

**Town of Middlesex
Regular Meeting
February 13, 2020**

Present: Peter Gerbic, Deputy Supervisor
Denise Adam, Councilwoman
Leon Button, Councilman
James Grant, Councilman

Absent: Wayne Dunton, Supervisor
Dawn Kane, Code Enforcement Officer

Also present: Todd Conaway, Highway Superintendent
Patrick Grimaldi, Assessor

Clerk: Lynnette Miller

Deputy Supervisor Peter Gerbic called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. at the Town Hall, 1216 Route 245, Middlesex.

Minutes

Deputy Supervisor Gerbic asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2020 meeting. A motion was made by Councilman Button, seconded by Councilwoman Adam.

*All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

Assessor – Pat Grimaldi

- There have been phone calls and visits from residents asking about the School Tax Assessment Reimbursement (STAR) program that is now administered solely through the State.

Highway/Buildings/Grounds – Todd Conaway

- Supervisor Conaway presented an estimate on water repairs to be done at the Town barn from Alan Williams. This was discussed at the January meeting. Alan is available to do the job next week. Todd called to rent a lift from D & L in Benton. The Town employees will assist Alan. A motion was made by Councilman Button, seconded by Councilwoman Adam to accept Alan William's estimate for water line repair.
*All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.
- The Western Star truck had to be towed yesterday to Tracey with suspicion that the injectors are bad. The highway crew is down one truck with no spare. The Town is also down one highway employee, redistributing the plow routes. A quote received for injectors was \$6,000 to replace all. Tracey's price will be somewhat cheaper. Wayne was aware before he left for vacation.
- Snow plowing and hauling gravel is keeping the highway crew busy. Additional salt will be ordered before price increase.

Code Enforcement – Dawn Kane

No report.

Planning Board -

No report.

ZBA – Arthur Radin

This is a slow time of year. Nothing to report.

Water District –

No report.

Historian/Heritage Group – Win Harper

- Round schoolhouse painting in Potter will be refurbished and finished in the fall.

Legislator’s Report – Doug Paddock

- Noni Flynn was appointed by the Legislature as County Administrator.
- The County received a \$10.3 million USDA grant to improve broadband in unserved/underserved areas of the community. A local match will be made by the County of \$3.5 million. Work is projected to be done in the next 3 years, with a 5-year deadline.
- This is a census year. It’s important that everyone get counted. Local funding depends on census figures.
- It’s budget time at the State level which typically affects local government. The Governor is proposing a new formula for assessing Medicaid that will likely affect county property taxes with little say of who will be eligible or how services will be paid for.
- The Legislature is in the process of setting up a meeting with State Senator Tom O’Mara & Assemblyman Phil Palmesano to keep updated on issues happening at the State level. This will be an opportunity for residents to express concerns.

Open Discussion

Resident Tom Hansen spoke to the Board and initiated a discussion asking if there are plans for repairs to South Lake Road other than replacing culverts. He also presented the Board with several emails written by residents of South Lake Road expressing the same. Mr. Hansen requested that the Board take another ride down South Lake Road to assess the current condition, including a view from the lake to see erosion undercutting the road. After a lengthy discussion, everyone present agreed that the road is in bad shape. Spot-fixing is not the answer according to Mr. Hansen. He requested that the Town come up with a plan. Mr. Hansen summed up his plea by saying that the Town will be officially placed on notice that South Lake Road is a public safety hazard.

Resident Rick Dollinger thanked the Board for work done to improve the Vine Valley beach and boat launch in addition to getting the Robeson Store opened. He expressed knowing that the Town is working with scarce resources, yet he is also concerned about the condition of South Lake Road. Specifically, that the road is not safe for vehicle traffic, nor is it safe for pedestrians. The potential exists for an unfortunate situation to occur. He urged the Board to plan a 2-4-year phased capital improvement project. Mr. Dollinger expressed concern that municipal liability is at stake and the project needs to be done correctly. After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Dollinger suggested that a road improvement district be formed generating dollars from the residents on South Lake Road sharing the cost between Town money/ bond funds, etc. to pay for repairs. He expressed that he is willing to participate in this with the idea that his property value will increase. Mr. Dollinger thanked the Board for listening and taking everyone’s ideas into consideration.

Resident Ted Carman thanked Mr. Dollinger for his comments. He agreed and suggested that the Town look at a phased approach voicing an immediate concern, then undertaking a serious plan using grant/bond/tax dollar or some form of all to get this going.

Resident Dan O'Brien added that the taxable assessed value on South Lake Road is about 25% of the Town's total taxes raised. He expressed that residents on that road should consider the formation of a road improvement district which will increase the value of properties.

Resident Win Harper mentioned that although he does not live on South Lake Road, he drives down the road as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals. He agreed that South Lake Road is in need of extensive repair. Mr. Harper commented that everyone in the community is entitled to a way to get to their house safely. He suggested that the Town get down to business.

Mr. Dollinger asked if a petition were passed among road residents showing concern and interest, would that entice the Board into acting?

Councilman Button asked Legislator Doug Paddock if forming a road improvement district is something that has been done before. Mr. Paddock suggested that the Town attorney be contacted.

Ted Carman suggested that the Board take a different approach and instead of looking at the problem as an obstacle, view it as an opportunity. Canandaigua Lake is a tourist attraction with this area being promoted as a scenic view which also creates more traffic. It would be ashamed to have a catastrophe happen here.

Additional items mentioned/discussed:

- Drainage/ditching or lack thereof that is contributing to erosion.
- Dollars spent in recent years by the Town with some State and Federal money received due to unique weather conditions.
- Originally a carriage road with base made of shale/gravel. Not built to any specifications at that time.
- Extensive cost involved to bring the structure of the road up to code.
- Does the Town keep historical records of funds spent on South Lake Rd.?
- Capital improvement program implementation
- Traffic danger/pedestrian danger
- Shoulders are not compliant with NYS guidelines.
- Moving the road

Deputy Supervisor Gerbic thanked the residents for attending and expressing their concerns. He stated that the Board received many good comments this evening that will be considered.

Town Clerk – Lynnette Miller

- The Board was given copies of the monthly report.
- Tax collection is underway and continues through March.

Supervisor – Peter Gerbic, Deputy Supervisor

Board members were given copies of the monthly report. No questions.

Resolutions:

Deputy Supervisor Gerbic made a request for the Board to consider the following resolutions:

Resolution 11-20

Marks Engineering Proposal

On a motion by Councilman Grant, seconded by Councilwoman Adam, the following resolution was

ADOPTED	Ayes	4	Gerbic, Adam, Button, Grant
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Dunton

Resolved to accept the proposal from Marks Engineering, P.C. to provide survey stake-out service for South Lake Road culvert replacement.

Resolution 12-20

Reappoint Board of Assessment Review Member

On a motion by Councilman Grant, seconded by Councilwoman Adam, the following resolution was

ADOPTED	Ayes	4	Gerbic, Adam, Button, Grant
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Dunton

Resolved to reappoint Patricia Stringer to a 5-year term on the Board of Assessment Review effective October 1, 2019, expiring September 30, 2024.

Resolution 13-20

Authorize to Pay the Bills

On a motion by Councilwoman Adam, seconded by Councilman Grant, the following resolution was

ADOPTED	Ayes	4	Gerbic, Adam, Button, Grant
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Dunton

Resolved that the bills contained in the February 2020 Abstract have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payments in the following amounts:

General Fund	Vouchers No:	1031-1058	\$19,037.33
Highway	Vouchers No:	2298-2325	\$56,238.34
Water District	Vouchers No:	3006-3011	\$ 2,035.48

Committee Members –

No reports.

With no further business, on a motion by Councilman Button, seconded by Councilwoman Adam, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

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2020-02-13

Lynnette F. Miller, Town Clerk