

**Town of Lowville Regular Board Meeting
November 21, 2019**

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Lowville, County of Lewis and the State of New York was held at the Town Hall, 5533 Bostwick Street, Lowville, NY on the 21st day of November 2019.

Present: Randall Schell, Supervisor
Ruth Larabee, Councilwoman
Allison Millard, Councilman
Robert Mullin, Councilman
Paul Virkler, Councilman
Raymond Meier, Town Attorney
Aimee Murphy, Town Clerk
Thomas Widrick, Highway Superintendent/Special Districts Superintendent
Nicholas Astafan, Jr., Dog Control Officer
William Kiernan, Town Justice

Also Present: Henry Avallone; JD Ross, Councilman Elect; Lori Kunert, Invenergy; Paul Denise, Village of Lowville;

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Supervisor Schell who also led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

Motion by Councilman Mullin, seconded by Councilman Virkler to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2019 regular board meeting.

ADOPTED – AYES – Larabee, Millard, Mullin, Schell, Virkler NAYS -0

Motion by Councilwoman Larabee, seconded by Councilman Virkler to approve the minutes of the October 30, 2019 special board meeting.

ADOPTED – AYES – Larabee, Millard, Mullin, Schell, Virkler NAYS -0

CORRESPONDENCE

- Ag & Markets – CWD#1 Water treatment project; Confusion over Village tank and Town tank.
- DASNY Hospital Hill approval - \$75,000 to be split between the Hospital Hill and Ross Road drainage projects.
- Ox Industries – Carthage Papermill, hydroelectric project.
- ReneSola Power Holdings – Solar project.
- Mortgage Tax Statement

VOUCHERS

Motion by Councilwoman Larabee, seconded by Councilman Millard to approve that bills be paid as listed in the following amounts.

ADOPTED – AYES – Larabee, Millard, Mullin, Schell, Virkler NAYS -0

General - Abstract #11	Voucher # 334 to #375	\$ 139,080.12
Highway - Abstract #11	Voucher # 124 to #134	\$ 12,848.47
Trust & Agency	(10/31/2019)	\$ 4,942.04

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(11/21/2019) \$ 16,388.59
Total Expenditures \$ 173,259.22

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Receipts: Town Clerk.....\$ 1,889.41
 CEO.....\$ 1,216.00 (\$9,179.76 ytd)
 Courts-Judge Kiernan.....\$ 4,995.00
 Village of Lowville.....\$ 8,866.99 (ZBA/Planning Reimbursement)
 NYMIR.....\$ 72.12 (Rebate)
 NYMIR.....\$ 1,161.95 (lightning strike WD#1)
 Lewis County.....\$ 37,759.64 (mortgage tax)

The Supervisor's activities report and financial report are in the board member's packets.

Motion by Councilwoman Larabee, seconded by Councilman Mullin to accept the Supervisor's receipts, activities and financial reports.

ADOPTED – AYES – Larabee, Millard, Mullin, Schell, Virkler NAYS -0

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Attorney

- Maple Ridge PILOT – Waiting for signing in December. Tax relief law suits against municipalities will be dismissed by Judge Merrell after PILOT is signed.
- #3 PILOT – IDA has not provided a draft PILOT; Working on a host agreement.

Town Clerk

- Town Clerk's Monthly Report is in Board Members' Packets & Daily Log passed for review.
- Received notice of planned rock blast at MJL Crushing Pit 10/29/19 (forwarded on to board members).
- Filed Certificate of No Referendum for purchase of new F350 Dually.
- Mailed water bills Nov. 1st; have been collecting payments.
- Attended training at Lewis County for new tax collection program.
- Received packet from AOT re: training for newly elected officials, webinar on 12/12/19 or New Town Officials Schools in Rochester or Albany in January 2020.
- Christmas party: Reserved Jeb's back room. Will be held December 19th at 12:00 noon. Order off of the menu.

CEO

The CEO officer's report is in the Board Member's packets.

- DANC/Ft. Drum Local Law requests – nothing new.

Superintendent of Highways/ Special Districts Superintendent

- Melvin Zehr has started as the winter wing man as of 11/18/2019.
- DBP sample taken on 11/14/2019 waiting on results.
- Pump Station 2 automation and controls have been repaired and insurance has reimbursed us for the repairs.
- Security system at the office is not working properly. Working with CREG systems on a repair.
- Village Hydrant meter stopped working while we were using it for WD#1 flushing. A new meter has been received and was given to the Village.

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- The CAT tractor received a high bid of \$17,200 through Constableville Auction Hall and the Village of Lowville is willing to pay \$4,000 for the Ford tractor.

Motion by Councilwoman Larabee, seconded by Councilman Mullin to adopt **Resolution No 41-2019 “Sale of CAT tractor and Ford tractor.”**

ADOPTED – AYES – Larabee, Millard, Mullin, Schell, Virkler NAYS -0

WHEREAS the Town of Lowville has declared the 1993 Ford 6640 Tractor with mower and broom and 2008 CAT MT425B Tractor with mower as surplus and wish to sell both, and

WHEREAS the CAT Tractor has received a high bid of \$17,200.00 through the Constableville Auction Hall, and

WHEREAS the Village of Lowville is interested in purchasing the Ford tractor for \$4,000.00, then therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board accept the bid through the Constableville Auction Hall for the CAT tractor and the offer from the Village of Lowville for the Ford tractor, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the funds received for the sale of the tractors be put into the Highway Equipment Reserve Fund.

Public Hearing

The Public Hearing for the Fire Protection Contract with the Village of Lowville and the Lowville Volunteer Fire Department was declared open at 10:06 a.m.

DCO

- Activities Report in board members’ packets.

DCO Astafan informed the board of an upcoming meeting with NYS Ag & Markets, to be held on December 4th from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Lewis County Humane Society. Interested board members are invited to attend. Town Clerk Murphy has indicated that she will be attending.

Countryside Veterinary Clinic has sent a bill to the Town of Lowville for the boarding of a dog owned by Joseph Shinnick on Waters Road. The Court had ordered this dog to be picked up by dog control until the conclusion of the dangerous dog action. The Town has authorized payment and Town Clerk Murphy has been instructed to send a bill to Mr. Shinnick to recoup this expense.

RACOG

Mickey Dietrich was unable to attend the meeting, so he forwarded a report that was included in the board member’s packets.

Accountant Scott Lawrence entered at 10:15 a.m.

Old Business

Hospital Hill Project/Ross Road Drainage – Will be holding a meeting with Lewis County Soil & Water.

Administrative Order WD#1 – Will soon be opening up for bids; June 2020 shovels should be ready to go in the ground; One funding application is in and another is being looked into.

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Mill Creek – No action

US Light Energy Solar – Waters Road project – Decided to pursue a zone change. Supervisor Schell spoke with Mike Fingar, who will be turning in an application to Zoning Officer Manning. When it has been deemed complete, Attorney Meier will draft a Local Law for the Board’s approval.

Motion by Councilman Mullin, seconded by Councilwoman Laribee to close the Public Hearing for the Fire Protection Contract at 10:25 a.m.

ADOPTED – AYES – Laribee, Millard, Mullin, Schell, Virkler NAYS -0

New Business

No public comment was heard regarding the Fire Protection Contract.

Motion by Councilman Millard seconded by Councilman Virkler to adopt **Resolution No. 42-2019 “Authorizing Supervisor to sign the 2020 Fire Protection Contract”**.

ADOPTED - AYES – Laribee, Millard, Mullin, Schell, Virkler NAYS – 0

WHEREAS, the Town of Lowville held a public hearing on November 21, 2019 on the 2020 Fire Protection Contract, and

WHEREAS, there was no public comment, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board deems it is in the best interest of the Town of Lowville to enter into this Fire Protection Contract, then, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is authorized to sign the Fire Protection Contract for 2020.

Budget Officer/Bookkeeper

Accountant Scott Lawrence presented the 3rd quarter financials (as of 9/30/19) and reviewed with the board.

Town Clerk Murphy requested permission to close the Town Clerk’s office at noon on December 24th and December 31st. After a brief discussion,

Motion by Councilman Mullin, seconded by Councilwoman Laribee to permit the Town of Lowville Town Clerk’s office to close at 12:00 noon on December 24, 2019 and December 31, 2019.

ADOPTED - AYES – Laribee, Millard, Mullin, Schell, Virkler NAYS – 0

Motion by Councilman Millard, seconded by Councilman Mullin to adjourn the meeting at 10:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Aimee L. Murphy, RMC
Town Clerk