

THE TOWN OF CHENANGO TOWN BOARD MET AT WORK SESSION ON MAY 9, 2018,  
AT THE TOWN OF CHENANGO TOWN HALL, 1529 NY RT. 12, BINGHAMTON, N.Y.

PRESENT: Jim DiMascio, Deputy Supervisor  
Russell Hemedinger, Councilperson  
Gene Hulbert, Town Councilperson (ABSENT)  
Terry Kellogg, Town Councilperson

ALSO PRESENT: Donald G. Walls, Town Attorney  
Lizanne M. Tiesi-Korinek, Town Clerk  
Scott Russell, Town Assessor  
Alex Urda, Town Engineer

### **Department Head Reports**

#### **Scott Russell –**

Complaints for April - 30 for a total of 59

Building permits for April - 12 for a total of 29

Property transfers for April - 8 for a total of 52

Demolition of the former Ponderosa building started this week and is almost complete. Hoffman Carwash has submitted the paperwork for their building permit and it is currently under review.

The final Certificate of Occupancy was issued for Lourdes Monday May 7<sup>th</sup>. The tentative date for starting to take patients is May 16<sup>th</sup>.

The tentative Tax Roll was submitted to Broome County and is printed for public review at the Ordinance Office counter and on the Town of Chenango web page. The new sewer district was added to the tentative tax roll and is in the RPS system.

All of the veteran's exemptions have been reviewed for accuracy. Any veteran's exemptions that did not have supporting documentation received letters requesting the supporting documentation. If they do not respond by May 22<sup>nd</sup>, a second letter will go out to give them an opportunity to provide documentation to keep the exemption.

The Cheesesteak Factory has opened for business and has experienced a large volume of business. Lines are out to the door and sometimes outside the door with clients waiting to place orders.

The Mexican Restaurant (old McDonald's) at 1108 Upper Front Street is still working on interior repairs. We do not have a tentative opening date as of yet.

Jim DiMascio – Asked if anyone had any questions with regard to Scott's report.

Cindy O'Brien – Asked Scott if she and he could talk at a later date regarding the Veterans and said she would be willing to assist him on that situation.

Scott Russell – He absolutely welcomed Cindy's assistance. He asked if he could send her an e-mail to get things moving forward.

Cindy O'Brien – Absolutely

## **ALEX URDA – ENGINEER’S REPORT**

Sewer process for the long term Capital Improvements – We are on a good pace to meet all the deadlines. He appreciated the town people involved keeping it in progress while he was away. We are waiting on comments back on Lead Agency and SEQR. With regard to the Bond documentation-they have communicated with Don Benjamin and everything is going fine. Basically by mid-June we need to complete the Bond Resolution/SEQR so we will be set when this comes out and we need to be ready for it by mid-June.

New York Rising - The other big project. Wendell’s paperwork is in front of all the Board for their viewing. Don Benjamin and he met with Wendell today. John and Carl are here from GOSR. One of the things we are going to have to discuss and these guys are willing to give us a little more time, with regard to our meeting earlier today and just a little bit ago – Alex is comfortable with what Wendell put in his proposal. The original write up was between \$500,000 & \$600,000 and where we sit right now is 2.4 million dollars and it’s a legitimate number for most of the bells and whistles that they are putting in there. After speaking with John and Carl we cannot move up any more. The costs seem close for what we want to get out of the project. Carl says we need to be under 1.5 million with costs. We cannot do a 4 or 5 time multiplier on the original amount and get it to fly with the State. So what we are talking about is spending a little more time with Wendell to try and sharpen the numbers down. Possibly get their costs down a little so the over- all project costs to 1.3 million with a 20% contingency. Alex explained possible areas where the fat could be trimmed to get the project back within the perimeters.

Carl from GOSR also spoke and explained to the Board that the money is there for the project but basically let’s not get so over budget like the Smith Hill/Wallace Rd. project that it does not come to fruition. He also offered to work with Alex on a regular basis. They are here to assist but basically the Town and Alex are running this project. He is available to meet next week possibly Thursday and tighten down the scope.

The annual MS4 report is due tomorrow and it is all ready to go.

**Terry Kellogg** – Just an update on Oliver Blaise’s progress regarding ZBA. He is setting up some meetings with some of the Zoning members regarding the appeals process and other parties that he plans on reaching out too. In his last e-mail he hoped to have everything wrapped up by the end of May. So we are still on track with that.

Mike Lumsden – He just wanted to clarify one thing with Terry and wants everyone to understand that regarding the statement he read regarding the minutes that the Chairman contacted him and said he could address the ZBA that night and he did. He presented and spoke with the ZBA. All of them except one member engaged in conversation with him. He believes that when all are together that is a quorum and nowhere is this documented what was said and he feels that that is a problem and he wants it documented. The Chairman said he could speak and then he did everything he could to keep his words out of the minutes. He feels that is wrong

Terry Kellogg – He shared Mike’s sentiments with Mr. Blaise and he plans on reaching out to you and interviewing you on a lot of your concerns. I think that when he does, you need to share that as well with him.

**Jim DiMascio** –Nothing new to report at this time

**Russ Hemedinger** – Don Benjamin wants to hire two (2) new people for seasonal/summer help this year at a higher rate of pay-the same rate that Mike Kwartler pays his summer help in the Highway Department. He is asking if we need a resolution because it is at a different rate of pay than we have previously paid.

Terry Kellogg – Asked why it is higher than what we set in the resolutions agreed upon at the beginning of the year

Russ Hemedinger – Because I don't think he realized that we would be in need of this additional help and also Harold Guernsey is out due to his injury.

Terry Kellogg – If it is higher than what we agreed upon in the January Resolutions then he feels we should do a Resolution

Don Walls –It is always better to cover ourselves by Resolution

Russ Hemedinger – Gave the names of the two seasonal/summer help: Derik Allabuagh (who worked last summer) and Cameron Smith (new hire) and the rate of hourly wage to be \$11.50/hr.

They all agreed that they should do a resolution regarding this rate increase and it should be acted on this evening. Terry Kellogg moved and Russ Hemedinger seconded the motion. All were in favor of the rate increase for the Seasonal/Summer help in the Public Works Department

Russ Hemedinger – He and Don Benjamin had interviewed this past week for a permanent position in the Public Works Department. They should have it narrowed down by next week who will fill that position.

The other thing he wanted to discuss was the situation that when the Fire Alarm goes off and the Fire Company responds they don't know what building they should be responding to-Town Hall or the Highway Garage. He contacted Sentry Alarms and they said it was not them that it was Syracuse Time and Alarm's problem as they are the ones who put the system in. Syracuse Time and Alarm's panel has to say where the smoke detector is going off and the panel does not tell Sentry Alarms that information. So it would take a module that Syracuse Time and Alarm would have to put in to accomplish that. It is a little over \$1,000.00 with software to have them come down and correct it. It is a safety issue and the amount is under our threshold. Are we good with it being done.

Terry Kellogg and Jim DiMascio both agreed that it is a safety issue and to proceed with it being taken care of.

The new Server was ordered today. We should receive it in a few weeks and then we will have Computer Emergency Room install it. Julie asked Russ if it was expandable so that if she should receive the grant that she applied for, could the General Code program be installed on it. Russ said that yes it is expandable.

Jim DiMascio – He did want to have one discussion and that was on the signing of Vouchers. The Board had expressed by e-mail to Don Walls that they would like to change the signing of the Vouchers to just reviewing the Abstract and signing that instead. Jim explained to the audience for their understanding what previously takes place regarding the process of paying the Town's bills.

The Board members present were all in agreement of changing this process. Terry Kellogg made a motion, seconded by Russ Hemedinger and all were in favor of changing the Voucher signing practice to: Reviewing the Abstract and each initialing the last page of said Abstract.

Jim DiMascio – Asked if there was any other business to discuss.

Cindy O'Brien – Wanted to mention that on June 23<sup>rd</sup> is the Air Show at the Broome County Airport and that they are looking for volunteers to help out. As a volunteer you are given free admission, a T-shirt and an additional ticket for another person to attend. So if anyone is interested they need to go on to the following website: [flybgm.com/bgmairshow.html](http://flybgm.com/bgmairshow.html) for the application.

Don Walls – He has three (3) Tax Certiorari's that he needs to be ready for and a Condemnation. He will need to engage an Appraiser for the Tax Certioraris and an Engineering Inspection done on the Condemnation. He is requesting permission for resolutions for both of these for the June Board meeting. The Board had no objection.

Alex Urda – He is requesting a Resolution for SEQR to be done at the June Board meeting as well.

Jamie Szenher - Wanted to let everyone know that on Saturday Twin Tier's Auto Flight is flying 60 Veterans to Washington, D.C. They fly back around 8:00 that night and they are asking that if the general public wanted to come around 7:00 p.m. to welcome them back home. He has been selected as a guardian so he is going on the flight with someone from Apalachin-a Korean War Veteran- to assist him while they are visiting all the War Memorials there. He has been at the airport numerous times and it is very moving watching these men come off the plane as each of their names are announced and what their service was.

Cindy O'Brien asked what that date was again and Mr. Szenher said it will be this Saturday.

Jim DiMascio asked if anyone else had anything further. As no one else wished to speak, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Lizanne Tiesi-Korinek, Town Clerk  
TOWN OF CHENANGO