

**Regular Monthly Town of Pierrepont Board Meeting, November 29, 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  
Colin Loomis, Town Attorney  
Laurie Hance, Asst. to Supervisor

**Councilpersons: Roger Murray**

John Glasgow  
Chad VanBrocklin  
Daniel Huntley

**Meeting attendees/Public:** Darren Richards – Code Enforcement, Amy Hunt-Assessor; Rick Perkins-Legislator; Mercy Spellacy; Bob Moulton; Fred Green;

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR LOCAL LAW NO.4 for 2022: Cannabis Law and The SEQR Hering - 6:45PM**

- Attorney Colin Loomis pointed out the need to affirm that everyone has read it, understands it, and the law will not have any negative environmental impact to the town by adopting Cannabis Law.

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

- The floor was opened to the Public for discussion on the proposed Cannabis Law to regulate Cannabis Indoor Smoking Establishments in the Town of Pierrepont.
- No Public discussion.
- All members voted in favor. None opposed.

**Regular Meeting: 7:00PM Called to order.**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Minutes Approved:**

- Minutes of Last Board Meeting held October 25, 2022. **Motion** to approve by Roger Murray, second by John Glasgow. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried.
- Minutes of Budget Hearing Meeting held November 17, 2022. **Motion** to approve by Dan Huntley, second by Chad VanBrocklin. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Supervisor, Jane Powers:**

- Jane Powers stated everything looks good, also had few overages.
- Laurie Hance, reported on a possible budget transfer and how that could be correctly handled.
- **Motion** to approve to transfer \$500,000.00 from the savings account to the new account by Dan Huntley, second by John Glasgow. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried.

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- **Motion** to approve to make a transfer from the overage of sales tax to the fuel account (highway dept.) made by Roger Murray, seconded by Chad VanBrocklin. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried.
- Tax Cap Form, Supervisor Jane Powers stated the difference between Tax Levy Limit and Proposed Levy was \$9,094.00 and all looks good.
- **Motion** to approve Supervisor's report made by Dan Huntley, second by Roger Murray. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried.

**Town Clerk, Olla Filiatrault:**

- Written report submitted. Available for review.
- The amount remitted to the Supervisor was \$263.67, to NYS Agriculture and Markets: \$18.00, and to NYS Environmental Conservation: \$491.33.
- **Motion** to approve report for the month of October made by John Glasgow, second by Chad VanBrocklin. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried.

**Code Enforcement, Darren Richards reported:**

- 2 Building permits issued with the **total** \$75.00 collected.
- Supervisor Jane Powers received a notification from NYSEDA Clean Energy Communities. The Town of Pierrepont recently submitted documentation demonstrating completion of the **LED Street Lights Cobra Head Fixtures** High Impact Action under NYSEDA's Clean Energy Communities program and **the submission has been approved.**
- Setting a resolution for NY State Unified Solar Permit on to be decided December 13, 2022, meeting.
- **Motion** to approve Code Enforcement Officer's report made by Dan Huntley, seconded by John Glasgow. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried.

**Assessor, Amy Hunt reported:**

- Amy Hunt has taken care of Sara Charpentier's tax issue and described the process to correct taxes with the County and everything is going well.
- Amy Hunt asked Olla Filiatrault-Town Clerk to send Sara Charpentier a corrected tax bill for 2023
- Senior citizen exemptions were discussed. Suggested to leave it where it is right now and discuss it for next year. We are already one of the highest exemptions provided as compared to other towns. The number of exemptions could jump to 158 accounts which would greatly impact tax revenues.
- **Motion** to approve Assessor's oral report made by Dan Huntley, second by John Glasgow. All voted to approve. None Opposed. Motion carried.

**Planning Board:**

- Roger Murray-Councilman informed that Pierre Pomainville-Planning Board Chairman was not be able to attend the meeting tonight.
- Roger Murray reported that travel trailers being parked on lots permanently and the impact on neighbors.

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- Darren Richards-Code Enforcement Officer: reported that the issue can affect neighbor’s property values and the issue should be looked at as needed. Property line setbacks need to be looked at for this issue.
- Amy Hunt-assessor added that some of those properties could be taxed depending on circumstances.
- Dan Huntley raised a concern about non-conforming lots could be happening.

**Legislator, Rick Perkins reported:**

At the November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Full Board Meeting

We had 34 resolutions

We had 14 modifications to the budget

We had 14 Agreements/ Contracts to be signed

We had a resolution authorizing the filling of 10 vacancies positions.

We had a resolution renaming St Lawrence County Community Services Mental Health Clinic to St. Lawrence County Mental Health Services.

We had a resolution Authorizing the St Lawrence County Workforce Development Board to fulfill the functions of the One Stop Network operator.

We had a resolution supporting an increase in snowmobile registration fees to generate further financial support for snowmobile trail development and maintenance fund.

We had a resolution supporting Operation Green Light and illuminating the towers at the St Lawrence County Court House green from November 7<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> in honor of the veterans in St Lawrence County.

We have a tentative budget that will result in another drop in our true value tax rate which will reduce property taxes.

We received news from the County that the recently enacted “Concealed Carry Improvement act” was struck down by Judge Suddaby.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- An e-mail from Stephen Hunt-Regional Director, North Country Office regarding the Restore NY Program, the Town is not going to apply for Restore NY program.
- A letter from Homeland Security and Emergency Services. FEMA Public Assistance Fact Sheet for Snow Assistance.
- An e-mail from Department of Transportation, the Governor's 5-years Capital Program continues the BRIDGE NY Program.
- A monthly report from Bureau of Emergency Medical Services. Town Board members discussed how the extensive training and time requirements have made it difficult for many people to join or continue in EMS. Rick Perkins-Legislator explained that the county has directed some ARPA funds towards helping with training for EMS because they are concerned with the issue.
- An e-mail from Town Web Design.
- An e-mail from Marty Miller on Postwood Park Funding.

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- A thank you letter from The Pierrepont Volunteer Fire Department for \$50.00 donation in memory of Carol Streit.
- A thank you letter from Streit family for donation to Pierrepont VFD in memory of Clifford Streit.
- An e-mail from Peter J. Fadden; Concerns relative to illegal action of the Board to allow movement of Veteran's Memorial. The Town has forwarded to Mr. Fadden information regarding the matter and the Pierrepont Veterans Memorial organization's letter regarding the matter. Jane Powers-supervisor, stated that feel what the Town has done is correct.
- National Grid, Jane Powers-supervisor and Roger Murray-councilman discussed: regarding holiday decorations for some power poles. It is too late for this year, but we should plan for it next year. Roger Murray reported that he had discussed that issue and some other lighting issues with the National Grid rep and that he was awaiting a return call also from her with further information.
- A contract for appraisal consulting services, Hydro plants: Beginning the process of the Article 7 against the Hydro regarding assessment. Next process is to start an appraisal. Jane Powers stated she has signed a contract to start that process.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Programmable thermostat for the Town Hall to lower heat at night and weekend. The Town is going to start with running the new wire.

Dan Huntley-councilman questioned Rick Perkins-legislator

- Does the County contract fuel purchase? Laurie Hance responded that our fuel is state bid anyway.
- Discussion was also held regarding retaining a new Town Attorney due to Attorney Loomis leaving. Some discussion was held as how soon that can be taken care of as soon as possible

**UNFINISHED/OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Motion to adopt Local Law No.4 for 2022 Cannabis Law** made by Chad VanBrocklin, second by John Glasgow. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried.

Roll Call Vote by Julian "Olla" Filiatrault-Town clerk:

Roger Murray-councilman: **yes**

John Glasgow-councilman: **yes**

Chad VanBrocklin-councilman: **yes**

Dan Huntley-councilman: **yes**

Jane Powers-supervisor: **yes**

**5 yes, 0 voted no; carried.**

- **Motion** made by Roger Murray and second by Chad VanBrocklin to set Public Hearing for 12/13/2022 at 6:45 pm to adopt Model Local Law Establishing a Local Government Code Enforcement Program. And Board meeting at 7:00 pm to approve the local law and a resolution to adopt NYS Unified Solar Permit. All voted to approve. None opposed. Motion carried.

Colin Loomis-Attorney stated that he and Darren Richards had met on this and believes that everything has been covered and looks good. Darren Richards explained the process and that the fee structure established by the Town has also been incorporated into the law. Both issues will be voted on 12/13/2022.

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- Distribution of 2022 Capital Improvement funds. Has already been discussed.
- Colton-Pierrepont Raqueteers. The group has sent a report of what they have done in 2022 at a \$15.00 per hour rate. Roger Murray, John Glasgow questioned the activities reported and those activities have not been previously approved by the Board at a pay rate. Much discussion was held as to the proper role of the Town in supporting such organizations when other organizations are not supported in the same way. Jane Powers-supervisor stated that the Town does not have justification for giving them the money. Everything must be approved by Town Board.
- Regarding the Charpentier property tax case. It has been settled; all the papers have been filed properly. The Town is done with that case.

**GENERAL FUND VOUCHERS:**

- General Fund; Abstract #11, Vouchers #295-327, **Total of \$12,013.03. Motion** to approve made by Roger Murray, second by John Glasgow. No discussion. All approved. None opposed. Motion carried.

**HIGHWAY FUND VOUCHERS:**

- Highway Fund; Abstract #11, Vouchers #270-306, **Total of \$53,333.36. Motion** to approve made by Chad VanBrocklin, second by Dan Huntley. No discussion. All approved. None opposed. Motion carried.

**ADDITIONAL:**

- John Glasgow questioned Darren Richards regarding to Planning Board and Zoning Board training requirements. Darren Richards stated all members have met requirements except one member.
- Petition for an Asbestos Variance received for informational purposes regarding Town garage. Overall, the report was good and available for review. The board members need to review and address the issue at December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022 meeting.
- The Town received the bids for the new entrance Canopy project for the Town Hall. Review of the 5 bids was held.

Roger Murray-councilman: stated that he talked with Corey Mousaw regarding the Continental bid to make sure that it met all requirements. Mousaw returned a call and said he had discussed everything with Continental, and they felt sure they had everything required in the bid. Continental is from Gouverneur, NY.

Dan Huntley-councilman: questioned about a Clerk of the Works. Roger Murray stated that Corey Mousaw said that he will serve as the Clerk of the Works. However, if we start on a garage project we will need to look into some possible recommended Clerks of the Works.

Shawn Spellacy-Highway superintendent; spoke about separator units for the garage. That will be discussed further with the Architect.

**Motion** to approve a \$113,100.00 bid from Continental, Gouverneur, NY was made by Roger Murray, second by John Glasgow. No further discussion. All approved. None opposed. Motion carried.

**Courtesy of The Floor:**

- John Glasgow stated that the Pierrepont Fire Department has calendars for sale for donation.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion** to adjourn meeting at 8:29 pm. Motion made by Dan Huntley, second by Chad VanBrocklin. All voted to approve. None opposed.

Meeting minutes prepared by Town Clerk, Julian "Olla" Filiatrault.  
Respectfully Submitted, Julian "Olla" Filatrault, Town Clerk

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