

Town Board Meeting
June 12,2023

The Regular Town Board of the Town of Cambridge was duly called Monday, June 12, 2023 at Cambridge Town Hall, at 7:30 PM the following were present:

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

Others present: Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt, Highway Superintendent Jim Buckley Jr., Jonathan Sambo, Donna Horton, Chris Krahlung Senior Project Manager of ASA

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

ASA Project/Presentation

Chris Krahlung Senior Manager at ASA (Agricultural Stewardship Association) and Donna Horton were present at the meeting requesting a letter of support for the Horton Crile PDR application. The project is comprised of approximately 380 acres owned by the Horton Irrevocable Trust and approximately 125 acres owned by Susan Crile for a total acreage of 505 acres. They are looking for this support for the Horton farm application to the state for the Farmland Protection Implementation Grants Program (Round 19).

Councilman Bailey questioned Mr. Krahlung of the process that individuals had to go through in order to obtain the grant. Mr. Krahlung explained that there is a process that they must go through and the Grant program only opens every two years. The application must go before the Ag & Protection Farmland Committee before it even goes into the Grant program. There is a waiting process, with first come, first serve basis. The applications that are the strongest get in the program.

Resolution #38

ASA Horton Project

Supervisor Fedler motioned, Seconded by Councilman McIntosh to convey full support for the Horton Farms application to the state for the Farmland Protection Implementation Grants Program (Round 19). This includes the 380 acres owned by the Horton Irrevocable Trust and approximately 125 acres from Susan Crile for Total project acreage of 505 acres.

Vote: Ayes – 5 Noes – 0

Auditing of the Bills

General	#84 – 105	\$ 3,752.03
Highway	#56 – 66	\$204,385.24

Highway pay increase

There was a question about whether any luck with interest in the open highway position? Mentioned that starting rate for a new hire is \$19.49 / hr. It was mentioned that possibly consider an incentive program for the future. With the expense of going to school to get the CDL being \$9500. Councilman McIntosh said that had real concerns at this time about not being able to fill the position. This needed to be addressed now, could not wait till budget time. The Supervisor said that could not do a pay raise in the middle of the month. She would have to check with Margaret Shaw the Clerk to Supervisor to

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make sure that an increase of a \$1.00/hour will work. This would be made effective as of July 1st for pay change. At this time the Town Board considered increasing the pay for the cleaning position of the Town Hall, since been having problem finding cleaner. The increase would be \$1.00 per hour also.

Solar Moratorium

Supervisor Fedler said that the Solar Moratorium needed some changes made to it and there would need to be a Special Meeting, with Public Hearing to adopt the amended Solar Moratorium. The Special Meeting would be June 21, 2023 at 7:30 PM and the Public Hearing would be held at this meeting for the Solar Moratorium.

Resolution #39

Councilwoman Wilmot motioned, seconded by Councilman McIntosh to hold a Special Meeting for a Public Hearing on June 21, 2023 at 7:30 PM on the amended Solar Moratorium. At this time anything else that comes before the Town Board will be addressed.

Vote: Ayes – 5 Noes – 0

The Supervisor said that they would address the pay change at this June 21st meeting due to highway being one man short. The 3 remaining highwaymen are picking up the slack, this pay increase is needed.

Supervisor's Report

Resolution #40

Councilman Bailey motioned, seconded by Councilman Carrino to approve the Supervisor's Report from April 2023.

Vote: Ayes – 5 Noes - 0

Approving of the Minutes

Resolution #41

Councilman Bailey motioned, seconded by Councilman McIntosh to approve the minutes from the May 8, 2023 meeting as mailed with the following correcting;

- On page 1 Dan Prelan last name was spelled incorrectly.
- One page 3, the section on Privilege of the floor, the third bullet it should read, "to dispose of the debris in the future".

Vote: Ayes – 5 Noes – 0

The supervisor reported that news traveled fast that the Town of Cambridge had unanimously voted not to support the Tour of the Battenkill and requested that they no longer travel the Town of Cambridge roads for their race. She mentioned that most of the phone calls that she had were people that lived outside the Town. She said a letter had been written and reviewed and thought would rewrite it. Now not sure that will send a letter. Might be better to just send a copy of the resolution, stating that no longer supporting and the Town of Cambridge is requesting that they take the Town roads out of the race.

Councilman Bailey said that he liked what Councilman McIntosh had written. He said if they are willing to work with us, maybe change the decision? Supervisor Fedler said that they are not willing to work

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with us. No, cannot change the decision. Councilman Bailey says this is unfortunate that they cannot comply.

Assessor/BAR Report

Arek Gordon left message with the Town Clerk that BAR is still working on determinations. Everyone that showed up to Grievance Day or submitted paperwork will receive a letter by the end of the month.

Supervisor mentioned that she was not sure if BAR member Bob Wright would be interested in doing another year or not. This can be addressed later.

Planning Board Report

Planning Board Secretary Heather Greenawalt reported that:

- Planning Board meeting met on June 1, 2023 with all the board present, secretary and 2 land owners.
- There was a short discussion about the building permit for the Solar project that will be going in on 896 County Rt. 60, Tax Map #246.-1-27.2. This was found to be within the guidelines of the Moratorium. It is only considered residential 40 panels (some will be mounted on roof and others will be ground mount, Total 17.8 kw.
- Barbara Goodyear and her daughter Leigh Ann O'Neill presented a sketch plan for 137 Stage Rd., tax map # 280.-2-12.3 27.7 acres. The property is located on the eastside of Stage Road. They have already cleared 5 acres of the property and they are planning on building a house. They are looking to subdivide a parcel out for their daughter approx. .75 acres, the Planning Board suggested more than an acre. Make sure that you give themselves enough room. The parents already have their electric and well. The Planning Board suggested that bring in the surveyor and get a better idea of how can subdivide parcel out taking in consideration two house with 2 wells and 2 septic.

Pamela Landi, the Planner from the County Planning Dept. attended the meeting and discussed what Washington County Planning has as a resource and support for municipalities and answered any questions the Planning Board had. The presentation was about 45 minutes. Pamela mentioned that she had on her county website a lot of information, especially in regards to solar. Thought this might be very informational to the Town Board for creating a Solar Law. Pamela also said that Ag Plan route might be of value to the Town of Cambridge.

- Next Planning Board meeting will be on Thursday, July 6, 2023 at 7:00 PM.

Town Clerk Report

The Town Clerk said that she had nothing really to report. She wanted to make everyone aware that the office would be closed both July 3rd and 4th (4th of July holiday) and Lisa Proch her Deputy would be filling in on July 5th and 6th due to her husband having surgery.

Highway Report

Highway Superintendent Jim Buckley Jr. reported:

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- that they paved Turnpike Rd (Village end), Perry Lane, and South Rad. Thank you to Cassie Fedler (Supervisor) for Flagging on South Road.
- Gravel added to Demarco Lane, Reynolds Road, and English Road
- Roadside mowing has begun. Boom arm has also been out.
- Some ditching has been done, as well as tree and brush clean up.
- The went to annual MSHA training, (Scott not here), Highway Superintendent attended Highway School. Safety days are later this month.
- Highway Superintendent has only had one person show interest in working for the Town, and they did not have a CDL.
- CHIPS paperwork has been filled out and sent to D.O.T. for Turnpike Road and Perry Lane. Paperwork was done early. South Road was not done in time to submit for deadline. Should be reimbursed in couple of weeks for first submission.

Supervisor

- Thank you note was received from the Rescue Squad.
- The Supervisor acknowledged the letter received from the Town of Huntington, Voter's Identification Resolution. They passed the resolution in the Town of Huntington and wanted it distributed to the Town of Cambridge Board Members.
- Letter was received from Scott Bendett, Assemblyman 107th District. This letter explained "provisions passed in this year's budget that will impact our community.

Town Board

Councilwoman Wilmot wanted to make sure that people building in the Town are getting the correct permits. Concerns of possible property on King Road and the house on top of hill on County Route 59.

There was a question whether could have the Sub Committee when working towards the Solar Law? The Supervisor said that she would investigate it, she would talk with the County Attorney.

There being no further business before the Town Board the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Greenawalt
Town Clerk/Town of Cambridge