

TOWN OF WINFIELD

October 14, 2020

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

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
Keith Watkins	----	Zoning Board of Appeals, Chairman
Ray Donley	----	Codes Officer & Herkimer County Legislature

OTHERS PRESENT:

Anthony Gannon (West Winfield Star), Sue Huxtable & Kathleen Carnegie

General Fund claims #194 - #215 and Highway Fund claims #79 - #84 were listed on the Abstract of Voucher sheets.

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

The Supervisor's and Town Clerk's reports for September 2020 were audited by the Board Members present.

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

The minutes from the Regular Board Meeting held September 9, 2020 were read and edited by each Board Member present.

- A motion was made by Councilman Peo and seconded by Councilman Kwasniewski to accept these minutes as read.
 - The motion was carried unanimously.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

1. Mr. Osborn presented the Board Members with the Annual Real Property Contract (Assessor's Contract) for each member to read and sign.
 - ❑ Mr. Donley added that Jim Fresco is the only Assessor Herkimer County has and would encourage the Town to keep him. To become an Assessor it is required to have 1 year prior training directly with an Assessor. Herkimer County is looking at options to resolve this issue, like hiring and training more people.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:

1. Mrs. Donley reports 13 dog license renewals, 6 marriage licenses and 1 building permit were processed in September 2020.

PARK COMMISSIONER'S WRITTEN REPORT:

1. Mr. Royce states there are 3 reservations scheduled during the month of October 2020 for the pavilions in the Winfield Town Park.
 - ❑ October 10th - Girls Soccer - Can & Bottle Drive - Pavilion 1
- Broon - Birthday Party - Pavilion 3
 - ❑ October 31st VFW & Federated Church Trunk Or Treat 3-5 p.m. - Pavilion 1
2. The Daughters of the American Revolution plaque was placed on the concrete foundation created by Town Employees.
3. Two concrete benches that memorialize Tom Pollard were placed on the foundations created by Town Employees. A tri-colored beech tree was also planted behind the bench that is near the garage and the other bench was placed on the banks of the Unadilla River.
4. Funds donated in memory of Tom Pollard will also be used to clean and paint the bandstand and paint a welcoming message on the front of it.
5. Mr. Royce received a phone call from Jennifer Noble's sister, who would like to plant a tree in the park in memory of Jennifer. Mr. Royce advised the caller to make arrangements to purchase the tree and have it planted in the spring. Possibly a Sugar Maple tree can be planted between the roadway and the river near the Senif memorial trees.

CODES/ZONING OFFICER'S REPORT:

1. Mr. Donley is currently working on permit #27 for the year 2020.
2. Mr. Donley received Town Laws from NYS of everything that has been filed for the Town of Winfield since 1998.
3. Mr. Donley needs 4 more classes to complete his training for the year.

PLANNING BOARD:

1. Mr. Kulczak states he will look at the Town Laws filed since 1998 to see if anything needs to be added to The Town of Winfield Zoning Book.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Kathleen Carnegie presented the Town Board Members with concerns of the visibility and speed of vehicles traveling Route 51, especially by the Chepachet Road & Swamp Road intersections. Ms. Carnegie's presentation consisted of numerous pictures showing details of numerous hazards along Route 51.
 - ❑ Kathleen has spoken to Jacob Olds of NYSDOT who stated that the said sections of Route 51 will be reevaluated providing the Town fills out and signs the TE-9a form.
 - ❑ Mrs. Huxtable states when exiting off Swamp Road onto Route 51 you must Stop for more than the standard amount of time to ensure no vehicles are in the dip on Route 51. Ms. Carnegie pointed at a few pictures showing a truck breaking over the hill with 2-3 cars not visible due to the dip in the road. Mrs. Huxtable also stated there is more Amish traveling along the mentioned routes to add to the hazards.
 - ❑ Councilman Peo inquired about the weight limit of trucks traveling on Chepachet Road due to all the work that was recently done. If there was a weight limit, that may eliminate some of the trucks that are using it as a shortcut. Mr. Donley will inquire about this at the next Herkimer County meeting.

A motion was made to sign and submit the TE-9a Form to NYSDOT by Councilman Kwasniewski and seconded by Councilman Kulczak.

- ❑ The motion was carried unanimously.
2. Mr. Osborn spoke with Terry who states the computer is up to date, he recommends the Town install Microsoft Office. The cost will be approximately \$150.
 3. 172 Vehicles passed through during Trash Day, approximate costs: \$3200 Wheelock's Disposal, & \$300 Confidata.
 4. Councilman Kwasniewski and Robert Royce would like to move forward with Phase 1 of the playground equipment, estimated cost of \$25,000
 5. Mr. Kulczak stated that after Liam Kulczak's Eagle Scout project was mentioned in the West Winfield Star, some history evolved about the gazebos. Liam's project consists of refurbishing the gazebos in the Town of Winfield Park. Many years ago, there was a house on Route 20 that burnt to the ground and the gazebos from that house were donated to the Town of Winfield. The owner of the gazebos was actually the First Attorney General of Herkimer County, a member of the Morgan Family. The Morgan family reached out to Liam and will finance his entire Eagle Scout project. Liam will also place a historical marker on the gazebos.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Date for Public Hearing to review the Budget will be November 11, 2020 at 6 p.m.
2. Dale Brown has put in a Workers Compensation claim for verbal abuse.
 - ❑ Mr. Osborn and Mr. Jones will meet separately October 15th via teleconference with the Town's Workers Compensation Attorney.
3. Supervisor Osborn states the Judge & Court Clerk are planning to retire on December 31, 2021. The West Winfield Star will run an add for Town Judge, Court Clerk and one Board Member.

4. Councilwoman Korosec requested a copy of the Town of Winfield Zoning Book so she could read it.
 - Councilman Kulczak gave Councilwoman Korosec the thumbdrive of the Town of Winfield Zoning Book.
5. Councilman Kwasniewski belongs to the Route 20 Association and stated there's a grant available to help with the cost of Historical signs and markers if the Town of Winfield is in need of any. Suggestions were made to reach out to Steve Davis the Historian of the Town.

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

- ☐ The motion was carried unanimously.

The next Winfield Town Board Meeting will be held November 11, 2020 at 7 p.m. with the Public Hearing starting at 6 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tracy Donley
Town of Winfield, Clerk