

**Town of Middlesex
Regular Meeting
October 8, 2020**

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

Absent: Leon Button, Councilman

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

Recording Secretary Lynnette Miller, Clerk

Supervisor Dunton opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall located as 1216 Route 245, Middlesex. Everyone in attendance wore face masks and social distanced following recommended CDC guidelines during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Public Hearing

Supervisor Dunton opened the floor to comments from the public regarding the Tax Cap Override. He stated that the Public Hearing would remain open throughout tonight's meeting for questions and/or comments. The proposed budget is still being formulated. In the event that the Town's budget increases beyond 1 ½% tax cap for 2021, a law must be adopted. Supervisor Dunton explained the reason for the tax cap set at 1 ½% this year instead of 2% in years past. There were no comments at this time.

Approval of Minutes

Supervisor Dunton requested a motion to approve the minutes from the September 2020 meeting. A motion was made by Councilman Grant, seconded by Councilman Gerbic.

*All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

Assessor – Pat Grimaldi

- Forms will be mailed at the end of November to income eligible residents and residents with agriculture exemptions. Those with military exemption do not need to renew. STAR exemptions are now handled by NYS.
- The assessor's office is preparing to upgrade its computer program which could require a new computer.

Highway/Buildings/Grounds – Todd Conaway

- The highway employees are working on road shoulders, hauling sand, & pipe installation.
- The old loader has been placed in the Teitsworth online auction.

- There have been two applicants for the heavy equipment operator position. Interviews are planned for next week.
- Regarding Clean Up Days, all the bills are in.
- This vouchers this month include an invoice for Truck #8. Todd has been driving it for a couple days and it seems fine.
- Bruce St. Lawrence reported that he met with Lu Engineers today regarding the design and plans for Phase 1 repairs to South Lake Rd. The cost will be approximately \$300,000. Bid packages are expected to go out by early December and a contractor named. Work will start in the spring. Bruce has the breakdown of numbers. Lu Engineers will work up a list of work that the Town needs to complete such as drainage.

Code Enforcement – Dawn Kane

- The code office has been steady with permits and applications.
- The Planning Board reviewed 7 applications this month.
- Members are still needed to join the Planning Board. Marty DeVinney is the contact.
- The code enforcement monthly report was given to the Board.

Planning Board –

- Code Officer Kane reported that the Planning Board is seeing lots of activity. She stressed the same information as given in bullets 2 & 3 above in the code enforcement report.
- Supervisor Dunton commented on the clarification of the definition of a pole barn as discussed at last month's public hearing. He emphasized that this is not a new law. It is a redefinition of a pole barn. Code Officer Kane read the definition, "a structure primarily used for private storage as an accessory to a permit use on the parcel it is constructed on. A lengthy discussion ensued. Supervisor Dunton asked Dawn Kane to refer to the Town Attorney for clarification.

ZBA - No report

Water District – Alan Williams

- Board members were given the Water District 2019-2020 Report. Water Superintendent Williams clarified that approximately 6,000 gallons/day is lost in flushing the lines and about 5,000 gallons/day was found in a leak near the Middlesex Valley School. Alan will identify these amounts for Water Clerk Sabra Dunton.
- A letter from the Department of Health was positive so Alan feels the flushing unit is working, keeping more fresh water in the lines.
- The water rate dispute with the Village of Rushville is ongoing.

Historian/Heritage Group – Dan Robeson

- The next Heritage Group newsletter will go out in mid-December.
- The Annual Meeting will be held in January,
- The group is beginning to prepare for 2021 Citizen Appreciation Day and Seneca Heritage Day.

Legislator's Report – Ed Bronson

- The Williams St. bridge should be finished at the end of October.
- A resolution is expected to be passed at the next meeting of the Legislature for full funding of roads and CHIPS funds.

- Early voting starts on Monday, 10/24 at the County Office Building. Requests for absentee ballots number 1,700 as of Monday, many more than usual.
- A Draft of the YC Comprehensive Plan is now online.
- The Traffic Diversion Program started in July has had 88 people enrolled, 29 have completed, 30 are in-progress, and 29 have not completed the program.
- Cardinal Disposal has been providing trash/recycle drop-off at the Jerusalem Town Barns on Guyanoga Rd. The drop-off location will be moved to the YC Highway Building down the road. There are no plans to provide trash collection at Potter at this point.
- The County DMV is open by appointment only.
- Mandatory training required of all personnel is switching back to GCN.
- Since March there have been 70 cases of Covid-19 in the county.
- The County Legislature will be working on budget this month.

Public Comments –

- Resident Leigh Williams asked about the long-term goal of fixing South Lake Rd. Supervisor Dunton answered that it depends on dollars. Bruce St. Lawrence added that each phase will get more costly. The plan is to keep working on the project until the work is completed. It will take several years.
- Regarding the swing set installation at the Vine Valley Community Center, Supervisor Dunton stated that he has found a contractor to complete the installation. Supervisor Dunton asked Councilwoman Adam to contact Community House Board President Gordon Stringer to arrange a time to discuss the project.

Town Clerk – Lynnette Miller

- Monthly town clerk report given to the Board.

Supervisor's Report – Wayne Dunton

- Supervisor Dunton requested a date to be set for a budget work session. A meeting date was set for Tuesday, October 13 at 3:00 p.m. at the Town Hall. A meeting notice will be posted.
- Last month Supervisor Dunton gave each Board member a copy of the lease agreement for the Robeson Store. Tanya Fox, a local summer resident, has expressed interest in leasing the store from the Town. Supervisor Dunton made a request that Councilwoman Adam work with Code Officer Kane to set up a time to go through the building and make a list of items that belong to the Town vs. items that belong to the Mueilers. Highway Superintendent Conaway will check on the fire alarms. There was a discussion regarding the lease amount. A motion was made by Councilman Gerbic, seconded by Councilwoman Adam to move forward with the lease agreement to the Foxes.
* All in favor; none opposed.

Resolutions

Resolution #40-20

Yates County Inter-Municipal Agreement - Vine Valley Boat Launch & Dock Project

Supervisor Dunton explained that this resolution was postponed until Attorney Jeff Graff can review it further. It will be on the agenda for the November meeting.

****At 7:47 p.m. Supervisor Dunton asked for any comments or questions regarding the Tax Cap Override. There were none. The Public Hearing was closed.**

Resolution #41-20

Middlesex Valley Volunteer Ambulance Service -2021 Contract

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

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

Resolved to authorize Supervisor Dunton to sign the 2021 Contract Agreement with the Middlesex Valley Ambulance Service in the amount of \$97,036.

Resolution #42-20

2021 Preliminary Budget Proposal -- Set Public Hearing

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

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

Resolved to authorize a Public Hearing of the 2021 Budget to be held on Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Resolution #43-20

Monthly Report/Line Item Transfer

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

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

Resolved to accept the Monthly Report and the Line Item Transfers to date for October 2020.

Resolution #44-20

Audit of Claims

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

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

Resolved that the bills contained in the October 2020 Abstract have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts.

General Fund	Vouchers No: 1235-1261	\$ 13,631.38
Highway	Vouchers No: 2455-2476	\$ 43,077.96
Water District	Vouchers No: 3043-3050	\$ 32,461.41
Trust & Agency	Vouchers No: 15	\$ 4,537.22

Resolution #45-20


NYS Municipal Snow and Ice Agreement 2019-2024

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

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

Resolved for Supervisor Dunton to sign and, therefore, accept the NYS Municipal Snow and Ice Agreement that is in effect from 2019-2024,

With no further business, on a motion by Councilwoman Adam, seconded by Councilman Gerbic, the meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.



Lynnette F. Miller, Town Clerk