

Regular Monthly Town of Pierrepont Board Meeting, July 26, 2022
County of St. Lawrence, State of New York, 864 State Highway 68, Canton, NY 13617

Present:

Jane Powers, Supervisor
Julian "Olla" Filiatrault, Town Clerk
Shawn Spellacy, Highway Superintendent
Laurie Hance, Asst. to Supervisor
Colin Loomis, Town Attorney

Councilpersons: Roger Murray

John Glasgow
Chad VanBrocklin
Daniel Huntley (left at 8:31PM)

Meeting attendees/Public: Darren Richards – Code Enforcement; Pierre Pomainville, Planning Board; Jamie VanBrocklin; SLC Legislator Rick Perkins.

Mercy Spellacy, Paul Brown, Ellyn St. Hilaire-Tabb, Tom Butcher, Robert Dowman, Bob Dowman, Barb Daniels, Bob Moulton, Steve House, Laurie House.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR LOCAL LAW No.2 for 2022: Battery Energy Storage System and The SEQR Hearing: 6:48PM

Floor opened for comments.

Ellyn St. Hilaire-Tabb questioned: What is this battery storage law about?

Pete Pomainville answered: The law is about the safe handling and storage of batteries for solar farms if any were to occur within the town.

Darren Richards: It also deals with safety for firefighters, etc. Currently, there are no applications for commercial solar permits in the town.

Attorney Colin Loomis pointed out the need to affirm that everyone has read it, understands it, and will not have any negative environmental impact to the Town by adapting Battery Energy Storage Law (SEQR).

A motion to adopt the SEQR and that there is no negative environmental impact of this law was made by Roger Murray, seconded by John Glasgow. No discussion. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried.

The floor was opened to the public for discussion on the proposed Battery Energy Storage System Law until 7:00PM.

Regular Meeting: 7:00PM Called to order.

Pledge of Allegiance

Minutes Approved:

- Minutes of Last Board Meeting held June 29, 2022. Motion to approve by Chad VanBrocklin, second by Dan Huntley. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Supervisor, Jane Powers:

- Laurie Hance commented that she had submitted for the first CHIPS reimbursement. We have also received the second ARPA funds recently.
- Motion to approve report made by Dan Huntley, second by Chad VanBrocklin. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried.

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Town Clerk, Olla Filiatrault:

- Written report submitted. Available for review.
- Motion to approve report made by John Glasgow, second by Dan Huntley. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried.

Code Enforcement, Darren Richards:

Darren Richards reported:

- 6 building permits issued with the total \$150.00 collected.
- Darren Richards: Just one fence dispute that's being handled. One Solar permit has been applied for and is under review.
- A motion to approve report made by Chad VanBrocklin, seconded by Roger Murray. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried.

Assessor, Amy Hunt:

- Amy Hunt submitted a written report of recent Assessor activities in July, 2022. The report is available upon request.
- Motion to approve made by John Glasgow, second by Chad VanBrocklin. All voted to approve. None Opposed. Motion carried.

Planning Board Report, Pierre Pomainville:

Pierre Pomainville:

- Continuing to review Cannabis Law and will send on to the County for them to review again.
- General Code has inquired about some of the old Town Laws that need to be reviewed. There are many questions that have come up and need to be discussed.
- The Town Board and the Town Attorney wanted to meet the Planning Board to discuss the questions from the General code on August 9th at 7:00PM.

County Legislators Report:

Rick Perkins:

At the July 11th, 2022, Full St. Lawrence County Board Meeting

We had 27 resolutions

We had 8 modifications to the budget adding 10 miles to Highway costing an additional 2.1 million \$

We had 9 Agreements/ Contracts to be signed

We had a resolution for a FY 2022 Emergency Management Performance grant

We had a grant amendment for early voting expansion extension

We had a resolution accepting donations to St Law County Community Services Addiction services program

We had a resolution authorizing the filling of 14 vacancies positions.

We had a resolution proclaiming July 17-23, 2022, as Probation, Parole, and Community Supervision week

We had a public hearing setting the Salary of the County Historian

We had a resolution authorizing the Salary of the County Historian at \$ 10,000/year

We had a resolution authorizing the continuation of Agricultural District 2 and accepting modifications to the district

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We had a resolution opposing the recently Enacted NYS gun Package consisting of ten bills
We had a resolution reappointing the Conflict Defender for St Lawrence County
Our Financial auditors were present at last night's meeting and gave us a very good report.

If anyone has any questions, please feel free to reach out to me.
Rick.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Jane Powers reported:

- Advocate Drum, Fort Drum Regional Liaison Organization requested all community leaders to submit letters of support for the MDTF investment in Fort Drum. And Supervisor Jane B. Powers has wrote a letter from the Town in support of it.

- Petition for Erie Boulevard Hydropower, Article 7

Supervisor Jane B. Powers stated: Erie Boulevard has filed a complaint that their assessment is too high. This is the third year they have done this. They are again going to Court to seek a reduction in their assessment. The letter I have outlines the people and process involved.

- NYMIR: June is National Safety Month. Safety Courses are available.
- Governor Kathy Hochul announced \$200 million in funding to revitalize downtown areas communities across New York State that would need to be applied for by August 10th.
- ARPA Fund information letter
- Scam alert from NYMIR. Phishing continues to be great threat to cybersecurity.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A motion to adopt Local Law No.2-2022: Battery Energy Storage System was made by Chad VanBrocklin, seconded by Roger Murray. All voted to approve the motion. No discussion. None opposed. Motion carried.
- Resolution #IV-2022: to allow Pierrepont Town Court to file application for Justice Court Assistance Program (JCAP). Motion to approve by John Glasgow, seconded by Dan Huntley. All voted in favor. None Opposed. Motion carried.
- Legal issue involving the Veteran's Monument. Letter from Peter Fadden upset about Veteran's Monument being moved.

Supervisor Jane B. Powers stated that there is nothing to do because it does not belong to the town. The town just gave them a permission to set it in front of Museum. Pierrepont Town does not own it, it is a private organization. Discussion was held. Rick Perkins and Roger Murray both provided information regarding the history of the monument. Attorney Colin Loomis will do research and will get back to the town about what the options are.

- Colton-Pierrepont Raqueteers: Contract for 2022. A copy of the contract was sent to the town by email. They are asking for money, but the specific services they will provide are not documented which is required by the state auditors. They have not provided documentation recently. Discussion was held by the Board.

The Town Board all agreed not to approve the contract and will notify the organization the reason why.

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- Birch Drive issue. Letter and pictures submitted. Available for review.

President, River Woods Homeowners Association, INC, Robert Dowman: Mr. Dowman is asking for the Town to approve the maintenance of a certain section of Birch Drive that is not currently being serviced. Discussion was held as to who really owns the road section in question, (the Town or the Developer). Extensive discussion was held.

Superintendent Shawn Spellacy stated that it is not on the Town inventory of roads. Much discussion was held as to the status of the property (roadway in question).

Darren Richards: commented on the requirements for emergency vehicles per state code.

- Harassment and Discrimination Annual Training Webinar for 2022 will be held on Thursday August 18, 2022 at 9:00 to 10:00 AM at Pierrepont Town Hall for all of Pierrepont Employees.

Courtesy of The Floor:

- Speed limit issue
Paul Brown addressed his concerns of vehicles speeding past his house through the 30-mph zone. There are many activities and businesses there and cars are speeding dangerously throughout that speed zone. He had requested from state DOT a speed radar sign such as by the Colton-Pierrepont school.
Darren Richards commented that the radar signs in Colton were purchased through a grant. Darren said he would make a call to see if money is available for this.

UNFINISHED/OLD BUSINESS:

- Update on Riggs Drive issue:
Discussion continues. No decision yet. Property owners have to agree.
- Update on Brooks Washburn.

Roger Murray: The electrical phase 1 bids are in and will be looked at soon. Discussion needs to be held about financing the projects (grant or otherwise).

Supervisor Jane B. Powers: Hopefully, Atlantic Testing will soon be doing the testing we contracted for. It appears they have a labor shortage and they have not started the job. It needs to be done soon.

GENERAL FUND Vouchers:

- General Fund Voucher; Abstract #7, Vouchers #194-214 for **Total of \$6,849.44**. Motion to approve by Chad VanBrocklin, second by Roger Murray. All approved. None opposed.

HIGHWAY FUND Vouchers:

- Highway Dept. Abstract #7; Vouchers # 166-186, **Total \$317,174.38**. Motion to approve by John Glasgow, second by Chad VanBrocklin. All voted to approve. None opposed.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:43 pm. Motion made by Roger Murray, seconded by Chad VanBrocklin. All voted to approve. None opposed.

Meeting minutes prepared by Town Clerk, Olla Filiatrault.

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