

**PRESENT:** Greg Reuter, Supervisor, Patty Bikowsky, Deputy Supervisor, Brad Dixon and Steve Johnson, Councilpersons; Tina Livermore, Town Clerk, Roy Kirley, Road Superintendent and 12 guests.

Supervisor Greg Reuter opened the meeting at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA:** Patty Bikowsky made the motion seconded by Steve Johnson to accept the agenda. Motion carried.

**MINUTES:** Minutes from the July 13, 2023, meeting were read by Town Clerk, Tina Livermore. Brad Dixon made a motion seconded by Steve Johnson to accept the minutes as read with corrections. Motion carried.

**REPORTS:** Supervisor's Report: Highway Supt. Report: Town Clerk Report: Justice Reports:  
Dog Control Officer Report: Bookkeeper Report: Code Enforcer Report: Ambulance Report:  
Reports were presented and viewed by the Board.

Amy Coleman, Lake Director, said the calendar of events is up and running online. The Madison Lake Tab is on the Town homepage which leads to a link to fill out a reservation form to rent a pavilion which can be sent to Amy online. She can fill out the calendar and put repeat rentals for the following year on the calendar. The guards have been busy as the pavilions have been booked every weekend. Swimming lessons ended on the 9<sup>th</sup> and she received much positive feedback from the parents. The kids and the guards had a great time. The college kids leave next week so the hours will be shortened to 7 pm with shorter days and waning activity. There is a Labor Day wedding reception booked for Labor Day weekend at the Lake. Amy said that there are some fixups needed. Nails are popping up on the stairs which need to be rebuilt as they are rotten. The beach house and the large pavilion have leaks in the roof and need new roofs. New doors/casings are needed on the lake house. The ladder on the dock needs replacing or patching. Fred Brouillette came to repair it but Brian Sitts has agreed to take it to college with him as a project to fix it. Amy asked about the security cameras and Greg told her that it is waiting for another bid to come in. She said the lake steward on Lake Moraine said that 70 percent of the boats only go on Lake Moraine. Amy said that the MCS PTO and Optimists have scheduled a homecoming on October 6 to be held at the lake with a bonfire and DJ. One parent has volunteered to use a magnet to pick up any nails left from the bonfire. She is hoping it to be a true homecoming with alumni from last year attending. She will have the fire department, safety patrol, SRO, administrators, and teachers on hand and stated that the MCS SRO was a fire coordinator. The Town Board unanimously agreed to the use of the beach for the homecoming. Patty Bikowsky asked if more could be asked for pavilion rentals since they have never increased in many years and that it could be posted on the web page.

Patty Bikowsky made a motion seconded by Brad Dixon to double the fees for pavilion rentals effective January 1, 2024. Motion carried.

Roy Kirley reported that a needed laser to set culverts on Bonney Hill Road and Tinker Hollow Road was purchased. His crew has hauled stone for shoulders and that two roads are done and there are two to go. They hauled 20 loads of stone with the help of the Augusta trucks. His crew has been using rain days to maintain equipment and everything. He has asked the Town of Augusta to help remove a beaver dam as it can reach 28 feet instead of the 22 feet that the town's equipment will reach. To remove a beaver dam, a nuisance permit has been secured. Because used trucks cannot be found, to get a new truck is on a 2-3 year waiting list. The crew has been maintaining the 2016 truck which is in excellent shape, but the prices of parts are very high. The list is noncommittal, but the wait if one does not get on the list is 2 to 3 years.

Patty Bikowsky made a motion seconded by Steve Johnson to get the on Western Star list for a new truck which has the best prices without negotiating and the warranties are longer. Motion carried.

Diane Van Slyke, Town Historian, is looking for bids for repairing the Historical Society building and bringing it up to code. She stated that the Habitat for Humanity Colgate Group painted the kitchen and bathrooms last year and will be coming back to do touch-ups. They are talking about "adopting" the Society and the Chenango Canal Association. The Historical Display from the Madison County Fair that won third prize is displayed in the Village Hall. Madison-Oneida BOCES Summer Youth Work Program brought 15 teens with 4 supervisors to work on the trail. These kids were disadvantaged or low-income kids who were paid by Madison County to work at various sites. They were treated with Motts products that were donated by the Motts company. Jim Farruggia, their supervisor who also teaches carpentry at BOCES, looked at the outdoor stairs to the trail that need replacing and will give an estimate for materials so that his classes can build new ones. Diane will be presenting a documentary about the Chenango Canal on August 29 at 7 pm at the Limestone Ridge Historical Society. She also received donations of 3 broadsides (posters) about Chenango Canal and Erie Canal boats as well as a copy of "Sweet Cider Days", a book written by Jim Ford that is out of print. She also researched information on Israel Rice (1795-1800) and his son that she found in an old book at the Historical Society.

Darren Ball reported that in July the ambulance had 23 transfers, 4 referrals, 4 cancellations, and 3 calls that they were unable to respond to. They had one mutual aid to Morrisville for an accident. He has been in discussion with the Oriskany Falls mayor about ambulance coverage. Central Oneida County Ambulance is housed in Whitesboro and Clarks Mills, thus delaying a response time of 35-40 minutes to the O'Falls area. A municipal operating permit must be secured and entered into an agreement to operate under that certificate. If they can re-obtain an operating certificate, it will mean extra volumes and funds for the ambulance. Steve Johnson asked if that includes the Town of Augusta and Darren replied that they would have to apply on their own. It is still in the talking stage and Darren will keep the Board updated. Oriskany Falls has approximately 120-140 calls per year and Madison has 300-320 calls per year.

Greg Reuter stated that sales tax revenue for the county is up almost 5 percent from last year. Reimbursement from the county helps with the budget.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Madison Lake painting is still taking place on the lake house. The guards have been busy on hot days and can't paint on rainy days.

The Board is still waiting for bids from the Falls Earth Station on security cameras.

A survey was conducted of the lake property, and it has been re-pinned. The town owns almost 80 feet of what was thought to be school property. The bleachers and cash crops are on town property, which also puts the intended exit road to North Street in jeopardy. The Madison Center Cemetery is also being re-pinned.

The trees on Route 20 property are gone. The tree routes were excavated, and the holes will be filled in.

The lake weed program is ongoing. The town crew has been great servicing and repairing the 23-year-old harvester machine.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Appley Center and AMA includes 57 acres that have been purchased by the Koen group. They have met with the planning board and more information is needed before issuing permits.

The weed harvester will be used in Lebanon Reservoir in August.

The house purchased by the town next to the Village Hall is waiting for the codes officer; bids to demolish it will be taken and the house will be disposed of at the Madison County Landfill.

The fire department is ready for the antique show. Greg Reuter stated that the significance of the Antique Show in the county from sales tax is not supported by Madison County Tourism by any information posted on their web site.

He also stated that the Land Use Regulation needs to be gone over with the planning board to make sure all are on the same page.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATION:** None.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Patty Bikowsky made a motion seconded by Brad Discon to enter into executive session. Motion carried at 8 pm. Patty Bikowsky made a motion seconded by Brad Dixon to leave executive session. Motion carried at 8:35 pm.

Patty Bikowsky made a motion seconded by Steve Johnson to accept the sidewalk agreement with Hamilton. Motion carried.

Patty Bikowsky made a motion seconded by Brad Dixon to accept the fire protection agreement with Hamilton. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:** Patty Bikowsky made a motion seconded Brad Dixon to pay the General Bills in the amount of \$46,640.09 and Highway Bills in the amount of \$42,099.42 for a total of \$88,739.51. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Patty Bikowsky made a motion seconded by Brad Dixon to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tina Livermore, Town Clerk