

REGULAR MEETING, TOWN BOARD, TOWN OF LITTLE FALLS, MAY 11, 2021

A Regular meeting of the Town Board, Town of Little Falls was held on May 11, 2021 at the town hall commencing at 7:05 p.m. with the following members present:

Present: Supervisor Dan Casler
Councilman Mitchell Soules
Councilman Kirk Schwasnick
Councilman Kevin Sullivan
Councilman Eric Gehring

Others Present: Town Clerk, Sandra Regan; Highway Superintendent, Donald Cotton; Town Attorney, Nick Macri; Phil Green, Codes Enforcer; Bill VanGorder, Insurance representative for NBT Insurance Agency; Peter Campione, Herkimer County Legislator.

-Supervisor Casler called the meeting to order.

-Bill VanGorder, representative from NBT Insurance Agency, gave an overview of NYS Municipal Workers' Compensation Alliance (Comp Alliance) and explained membership participation, stating that the cost for the year would be \$18,341.00 and that he highly recommends making a decision tonight as to what coverage the town wants.

Discussion was held on this matter with the board tabling a decision until later in the meeting. This matter was further discussed at the end of the meeting.

-At the request of Councilman Gehring, Mr. VanGorder clarified the Municipal Inland Marine and Municipal Auto Insurance coverage.

RESOLUTION #39

Minute Approval

On motion of Councilman Soules, seconded by Councilman Gehring, the following resolution was ADOPTED-vote:

Ayes-Supervisor Casler; Councilmen Soules, Schwasnick, Sullivan, Gehring
Noes-0

RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous month's meetings, as submitted by the clerk, hereby be approved.

-Privilege of the floor was granted to those present.

-Legislator Campione stated that he has presented the town with the County's Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan and that there are many good things about this plan.

-Supervisor Report:

Supervisor Casler reported:

-That he submitted his monthly financial report for the board's review.

-That he and Superintendent Cotton met with the safety inspector, Henry Van den Heever, from NYMIR and has received a report listing some recommendations that can be done for the town to be in compliance. Supervisor Casler reviewed the list with the board stating that some of the items have been addressed and that he will be working on the rest.

-That he needs the retirement system calendar reporting from officials.

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-That he received notice from the Association of Towns that there will be a webinar on the American Rescue Plan which will update everyone on the plan's money and when and how it will be distributed.

-Assessor Report: None

-Codes Enforcer Report:

Codes Enforcer Green reported that building permits keep rolling in and that he hasn't heard anything on Auto Slide. Legislator Campione stated that the property is on the back tax list and is in REM and that the IDA is coming out with a program to clean up properties like this.

RESOLUTION #40

Supervisor Monthly Financial Report

On motion of Councilman Schwasnick, seconded by Councilman Sullivan, the following resolution was ADOPTED-vote:

Ayes-Supervisor Casler; Councilmen Soules, Schwasnick, Sullivan, Gehring
Noes-0

RESOLVED that the Supervisor's Monthly Financial Report, as submitted, hereby be approved and placed on file.

-Town Attorney Report:

Attorney Macri distributed copies of a Stand-alone Law for the board's review explaining that the law makes a developer responsible for engineering and legal fees associated with projects coming into the town. Attorney Macri stated that the board can review the law and consider proceeding with the adoption of such as next month's meeting.

The board will address this matter at next month's meeting.

-Town Justice Report:

Supervisor Casler reported that the Town Justice deposit had been received.

-Planning Board Report:

Clerk Regan reported:

-That the Planning Board is now meeting in person.

-That the board discussed having the stand-alone law and setting standard fees for projects.

-Met with the Bob and Helen Kimbro and approved their project to hold events for up to 125 people in an open air pavilion.

-Met with Anthony Douglas and approved his project to open an ATV sales and repair business in the existing garage he is renting from his father on Burt Road.

-Decided that going forward, before any project can be approved, all neighbors abutting a project will be notified of such to give them an opportunity to comment on such.

-That the planning board is looking for a couple of members to replace two current members that are looking to resign from the board.

-Dog Control Officer Report: None

-Health Officer Report: None

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-Town Clerk Report:

Clerk Regan reported that she has a resolution for Attorney Macri to review for the board's consideration regarding records retention. Clerk Regan stated that the resolution will allow the town to dispose of records according to the guidelines described in the Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records.

Clerk Regan stated that she thinks the town should consider making the records room, or part of it, fire proof if that is possible versus buying fire proof cabinets that cost around \$3,000 each. Clerk Regan stated that either way, the town should look into some kind of fire proofing for records. Clerk Regan will speak with Codes Enforcer Green on this.

Clerk Regan asked for permission to purchase a three drawer file cabinet for the planning board. The board told her to go ahead and purchase one.

-Highway Superintendent Report:

Superintendent Cotton reported:

-That the Spring Cleanup went well, that they had five roll offs, that they took in \$554.00 for tires and it cost the town \$616.00 to get rid of them, that they got almost \$1,500 for scrap.

-That O'Hara is being paved.

-Supervisor Casler reported that he sent out letters to all companies that had expressed interest in doing the engineering for Bridge NY and that he has been working with GPI on the Bridge NY project.

-Supervisor Casler reported that he had received a couple fraudulent employment claims. Attorney Macri stated that these are common now and should be ignored and thrown away. Supervisor Casler stated that in reference to having received a fraudulent email from the county, he wonders if the town should have cyber attack liability insurance. Attorney Macri stated that he's not saying not to get it, but thinks the town's exposure is small and the town is at low risk.

Discussion was held on this with the board deciding that because the town doesn't do any online monetary transactions it wasn't necessary.

-Meeting recessed at 8:27 p.m. to audit the bills.

-Meeting resumed at 8:40 p.m.

RESOLUTION #41

Payment of General Bills

On motion of Councilman Gehring, seconded by Councilman Soules, the following resolution was ADOPTED-vote:

Ayes- Supervisor Casler; Councilmen, Soules, Schwasnick, Sullivan, Gehring

Noes-0

RESOLVED that the General Bills #48-61 in the amount of \$4,855.46 hereby be paid.

RESOLUTION #42

Payment of Highway Bills

On motion of Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Soules, the following resolution was ADOPTED-vote:

Ayes-Supervisor Casler; Councilmen Soules, Schwasnick, Sullivan, Gehring

Noes-0

RESOLVED that the Highway Bills #80-89 in the amount of \$17,003.01 hereby be paid.

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-Discussion was held on what coverage the town should go with for workers' compensation insurance.

After discussion the board decided to approve coverage through Comp Alliance and authorized Supervisor Casler to sign a letter of intent for such.

RESOLUTION #43

Approval of Comp Alliance for The Town's Workers' Compensation Coverage

On motion of Supervisor Casler, seconded by Councilman Schwasnick, the following resolution was ADOPTED by roll call vote:

Supervisor Casler	Aye
Councilman Soules	Aye
Councilman Schwasnick	Aye
Councilman Sullivan	Aye
Councilman Gehring	Aye

RESOLVED that the Town of Little Falls hereby approves that the Town's Workers' Compensation Coverage be covered by Comp Alliance, New York State Municipal's Workers' Compensation Alliance, at an annual Premium of \$18,341.00, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Supervisor hereby be authorized to sign a letter of intent to join the New York State Municipal Workers' Compensation Alliance effective July 1, 2021.

-The next regular meeting will be held on June 8, 2021 at the town hall at 7:00 p.m.

-Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.-Councilmen Gehring, Soules

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Regan, Town Clerk