

The Town of Otsego Town Board held a Public Hearing and Regular Monthly Meeting on the 8th day of August 2018 at the Town Building, Fly Creek, NY at 7:00PM.

Town Board Members Present:

Meg Kiernan	Supervisor
Thomas Hohensee	Councilperson
Bennett Sandler	Councilperson
Joseph Potrikus	Councilperson
Carina Franck	Councilperson

Also Present:

William Hribar Sr.	Highway Superintendent
Pamela Deane	Town Clerk

Supervisor Kiernan asked everyone to please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Kiernan called the Public Hearing to order. She explained that the hearing was to hear public comments under proposed Local Law #1 changing the Service Trade Establishment definition listed in the Towns Land Use Law.

Kathy Case agreed with the Town Board's proposal to remove Section 3.15 throughout the entire Land Use Law including the definition for Service Trade Establishment.

John Phillips felt that by removing the exception of going over the maximum allowance of 3000sq. ft requirement for a Service Trade Establishment you are eliminating the hope of any growing businesses or saving any historic buildings.

Sheila Ross thought it hard to comment on the removal of something when the replacement for what you are removing hasn't been written yet.

Supervisor Kiernan closed the floor for further public comments.

Supervisor Kiernan called the Regular Monthly meeting to order.

Supervisor Kiernan introduced Jordan Clements from Soil and Water who was there to discuss an Inter-Municipal Agreement. The purpose of the Agreement is to develop a Countywide Maintenance Program. Beginning January 1st of 2019 and ending December 31st, 2023 each township within the County that opted in the Agreement would be obligated to pay a designated amount based on their population. Town of Otsego's portion would be \$4,500.00. The focus is on preventing stream erosion, culvert replacement, and reducing run off and flooding. Money collected from the towns would be used by Soil and Water to purchase equipment such as a bulldozer and excavator. Soil and Water would also take care of all necessary permits required by DEC and engineering. Towns would be responsible for purchasing the materials needed including culverts. The County would provide the initial funding not to exceed \$250,000.00 for the equipment and funding for two operators. Clements has estimated that he needs a minimum of 16 Towns to commit partnering with the County and Soil and Water in order for this agreement to work.

Councilperson Franck thanked Clements for coming and for all the work he did on writing and submitting a grant on the town's behalf for a new salt shed.

MOTION by Councilperson Hohensee, seconded by Councilperson Sandler, to accept the July 11th minutes as presented.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Supervisor Kiernan read correspondence received since the last regular meeting. Among the letters were:

- A letter from Rosemary Brodersen thanking the highway crew for responding quickly to her request to cut brush on Raymond Fish Rd. This has improved site distance a great deal.
- A letter from Shirlee Rathbone writing of her concern with the increasingly invasive plant "Wild Parsnip" which is taking over more and more of the roadsides.
- A letter from Charlotte (Schatzi) Hall to the Town Board encouraging them to eliminate the Heirloom Barn and Building Section of the Town Land Use Law. Language such as "minimum impact on neighbors" cannot be measured and leads to confusion. The law as it is currently written has led to more harm than good.

Supervisor Kiernan opened the floor for comments.

Paul Lord spoke on behalf of the Pierstown Grange. The grange building is 120 years old. Over the years the Town Road has been built up and the direction of the runoff has changed. It is now slowly pushing their 120-year-old foundation out. Eventually, if nothing is done, the building will split in the middle and the top floor will end up in the parking lot. He approached Highway Superintendent Bill Hribar back in April and would like to know if the Town Board plans to soon appropriate the funds needed to correct this problem before things get worse. After much discussion it was decided to get the opinion of Jordan Clements from Soil and Water to what size the culvert needed to be to alleviate the problem.

Julie Huntsman urged the Town Board to consider sending a Resolution to the Attorney Generals Office that

would ban Natural Gas Trucks from traveling secondary roads and stay primarily on the Interstate. They are top heavy, tip over easy, and have already had several accidents in the area. The Board will consider the proposed Resolution.

Aaron Hurlbutt, along with his wife and two small children, has a residence on Bush Road. He was very much dissatisfied with the Planning Board and outcome of the proposed application for the Serenity Hill Event Center. A Public Hearing was held whereby people voiced their opinions, many being against, but after the Public Hearing more information came out and because the Public Hearing had been closed none of the neighbors were allowed to comment on the new information. The Planning Board voted that events could be held until 11:00PM and fireworks until 10:00PM. Hurlbutt was concerned that the noise would keep his children awake making it hard for them to get up for school the next day. He thought 11:00pm was too late. You can hear the music from the parties quiet clearly making it hard for those trying to sleep.

Supervisor Kiernan informed Hurlbutt that firework permits are granted on a case-by-case basis through the Town Board, not the Planning Board.

Joe Calleja stated that he has to be at work at 4:00AM and finds himself lying in bed wide awake at midnight listening to the music blaring from the party coming from Serenity Hill. He asked if there were any other restrictions.

Supervisor Kiernan stated that there is a 2-year trial and then the application goes back to the Planning Board for a re-evaluation. She trusts the Planning Board did their job and considered everything before ruling their decision.

Carl Wenner wanted everyone to know that on the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:00PM, Cooperstown School Board meets. He went and was the only citizen there. The teacher's salaries continue to go up and up and up which is one of the largest parts of the budget. He felt the residents are getting very little for their money and would like to see more people taking time out to attend the School Board meetings.

Sheila Ross stated that she once lived on Christian Hill. While there, cows would moo on and off all night long. At one time you could hear the sound of a table saw from a furniture maker that lived where Serenity Hill Events is located. Nobody had a problem with it. Sound does travel up there no matter what anyone does.

County Representative Andrew Marietta, encouraged the Town Board to look at the proposal Jordan Clemants from Soil and Water offered. He felt strongly that it would be a win for the Town of Otsego. On another note the only County Road the Natural Gas Trucks travel on is 25A. The County Board has talked about banning them from traveling over it. He invited the Town Board Members to attend the Counties Public Works Meetings for more information and input.

Supervisor Kiernan closed the floor for further public comments.

Supervisor Kiernan gave a financial report. The Board discussed the following balances in the various accounts:

General Savings:	\$ 4,702.67	General Checking:	\$ 365,491.57
Highway Savings:	\$ 7,841.57	Hwy Checking:	\$ 493,966.71
Building Reserve Fund:	\$176,424.46	Hwy Equipment Fund:	\$ 333,645.15

MOTION by Councilperson Franck seconded, by Councilperson Sandler, to accept the financial report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

MOTION by Councilperson Sandler, seconded by Councilperson Hohensee to pay the bills and make the necessary transfers.

GENERAL:	#111-#125	\$ 4,398.55
HWY:	#158-#175	\$ 13,589.95

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Dog Control Officer Tom Steele gave his report. Since last meeting there was 1 barking dog complaint, 4-drop offs and 1 dog bite currently in litigation.

Zoning Enforcement Officer Edward Hobbie discussed applications now currently being processed and reviewed by the various boards. The following permits were issued since last meeting:

Zoning Permits: 2 ZBA Application: 1 Site Plan-1 Sign Permit-1

Planning Board Chairman Dr. Tom Huntsman reported on applications the Planning Board is currently reviewing.

Highway Superintendent William Hribar Sr. gave his highway report. Councilman Sandler asked Hribar to

designate on the hwy bills, what truck the parts and labor are for and what roads the road material is for. He felt this information would be useful in the future.

MOTION by Councilperson Sandler, seconded by Councilperson Franck, authorizing Supervisor Kiernan to sign SEQRA Part 1 for Local Law #1 Removal of Section 3.15 from the Land Use Law.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor

The Town Board then discussed and answered Parts 2 and 3 of SEQRA for the Removal of Section 3.15 from the Land Use Law.

Supervisor Kiernan submitted a Resolution accepting the completion of SEQRA Parts 2 and 3 for the Removal of Section 3.15

MOTION by Supervisor Kiernan, seconded by Councilperson Sandler, to adopt the proposed Resolution, as read.

MOTION CARRIED: Councilperson Franck, Councilperson Sandler, Councilperson Hohensee, Supervisor Kiernan voted yes. Councilperson Potrikus voted no.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED: (Resolution Docket Pg. 139)

Councilperson Potrikus told the Town Board that resident Carl Wenner offered to put 2 coats of Aluminum Fiber Coating on the old highway garage roof located on County Highway 26 for \$300.00. Cost of the material was estimated at \$3000.00.

It was the consensus of the Town Board to request from Wenner a written quote and Certificate of Insurance.

The Town Board discussed possibly selling the old highway garage or triple leasing it, whereby the leaser would be allowed to make improvements to the building but at their own cost. When the lease is up they walk away being reimbursed for nothing. The problem with both options is the parking. There are times when meetings, courts in session, or Election Day, all of which require a lot of parking spots to accommodate those attending.

Councilperson Franck reported that 2 out of 3 of the mandatory yearly training for Highway Employees as well as ZBA and Planning Board Members would be offered on line.

The need to start the 2019 Budget Workshop was discussed. Further discussion was tabled.

Supervisor Kiernan announced that Connie Robinson has resigned as the Town's cleaner. The Town Board publicly thanked her for her 10 years of service.

Councilperson Franck wanted to acknowledge former Town Attorney Michelle Kennedy for all the time and efforts she contributed as Town Attorney. The Town Board greatly appreciated all her hard work.

Councilperson Potrikus stated that he met with Senator James Seward and was told to submit to him a wish list of all the Town's needs for consideration in funding some or all them. Supervisor Kiernan volunteered to draft a letter outlining all of the Town's needs.

MOTION by Councilperson Sandler to adjourn.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Meeting ended at 10:20PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Pamela Deane/Town Clerk