June 8, 2023 REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING 7:00 PM

**PRESENT:** Greg Reuter, Supervisor, Patty Bikowsky, Deputy Supervisor, Brad Dixon and Steve Johnson, Councilpersons; Tina

Livermore, Town Clerk, and 8 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 May 11, 2023, meeting were read by Town Clerk, Tina Livermore. Greg Reuter stated corrections to

be made. Name of supervisor, add councilpersons' names, and change maker to marker. Steve Johnson made a motion

seconded by Patty Bikowsky 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. Greg Reuter stated that Roy Kirley is doing well and that the guys at the highway department are doing a great job paving roads, cleaning ditches, etc. A machine has been rented from the county to fill in the shoulders as soon as it is available.

Diane VanSlyke, Town Historian, stated that she is pleased with the paving job on Indian Opening Road. She stated that Joyce Norris donated a binder of research done on Madison Center Cemetery to the Madison Historical Society. Diane received various office products, blankets for kids to sit on outdoors, and Christmas lights from the Colgate Salvage Program for the Chenango Canal Association. Chenango Canal has been entertaining 4<sup>th</sup> graders from Sherburne Earlville (93 students and 10 chaperones), Madison, and Hamilton to teach local history and wildlife conservation. The Historical Society received 2 fireproof file cabinets that were delivered by the Town of Madison Highway Dept. Diane also reported that constant damage is taking place on the Towpath Trail from a 4-wheeler that will now be monitored by a trail cam. Max Sykes will be at the Madison Historical Society on June 11 at 2 pm giving a program on the History of the Railway in the Town of Madison.

Darren Ball reported that a new ambulance has been ordered and that it will be 6-8 months before it is delivered. He stated that the trade in value of the current ambulance was a good opportunity. He stated that all the AEDs have been checked by a third-party vendor. He has been corresponding with John Mancino for coverage for the antique show in August. Greg Reuter asked if the ambulance/paramedics would make trips down to the Town Park each day. Steve Johnson asked about financial progress. He stated that \$20,000 a month for ambulance service was costly for a community this size and hoped that the village budget of \$130,000 a year would cover the cost. Darren stated that insurance reimbursement covers some of the cost. The village just closed the books for the fiscal year and that there is hope for no increase in the budget—that it would stabilize. There will be no separate line on the tax bill; it will be incorporated into the bill. The new ambulance price tag is \$303,000; \$65,000 was received for the old ambulance and \$250,000 will be financed. Surplus equipment was taken out of the old ambulance and a vendor from New Jersey paid \$8,000 for the remains. The new stretcher in the ambulance has an automatic lift, with the price included in the cost of the ambulance, which sells for \$28,000 if purchased separately. Greg asked if they had tried doing a public fund drive to help supplement the new ambulance. Darren said he was open to new ideas. He also stated that the gasoline for the ambulance is purchased through the school thus saving money as the gas is tax free and purchased in quantity.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Greg Reuter said that construction of the dam at Lake Moraine has been moved to 2025. The DEC, Madison County & The Canals & Waterway in Utica, and Office of General Services out of Albany are trying to determine who owns the land where the houseboat is moored, where the black and gray water goes and who own the property at the causeway, this is all in the hands of the Assistant Attorney General.

Greg stated that it is recommended that the driveway leaving Madison Central School to North Street not be allowed to be put on town property due to liability. Brad Dixon made a motion seconded by Steve Johnson to approve the recommendation to not allow the school to put the road on town property. Motion carried.

Greg announced that EDP Energy will be coming to the July meeting to give the plans for demolition of the windmills. They are looking for new leases to put up new 20 megawatt 600 feet tall windmills; no further information has been given. Upland is the project name.

The Madison Town Trash Days will be on June 16 and 17.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Greg stated that the individuals responsible for vandalism at the lake will be doing community service. Ongoing repairs are taking place at the lifeguard's station. The windows were donated, rotted siding has been replaced, and the project is 99% complete.

Brad Dixon is looking into a camera service via trail cams or Wi-Fi for the town park. A motion was made to proceed for bids on a gate and photo equipment was made by Brad Dixon and seconded by Steve Johnson. Motion carried.

Chapin land surveyors have been hired to find pins on the property next door. Additional parking will be made available behind the house. The surveyors are also looking into the surveying pins in the Madison Center Cemetery, as we believe someone has pulled some of them up.

Resolution 23-07 dated June 8, 2023, for wages to returning lifeguards to be paid \$15.32/hour, new lifeguards \$14/81/hour, and the steward \$14.20/hour was read by Tina Livermore, Town Clark. Patty Bikowsky made a motion seconded by Brad Dixon to accept the resolution. 4 Aye votes and no nay votes.

## PUBLIC PRESENTATION: None.

Don Haight, Town Justice, updated the gas thieves' case; the thieves have been indicted at the County, but because of thefts in Connecticut and New Jersey, it is on the books to become an interstate crime.

Greg announced that the county is opposed to accepting illegal immigrants which would be housed at SUNY Morrisville dorms. The county is now being countersued.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Patty Bikowsky made a motion seconded by Steve Johnson to enter Executive Session at 7:53. Motion Carried. Patty Bikowsky made a motion seconded by Brad Dixon to end Executive Session at 8:43. Motion carried.

Steve Johnson made a motion seconded by Brad Dixon to accept the alternative plans of building the septic system within the prohibited ¼ mile zone with the buildings being outside the ¼ mile prohibited zone. Motion carried.

**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. The meeting adjourned at 8:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Tina Livermore, Town Clerk