

Town Board Meeting
May 8, 2017

The regular meeting of the Town of Cambridge duly called and held the 8th day of May at the Town Hall, the following were present:

Supervisor Catherine Fedler
Councilman Douglas Ford
Councilwoman Susan Herrington
Councilwoman Gretchen Wilmot

Absent: Councilman Skiff

Others present: Heather Greenawalt Town Clerk, Jim Morris from the Eagle, Dan Schmidt, LaVerne Davis Code Enforcement, Robbie McIntosh

Supervisor Fedler called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and immediately led in the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

Auditing of the Bills

General	#82 – 102	\$ 2,163.01
Highway	#50 – 63	\$54,995.94

Tour of the Battenkill

Notice was received from Dieter Drake that the June 3rd event in the village was canceled; they will still be having the May 20th event for amateurs from the Fairgrounds. Also due to the County 74 bridge closure, they had to re-route the race for May 20th up Center Cambridge Rd. to a right on 59 to left on 59 at the South Rd/59A intersection, then back on course down to River/ Stage Rd.

Supervisor Fedler reported that Highway Superintendent Jim Buckley would not be at the meeting this evening the Highway Department has been paving all day. She mentioned that they had tried to pave last week but the plant was down and the weather did not cooperate. They have paved on Darwin Extension and the Town of Cambridge portion of Meeting House Road. They were working on paving Kenyon Road today.

LaVerne Davis the Code Enforcement Officer said that he had complaints of neighbors on Center Cambridge Road and also again in Coila.

Supervisor Fedler mentioned that in order to get the Chips reimbursement in June the Highway Superintendent would have to drive the paperwork to Albany similar to what he did last year.

Supervisor's Report

Resolution #21

Councilman Ford motioned, Seconded by Councilwoman Wilmot to approve the supervisor's report for April 2017.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes – 0

Amending of the March 13, 2017 minutes

Resolution #22

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Councilwoman Herrington motioned, Seconded by Councilman Ford to amend the March 13, 2017 minutes as follows: the resolutions for the March 2017 minutes were not numbered so on page 1 Supervisor's reports should be resolution #14, Transfer of Funds resolution #15, Approving of the minutes resolution #16. Page #2 Local Law #1 Grievance Day should be resolution #17.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes – 0

Approving of the April 10, 2017 minutes

Resolution #23

Councilman Ford motioned, Seconded by Councilwoman Wilmot to approve the April 10, 2017 minutes as mailed.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes – 0

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Fedler reported that the Village of Cambridge would now have a Satellite DMV office. Which would be starting soon, she would get the dates and hours to the Town Clerk.

Supervisor Fedler mentioned that she meet with Carl Ublacker from the NYS Division Local Government Services and Catherine Hamlin who is a Land Use Training Specialist from Division Local Government Services. They discussed shared services, grants, court consolidation, UP Church Group (Community Center Group, Ag Farm Plan. Discussed the possibility of consolidation of Fire Departments in the area. The Supervisor mentioned that this is a small town and a lot of stuff applies to larger towns. Mrs. Hamlin mentioned Site Plan Review, she said that this helps plot land and where things should be, with this in place have the right to encourage and shuffle things around and can suggest how the layout should be. Most people think that Site Plan Review is a lot of control but basically is like Planning telling land owner how to lay it out.

PFOA Updates

The Supervisor said that she has spoken with all of the departments at the state today in regards to PFOA's. Charolette Bethany from the Dept. of Health that handles the testing says the results redeemed unremarkable, non-detects, very low levels. She said they are still receiving some requests for testing but becoming fewer. She said that the test results found very low numbers of PFOA's near Agricycle. They are currently transitioning to a contractor service Arcatus, still request the samples to be taken through the Department of Health. All the review is still being done by the Dept. of Health, contractor is just taking the samples. Mike Ryan is one of the people involved with the installments of the Water systems. Currently there is 16 POET'S is (point of entry water systems)that have been installed in the Town of Cambridge and to more that plan to install. This will bring the total to 18. Richard Clarkson who is the Bureau of Permitting/Planning and materials management, he was brought in to take the samples for the verification tests. They went in to verify that the results were the same to the last tests; that was done in the windrows and the processing area. Two weeks ago they tested the fields where the compost is moved and stays for 5 years. They are still waiting for the results on this. The Supervisor mentioned that yes we have levels in Cambridge but they are nothing compared to Hoosick Falls Mr.

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Clarkson says our numbers are so low compared to them. SP/LP test is being done which is a synthetic Precipitation leaching procedure, basically testing how easily the PFC's leak from the solid. Fourteen mills have been tested around the state and some are showing PFC's and some aren't. Agricycle still has active permit, no one has taken it away saying that they can't work. They have just chosen to stop incoming and outgoing products. Supervisor mentioned when they are testing the mills not just testing the sludge they are testing backwards some of the other product. They are still looking for natural level, 20 ppt seems to be the natural. The Supervisor mentioned that everything in regards to PFC's is on file here at the Town Hall to be viewed by the public. Supervisor has received compliments on ease of access to the information in our town. The Supervisor mentioned that still planning on having informational meeting for the public in the future, when more testing results have been received.

Code Enforcement

LaVerne Davis Code Enforcement Officer reported that he had neighbors fighting. There was a property maintenance problem with the one neighbor complaining. Councilwoman Wilmot asked what he does/how does he enforce this situation? He said because the Town has adopted the NYS Property Maintenance Code he must go by that/ enforce it.

Highway Report

Supervisor Fedler reported in Highway Superintendent Jim Buckley Jr. absence. She also let everyone know that he will be unable to attend the meeting next month because of the Highway Superintendent Conference in Ithaca, NY. It was reported that they had finished sweeping roads, have graded most of gravel roads for first time around. Highway Department has coated lower Conley Road with first layer of econo-gravel to start building a hard base. They have stock piled enough econo-gravel to apply second layer. Graveled Lee's Crossing road. High winds on May 1st and 5th have kept them very busy clearing trees out of road ways. More than one man was out for these storms. Weather is not being cooperative but they paved Darwin extension and Meeting house road on May 4th. They paved Kenyon Road today Monday, May 8, 2017. Working on getting CHIPS reimbursement for this paving work. The Highway Superintendent will be hand delivering the paperwork to Albany tomorrow. In regards to Clean up from the high winds more needs to be done, they will finish rest soon. Plan to Shim Brownell Road in the future but will wait to see what Easton does.

Planning Board Report – May 4, 2017 Meeting

The Town of Cambridge Planning Board met on Thursday, May 4, 2017, 7:30 PM at the Town Hall. There were 4 members present, Secretary and 2 people from the public.

New Business

- 1) Elaine Heckman and Jamie Lasco presented Sketch Plan for Ed Guidon property tax map #254.-1-13 located at 9 Cobble Road, they would like to subdivide out the large piece which is approximately 70 acres. The other portion of the property, the house and barns will remain the same which is approximately 22 acres on the west side of County Rt. 60, second section being

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on the North side of Cobble where it meets perpendicular to County Rt. 60. Planning Board gave permission to proceed with the survey.

- 2) Sketch Plan was presented by William Brown, property located at 193 Horton Rd. Tax Map # 261.-2-8.2. He would like to subdivide off 1 acre of his 7.80 acres for his son. Planning Board had concern if one acre was enough to put septic and well on and enough road frontage. It was suggested that he contact LaVerne Davis Code enforcement Officer to see if one acre parcel would be acceptable.

The next Planning Board meeting will be held Thursday, June 1, 2017 at 7:30 PM at the Town Hall.

Town Clerk Report

I have spoken with former Deputy Town Clerk Melissa Stannard and she has agreed to come back as the 2nd Deputy for the Town Clerk.

Assessor Report

Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt reported in Assessor's absence, the change of Assessment Notices were sent out May 1, 2017. There were total of 37 sent out. Grievance Day is May 24th from 4 pm to 8 pm at the Town Hall. All members of the Board of Assessment Review have been notified. Assessor's appointment date and time are as follows:

5/03/2017 2pm to 8 pm

5/10/2017 2 pm to 6 pm

5/13/2017 9 am to 1 pm

5/17/2017 2 pm to 6 pm

The Assessor has requested that if anyone contacts you please advise them to contact the Assessor to set up appointment. There are new rules regarding STAR Exemption. Anyone who wasn't receiving a STAR Exemption prior to March 2, 2015 will now register with the New York State Department Of Taxation and Finance and receive a check in the mail instead of getting a deduction off of their school tax bills. Again the Assessor has requested if anyone contacts you about this please ask them to contact Assessor because there is more information she can let them know. The July Conference is July 17 – 21 in Ithaca NY. The Assessor will not be in the office on July 19, 2017 due to the conference. The cost will be split with the City of Mechanicville and the Town of Waterford.

Supervisor's Report

Communications

Supervisor Fedler reported that correspondence from Girl Scout Troop 3525 and they have embarked on opportunity for a Silver Award Project. They are transforming the vacant lot on <http://www.townofcambridgeny.org>

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West Main Street in the Village of Cambridge, where the Ackley building once stood, into a edible garden. Their plan is to create peaceful, calm, and relaxing location for community members and visitors to enjoy. They would like to include fruit trees, section for herbs, perennial flowers, trellis and fountain and brick path. They are looking for donations of cash, services, and supplies such as plants, bushes, etc. The Supervisor said that she doesn't feel that it is the Town Board's place to donate Tax payers money to this cause. She mentioned that anyone that wanted to contribute on their own that was fine, contact information is available from the Town Clerk.

The Supervisor made appoint to recognize Margaret Shaw the Clerk to the Supervisor and Heather Greenawalt Town Clerk and how lucky the Town is to have them. She mentioned the timely manner that Clerk to the Supervisor gets the Annual Financial Report done in every year and how well the Town Clerk works with the public. Supervisor mentioned that other towns are not as fortunate.

In regards to the Memorial Day Parade the Supervisor suggested that this year maybe the Town of Cambridge and WhiteCreek Supervisor's should just ride in a car. She said that this is a lot of work for Councilman Ford to take the wagon apart, some Town Board Members feel awkward being in the parade. She mentioned also others help get float ready however do not ride in parade and others ride every year. She said it is not required that Town Board and Town Clerk are in the Parade. This could be discussed further, there is still time to decide.

Town Board

Councilwoman Herrington reported that collected 6 bags of garbage for the Town wide Clean up weekend. She also mentioned that the Town of White Creek and Village of Cambridge had good turnout also. Other things that were on her list were Memorial Day parade and the Town Picnic. A decision would have to be made next month on the Town Picnic.

Councilwoman Wilmot and Councilman Ford had nothing to add to Town Board report

Abandonment of Town Lanes

The Supervisor mentioned that have information from the Town Attorney from 3 property owners to remove their lanes. These would include Sandra Niles Conway Lane, Heather and Ralph Greenawalt Jr. 24 Welling Lane, William Reynolds Grace Reynolds Lane. These property owners have all requested that the lanes be removed from the Town Highway miles. The process is to pass the resolution of the Town Board to remove the lane, then the Town Attorney will create paperwork for the Town Highway Superintendent to sign, then lanes will be removed at the county level to be taken off of the Miles of Town Roads.

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Resolution #24

Supervisor Fedler motioned,

Seconded by Councilman Ford,

Be It Resolved, that Sandra Niles residing on the highway Conway Lane, has hereby made application to the Town Highway Superintendent of Highways of the Town of Cambridge, Washington County, New York, to discontinue the portion of the highway located in said Town, and described as follows: Conway Lane located in Cambridge, New York. The Town Board hereby consents to this application.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes - 0

Resolution #25

Councilman Ford Motioned,

Seconded by Supervisor Fedler,

Be It Resolved, that Ralph Greenawalt Jr. and Heather Greenawalt residing on the highway 24 Welling Lane, has hereby made application to the Town Highway Superintendent of Highways of the Town of Cambridge, Washington County, New York, to discontinue the portion of the highway located in said Town, and described as follows: 24 Welling Lane located in Cambridge, New York. The Town Board hereby consents to this application.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes - 0

Resolution #26

Supervisor Fedler motioned,

Seconded by Councilwoman Wilmot,

Be It Resolved, that William Reynolds residing on the highway Grace Reynolds Lane has hereby made application to the Town Highway Superintendent of Highways of the Town of Cambridge, Washington County, New York, to discontinue the portion of the highway located in said Town, and described as follows: Grace Reynolds Lane located in Cambridge, New York. The Town Board hereby consents to this application.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes – 0

Communications

Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt reported received information: Bridges out of poverty, A Community Learning Opportunity will meet on Saturday, May 13, 2017 9:00 – 4:00 PM in the Lower Brieman Room. This program is free and is sponsored by Washington County Economic Opportunity Council, join them for a pot luck lunch – bring a dish and share a feast. The Local Cambridge United Community Center is sponsoring this in hopes to address best practices, ideas and tools to bring people from all economic classes together to address the causes of poverty.

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County Report

Supervisor Fedler reported that County DPW is paving, the DPW meeting is not till Thursday, May 11th , will be updated then. She did mention that the past County Superintendent of DPW had let some things fall behind. It is normally the counties responsibility to inspect all the culverts and bridges in all of the towns in the county. They did this last year and are in the process of writing these reports up and turning them over to the towns. This will be a surprise to a lot of towns and many will not have the money to do repairs. There was discussion of having PE on staff for technical advice, they can design and engineer some of the stuff. This would trickle down and the towns would be able to take advantage of some of this.

Public Safety they are still trying to work out the Hurrell – Herring funding, which is the consulate first appearance for everyone. The supervisor again talked to Mike Gray about painting of Town Hall. He said that still be a ways out but he would look at it. In Health and Human Services highlight is looking at the DSS (Department of Social Services) and the OFA (Office of Aging) annual reports. The supervisor said really need to look at this report the amount of people that are homeless or in the foster care system, this is unreal. Supervisor Fedler mentioned how exceptionally good the Office of the Aging Program is and how much time Gina puts into the program.

Government Opts. is looking into digitalizing some of the records, looked at the parking lot sketch plan, IT presentation on software against hackers and they again discussed about potential IT reorganization.

Privilege of the Floor

Resident Dan Schmidt mentioned that later on this month at the Bennington College they are having something on PFOA's. The one gentleman that will be there is the lawyer from West Virginia that worked on this stuff 20 years ago. Dan Schmidt mentioned that he was thinking that yes Agricycle has permits but at what point does the amount of product deposited there become a landfill? He said that he is glad that Agricycle has stopped all operation but if and when the resume business will there be a point when the status of their business changes? He said it is just something that he would like everyone to think about.

There being no further business before the Town Board, the meeting was moved and carried for adjournment at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Greenawalt
Town Clerk/Town of Cambridge