

Town Board Meeting

April 4, 2019

The Regular meeting of the Town of Cambridge duly called and held 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 2019 at the Town Hall, the following were present:

Supervisor Catherine Fedler

Councilman Douglas Ford

Councilman Brian Harrington

Councilman Bruce Bailey

Councilwoman Gretchen Wilmot

Others present: Heather Greenawalt Town Clerk, Laura Chadwick Director of Washington County Real Property, Ashleigh Morris from the Eagle, Robbie McIntosh, Jim Buckley Highway Superintendent

The Supervisor called the meeting to order and immediately led in the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

Contracted Assessor through County - shared services

Laura Chadwick the Washington County Director of Real Property was present at the meeting to discuss the possibility of contracting Assessor Services through the County. This would be considered shared services through Washington County. The Town of Fort Ann is currently taking part in these Assessment Services, Granville has in the past. This would offer a great savings to the Town. According to Laura Chadwick we'd be getting same services if not better. Rachael Holbrook the current Assessor had already mentioned that she was interested in the Data Collection portion of these shared services. The Data Collection portion is \$3 per parcel. This would include improvements, building permits, any changes and taking pictures. The website image mate is available online to all. The Town of Cambridge has 1,155 parcels. The total would be \$3,465 at \$3 per parcel. For the full Assessor contracting service at \$12 per parcel, the charge back to the town would be \$13,860 and a yearly contract would be created. Laura Chadwick also mentioned that there would be a savings when it came to the .2 portion of the assessor budget. The County does not use the software that the current assessor is using. The contractual amount that is budgeted \$1,272 would be utilized by the county Assessor. October 1<sup>st</sup> is the reappointment date for the county Assessor throughout the State. The number of available Assessors in the pool is not that large, currently assessors are usually in the office one day a week. They may work multiple towns. Mrs. Chadwick mentioned that this program of shared services of Assessor would be more efficient. This would work best with like towns: example would be same equalization rate, ideal 100%. She mentioned that the county Planning Department did receive a grant to do reval and to get 100% consistency throughout. Laura Chadwick did mention that it is important that Town Board make a decision by July. This way the Assessor can be notified of the decision. The Town Board has time to do 30 day Referendum and place notice in the paper to change to a contracted assessor through the county. If the Town Board decides to stay with Town Assessor then they still have to reappoint or Advertise looking for Assessor. If there are any questions, they can call Laura Chadwick. Councilman Bailey asked if they would lose local control and if there would be office hours at the Town Hall? Yes, there would still be local control and office hours at the Town Hall.

Auditing of the Bills

General	#49 – 68	\$ 3,419.61
Highway	#24 – 41	\$22,017.80

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Resolution #23

Approving of the Supervisor's Report

Councilman Bailey, Seconded by Councilwoman Wilmot to approve the Supervisor's Report from March 2018.

Vote:                   Ayes – 5                   Noes – 0

Resolution #24

Approving of the Minutes

Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by councilman Bailey to approve the minutes from the March 11, 2019 meeting with one correction to add Councilman Bailey as being present, he was left out.

Vote:                   Ayes – 5                   Noes – 0

Culvert NY Master Agreement and Resolution

The Resolution and the Culvert NY Master Agreement was emailed to the Town Board and Town Attorney prior to the meeting for viewing. The Town Attorney has reviewed and says that no problem with the contract. Councilman Bailey wanted to know what would happen if the cost was overrun? Is the Town liable? The Supervisor mentioned that written in the plan is cost overrun, for increase in materials. The Town will be receiving updates as the project moves forward. This is a new program, there is no firm plan, right now they are in the engineering stage.

Resolution #25

Councilman Bailey motioned, seconded by councilwoman Wilmot to accept the Bridge NY Resolution and the Bridge NY Culvert Local Project Agreement that was sent by the state.

**Bridge NY Resolution By Municipality  
(Culvert Project – NYSDOT design and construct)  
Resolution Number: 25**

**Authorizing the implementation and funding 100% of the costs of a transportation project, of which qualified costs may be reimbursed from Bridge NY funds**

WHEREAS, a project for the CULVERT NY, Stump Church over Fly Creek, Town of Cambridge, Washington Co., P.I.N. 1761.05 (the "Project") is eligible for reimbursement of qualified of qualified costs from Bridge NY funding that calls for the post reimbursement apportionment of qualified costs be borne at the ratio of 100% Bridge NY funds and 0% non-Bridge NY funds; and

**WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) will design, let, and administer all phases of the Project.**

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WHEREAS, the Town of Cambridge desires to advance the Project by making a commitment of 100% of the costs of Construction work for the Project of portions thereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town Council hereby approves the Project; and it is hereby further

RESOLVED, that the Town Council hereby grants NYSDOT permission to directly apply Bridge NY funds to reimburse costs incurred by NYSDOT on the Project; and it is further

RESOLVED, that in the Town Council hereby agrees that the Town of Cambridge shall be responsible for all costs of the Project which exceed the amount of the NY Bridge Funding awarded to the Town of Cambridge; and it is further

RESOLVED, that in the event the costs of the Project exceed the amount of Bridge NY funding appropriated, the Town Council shall convene as soon as possible to appropriate said excess amount immediately upon the notification by the New York State of Transportation thereof, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Town Council hereby agrees that Town of Cambridge hereby commits that construction of the Project shall begin no later than twenty-months (24) months after award and the construction phase of the Project shall be completed within thirty (30) months; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor of the Town Council of the Town of Cambridge be and is hereby authorized to execute all necessary agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests with NYSDOT for State Aid and /or Bridge NY funding on behalf of the Town of Cambridge in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project and providing for the administration of the Project and the municipality's funding of the Project costs, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Town of Cambridge will be responsible for all maintenance of the Project; and it is further

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in connection with Project; and it is further

RESOLVED, this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Vote:                      Ayes – 5                      Noes – 0

#### Planning Board Report

Planning Board Clerk Heather Greenawalt reported that the Planning Board Meeting was held April 4, 2019, 7:30 PM at the Town Hall 5 Members present, secretary, 2 people from the public.

3 Planning Board members attended the training presented by NYSDOS Division of Local Government Training. This took place on Monday, March 18, 2019 at Ft. Edward the training topics were: Planning Board Overview and Sign Regulation.

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Ron Ford presented a survey map with the boundary line adjustment with the Calf barn and silo pad being added to his property, tax map #246.-1-23.4. This map showed a lot of 1.26 acres being subdivided off tax map #246.-1-23 which is the original parcel owned by Cleo Ford. This new lot created includes the shop and the equipment shed. The Planning Board had a concern with the closeness of the equipment shed to the boundary line of neighboring lot with the calf barn and silo. They said that this could in the future present problems. Ron said that it is possible this shed may be taken down. Board granted preliminary approval.

Eileen Wheeler and her husband David McMullan presented a sketch plan of property owned by Eileen Wheeler at 461 King Road tax map #272.-1-10. She would like to subdivide off approximately 15 acres for neighbor Paul Nieckarz to purchase. This would occur on the northern side of the parcel which borders on Mr. Nieckarz's property. They gave Eileen Wheeler preliminary approval to proceed with the survey. Next Planning Board Meeting will be on May 2, 2019.

#### Town Clerk Report

Taxes went back to the County on Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup> the amount of unpaid taxes returned were \$232,803.64, Total collected \$1,924,309.29. The free Fire proof filing cabinet from the Village of Menads has arrived. Thank you to Jim Highway Superintendent for picking it up and to the highwaymen for helping unload the cabinet. It is greatly appreciated! Email received from the county about Annual Refresher Training- Self Study for the Sexual Harassment Prevention. I have read email and looked over the info, have not had time to watch the two videos yet. There is a power point training, training quiz and then annual tracking sheet. I have successfully filed my first death certificate with the State's EDRS system (Electronic Death Reporting system). April 1<sup>st</sup> start of fishing season, some licenses have been sold.

#### Highway Superintendent Report

Highway Superintendent Jim Buckley reported that the highway crew have been sweeping intersections, roads and cold patching potholes. They have done some grading and firming up of spots on gravel roads. They are also stock-piling material for summer work. They have finally gotten the NJPA Sourcewell pricing from Uni-first. Our cost is now less than half of what it used to be. The Highway Superintendent has been researching pay loader prices through NJPA to get a rough idea of cost. It looks like the starting point is about \$145,000. This year's budget has no Extreme Winter Recovery money in it. Last year's EWR was about \$29,000. CHIPS and PAVE remain the same as last year. It is the Highway Superintendents understanding that DERA (diesel emissions reduction act) did not get another extension this year. He is not sure what this means exactly. He does not know if Town trucks must meet standards, or, even what tier will be expected. The 2004 and the two 2007's have EGR systems, so hopefully they will be acceptable. The 1998 and the 2003 are both pre-emissions.

#### Assessor Report

Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt reported in the Assessor's absence. The Assessor's Office will be closed on Wednesday April 24, 2019; She will be out of town. Tentative Roll will be filed on or before May 1, 2019. Legal Ads have been sent to the Eagle. Assessor hours for Grievance Appointments are; May 1, 2019 between the hours of 2 pm and 6 pm

<http://www.townofcambridgeny.org>

## Town Board Meeting

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May 4, 2019 between the hours of 9 am and 1 pm

May 8, 2019 between the hours of 2 pm and 6 pm

May 15, 2019 between the hours of 4 pm and 8 pm

May 22, 2019 between the hours of 3 pm and 7 pm

Grievance Day is May 29, 2019 at the Cambridge Town Hall, 844 County Route 59, Cambridge, NY 12816  
4 pm to 8 pm. Grievance Application can be picked up at the Town Hall or online

[http://www.taxforms/orpts/assessment\\_grievance.htm](http://www.taxforms/orpts/assessment_grievance.htm).

It was mentioned that if the Assessor is contracted through the county then the Town would only pay for the July training and not the October. If town decides to have contracted Assessor through County Resolution must be passed which will be subject to Permissive Referendum, 45 days must be given to the public by a notice in the paper.

### Town Board

None

### County Report

The Supervisor mentioned that there was not much to report from the county they had almost 2 weeks off (break). Health and Human Services meeting they all gave their annual report: Public Health, Dept. of Human Services, Office of Aging, etc.. DPW were discussing the updated projects and the Wex cards which are used for purchasing gas. Ag & Planning presentations, which was several weeks ago reported where the businesses were in the county. Basically the report showed that huge percentage of the jobs were in manufacturing.

### Privilege of the Floor

Robbie McIntosh a resident of the town was present, he gave a handout and a brief talk about the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act Of 2019 (HR763). This Act is an advancement of bipartisan Congressional efforts to price carbon emissions and reduce greenhouse gases. The EICDA places a price of \$15 per metric ton of carbon dioxide 2019. He mentioned that all money collected is returned to every legal resident in the United States. He requested that the Board read this, he mentioned that he learned from citizens lobby/just got signed up to take training on how to lobby on this topic.

There being no further business before the Town Board, the meeting was moved and carried for adjournment at 9:27 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Greenawalt  
Town Clerk/Town of Cambridge