

Town Board Meeting
March 14, 2022

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

Deputy Supervisor Gretchen Wilmot

Councilman Larry Carrino

Councilman Bruce Bailey

Councilman Robert McIntosh

Absent: Supervisor Catherine Fedler

Others present: Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt, Jim Buckley Jr. Highway Superintendent, Jim Morris reporter from the Eagle, Susan Herrington, Martine Long, Gerald Skiff

Deputy Supervisor Gretchen Wilmot called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

Auditing of the Bills

General	#30 – 47	\$ 3,312.17
Highway	#20-36	\$19,902.29

Supervisor Fedler granted 15 minutes to Susan Herrington, Gerald Skiff and Martine Long (they each were each allotted 5 minutes) to speak to the Town Board. Susan Herrington and Gerald Skiff deferred their time to speaker Martine Long.

Martine Long was present at the meeting to speak on behalf of the Cambridge GOP Committee. She spoke about concerns of the Election process. Ms. Long handed out packets with data/proof that there is voters' fraud in this country. A lot of the audits that are going on all over the Country have had major significant finds. She mentioned how they have found 3 patterns, #1 being pump up of the voter rolls, #2 back doors and #3 voter counting. She went on to say that everyone voters rights need to be protected and they are being violated. Councilman Bailey questioned why the Board needed to hear this? There was some difference of opinion on whether or not the Board should be listening to this. The Deputy Supervisor asked Ms. Long what her purpose of doing this presentation was? What did she want them to take away from this? She said that this country has so many issues and the Country is falling apart. Wants everyone to realize what is actually going on in this country.

Supervisor's Report

Resolution #18

Councilman Bailey motioned, Seconded by Councilman McIntosh to approve the Supervisor's report for February 2022.

Vote: Ayes -4 Noes – 0

Approving of the minutes

Resolution #19

Councilman Bailey motioned, Seconded by Councilman Carrino to approve the minutes from the February 14, 2022 Town Board Meeting with 2 corrections both on top of page 3: first one being in Resolution #15 the Health Officer Salary can not be put in Contingent A1990.4 because the Health Officer Salary is in B so it must be put in B9030.8, Social Security, Employee Benefits. The second correction was under the Court Audit Councilman Wilmot met the Judge not meet.

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Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes – 0

Planning Board Report

Planning Board meeting was held on Thursday, March 3, 2022 with 3 members present, secretary and 2 residents present.

Election of Officers

It was unanimously decided by all Board members present to have Scott Clark as the Vice Chair and Eric Pearson as the Chair for the Planning Board.

Old Business

McNeice Subdivision

Kathy McNeice residing at 45 Edie Rd. Tax Map #246.-1-24.2 had the survey map of the portion of the Virginia McNeice Family Farm (Estate) 75 Edie Rd. Tax Map #246.-1-24 – 85.80 acres. Total acreage subdivided off on the Southwest portion of the property was 2.77 acres including the pond. This 2.77 acres will later be merged with Kathy McNeice's property Tax map #246.-1-24.2 at 45 Edie Rd. The Planning Board reviewed the Environmental Survey and found no adverse/minimal impact to the property and Preliminary approval was granted to move forward with the Public Hearing on April 7th. of the 2.77 acres being subdivided.

The next Planning Board meeting will be Thursday, April 7, 2022.

Town Clerk Report

- Still collecting taxes until March 31st. The Delinquent tax bills have been mailed as of March 2nd and the second payment of tax money has been turned over to the County Treasurer.
- Did the EDRS webinar with NYS Dept of Health on the updated system.
- In regards to an update on the research on a new copier, being that the other copier will be obsolete and parts will be hard to obtain. Have been inContact with Repeat Business and they have given a quote for a used copier which has many capabilities; however, it is very expensive (2,068.18). It does have larger copy capability up to 9X12, scanning, color, a cabinet. Have also been in touch with Barb Burch the Purchasing Coordinator at the County. She said that very seldom does the county have used copiers available, however she gave the dealer that they purchase from. This is Electronic Office Products, Inc. located in Saratoga Springs. I will contact them for information. They are State contract pricing. I have also checked on the Amazon site and the toner cartridge is available for the copier we have now. So, it is possible just not to renew service contract with Repeat Business and purchase toner online till we decide how we want to move forward.

Councilman McIntosh asked if the rate of payment of the tax money is the same as always. The Town Clerk said yes, it seems to be following the same pattern.

Highway Report

- Highway Superintendent Jim Buckley Jr. reported that they have plowed and sanded.
- They have spent a lot of time working on frozen culverts and ditches because of the sleet storm and major temperature changes.
- They have also had to do some washout repairs due to rain and snow melt. Some of which required the grader, but the roads have held up pretty well.
- Highway School is going to be in person this year and he is planning on attending.
- Truck #3 continuing to be a problem. It has been towed to Cummins in Albany for repairs.
- The Town Board and the residents applauded the Highway crew on a job well done with all the craziness of storms and challenges with the weather lately.

Tour of the Battenkill

Resolution #19

Councilman Bailey motioned, seconded by Councilman McIntosh for the Town of Cambridge to support the Tour of the Battenkill which is scheduled for Saturday, May 7, 2022.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes – 0

Policy and Procedures

It was decided to review the Policies and Procedures for the Town at April's meeting.

Thank you note was received from the CVRS for the money budgeted 2022.

Town Board

Councilman McIntosh handed out a sheet with what he thought summed up ideas that Town Board agreed upon for Solar.

List submitted by Councilman McIntosh:

The Town Board intends to protect Cambridge residents from the potential harmful effects of the siting of solar farms.

Without prohibiting said solar farms, the Town intends:

1. To encourage siting solar farms where they do not unnecessarily take prime farmland out of production.
2. To require that a decommissioning plan be in place.
3. To educate landowners about the legal hazards common to the contracts that they will enter into with a solar developer.
4. To authorize the Planning Board to review plans for siting said solar farms, and set standards for solar projects in order to be permitted in the Town.

Councilman McIntosh spoke with Jennifer M. from NYSERDA in regards to a model Solar Law which is adaptable. The template that was received can be edited, to create what the Town would like in the Law. The first step for the Town Board would be to make a statement of what they wish for the Town. This would be goals, principles, guidelines and policies. If they could agree on a statement then the law could be a page or 2. Jim Buckley Jr. the Highway Superintendent said that he thought that the idea was

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for the Planning Board to educate, not restrict, he referred to #4 on Councilman McIntosh's list. This law would set standards for Solar Projects in order to be permitted in the Town. Gerald Skiff said what would be the point of the Planning Board not following the Solar Requirements? Councilman Bailey said that the Town Board sets the Standards! Councilwoman Wilmot would like to see the Bond set in place for Decommissioning, SEQR for Planning Board and to Educate the residents. It was questioned about what stage Town of Jackson is at with their Solar project. What could we learn from them? The Town Clerk is going to inquire and let Councilman Carrino and Gerald Skiff Planning Board member know. They could possibly attend a meeting and bring back some information. Councilman Bailey suggested bringing in the experts.

There being no further business before the Town Board the meeting was moved and carried for adjournment at 8:58 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Greenawalt
Town Clerk/Town of Cambridge