

Gaines Town Board Meeting

December 9, 2014

A Regular Town Board Meeting of the Town of Gaines, County of Orleans and the State of New York was held at the Gaines Town Hall, 14087 Ridge Road, Gaines, New York on the 9th day of December 2014.

PRESENT: Carol Culhane ----- Supervisor
James Kirby ----- Councilperson
Susan Smith ----- Councilperson
Douglas Syck ----- Councilperson
Ron Mannella ----- Highway Superintendent
Jean Klatt ----- Town Clerk
Andrew Meier ----- Council

EXCUSED: David Kast ----- Councilperson

OTHERS PRESENT: Jerry Culhane, Tibbs Ahlberg, Mary Jo Syck, David Thom, Marcia Thom, Daniel Strong

Supervisor Culhane called the meeting to order at 7:30PM with the Pledge to the Flag.

RESOLUTION 78 - 14

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion of Councilperson Syck, seconded by Councilperson Kirby the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Culhane, Kirby, Syck, Smith
Nays 0
Absent 1 Kast

Resolved that the minutes of October 22, 2014 meeting are approved as presented.

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RESOLUTION 79 - 14

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion of Councilperson Kirby, seconded by Councilperson Smith the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Culhane, Kirby, Syck, Smith
 Nays 0
 Absent 1 Kast

Resolved that the minutes of October 5, 2014 meeting are approved as presented.

RESOLUTION 80 - 14

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion of Councilperson Syck, seconded by Councilperson Smith the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Culhane, Kirby, Syck, Smith
 Nays 0
 Absent 1 Kast

Resolved that the minutes of November 24, 2014 meeting are approved with the addition of noting that Attorney Meier was present.

RESOLUTION 81 - 14

APPROVAL OF ABSTRACTS

On a motion from Councilperson Smith and seconded by Councilperson Kirby

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Culhane, Kirby, Syck, Smith
 Nays 0
 Absent 1 Kast

Resolved that the bills on abstract #12, voucher #'s 1153-1163, 1165-1237 in the amount of \$91,734.01 are approved for payment as presented.

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FUEL MONITORING UPDATE

There was a short discussion regarding the fuel tank monitoring system. Supervisor Culhane stated that she feels that fuel needs to be monitored and would like to be in 100% compliance with the Comptroller's office. She asked how the highway employees felt about it. Superintendent Mannella said they have no objections to this system. The board still has a few questions regarding warranty, cards, ect. Superintendent will talk to the supplier and have answers for the December 29th town board meeting.

RESOLUTION 82 - 14

ANIMAL CONTROL CONTRACT

On a motion of Councilperson Smith, seconded by Councilperson Kirby the following resolution was

| | | | |
|---------|--------|---|-----------------------------|
| ADOPTED | Ayes | 4 | Culhane, Kirby, Syck, Smith |
| | Nays | 0 | |
| | Absent | 1 | Kast |

Resolved that Supervisor Culhane is authorized to sign the 2015 Orleans County Animal Control Contract.

RESOLUTION 83 - 14

AUTHORIZE BOOKKEEPER TO MAKE YEAR END BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2013

On a motion of Councilperson Smith, seconded by Councilperson Syck the following resolution was

| | | | |
|---------|--------|---|-----------------------------|
| ADOPTED | Ayes | 4 | Culhane, Kirby, Syck, Smith |
| | Nays | 0 | |
| | Absent | 1 | Kast |

WHEREAS, the independent auditors have recommended that the Bookkeeper request a "blanket resolution" to allow for any budget adjustments that may be required at year end; be it

RESOLVED, that this Town Board authorizes the Bookkeeper to make the necessary budget adjustments and inter-fund transfers, and to furnish a copy of said adjustments to the Town Supervisor when completed.

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RESOLUTION 84 - 14

URGING GOVERNOR CUOMO AND THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO AMEND STATE INSURANCE LAW TO ALLOW SHARED MUNICIPAL HEALTH INSURANCE CONSORTIUMS

On a motion of Councilperson Smith, seconded by Councilperson Syck the following resolution was

| | | | |
|---------|--------|---|-----------------------------|
| ADOPTED | Ayes | 4 | Culhane, Kirby, Syck, Smith |
| | Nays | 0 | |
| | Absent | 1 | Kast |

WHEREAS, health insurance costs are among the fastest growing costs for local governments across the state; and

WHEREAS, to address this challenge, counties would like the option to create municipal health insurance consortiums to jointly self-fund their health plans at a significantly lower cost for taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, these plans would reduce costs and increase flexibility while ensuring quality coverage for counties, municipalities, and local government employees; and

WHEREAS, many towns would like to become part of a county's self-insured plan; and

WHEREAS, in order to lower health insurance costs for property taxpayers, these consortiums need to be allowed to purchase stop-loss insurance to cover the most serious and costly injuries and sicknesses; and

WHEREAS, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo is strongly encouraging local governments to pool resources, share services and consolidate operations to improve efficiency and reduce costs to taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, whenever two or more local governments want to join forces to provide employee health insurance, Article 47 of the Insurance Law is triggered requiring difficult reserves to be established; and

WHEREAS, the onerous regulations of Article 47 have allowed only one consortium to form since 1991; and

WHEREAS, current State Insurance Law §§ 4237-a and 3231 prohibits local governments with fewer than 50 employees (and 100 employees beginning in 2015) from purchasing stop-loss insurance policies; and

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WHEREAS, these State laws represent significant barriers to local government efficiency, shared services and cost savings for property taxpayers; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town of Gaines does hereby urge Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the State Legislature to amend State Insurance Law to allow municipalities to join county self-insured programs with adequate and appropriate actuarial safeguards, without triggering Article 47, and also allow county self-insured plans to buy stop-loss coverage for all municipalities within their plan, even those under 50 employees (rising to 100 employees in 2016); and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Senator George Maziarz, Senator-Elect Robert Ort, Assemblyman Steve Hawley, Assemblywoman Jane Corwin, NYSAC, InterCounty of Western New York, Orleans County Towns, Villages, and School Districts, and all others deemed necessary and proper.

FRONT DOOR UPDATE

Supervisor Culhane explained that the lock on the front door to the town hall had broken. It has been repaired but the door needs to be replaced and she is in the process of obtaining quotes.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

None

MOTION TO ADJOURN

On a motion of Councilperson Smith, seconded by Councilperson Kirby, the motion was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Culhane, Kirby, Syck, Smith
 Nays 0
 Absent 1 Kast

Resolved that with no further business, the December 9th, 2014 regular town board meeting is adjourned at 7:47PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jean Klatt
Gaines Town Clerk