

TOWN OF GAINES

Regular Meeting – March 9, 2020

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 7:00 P. M. on the 9th of March, 2020.

The following town officials were present:

Joseph Grube	Supervisor
James Kirby	Councilperson
Ron Mannella	Councilperson
Mary Neilans	Councilperson
Tyler Allport	Councilperson
Susan Heard	Town Clerk
Mark Radzinski	Highway Superintendent
Douglas Heath	Attorney for the Town

The following individuals were present during the meeting: 6 Town residents; Dan Strong, Code Enforcement Officer

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

PUBLIC HEARING – FIRE PROTECTION CONTRACT WITH THE VILLAGE OF ALBION

Moved by Councilperson Neilans and seconded by Councilperson Allport to open the Public Hearing at 7:00 P. M. regarding the fire contract with the Village of Albion.

No comments were made.

Moved by Councilperson Kirby and seconded by Councilperson Allport to close the Public Hearing at 7:02 P. M.

RESOLUTION NO. 30 – 0320

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 10TH MEETING

Moved by Councilperson Mannella and seconded by Councilperson Allport to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2020 regular meeting.

Ayes 5; Nays 0

RESOLUTION NO. 31 – 0320

PRESENTATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF TOWN CLERK’S REPORT

The Town Clerk reported a light month for Clerk’s fees, paid \$485.00 to the Town Supervisor and \$30.00 to Ag & Markets for dog licenses. Paid an additional \$210,000 to the County Treasurer for taxes and \$9,752 for Recycling fees. Also placed a letter on the desk of the Board members to advise of the Gaines Basin Bridge closure beginning March 23rd for approximately 6 months for repairs.

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

Ayes 5; Nays 0

**RESOLUTION NO. 32 – 0320
PRESENTATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE SUPERVISOR’S REPORT**

Supervisor Grube presented the Supervisor’s report for the month of February, 2020 on a PowerPoint presentation, showing all Town Funds and accounts.

Moved by Councilperson Allport and seconded by Councilperson Kirby to accept the monthly report of the Town Supervisor.

Ayes 5; Nays 0

**RESOLUTION NO. 33 – 0320
HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

The Highway Superintendent reported the total fuel usage for the month of February. Diesel was 678 gallons, and Gas was 186 gallons. Reported on his trip to Albany last week. Highway Superintendents from across the County went to Albany to fight for CHIPS money. Met various local representatives. The Highway Superintendents are hopeful the CHIPS money will see an increase over prior years.

Moved by Councilperson Mannella and seconded by Councilperson Kirby to accept the report of the Highway Superintendent.

Ayes 5; Nays 0

**RESOLUTION NO. 34 – 0320
APPROVAL OF ABSTRACTS**

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

General	\$ 6,837.08
Highway	\$ 8,516.79
Water	\$ 14,519.23
Fire	\$105,000.00

Discussion: The Clerk mentioned most of the Water abstract is for the Debt Service payments.

Ayes 5; Nays 0

OPENING OF BIDS FOR LAWN MOWING SERVICES

Three bids were received: Vick's Plowing, Landscaping & Removal	\$6,950
Bailey Brothers	\$15,120
Cardinal Lawn & Landscape Cemeteries	\$6,300
Town Hall & Hwy. Garage	\$4,380

**RESOLUTION NO. 34 – 0320
AWARD OF BID FOR LAWN MOWING SERVICES**

Moved by Supervisor Grube and seconded by Councilperson Kirby to accept the bid from Vick's Plowing, Landscape & Removal in the amount of \$6,950 for lawn mowing services for the 2020 mowing season.

Discussion: Councilperson Mannella reminded the Board the bid specs did require additional trimming at the cemeteries and Town Hall, to keep the appearance nice, and complaints down.

Ayes 5; Nays 0

**RESOLUTION NO. 35 – 0320
AUTHORIZING THE TOWN SUPERVISOR TO SIGN CONTRACT WITH VILLAGE OF ALBION AND ALBION FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR FIRE PROTECTION**

Moved by Councilperson Allport and seconded by Councilperson Neilans to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the contract with the Village of Albion and the Albion Fire Department for fire protection for 2020.

Fiscal Impact: \$105,000 – Budgeted

Ayes 5; Nays 0

**RESOLUTION NO. 36 – 0320
APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW**

Moved by Councilperson Mannella and seconded by Councilperson Neilans to reappoint James Theodorakos to the Board of Assessment Review for a term of October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2024.

Ayes 5; Nays 0

RESOLUTION NO. 37 – 0320

CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL LAW NUMBER 1 OF THE YEAR 2020 – MODIFICATIONS TO LOCAL LAW NUMBER 1 OF 2019, SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS

LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2020

Councilperson Mannella moved the adoption of the following resolution; Councilperson Kirby seconded the motion.

RESOLVED, that Local Law No. 1 of the Year 2020 of the Town of Gaines, Orleans County, New York being a local law “Modifications to Local law No. 1 of 2019, Solar Energy Systems” is hereby introduced and placed on the tables and the desks of the members of the Town Board at least seven (7) days prior to final adoption, exclusive of Sundays; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board shall conduct a public hearing to consider adoption of proposed Local Law No 1 of the Year 2020 on the 13th day of April, 2020 at 7:00 P. M. in the Gaines Town Hall, 14087 Ridge Road West, Albion, New York 14411, at which time all persons wishing to be heard in favor or in opposition thereto shall be heard; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk shall cause notice of said public hearing to be posted on the official signboard of the Town of Gaines and published in the Batavia Daily News, the official newspaper of the Town at least five (5) days prior to the date of said public hearing; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that in accordance with the New York State Environmental Quality Review regulations (SEQR), the Gaines Town Board will serve as lead agency for the required review, and has conducted said review and finds that the enactment of Local Law no 1 of 2020 will result in no major impacts, and therefore, will not cause significant damage to the environment, and further finds a negative declaration under SEQR is hereby issued for this project, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2020 shall be referred to the Orleans County Planning Board, as otherwise required by law, for review and comment prior to its final adoption.

Ayes 5; Nays 0. Carried.

Susan M. Heard, Gaines Town Clerk

RESOLUTION NO. 36 – 0320
FILLING A VACANCY FOR DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

Moved by Councilperson Allport and seconded by Councilperson Kirby to appoint Jayme Dugan to the position of Deputy Town Clerk (2nd), effective immediately, at the rate of \$13.80 per hour, and assigning water billing duties to this role.

Ayes 5; Nays 0

RESOLUTION NO. 37 – 0320
ADJUSTING JOB TITLE AND PAY SCALE STEPS FOR HIGHWAY EMPLOYEES

Moved by Councilperson Allport and seconded by Councilperson Kirby to accept the recommendation of the Highway Superintendent to move Seth Dumrese from the position of Motor Equipment Operator to Motor Equipment Operator-Mechanic, and upgrade John Jeffrey Page from Step C on the salary schedule to Step D on the salary schedule, to be effective as of March 14, 2020.

Ayes 5; Nays 0

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Lorienda Smith asked what would be happening with the water rates in Gaines as the Village of Albion water rates were going up. She questioned what the Town will be doing with regards to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus). She mentioned tax rates and assessments that keep going up. She questioned the Code Enforcement Officer about cleaning up some properties.

At this time, the Town has a contract with the Village and has not received any notice of any water rate changes. Regarding the Coronavirus, the Town will be waiting for directives from the State and County Health departments, like most towns. Tax rates are determined at budget time, based on a levy (or the amount needed to fund the operations), and assessments change during re-valuation every other year. The State Equalization rates also have an effect on the tax bill. Dan Strong, Code Enforcement Officer responded that any complaints should be in writing.

Councilperson Mannella asked Dan Strong about residents having house numbers and if most have complied. Mr. Strong mentioned there is a fundraiser in Clarendon which sell four (4) inch letters that are very helpful for first responders, as they are very visible from the road.

Christopher Watt asked when all of the streetlights will be changed over to LED. All the conversion lights have been done; new construction ones are slowly starting to happen, recently Lattin and Transit Road was done; and a few of our requests had to be pulled from the list as electricity isn't available in some locations.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councilperson Mannella and seconded by Councilperson Kirby to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 P. M.

Ayes 5; Nays 0

DRAFT