

TOWN OF GAINES

Regular Meeting – November 7, 2019

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Gaines, County of Orleans, State of New York was called to order by Supervisor Joseph Grube at 7:02 P. M. on the 7th of November, 2019.

The following town officials were present:

Joseph Grube	Supervisor
Mary Neilans	Councilperson
Tyler Allport	Councilperson
Susan Heard	Town Clerk
Ronald Mannella	Highway Superintendent
Douglas Heath	Attorney for the Town

Excused: Corey Black Absent: James Kirby

The following were present: Nineteen (19) Town residents; Douglas Farley, Cobblestone Museum; Erin Anheier, WNY Landmark Society Five to Revive

The Supervisor opened the meeting with the Pledge to the Flag, followed by a moment of silent reflection.

PUBLIC HEARING – 2020 TOWN OF GAINES BUDGET

Moved by Councilperson Neilans and seconded by Councilperson Allport to open the Public Hearing at 7:05 P. M.

Ayes 3; Nays 0

Supervisor Grube explained the changes made to the 2020 Budget after the Budget workshop. With a PowerPoint presentation, he showed the total levy versus prior years 2011 through 2020. The levy is still less than the 2016 levy. The levy is the total amount needed to be raised by real property taxes. He used his own home as an example. Some of the increases in spending include Union employees who are entitled to Health insurance, which the Town is obligated to pay \$13,000 per employee. Additional expenses include the Debt service for the newly purchased loader. Supervisor Grube asked if the Board had any additional comments.

Councilperson Neilans said there is a difference between homeowners and landowners, as farm land assessments went up this year. The homeowner may see his taxes go down, but a landowner may not. She questioned where the CHIPS revenue was in the budget, the Supervisors salary increase, and didn't understand why lines were changed, such as the Town Clerk's revenue was moved to "fix lines". The Town Clerk said if you look at her monthly report, you will see Cemetery expenses or Building permits that even though the Clerk collects this money, in past budgets this revenue was treated as both Clerk revenue and then credited to the other departments as well. The Supervisor, Clerk and Bookkeeper agreed the lines needed to be corrected to accurately track revenue. Councilperson Neilans asked why was this not done in the past, and the Supervisor explained the Bookkeeper was not privy to the breakdown.

Councilperson Allport said he was against all pay raises, but will agree to the 2% cost of living raise. He questioned the Historians salary, and was advised of all the work she has been doing, cataloging all the records, the website with local stories, the bulletin board she updates periodically. The bulletin board is enjoyed by everyone walking into the Town Hall. Councilperson Allport agreed to support the Historian salary increase. Supervisor Grube said the Historian did not request an increase, but for the amount of work she does, she should be given an increase. Councilperson Allport was also against the Supervisor salary increase.

Marilynn Miller questioned retirement costs in the Water budgets. It was explained that the outgoing Highway Superintendent didn't have any retirement costs in the 2019 budget, versus the incoming Highway Superintendent who will have expenses in 2020.

David Thom questioned the Supervisor salary, the cost of Elections and the Payroll Processing costs. Supervisor Grube explained the Board of Elections wrote the town a letter advising to increase the cost as there will be extended hours, as well as additional primaries in 2020. The Payroll processing costs were increased to pay for PayChex, but the Town is looking at other vendors and hopefully will get the costs lowered. The Supervisor explained the hours it takes to do the Supervisor job, the salary was reduced ten years ago and has remained the same, the Supervisors pay is one of the lowest in the County.

Marilynn Miller suggested the Supervisor raise be split over two years at \$1,000 each year.

Moved by Councilperson Allport and seconded by Councilperson Neilans to close the Public Hearing at 7:30 P. M.

Ayes 3; Nays 0

PRESENTATION – DOUGLAS FARLEY, COBBLESTONE SOCIETY AND MUSEUM

Doug Farley of the Cobblestone Society presented the new video created to promote the Cobblestone Museum. The ten minute video was produced and released earlier this year and the response has been very good. The video features former County Historian and former Town Councilperson, C. W. Lattin, who explains the cobblestone architecture and the ingenuity of the people. The video has been getting play time on WXXI and other public broadcasting stations.

Doug Farley introduced Erin Anheier from the Landmark Society of Western New York. Ms. Anheier said it is quite an honor for the hamlet of Childs to have been designated as a Landmark Society "Five to Revive". She showed a poster of the buildings including the Cobblestone Church and Tillman's Village Inn. The hamlet of Childs has much history to offer travelers between Rochester and Buffalo. The Landmark Society of WNY is willing to work with local people to obtain funding, economic development grants and promote the hamlet of Childs. She mentioned other local projects where the Landmark Society was able to help; such as Hillside Cemetery and the old Holley High School. The Town of Gaines should realize the potential of this designation; it is an honor and a great opportunity for Gaines.

Supervisor Grube thanked Doug Farley and Erin Anheier for their time and presentations.

RESOLUTION NO. 109 – 1119
APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 3RD AND OCTOBER 22ND MEETINGS

Moved by Councilperson Neilans and seconded by Councilperson Allport to approve the minutes of the October 3rd regular meeting and the October 22nd Budget Workshop meeting.

Ayes 3; Nays 0

RESOLUTION NO. 110 – 1119
PRESENTATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The Town Clerk reported total paid to the Town Supervisor of \$998.25; NYS Ag & Market \$48.00; NYS Environmental Conservation \$451.35 for hunting licenses; and the NYS Health Dept \$45.00 for Marriage Licenses for the month of October, 2019.

The Town Clerk reported she was in receipt of a letter from Highway Superintendent Mannella stating his last day of work would be November 22, 2019.

Moved by Councilperson Neilans and seconded by Councilperson Allport to accept the monthly report of the Town Clerk.

Ayes 3; Nays 0

RESOLUTION NO. 111 – 1119
HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Highway Superintendent gave his final report before retirement. The total fuel usage for the month of October - Gas 159 gallons, Diesel 303 gallons. Snow plows are ready, and the new John Deere Loader has arrived.

Moved by Councilperson Neilans and seconded by Councilperson Allport to accept the report of the Highway Superintendent.

Ayes 3; Nays 0

RESOLUTION NO. 112 – 1119
APPROVAL OF ABSTRACTS

Moved by Councilperson Allport and seconded by Councilperson Neilans to approve the abstracts, as follows:

General	\$ 12,316.09
Highway	\$238,198.18
Water	\$ 73,874.62

Discussion: Abstracts include the payment for the new Loader and water bills from the Village of Albion

Ayes 3; Nays 0

RESOLUTION NO. 113 – 1119

APPROVAL OF THE BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF GAINES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020, AS AMENDED

Moved by Councilperson Allport and seconded by Councilperson Neilans to approve the Tentative 2020 Budget for the Town of Gaines, with the following adjustments:

Reduce Appropriation A1220.1	Supervisor Salary	-1,000
Increase Revenue DB3501	CHIPS funding	+20,000

After adjustments, the total levy for 2020 is \$465,985.76.

Ayes 3; Nays 0

RESOLUTION NO. 114 – 1119

SETTING A SECOND PUBLIC HEARING ON LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF 2019 – ZONING ORDINANCE FOR THE TOWN OF GAINES

Moved by Councilperson Neilans and seconded by Councilperson Allport to set a second public hearing on Local Law No. 2 of 2019 entitled “Replacement of the Town of Gaines Zoning Ordinance 2019” for December 9, 2019 at 7:00 P. M.

Ayes 3; Nays 0

Discussion: Negative Declaration for SEQR on Local Law No. 2 of 2019. It was decided this will be held over until the December 9th meeting.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS FROM THE TOWN BOARD

Councilperson Neilans said thank you to all Veterans for their service.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

David Thom questioned the liquid salt and thinks there should be a “ticket” on purchases. The Highway Superintendent responded that the delivery truck has its own meter, and the reading is taken before and after the delivery.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councilperson Neilans and seconded by Councilperson Allport to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 P. M.

Ayes 3; Nays 0

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