

**Town of Middlesex
Regular Meeting
March 12, 2020**

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

Also Present: Todd Conaway, Highway Superintendent
Patrick Grimaldi, Assessor
Dawn Kane, Code Enforcement Officer
Dan Robeson, Historian/Heritage Group
Alan Williams, Water Superintendent

Recording Secretary: Lynnette Miller, Clerk

Supervisor Dunton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, 1216 Route 245, Middlesex.

Approval of Minutes

Supervisor Dunton requested a motion to approve the minutes from the February 13, 2020 meeting. A motion was made by Councilwoman Adam, seconded by Councilman Button.

*All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

Guest Speaker – Board of Elections

Supervisor Dunton introduced Rob Schwarting, Yates County Board of Elections Commissioner. Mr. Schwarting informed the Board of several items at the BOE including the budget, upcoming Primary voting, early voting, cybersecurity, and updates on polling staff. Supervisor Dunton thanked Mr. Schwarting for keeping the Board informed.

Assessor – Pat Grimaldi

- Exemptions are in.
- The equalization rates seems to be at 92%. Councilman Gerbic asked if this is a good rate. Assessor Grimaldi explained that most sales in the Town occur between late spring and summer and that 92% is a good number. NYS will probably push for a re-evaluation next year.

Highway/Buildings/Grounds – Todd Conaway

- Equipment reports for the past three months were given to the Board.
- Repairs to Truck #6 will show up on next month's report. The same truck is back in to repair an oil leak that should be under warranty.
- An estimate is forthcoming to repair the swing motor on the excavator. CAT was called yesterday to look at it.
- Truck #5 will need the kingpins replaced.
- Odds and ends are being done on the roads.
- The guys are hauling gravel.

Code Enforcement – Dawn Kane

- The Planning Board has six new applications to review.
- New construction at the Levell property has not begun. CEO Kane met with the contractors and they are waiting for the weather to break. There had been an issue with clearing of land on steep slope.
- Superintendent Conaway is working with residents at a South Lake Rd. property regarding ongoing flooding. The Town has not agreed to pay for a headwall that is outside the Town's right-of-way. Dawn explained the details.
- Riverwood, a division of Woodtex that manufactures homes, sold a home to residents on Knapp Road, then went out of business. Dawn will be sending a letter to the Board asking for permission to transfer the old permit to the new home that will be built.
- Two new houses ready to be built and Dawn is working on the preliminary plans.
- COE Kane attended continuing education in Henrietta to remain certified.
- 2020 paperwork for the Vine Valley Beach has been submitted to Yates County.
- COE Kane has been notified of an ISO audit through insurance that will review the Town's code software.
- The code enforcement officer from the Town of Milo will be coming to advise Dawn on updating our zoning codes.
- Clean-up letters are getting ready to be mailed to properties in the Town that need attention.

Planning Board –
No report

ZBA –
No report

Water District – Alan Williams

- The Board was given a report listing all water repairs for 2019. Superintendent Williams reported that there had been an abundance of watermain breaks, 11 that have all been repaired. Details given. Leaks still amount to a loss of approximately 4,000 gallons per day. Corrosion in the pipes is due to iron in the soil which causes the pipes to wear out.
- An additional concern is the level of THM's in the water which is a byproduct of chlorination. The maximum amount allowed by DOH is 80 ppm. We are over that amount some months. The quarterly testing shows readings ranging from 18-100 with higher readings appearing later in the year. The cause is stale water, indicating that the Town is not using enough. Superintendent Williams is told to flush more, however, it's hard to flush on the end of the lines. Details were discussed. One remedy would be to put aeration in the water at a cost of approximately \$20,000. The advantage would be that water is not wasted. Alan suggests that the Town purchase two flushing stations. The cost is estimated to be \$5,500 each. Councilman Gerbic asked about the mechanicals. The Towns of Jerusalem and Milo both use these systems and they feel they are saving money in the long run. After a lengthy discussion, Councilman Grant made a motion that the Town purchase two flushing stations. There was no second. The motion did not move forward. Councilman Gerbic made a motion that the Town purchase one flusher unit at this time, seconded by Councilman Button.
*All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

- Resident Bill Williams reported on a local government workshop he attended in November regarding replacing the Town's aging water supply. The workshop focused on funding sources available. Bill passed out an abbreviated list of steps required. The scope of the project would be on replacing the water line between Rushville and Middlesex approximately at Dudley Poultry. County Legislator Cutler suggested that the Town speak to someone in the Town of Torrey. They received a USDA grant. Supervisor Dunton mentioned that the County is working on something county-wide. It was also suggested that the Town contact Mary at Municipal Solutions to see if she would be interested in writing a grant. Bruce St. Lawrence will get her contact information from his files. Supervisor Dunton will also contact Dan Long at the County.

Historian/Heritage Group – Dan Robeson

- Win Harper and Dan Robeson met with Peter Jemison regarding Seneca Heritage Days. The Heritage Group will be honoring Mr. Jemison at that time since he is retiring as director at Ganondagon.
- The newsletter has been completed by Deb Bronson. It will be mailed next week.

Legislator's Report

- A resolution by the Legislature was passed to declare March 29, 2020 as Vietnam Veterans Day in Yates County.
- The County Legislature met with NYS Senator Tom O'Mara and Assemblyman Phil Palmassano. The discussion included criminal justice reform, Medicaid funding, and highway costs among other things in the news.

Open Discussion –

Resident Tom Hansen deferred to Superintendent Dunton, saying the topic he is here to discuss will come up further into tonight's meeting and he will comment then.

Town Clerk – Lynnette Miller

- Clerk Miller requested that the Board reappoint her as Town Registrar, along with Deputy Town Clerk Brenda Mott as Deputy Town Registrar. The registrar handles all birth certificates, death certificates, marriage licenses and anything pertaining to vital records. A motion was made by Councilman Gerbic, seconded by Councilwoman Adam to approved both.
*All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.
- Seconded notices were mailed March 3rd to any homeowner whose 2020 Town/County taxes had not been paid to date. Two residents who received the notice called to say they had been paid online. Clerk Miller will email and call the YC Treasurer's office to ask why online bills are not showing as paid.

Supervisor's Report – Wayne Dunton

- The Town is making some progress with the Village of Rushville and the water rate. The Town has agreed to pay the 2018 and 2019 arrears amount at the old rate. The balance, if there is any, will be determined once the attorneys conclude. Supervisor Dunton will update the Board with more information at a later date.
- The Board was given a report from Lu Engineers titled "South Lake Road Rehabilitation Design." The report was broken down into two parts. Part one identifies ten areas in need of serious upgrading with five culverts for approximately \$275,000 plus \$47,000 for engineering work. Part two was to only mill and resurface the road at \$350,000. Supervisor Dunton requested that

the Board set a meeting for next week to discuss the report further. In addition, he passed out a copy of the highway budget. Supervisor Dunton explained the process of CHIPS money projected for the Town to receive. Resident Tom Hansen asked the Board about using the fund balance to pay for repairs to South Lake Road. Supervisor Dunton explained how the fund balance is used. Tom also asked about grant dollars to repair the culverts. Superintendent Conaway said three culverts will be installed using grant money. Grant money is earmarked and the dollars are received by the Town after the work is done. Specifically, the Lu Engineer report notes heavy traffic by heavy-weighted vehicles is the number one problem on the road. It was decided that the Board would meet March 26th at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. Tom Hansen asked to be part of the meeting next week. Superintendent Conaway will attend. Bruce St. Lawrence will contact Scott at Lu Engineers. Clerk Miller will have the notice posted and published. Bruce St. Lawrence reported that this is a conceptual rough cost. Supervisor Dunton confirmed that this is a place to start. He also emphasized that the Town will do the best it can to achieve the best possible outcome for all.

- The Monthly Report was given to the Board.
- Supervisor Dunton informed the Board that the Town needs to hire someone to mow the ball park.
- The Town also needs to hire someone to maintain the triangle in front of the Baptist Church.

Resolutions –

Resolution 14-20

Authorization to Pay the Bills

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

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Dunton, Adam, Button, Gerbic, Grant
 Nays 0

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

General Fund	Vouchers No:	1059-1083	\$52,034.84
Highway	Vouchers No:	2326-2347	\$92,887.16
Water District	Vouchers No:	3012-3016	\$ 2,344.93

Committee Members –

No report.

With no further business, on a motion by Councilman Grant, seconded by Councilwoman Adam, the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.


Lynnette F. Miller, Town Clerk