

The Town of Otsego Town Board held three Public Hearings and a Regular Monthly Meeting on the 14th day of June 2023 at 7:00PM at the Town Building in Fly Creek, NY.

Town Board Members Present:

Benjamin Bauer	Supervisor
Tom Hohensee	Councilperson
Deb Dalton	Councilperson
Matthew Zwissler	Councilperson

Also Present:

Will Green	Town Attorney
William Hribar	Highway Superintendent
Pamela Deane	Town Clerk

Supervisor Bauer call the Meeting to order and asked everyone in attendance to please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION by Councilperson Dalton, seconded by Councilperson Hohensee, to open the floor to hear public comments on the proposed Local Law permitting Food Trucks as a Special Permitted Use in RA-2, Hamlet Business District, and General Business Districts 1 and 2.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

David Neil was in total agreement with the proposed law.

MOTION by Councilperson Hohensee, seconded by Councilperson Zwissler, to close the Public Hearing proposing Food Trucks as a Special Permitted Use in these districts.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

MOTION by Councilperson Hohensee, seconded by Zwissler, to open the floor to hear public comment on a proposed Local Law changing the Zoning from RA-2 to General Business District-2 on the corner of State Highway 28 and 80.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

With no comments from the public the following MOTION was offered

MOTION by Councilperson Zwissler, seconded by Councilperson Dalton, to close the Public Hearing.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

MOTION by Councilperson Hohensee, seconded by Councilperson Dalton, to open the Public Hearing changing Grievance Day to the first Thursday after the fourth Tuesday in the month of May.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

With no comments from the public the following MOTION was offered.

MOTION by Councilperson Zwissler, seconded by Councilperson Dalton, to close the Public Hearing.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

MOTION by Councilperson Dalton, seconded by Councilperson Dalton, to accept the minutes of May 10<sup>th</sup> as written.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Supervisor Bauer reviewed correspondence received since last month's meeting.

Supervisor Bauer opened the floor to public comments.

Walter Dusenbury wanted the Town Board to be aware of the following:

- The drainage ditch that borders the Town Highway property and his on-Cemetery Road is not draining and is full of water.
- That the power pole on the right-of-way of the newly created Willow Ave. was never moved or raised and the power line is low enough to interfere with the clearance of the Town Trucks.
- There is a tree leaning on the Town Highway Barn property that, if it falls, will take out a power line.
- Finally, he expressed great dismay at Willow Ave. being moved. He has never been in favor of the decision to move the road and strongly felt it would be a waste of public money. He felt the road should go back to the way it was and paved.

Supervisor Bauer and Highway Superintendent Hribar will both call NYSEG to raise or move the power line or pole in question.

Sheila Ross stated that changing the location of Willow Ave. is not turning out as the neighbors had hoped. Having two

roads through the Town Highway property will limit the amount of stockpile they will be able to have. The road is a dead-end and will be used for only three houses. She feels the re-routing of Willow Ave. would be a waste of taxpayers' money and limit the amount of road material that will be able to be stockpiled, especially once the new salt shed is built.

Denny Mowers resides at 208 Bibik Rd. He has been researching 222 Bibik Rd which is a cul-de-sac next door to him. He cannot find where the Town has any title, interest, or rights to it. The lot is approximately 50' x 100'. The cu-de-sac was created 36 yrs. ago.

Supervisor Bauer told Mowers that he has reached out to an engineer to assess the drainage on Bibik Rd. but has not yet heard back.

Supervisor Bauer closed the floor for further comments.

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

General Checking:	\$252,101.11	Hwy Checking:	\$441,981.26
Building Reserve Fund:	\$170,782.55	Hwy Equipment Fund:	\$241,579.51
ARPA:	\$223,506.67	Gen & Hwy CD:	\$400,000.00

MOTION by Councilperson Zwissler, seconded by Councilperson Hohensee, to accept the financial report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED. All were in favor.

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

GENERAL:	#62-#73	\$	1,598.74
HWY:	#96-#117	\$	22,938.59

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Supervisor Bauer read ZEO Wylie Phillips' report. Permits issued since last meeting were as follow:

Zoning Permits: 5	Septic: 1	ZBA: 1
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Dog Control Officer Tom Steele reported having 1 dog bite this month and 1 dog running at large. He thanked the Town Board for his years of service with the Town but was handing in his resignation effective July 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Town Board regretfully accepted his resignation.

Highway Superintendent Bill Hribar gave a report on the following highway projects.

- The bridge down by Bassett Hospital has been Yellow Flagged by NYS D.O.T.
- Hribar stated that he is trying to get a quote from Capital Supply to replace Town Road Signs.
- Hribar reported interviewing an individual for employment but when he heard what the starting pay was, he withdrew his application.
- Hribar reported that he has more CHIP's money available and requested authorization from the Town Board to get quotes to pave Cemetery Rd., Allison Rd., Feed Store Rd., and a section of Keys Rd.

Supervisor Bauer agreed to talk to the Union about allowing the Town Board to increase the starting pay in the Town's Highway Union Contract.

MOTION by Councilperson Hohensee, seconded by Councilperson Dalton, to add Cemetery Rd., Allison Rd., Feed Store Rd., and a portion of Keys Rd., to the CHIP's Project Agreement.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Supervisor Bauer submitted the Snow and Ice Agreement offered by Otsego County. The Agreement was reviewed and discussed by the Town Board.

MOTION by Councilperson Dalton, seconded by Councilperson Hohensee, to approve the Snow and Ice Agreement as written.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Supervisor Bauer publicly thanked Hribar for his quick response when called to clean up and remove trees that fell into Red House Rd. Friday night on 6/6. It was very much appreciated.

Pat Kennedy gave a report on the Watershed Committee.

- A Grant Application requesting funding to Draft a Plan to maintain and preserve Otsego Lake, has been submitted.
- A Memorandum of Understanding for the towns of Otsego, Middlefield and Springfield's consideration is being drafted.
- It was decided to ask the County for money to be used to hire a grant writer.
- The Watershed Committee will be meeting twice a month now. The first meeting will focus on septic systems

and the second meeting will focus on the Algae Bloom.

Councilperson Hohensee suggested that the Town Board use Hartwick as a model for creating a new website. He was in favor of using ARPA money to pay it.

Supervisor Bauer asked for comments concerning the proposed Local Law permitting Food Trucks as a Special Permitted Use.

MOTION by Councilperson Dalton, seconded by Councilperson Zwissler, to adopt Local Law #3 allowing Food Trucks as Special Permitted Use in RA-2, Hamlet Business District, and General Business Districts 1 and 2.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Supervisor Bauer asked for comments concerning the proposed Local Law changing zoning on the corner of State Highway 28 and 80 from RA-2 to General Business -2

After a short discussion the vote on the proposed law was tabled until the July meeting.

Supervisor Bauer asked for comments concerning the proposed Law changing the date for Grievance Day.

MOTION by Councilperson Hohensee, seconded by Councilperson Zwissler, to adopt Local Law #4, the changing of the date of Grievance Day to the first Thursday after the fourth Tuesday of May.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

MOTION by Councilperson Dalton, seconded by Councilperson Zwissler, to spend \$5,000.00 ARPA to support hiring a Technical Advisor for the Watershed Committee.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

MOTION by Councilperson Hohensee, seconded by Councilperson Zwissler, to grant \$4,000.00 from ARPA to the Fly Creek Cemetery to have hanging tree limbs taken down.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Supervisor Bauer informed the Town Board that the Canadarago Lake Sewer Study should be available soon. There seems to be a lot of grant money available. The Town of Richfield Springs has been deemed themselves to be the leading agency for SEQRA.

Supervisor Bauer submitted a proposed Local Law prohibiting Tax Exemptions under Real Property Tax Law §487 for any solar or wind energy system or farm waste energy system, micro-hydroelectric energy system, fuel cell electric generating system, micro-combined heat and power generating equipment system, or electric energy storage equipment or electric energy storage system.

MOTION by Councilperson Hohensee, seconded by Councilperson Zwissler, to schedule a Public Hearing for said proposed Local Law offered by Supervisor Bauer for July 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

After a short discussion it was the decision of the Town Board to hire the Town back up Dog Control Officer Julie Pululech, to fill the Dog Control Officer vacancy left by Tom Steele.

MOTION by Supervisor Bauer, seconded by Councilperson Hohensee, to go into Executive Session to discuss litigation.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor. (9:10 PM)

MOTION by Councilperson Hohensee, seconded by Councilperson Dalton, to come out of Executive Session.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor. (9:25 PM)

MOTION by Councilperson Zwissler to adjourn.

MOTION CARRIED: All were in favor.

Meeting ended at 9:26 PM

Next meeting will be July 12th at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pamela Deane/Town Clerk