

Town Board Meeting
February 14, 2022

The Regular Town Board Meeting of the Town of Cambridge was duly called February 14, 2022 at Town Hall, at 7:30 PM, the following were present:

Supervisor Catherine Fedler
Councilman Larry Carrino
Councilman Robert McIntosh
Councilman Bruce Bailey
Absent: Councilwoman Gretchen Wilmot

Others present: Heather Greenawalt Town Clerk, Jim Buckley Jr. Highway Superintendent, Susan Herrington

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

Auditing of the Bills

General	#7-29	\$ 9,685.74
Highway	# 4-19	\$29,620.79

Supervisor's Report

Resolution #11

Councilman Bailey motioned, seconded by Councilman Carrino to approve the Supervisor's report for January 2022.

Vote:	Ayes – 4	Noes – 0
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Approving of the minutes

Resolution #12

Councilman McIntosh motioned, seconded by Councilman Bailey to approve the minutes from the January 10, 2022 Town Board Meeting.

Vote:	Ayes – 4	Noes – 0
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The Supervisor reported that resident Julian Hadley is the appointed representative to the Office of the Aging Advisory Board at the County.

Extension of Exemptions

The Governor has issued an Executive Order 11.1, declaring a disaster emergency in the State of New York, which grants local governments the ability to adopt extending the exemption status as of March 2022.

TOWN OF CAMBRIDGE
Resolution #13

Councilman Carrino offered the following resolution,
Which was seconded by Councilman Bailey

WHEREAS, the state disaster emergency has resulted in limited hours in municipal offices and rendered seniors and individuals with disabilities homebound; and

WHEREAS, many seniors and individuals with disabilities do not have the ability to file their real property tax exemption applications in person due to safety precautions and lack the ability to file such applications online; and

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WHEREAS, Governor Kathy Hochul has issued Executive Order 11.1, declaring a disaster emergency in the State of New York, which grants local governments the ability to adopt a resolution extending the exemption status for those seniors and individuals with disabilities entitled to certain real property tax exemptions;

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the assessor shall extend the 2021 exemption status for those individuals receiving the senior exemption and those persons with disabilities and limited income exemptions through 2022 without the requirement of renewal application subject to an exception that the assessor may require a renewal application if he or she believes that an owner of real property that had previously qualified for the 2021 exemption has since changed their primary residence, added another owner to the deed, transferred the property to a new owner or the owner has died.

Vote: Ayes -4 Noes – 0

Supervisor's Report

The Supervisor reported that she was on the committees of Gov't Opt's, Public Works, IT, Finance, Health Human Services, Soil and Water, Adirondack Glens Falls Council Rural Representative.

The Supervisor talked about the Cyber Protection policy for the Town and how it was a challenge right now to get one through the insurance company. She also mentioned that the County had an excellent Cyber control and that they have even trained the employees of the County in what to look for in regards to cyber security.

The Broadband Assessment that was done was reviewed. The names of the individuals that don't have service/or need better service in the Town of Cambridge are on the list. The Board reviewed the list of the individuals that don't have service. The State is having a series of virtual public hearings from February 23 to March 3, 2022, to solicit input and comments from the community. This information can be obtained from the Town Clerk's office.

Payment from Salem

Supervisor Fedler explained that the Town of Salem did not have an account with Cummings so they used the Town of Cambridge account and the Town of Salem would reimburse Town of Cambridge.

Resolution #14

Councilman Bailey motioned, seconded by Councilman Carrino to approve the payment for the billed parts and Town of Salem will reimburse the Town of Cambridge. The money will go into account DA5130.4.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes – 0

Policies and Procedures for the Town

The Town Clerk will email all Policy and Procedures to the newly elected Board Members. The Town Board will be review at the March Meeting.

Health Officer Appointment

<http://www.townofcambridgeny.org>

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Councilman Bailey noticed that he was appointed as Health Officer at the January meeting, in his absence. He has decided to give his salary of \$112 back to the Town, unless something arises for him to address as Health Officer.

Resolution #15

Councilman Bailey motioned, seconded by Councilman Carrino to return the \$112 for the Health Officer Salary to the Contingent A1990.4.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes – 0

Court Audit

Councilwoman Wilmot meet with Judge Molea and Audited the Court books.

Resolution #16

Councilman McIntosh motioned, Seconded by Councilman Bailey to accept the audit of the Town of Cambridge, Justice Court Records dated January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 which was submitted at the February 14, 2022 Regular Town Board meeting.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes – 0

Planning Board Report

The Planning Board did not meet on February 3rd due to nothing on the agenda.

Next meeting March 3rd, 2022.

Town Clerk Report

- Total money collected in taxes \$1,623,413.95, money was turned over for 2022 Budget in the amount of \$757,648. Then \$860,000 has been turned over to the County Treasurer.
- The Town Clerk will be doing a EDRS webinar with NYS Dept of Health on the updated system.
- Town clerk has been in contact with Repeat Business in regards to the copier. It is becoming hard to find parts for the copier. Need to decide whether we should buy or lease a copier. What are our needs for a copier, and are we interested in a copier that copies large things, such as maps etc. Possibly looking for a used copier with that kind of capability. Will be in contact with Jackie from Repeat Business more on this topic. Also storing things digitally is another possibility. Supervisor suggested contacting Barb in the County Administrating Office in regards to a copier.

Highway Report

- The Highway Department has been busy plowing snow and ice, and trying to keep the equipment repaired. Frozen culverts have also needed attention.
- The new tandem truck has been officially ordered.
- Advocacy day will be done over Zoom again this year. There is the potential of a new program, POP, which stands for Pave Our Potholes. How this money can be used is not definite at this time, but hopefully will be the same as Pave and EWR.

Town Board

Councilman McIntosh said that he would like to discuss the issue of Solar. He thought that Solar Farms need to be addressed in the Town of Cambridge. It should be discussed as a possibility of adopting a Local Law for Solar Farms. The Town of Cambridge doesn't have a huge host capacity like

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Easton. Transmission substation is not adequate to handle, however, capacity of 20 mega watts is possible. A lot of issues need to be addressed, such as Decommissioning Agreements. The Developers have huge incentives to get these Solar Farms installed. They can fleece/pull the wool over resident's eyes. These Solar farms are an eye sore and the fact that they are abutting landowners, this is something to worry about. Councilman Bailey and Councilman McIntosh agree that a Law is needed for Solar. Councilman McIntosh said that NYSERDA has staff that is willing to help with the Law. Councilman McIntosh said that he would be willing to reach out to Jane at NYSERDA and see what approach to take. Councilman Bailey agreed that needed experts that could give advice. It was felt that Residents need to be more informed about what they are getting, what are they getting when they chose Solar?

There being no further business before the Town Board the meeting was moved and carried for adjournment at 9:31 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Greenawalt
Town Clerk/Town of Cambridge