July 13, 2023

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

7:00 PM

PRESENT:

Greg Reuter, Supervisor, Patty Bikowsky, Deputy Supervisor, Jim Lundrigan, Brad Dixon and Steve Johnson,

Councilpersons; Tina Livermore, Town Clerk, and 19 guests.

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

AGENDA:

Jim Lundrigan made the motion seconded by Steve Johnson to accept the agenda. Motion carried.

MINUTES:

Minutes from the June 8, 2023, meeting were read by Town Clerk, Tina Livermore. Roy Kirley made a correction that the machine for the shoulders of the road is not being rented from the county; the county lets them use it at no charge. Patty Bikowsky made a motion seconded by Brad Dixon 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.

Don Haight, Town Justice said that June 8 was very busy but DA night on August 7th will be busier due to no DA Court in July. He reported The State Commission of Jurors will notify the County who will then select 40 people for Juror Duty for the trial August 8th & 9th. The DA, Assistant DA, defendant, and defendant attorney as well as 6 jurors and an alternate have to be seated in the court. The trial could end Tuesday, the 8th, or could go into Wednesday, the 9th. Another problem is no AD equipment which is needed to show a video on jury bias, which requires a computer with speakers. Also, court security is another need. Steve Johnson said that he will let the court use the equipment at the firehouse for the video and will take care of security, which is needed to escort the jury to the firehouse and back. Don also said they have collected over \$14,000 in back fines and are still making a lot of progress.

Amy Coleman, Lake Director, reported that swimming lessons started this week with about 50 kids. Five kids are giving swimming lessons at a time. Madison swimming lessons are on Monday and Wednesday and Oriskany Falls summer rec students come on Tuesday and Thursday until August 10. The Oriskany Falls reading program takes place on Tuesday nights with health week this week and animals next week. Amy does not charge for the educational Tuesday night program. Amy has been working with myself to get on the web; they now have a Google account. The web site links to a calendar which shows events/activities/pavilion rentals, etc. She is using a Facebook page to get information out to parents. She uses an app to sign in and out lifeguards which gives her more control and helps with scheduling. Amy would like to consider the verbiage on a new sign such as Madison Lake Town Park for Residents of Madison—Visitors welcomed and encouraged to leave a donation. Greg Reuter said an attorney will have to be consulted as to legal issues/liability. Steve Johnson, Brad Dixon, Amy Coleman, and Greg Reuter will schedule a meeting to discuss these issues. Amy also stated that she would like to see the beach raked on Mondays and Wednesdays if possible. Also, if the weather is foul, the lifeguards do not show. Steve Johnson said there are a few discipline problems with one being 4-wheelers, go cart, fireworks, smoking (which is not allowed under pavilions).

Roy Kirley said that his crew shuts down on the Fourth of July week due to excessive road traffic. His crew is working on the shoulders, 4 culverts, maintenance on trucks and equipment, and that the grader is being used by the Town of Marshall as they help each other out with equipment. Steve Johnson commended the road crew on the roads and cemeteries saying they looked great.

Diane VanSlyke, Historian, said that they completed 4 field trip days with 3 different schools attending with 195 4th-grade students. She met with Hollie Ruthburg of Hatch Lake to find out more about the history of the Chenango Canal. Lebanon Campground booked the canal documentary to be shown to campers. She spoke with artist Bonnie Gale who received a fellowship from a NYS grant to highlight the Chenango Canal by having small wooden packet boats for an art class to paint and float on the canal. She will also be weaving a willow replica of a packet boat to show at the Chenango County Museum. There is a link on www.chenangocanal.org to Richard Palmer's blog showing historic papers about the Chenango Canal. The Theme "Country Pride, County-Wide was the theme for the Madison County Fair. The Madison Display won 3rd place and will be on display at the Town Hall. She also helped identify an old house for artist Roger DeMuth with the help of Richard Palmer and found the house in Earlville.

Darren Ball, Ambulance Coordinator, stated that there were 23 calls in June with 15 transports, 3 refusals and 2 cancelled. Two mutual aid calls were made and 5 provided. There were 7 calls in the last 2 days. Scheduling coverage for the Antique Show on August 18th and 19th as well as coverage for nights is taking place. There is still a shortage of staff, but career days are tomorrow, the 14th, and he is hoping to get some interest in the fire department and ambulance. Madison has a crew on duty from 7 am Monday to 5 pm Friday and has a day staff on Saturday and Sunday. Friday and Saturday nights do not have coverage. He said that an accident involving a neighbor's ambulance will most likely result in increased calls for Madison. Greg will have prebudget meetings and keep Darren informed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Repairs are complete on the lifeguard building except the painting. The Town Supervisor will take the community service individuals and show them how to paint the building they damaged.

Madison Central has asked the Town Board to reconsider the building of the new road exiting the school grounds on to North Street.

Trash Days were very busy; it cost the town a few dollars but was well worth it.

Chapin has surveyed and repined the property next door @7354 State Route 20. Chapin has been hired to survey the Center Road Cemetery due to questions about the boundaries.

One bid has been received for the camera security and the gate for the town park. When the 2nd bid comes in, a decision will be made, and the security will be linked to the lake director's phone. The park closes at 8 pm; it will reduce the liability if people are not there.

NEW BUSINESS: Craig Nale, a representative from EDP, gave an update on the Rolling Uplands windmill project. It takes up to a year to approve deactivating windmills. These were the first built and decommissioned in the State of New York. Ongoing open communication is taking place with the landowners with land/water & noise concerns being addressed. It is hoped that some of that land will be used to put up new windmills as the old 1.65-megawatt windmills put up in 2000 can't be fixed as components to fix them can't be found. They are aiming for a 2027 completion date with 2025-2026 addressing the different categories of concern. Setbacks must be considered, and it is anticipated that more and bigger turbines will be built than the original ones. Two new turbines will create the same energy as 7 of the old turbines. He also said that they will be having public hearings and notices but that it will be a while before anyone knows what will be done. Steve Johnson said that Broome County has 600 feet windmills which can be viewed by concerned people. Greg Reuter said the town has a wind law and wants reassurance that they will be adhered to and not get one set of signals from the State and one set from the Town/County. He asked for transparency and wants the concerns taken back to Craig's team. He also wants to know that EMS/Fire/Police communications will not be interfered with. Craig said he will continue to address issues and will report quarterly.

The Center Road Cemetery survey is needed to answer disputes over boundaries. Also, the Madison Lake entrance boundaries need to be clear to keep the school road exit on school property.

Trees need to be removed in the Madison Center Cemetery before they come down on stones. Trees on the Property on Route 20 need to be removed. Bids for the Route 20 property: Hutchings \$5,900; Heritage \$4,825. Madison Center Cemetery: Hutchings \$5,200; Heritage \$3,700. A motion was made by Brad Dixon and seconded by Patty Bikowsky to accept the low bids with Heritage for tree removal. Motion carried.

The Wendt Property has been sold to the Koen Group which includes Appley and Americana Village. The town attorney, Town Board, Planning Board, and Board of Appeals are working with The Koen Group on the proposed development. No building permit has been issued as more information is needed, but the Town Board will be kept informed of plans.

A woodchuck dug a hole in the Madison Center Cemetery which resulted in human bones coming up on the grave. Paul Funeral Home was contacted who said to not just thrown them back down the woodchuck hole. A local farmer trapped and transplanted the woodchuck. Megan Barnes and Melanie Brouillette assisted in putting the bones in a coffin box and reburied them with a reinternment ceremony.

Dave Young is the new captain of the weed harvester and has been working on the south end of Lake Moraine. Lebanon Reservoir would like to see it in operation. The Town Highway crew have been moving the machine.

Madison County Children's Camp is looking for support; no charge for campers for a week and has 600-700 campers each summer.

A Classic Car Show will be held at the White Eagle on July 29th, free at the Appley Center.

PUBLIC PRESENTATION: A question was asked about coverage for security for Madison Lake, which is open from June to September. Greg said that if an incident occurs at the lake, 911 should be called.

An update on Delphi Falls—Phase 1 is complete. Phase 2 will remove the house and barn on the property and a visitor's house will be built. State and federal monies will cover some of the cost.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: Patty Bikowsky made a motion seconded Brad Dixon to pay the General Bills in the amount of 32,300.59 and Highway Bills in the amount of \$274,067.87 for a total of \$306,368.46. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Patty Bikowsky made a motion seconded by Brad Dixon to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Tina Livermore, Town Clerk