THE TOWN OF CHENANGO TOWN BOARD MET MONDAY, JUNE 6, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE TOWN OFFICE BUILDING 1529 N.Y. ROUTE 12, BINGHAMTON, N.Y.

PRESENT:

Harold Snopek, Supervisor
Terry Kellogg, Councilperson
Jim DiMascio, Councilperson
Russell Hemedinger, Councilperson

ALSO PRESENT:

Donald G. Walls, Town Attorney
Lizanne M. Tiesi-Korinek, Deputy Clerk

ABSENT:

Gene Hulbert, Councilperson
Rhonda D. Milks, Town Clerk
Michael Kwartler, Highway Superintendent

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Mr. Snopek welcomed everyone and requested that all present stand and join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. DiMascio moved, seconded by Mr. Kellogg that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as prepared and presented. Motion carried.

BID OPENINGS: None

PUBIC HEARINGS: None

Open Hearing, General Town Business

a. Members of the general public are invited to address the Town Board. Speakers shall address comments to the Town Board and no other members of the audience. Said speakers shall speak in an orderly fashion and are requested to limit remarks to five (5) minutes. At the conclusion of the open hearing for general town business, public participation in the meeting will be concluded and the Board will resolve itself into session to handle all new and unfinished business without public participation.

Mr. Snopek asked if anyone wished to be heard.

Christina Conklin of Baker Road – She is here on behalf of the Baker Road Neighborhood regarding 2 Baker Road – Anne Affholder, owner of record, who is currently in jail on drug charges. Within the past year there has been at least 3-5 overdoses at that residence. The Sheriff's Department has been there numerous times looking for subjects on warrants. The traffic coming and going day and night on a dead end road just does not make sense! Since she has been in jail people have been living there, sometimes with no power (there is a generator running), that is a code issue and Code has been notified. They have built onto the property numerous times without obtaining permits. There are numerous other things going on at that property. We want to know if there is a way we can find out who the landlord is (someone to take responsibility for what's coming and going on at this property). Law Enforcement has been there many times, they are doing their job. We now feel it is the Town's job and responsibility to do something.

Mr. Snopek - I know that the Ordinance Department is working on this and I have personally called the Sheriff's Department a few times. We cannot go and arrest them for drugs, that's the Sheriff's job. But as far as who the landlord is maybe we can do that. He asked for Ms. Conklin's phone number and said he'll get back to her.

Christina Conklin – There must be people renting as they are coming and going in and out of that property all the time and if they are not renting then they are squatters. If that is the case, we will go back to Law Enforcement and have them removed.

Mr. Snopek – He thanked Ms. Conklin and asked if anyone else wanted to be heard.

David Conklin – Baker Road – He also has been working with the Sheriff's Department. He has been taking down plate numbers to all the vehicles that frequent that address at all times of the day and night. He showed the board his tablet with all the license plate numbers that he had taken down for the month.

Mr. Snopek – He asked Mr. Conklin what the Sheriff's Department is doing about this.

Mr. Conklin – They are watching the house because on the 29th of May the Sheriff's Department, the Ambulance and the Fire Department showed up at the residence again as there was another overdose. They were going to turn this over to Sargent Cower and the drug team and they would be watching the house.

If I am not mistaken, you have a nuisance property ordinance and I believe that this is definitely a nuisance property. The Sheriff's Department is doing whatever they can but we believe that the Town needs to do something as well.

Mr. Snopek – He will look into things and get back to them.

Richard Trebilcock of Smith Hill Road – He knows that we are trying to get new business into the Town. How hard are we trying to keep the ones we have here?? We have some ordinances that maybe are just a little too strict. There is a Sprint Store in the Northgate Plaza – where Radio Shack went out in bankruptcy and Sprint took it over. There was a yellow flag at the end of the roadway near Front Street that said "Sprint" on it. The Town of Chenango made them take it down. Granted there is a process of getting a sign and a sign on their Board. It takes some time but it seems that the Town of Chenango would give them some leeway to advertise their business. A few signs up and down Front Street is a lot better than another used car lot! He would rather go into this Sprint Store than to have to drive to Vestal. While he was in there he asked why he doesn't advertise -nobody know you are here. The Sprint man said once in a while we sneak the sign out but they put it at the top of the driveway but no one is going to see it and know that they are there. If Sprint closes that store - Radio Shack goes away with that then you will have another empty store. We have to do something about this. Take a look at all of your plazas, they look like ghost plazas. Every one of those plazas have empty stores in them-all the way up and down Front Street. A lot of room for used cars!

Mr. Snopek-Thanked Mr. Trebilcock and asked if anyone else would like to speak.

Jason Moulton – Calgary Lane – From the Chenango Bridge Civic and the director of the little Chenango Valley Baseball which comprises of Nimmonsburg, Port Dick, Hillcrest & Chenango Bridge. He is also the director of Soccer which comprises of all the civics. He wanted to discuss Chenango Bridge Park and one of the concerns is the water that gets onto the field. It is his understanding that the property has been surveyed and it got approved for a drain to be put in the field but that two permits still need to be pulled to complete the process. We have soccer games three night a week and baseball games on the weekends so water on the field is a big concern. The Civic Association is wanting to make the Park better – we love it – the kids love it! We would like for the softball field to be shaved so we can stop playing the girl's games at the Chenango Bridge School. It would be beneficial if both the girls and boys could play in the same place, as we have a concession stand there for them as well. We have a lot of other visions to try to make the park better but we were wondering how we go about that – like permanent bathrooms instead of the port-o-potty's. We would also like to fund raise and put additional playground equipment down there. We would just love to improve it and make it better for the Community. So who should we talk to and work with to make it happen?

Mr. Snopek – Asked for his phone number and said he will give him the contact information.

Mr. Moulton – Also wanted to mention that Harold Guernsey is amazing. He has been there to fix things for them and help them out whenever needed.

Mr. Snopek – I am not sure where the permit situation stands at this point as it was the topic of discussion the other night at work session.

Russell Hemedinger-This has been going on since Fall and it is not a quick process.

Mr. Moulton – And one last thing. Someday we would love to have it paved.

Mr. Snopek – You do realize that does go under water.

Mr. Moulton – I do realize that but can we fix he potholes and the parking, since we are getting some big events. We would like to improve that. I do realize there are limitations but we are just trying to figure out as a Civic how we can work with you and what we can pay for.

Mr. Snopek – I will give you a call and let you know who to get in contact with.

Mr. Snopek and Mr. Kellogg thanked Mr. Moulton for his time.

COMMUNICATIONS – Lizanne M. Tiesi-Korinek, Deputy Town Clerk

The Town Clerk received and filed the 1st quarter report for the Chenango Forks Fire Company.

Alex Urda, Town Engineer, filed the MS4 Compliance Certification Report for the period ending March 9, 2016.

Chenango Bridge Fire Company, Inc. submitted an application for membership – Robert G. Croswell residing at 16 Teeburn Blvd., Binghamton, NY. The Town Board unanimously approved the application.

Chenango Fire Department submitted an application for membership – Jack L. Ellis residing at 528 Dunham Hill Road, Castle Creek, NY. The Town Board unanimously approved the application.

Mr. Russ Hemedinger – Liability Insurance/Safety Committee

A meeting was held with our insurance agent, The Partners, to discuss the Town's Liability Insurance Renewal. We have a couple of pending outstanding claims that should not necessarily translate into a rate increase. The Company overall is expecting a modest rate increase this year. The vehicles & property schedules are currently under review by the Public Works & Highway Departments to check for accuracy.

The Town facility phone & internet access lines were switched over to Finger Lakes Technology Group. The new company will be providing the facility with phone service as well as much faster internet service. The cost with the new company will save the Town between $200-$300/month over our previous provider.

The Town Hall parking lot paving is complete. The Board felt this was the right year to get this work done with the cost of blacktop being the lowest it has been in many years.

There was a meeting held with representatives of the County IT Department and the Town Hall Staff. The County currently hosts the Town's e-mail as well as the website. The meeting was held to discuss any issues the Town Hall Staff had while using their e-mail. Also, other possible ways in the future the County may assist the Town with its IT needs.

Mr. Terry Kellogg – Highway Department

Summary report for April – The start of the Yard Waste Program was delayed due to snow removal requirements. The crews had gone out on the Friday before the full deployment was delayed until Wednesday April 6, 2016. Snow removal services were performed twice.

The Elgin Sweeper as well as the Front End Broom and the new Tow-Behind Broom were used to remove sand debris from the Town's roads.

Catch basins were repaired on Poplar Hill Road and 14 Teeburn Blvd. A drywell was installed at 29 Trafford Rd. and a drywell was installed at 6 Paul Drive.

We helped the Town of Dickinson mill and split the cost of the milling and paving of Forest Hills Blvd.

Ditches were cleaned on Brotzman Road.

Illegal dumping was reported on Willis Road. The New York State DEC responded to the complaint.

The crews hauled shot rock from the BC landfill to our lot.

Several water breaks were scratched out and patched.

All highway personnel attended a seminar presented by NYMIR on distracted driving.

Trees were cut on Willow Lane and Trimmed on Wightman and Newman Roads.

Summary Report for May – The Highway Department continued to pick-up yard waste and chipping through the regular Yard Waste Program. The Highway crews picked up white goods throughout the Town during the first part of the month for the Town's Clean-Up Days and used the County's Tip Fee Waiver Program to reduce costs.

The ditches were cleaned on Ransom Road and Swift Road.

The crews worked with Suit-Kote to mill the Town Complex Parking Lot as well as all of Peterson, Trafford and Bishop Roads between Trafford and Route 12. Broome Bituminous paved the parking lot as well as Peterson, Trafford and Bishop Roads. They also paved Brook Ave. and Belair Dr. the full lengths. The crews spent two (2) weeks cleaning up the roads by sweeping with the power brooms and hand work.

Catch basins were repaired on Frederick and High-Over Roads.

Zigmont cleaned out the ponds and helped to move yard waste at the landfill.

Patching of potholes with hot patch was done and strip patching on the river side of Broad Acres began.

Jim DiMascio – Planning Board and Zoning Boards

The Planning Board met on Monday, May 9, 2016.

NEW BUSINESS

The Ice House Sports Complex, Fire & Ice Sports Bar & Grill – MCJ Property Management – Michael Rodgers-614 River Road – Tax Map #112.06-6-16 – Application for site plan update to include a second story deck to expand the seating for the Bar & Grill. Site plan was approved.

There were three advisory opinions and referrals.

1.) Joseph A. Zigmont – 48 W. Chenango Rd., - Tax Map #094.15-1-1.1 – Amending the area variance application V-03 2009 for a building height from 22' to 26' in a residential zone. The application was forwarded to the Zoning Board of Appeals with a favorable advisory.
2.) Nicholas & Renee Stento – 2 Norman Road – Tax Map #112.07-2-27 – Application for a Use Variance to allow chickens in a residential zone. That application was accepted and forwarded to the Zoning Board of Appeals with a favorable advisory.
3.) Robert Spoor- 126 Kennedy Road – Tax Map #112.09-1-25-Application for a Double Area Variance to construct a detached garage with less than required front yard setback from 30' to 11.55'& exceeding the square footage allowed from 725' to 864' in a residential zone. The application was forwarded to the Zone Board of Appeals with a favorable advisory

The Zoning Board of Appeals met on Tuesday May 24, 2016

There were three Public Hearings.

1.) Joseph A. Zigmont – 48 W. Chenango Road – Tax Map #094.15-1-1.1- Amending the area variance application V-03 2009 for the building height from 22' to 26' in a residential zone. Variance was approved.
2.) Nicholas & Renee Stento – 2 Norman Road – Tax Map #112.07-2-27 – Application for a use variance to allow chickens in a residential zone. Variance was approved.
3.) Robert Spoor – 126 Kennedy Road – Tax Map #112.09-1-25 – Application for a double area variance to construct a detached garage with less than required front yard setback from 30' to 11.35' and exceeding the square footage allowed from 725' to 864' in a residential zone. Variance was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Patrick Williams – 186 Wilson Hill Road – Tax Map #094.03-2-37 – Application for a Use Variance to allow an accessory structure n front of the principal use in an agricultural zone. Application was found to be completed and forwarded to the Planning Board for their referral.

Jason Rosenberger – 202 Ransom Road – Tax Map #094.03-2-46 – Application for a Use Variance to allow a domestic game bird breeder – Class B in a residential zone. Application was found to be complete and forwarded to the Planning Board for their referral.

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION for Standard Work Day and Reporting was offered by Russell Hemedinger and seconded by Terry Kellogg and carried by the following roll call 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent-Gene Hulbert

RESOLUTION Establishing Uniform Code Transition Period was offered by Terry Kellogg and seconded by Jim DiMascio and carried by the following roll call 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Absent-Gene Hulbert

Unfinished Business

Ms. Snopek –Cindy O'Brien is here this evening. She is our new Legislature who took over for Jerry Marinich who moved on to bigger and better things. Cindy represents our District and if you have any questions, she is available to speak with.

Cindy O'Brien – That we all will be going door to door with petitions as it is election time and we would like to reach out and met all of you.

Without objection the Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. A motion was made by Jim DiMascio and seconded by Russell Hemedinger.

Respectfully submitted,

Lizanne M. Tiesi-Korinek, Deputy Town Clerk
Town of Chenango