 18 Ken Waffle Pavilion 1
  - July 21 Ruth Rowe Library Pavilion 1
  - July 25 Optimist BBQ Pavilion 1 & 2
  - July 28 Ruth Rowe Library Pavilion 1
  - July 28 Garden Club Meeting Pavilion 2
  - July 31 Jennifer Wheeler Grad Party Pavilion 1
  - July 31 Bialck Wedding Pavilion 2
  - Aug 1 Will Family Reunion Pavilion 2
  - Aug 4 Historic Society Pavilion 1 & 2
  - Aug 7 Peo Pavilion 3
  - Aug 7 Daniel Loomis Pavilion 2
  - Aug 7 Lauren Roberts Pavilion 1
  - Aug 8 Angela Davis Maine Greenman Pavilion 1
  - Aug 11 Ruth Rowe Library Pavilion 1
  - Aug 14 Kaylh Pavilion 3
  - Aug 21 & 22 Jack Clark Car Show Pavilion 1 & 2
  - Sept 25 Sam Drake Hobo Stew Pavilion 1
  - Sept 25 Becky Krasko Pavilion 3

#### CODES/ZONING OFFICER'S WRITTEN REPORT:

1. Mr. Donley is working on permit #18 for the year.
2. Mr. Donley continues to receive complaints about the farm on Route 51 North. State Police were called because 4 cows were in the road.
3. Mr. Donley is waiting to hear back from Attorney Quinn's office on getting court dates set up for code violations.

4. Mr. Donley will soon send out fire and safety inspection notices for commercial buildings.

#### ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:

1. Mr. Watkins requested a new title for the Mack truck as the original title sent to M & T bank was lost. A certified letter will be sent with the duplicate title that will be mailed to M&T Bank.

#### PLANNING BOARD:

1. Councilwoman Korosec asked for a job description for a Chairperson of the Planning Board Member. Councilman Kulczak stated that they attend seminars, meetings once a month or as needed. More information can be found at the Oneida/Herkimer County Comprehensive Planning Board Office in Utica.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

1. Solar Law/Battery Law review - Councilman Kwasniewski will approach Bob Lamby who is part of the Marcy Planning Board to see what their process has been since Marcy has 4 active projects.
2. Mel Young contacted Councilwoman Korosec stating he needs a bank routing number and account number by August to charge for the Town's domain name. Supervisor Osborn will submit the account information.
3. ARPA requires a System for Award Management (SAM's) number to receive funds. Supervisor Osborn has applied for a SAM's number, he should receive the number in approximately 10 -14 days.
4. The Town is required to mow cemeteries that do not have a Cemetery Committee at least 3 times a year.
5. Town emails are not working for Councilman Kulczak, Keith Watkins and Robert Royce.

#### GOOD OF THE TOWN:

1. Georgie Bligh inquired about the lack of security in the Town Park, stating vandalism has occurred numerous times, ripped sinks off, the shop has been broken into making a mess, & removing signs. Ms. Bligh praised Mr. Wakefield on the way he cares for and takes pride in the park, stating he goes to the park on his own time to ensure the proper maintenance of the park.

OTHER NOTES:

1. Representatives from NYSDOT spoke on the Route 20 bridge closure, detour, and plans for the temporary bridge. The permanent bridge construction will be in approximately 2-3 years.

Mike Pimpinella of NYSDOT discussed the closure of the bridge in June. The plan is to construct a temporary bridge for the road section and pedestrian section with the goal of opening the bridge by the first day of school 2021. The temporary bridge is a full legal bridge that will be in place for approximately 2 years, then a permanent replacement bridge and pedestrian section will be installed. NYS owns the temporary bridge that is currently located in Utica. It is a 2 lane 80 foot long bridge with steel decking.

Jack Clark is planning the Highway 20 Ride Car Show to be held on August 21 & 22, 2021 in the Winfield Park. His plan is to have the cars drive down Route 20 to enter the park. Mr. Clark anticipates 200-300 cars to be in attendance. Paul Jones said the Route 20 gate to the park will be open for the car show. Mike Pimpinella answered that at this point the NYSDOT is unsure if the road will be opened for the car show.

Deb Jones asked if the road closure signs could be moved from Route 20 and Jones Road to Route 20 and Fairground Road as businesses are suffering. Representatives from the NYSDOT replied that they do not want the big trucks turning on Fairground Road. Deb suggested having the trucks detour on Stone Road and cars stay on Route 20 and detour on Fairground Road. NYSDOT Representatives' solution to this is to place signs to show that businesses are still open.

NYSDOT Representatives discussed why the detour route can not be changed stating - Stone Road is County Road and built more to State Road standards. NYSDOT discussed the proper weight limit for North Street is less than 80,000 lbs, therefore a special hauling permit would be required for anything weighing more than 80,000 lbs. They also stated the legal width for a road 8 feet 6 inches. NYSDOT performed numerous studies on which detour would be best for the amount of traffic and the size of the vehicles traveling it. The results were Stone Road and North Street.

Christine Dincik stated North Street traffic is heavy and drivers are exceeding the 30 mph speed limit. She also stated the road is narrow and that going above the speed limit is hazardous to drivers and residents along the road as her son was almost hit by a car. Christine suggested placing a sign at the end of North Street stating the end of 30 mph and more 30 mph signs throughout the road. NYSDOT commented that they can possibly get additional 30 MPH signs to put up.

Renee Dugan & Kari Thomson spoke on the 4-Corners Food Co-op. The Co-op currently has 7 members on the board and they are working with the non-profit group called Food Co-op Initiative. The Food Co-op Initiative helps food co-ops get up and running. It takes an average of about 5 years to get Co-ops up & running. Members of the Co-op will receive a percentage off

the food and products sold. Food is purchased locally. It's called the 4-Corners Food Co-op because it hits 4 counties along Route 20. They are looking for new members and they have also applied for a grant. They are planning a fundraiser to be held on September 26, 2021 at the Scenic View Bar & Grill/Campground. Admission to the fundraiser is free, it will be a harvest festival with local vendors, games & music. Anyone can shop at the Co-op whether they're a member or not, however members will receive a discount.. Future plans for the Co-op include, being the Community Hub, having a Cafe, a meeting room to hold classes and a commercial kitchen for people who want to make products to label and sell. They are trying to keep the co-op on Route 20 between Winfield & Waterville. If anyone is interested go to 4-Corners Food Co-op on Facebook or go to [WWW.4CORNERSFOODCOOP.COM](http://WWW.4CORNERSFOODCOOP.COM).

Melanie Sterling spoke on the fundraising for the park which has been slow due to COVID, however the politics and bureaucracy of the Town Board have further hindered this project. She asked the board to overlook the frustration, stop placing blame, practice patience and remember the reason for the playground, the kids.

2. Councilman Peo requested an Executive Session at 8:42 p.m.

The next Winfield Town Board Meeting will be held August 11, 2021 at 7 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Councilman Kwasniewski moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Kulczak.

- The motion was carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tracy Donley  
Town of Winfield, Clerk