

MINUTES OF THE TOWN STAFF CONFERENCE CALL
TOWN OF RICHLAND
1 BRIDGE STREET, PULASKI, NY

DATE: Wednesday, April 29, 2020

KIND OF MEETING: Conference Call

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Dan Krupke
Councilman Kern Yerdon
Councilman Allen Goodsell
Councilwoman Donna Gilson

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Supervisor Clerk, Tammie Wilson
Water Clerk, Mary Yerdon
Town Clerk, Millie Newcomb
Deputy Town Clerk, Julie Peterson
Legislator, Herb Yerdon
Legislator, Ed Gilson
Robert North

CALL: The conference call took place at 9 a.m.

Dan opened the meeting informing everyone that the Assessment Review Board currently has 2 vacancies. We recently had a resignation from the Highway Department, Zach Rivers, and a resignation from Gerald LiCourt from the Water Board. He is looking for recommendations for these positions. Millie stated that the Assessment Board is ok moving forward with just 3 members for now, with grievance approaching. If they were to have another member right now, it would be an uneven board and would require someone to be the tie breaker.

Dan discussed the Summer Recreation program, from a budgetary standpoint, has an annual cost of approximately \$35,000. If the decision is made this week that schools remain closed for the rest of the school year, that we consider closing Summer Rec as well. Right now is the time that we are usually conducting interviews to hire people and begin the registration process for students. Tammie feels that we could reserve this decision until after we unpaue NY on May 15th, and then decide how to proceed. A decision will not be made today, but it is something for everyone to think about and consider.

Some good news for today is that Dan has received an email from the IJC stating that water levels are expected to peak well below the record highs of 2017 and 2019.

Millie, things have been quiet for our department. She will go in on Friday to get dog licenses mailed out. Mary, water money has been coming in pretty steady, she has received close to 75% of the billing so far. She is working on getting the internet set up for the water operators at the Fernwood location. She was on hold with Spectrum for over 4 hours the other day and is continuously getting transferred to several different departments. She may be reaching out to Frontier if service does not improve with Spectrum. There is no time frame from NY when the Court System will be reopening.

Legislator Ed Gilson, the Republican Caucus has been meeting regularly, 3 days per week, virtually to stay up to date on the news and reactions relating to COVID 19. He feels the Governor is using his weight to enforce compliance with his executive orders. People are not following the orders with the masks in public, etc., which would really help with speeding up the process of returning things to normal. The financial impact is being closely followed. There are some fears regarding the funding that the County will receive from the State. They are concerned about CHIPS and grant money. The big topic is the campgrounds, they are to remain closed through April. There is no decision yet if they will be allowed to open on May 1st or May 15th at this time. Brennans has said that when they do open there will be a very strict patrol and campers will receive one warning only. Approximately 400 masks that were donated by the federal government were distributed throughout the local community. The Oswego County tax auction has been postponed at this time. Herb Yerdon let everyone know about the milk giveaway that will take place from 2-6 p.m. tomorrow at the Sandy Creek Fairgrounds and the Pulaski High School. There is a 4 gallon per person limit, this is put on by the local farmers. OOC, in conjunction with the IDA, is still giving out small business loans. They have received 35 applications, \$500,000 has been set aside. This is for all of the townships and cities, so far approximately \$300,000 has been loaned out. It is up to \$10,000 for each business. The County is down to 8 active positive cases of COVID 19. There have been 1,599 tested, of which 1,462 tested negative, the total positive cases for the County is only 61.

Kern thanked Tammie Wilson for her review of the Employee Handbook and the suggestions she made to clarify the language of a few things. He also addressed the Legislators regarding contacting Will Barclay and asking him to have the Governor consider looking at the Counties individually as opposed to the state as a whole when devising a reopening plan. Legislator Gilson says that some Counties have been in touch with Cuomo regarding a plan to reopen things separately. The governor wants to see a plan and wants to approve it before allowing them to do anything. Cuomo is continuously threatening County funding for people that do not strictly follow his recommendations. Mr. Yerdon says that Chairman Weatherup has been working with the Chairmen of Northern NY and are asking the Governor to allow us to open up. Kern would like to develop a work committee to look at the 3 different bids for the water meters

and equipment and to meet with the water board regarding costs. Mary has sent an e-mail to the water board with the information on all 3. The training for the new trimble is \$3,000 through Badger. Kern would like to have a Committee get together in the upstairs Courtroom to review all of the information for all 3 bids. Millie mentioned that Sandy Creek Town Clerk and Town Supervisor have questioned the attorney bills that have been submitted to them from Attorney Seiter for the new water district. Mary is going to reach out to them and discuss the issue. Dan asked who the water designees are from the board. It is Kern and Donna, he is asking them to reach out to the water board for a decision about the meters and what they would recommend to the board. As of right now, Craig Sternberg is the only one that has offered any feedback to them. Mary is asking everyone to write down their questions so she can present them to the water board. Allen agrees that some sort of meeting needs to be held to go over the information contained in the bids and to help everyone understand things better. Mary feels that the current system is very confusing and does not work well with the Williamson Law program, it is very time consuming. Dan asked Kern and Donna to take the lead on this and get all parties together to work on this to come to some sort of agreement within the next 3 to 4 weeks. Tammie reminded everyone that any upstairs meeting needs to be cleared with the County. Dan offered Ponderosa as a meeting site.

NEXT CONFERENCE: The next conference call is planned to take place on Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at 9 a.m.

CALL ENDED: The call ended at 9:51 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Julie Peterson
Deputy Town Clerk