

**PRESENT:** Greg Reuter, Supervisor, Patty Bikowsky, Deputy Supervisor, Brad Dixon and Steve Johnson, Councilpersons; Tina Livermore, Town Clerk,, and 16 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 August 8, 2024 regular meeting were read by Town Clerk, Tina Livermore. Patty Bikowsky made a motion seconded by Brad Dixon to accept the minutes; Motion carried.

**REPORTS:** Supervisor's Report; Highway Report; Town Clerk Report; Justice Reports: Historian report; Dog Control Officers Report; Bookkeeper's Report: Code Enforcer Report; Madison Town Park; All reports were presented and reviewed by the Board.

Diane VanSlyke, Town Historian has had a busy summer with lots of new projects in the works. It looks like she is going to have a very busy fall schedule as well. With lots of upcoming meetings to attend where she will show the Chenango Canal documentary. Diane was unable to attend our August meeting, but filled us in on all the activities she had been doing. One of the projects she has been working on is getting parking lots in various sections of the canal instead of just a grassy area. Thanks to Greg Reuter (Reuter Construction), Roy Kirley and Rusty Coleman who have been volunteering their time to make this project happen. They are also working with NYS DOT to paint a cross walk across RT 46 & RT 20 for safety precautions. With antique week in August they were able to collect a good amount of cans and bottles to return. Various Colgate and Hamilton College students have been volunteering at the canal or helping out with various projects at the Historical Society building. The Historical Society has arranged for a new refrigerator to replace the old rusty one with the help from Susan and Gary Anderson.

Diane has had some research to do for Madison County Historian Matt Urtz. He was looking for a date of when the corner grocery store had burnt on the Business Block in Madison, which was in 1986. Also Matt wanted to know what had happened to the gazebo (bandstand) that used to be on RT 20. It was given to "new" MCS in 1933. Matt also needed an identification of a street photo of Madison from a TV show released in 2018, entitled A Discovery of Witches, based on a book series written by Deborah Harkness. The show is about witches and vampires, but one of the witches is from "Madison County, NY". The show was recently added to Netflix and it turns out the footage used is of the Village of Madison.

Diane also had a request for photos, maps and information on the history of hops, by the new owner of Good Nature Brewing in Hamilton, NY. Commercial hop growing was successfully developed for the first time in America on RT 12B, Bouckville from plantings in 1808 that were sold in NYC in 1816.

In May 2025 they will be having a history event on the American Revolutionary War recognizing 9 soldiers buried at the Indian Opening cemetery. November 5 from 1:00-6:00 pm at Hotel Solsville they will be sponsoring an Take-Out-Only Ham dinner for Election Day. Come show your support!

The Dog Enumeration (or dog census) is going on right now. The Dog Control Officer asks that everyone please return their yellow cards as it helps with the town knowing the dog population for our area and to also let people know that it is a NYS AG & MARKETS Law that states all dogs 4 months of age and older must have a dog license.

Greg said the Town park is looking good. The beach is closed for the season. The cameras are up and working, but people are still launching their boats on the beach. The new gates are up with reflectors on them. They are still in the process of finishing up the boat house bathrooms with a new ceiling and upgraded wiring. They will be installing hand blowers and dawn-to-dark lights in the bathrooms, along with a new entrance box. Still waiting on a bid for the electric. Many thanks to Steve and Amy for overseeing all the improvements down to the lake. We have a beautiful lake who the community should be proud of and we should all make it our duty to keep it that way.

The Koen Property/Apply Center has their certificate of occupancy and is doing well, but the cabin rentals are still on hold as we have not received any blueprints as of yet.

The weed harvester is at Lake Moraine currently. The shoulder machine is here and the highway guys will start working on Airport Rd and Bonney Hill Rd. They have also been hauling sand into the salt storage building for winter. The equipment is getting ready for the upcoming winter.

Greg shared some County highlights with us. Sheriff's week is Sept 15-21. "THANK A SHERIFF" If you see one out on your travels make sure to thank them for their dedicated service to us. A 9/11 Memorial bench was donated to the county and dedicated to the First Responders for their heroic effects during 9/11. Thank you to all the men and women who are still here with us and to the ones who lost their lives for your service to our state.

The county sales tax is up 1.3% over last year. All the taxes the county collects is better for us. 12.7% of the DMV sales are kept in Madison County.

Greg is working with the county on a traffic survey on Solsville Augusta Rd to lower the speed limit as concerned citizens in the area have requested it to be lowered as the higher speed has caused problems with their animals being hit and they are also concerned about their children and grandchildren with the way the cars and trucks speed through the area. Unfortunately it isn't a quick process to go through, it could take up to a year or so, but they are working diligently to get it resolved.

The Tentative budget Meeting will be held September 25th @ 8:30am. There will be a fire district change for Hamilton Fire Protection to give a small section of about 4-5 houses on Quarterline Rd and Robinson Hill Rd to Hubbardsville Fire Dept. as the response time is over 5 minutes for Hamilton, but Hubbardsville is about 2 minutes. So the change will give better response time for any emergencies.

During the public presentation, we had some Antique dealers expressing their concerns on the new tent permit rental application that will be needed for anyone having commercial tents put out on their properties. They feel this new law that the Town of Madison Codes Officer is implying will affect their customers and put a burden on their sales as they won't be able to accommodate as many clients, plus they are worried about the tent companies not wanting to come set up anymore. Supervisor Reuter said he would look into the situation and talk with the Codes Office to see if they can come to some kind of agreement that will benefit everyone involved and set up a special meeting.

Also during a public presentation, A Town citizen spoke on having a gate put up at the top of the lake park so people can't drive down to the lake during off season. She witnessed a young girl and her grandfather in the water looking for the little girl's bike that had gone into the water. The swimming area is closed for the season. Greg will make sure there are signs up and will monitor what's going on down to the lake during off season and go from there.

Brad Dixon made a motion seconded by Patty Bikowsky to enter executive session to discuss personnel. Motion carried at 8:05 pm. Patty Bikowsky made a motion seconded by Brad Dixon to leave executive session. Motion carried at 8:40 pm.

Patty Bikowsky made a motion seconded Brad Dixon to pay the General Bills in the amount of 48,346.28 and Highway Bills in the amount of \$59,433.20 for a total of \$107,779.48. Motion carried.

Patty Bikowsky made a motion seconded by Brad Dixon to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tina Livermore, Town Clerk