

Town Board Meeting  
November 9, 2020

The Regular meeting of the Town of Cambridge duly called the 9<sup>th</sup> day of November 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, Jim Buckley Jr., Chandler from the Eagle, Rachel Burr

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

#### Auditing of the Bills

General	#182 -205	\$19,286.78
Highway	#132 – 147	\$41,753.85

#### Public Hearing

##### Local Law #1 for the Tax Cap Override

Supervisor Fedler opened the Public Hearing for the Tax Cap Override Local Law #1 at 7:58 PM. The Supervisor asked for any public comment on the Local Law #1. In asking 3 times for public comment and there was none. She closed the Public Hearing at 7:59 PM.

#### Public Hearing

##### 2021 Budgets

Supervisor Fedler opened the Public Hearing for the 2021 Budget at 7:59 PM. The Supervisor asked for any public comment on the 2021 Budget. In asking 3 times for public comment and there was none. She closed the Public Hearing at 8:00 PM.

#### Privilege of the Floor

Rachel Burr was present at the meeting following up with the speed limit reduction request in the hamlet of Coila. She mentioned that Peter was supposed to be there tonight with her, but apparently, he could not make it. Rachel said she would like the Town Board to request a speed study. The speed study is being requested based on the petitions and the information that they have collected. The Town Board suggested that Mrs. Burr be the one to request the speed study. She said that she would call the Sheriff's Office again. The Board said they are definitely in favor of the speed reduction but they suggest that she compile more information before it is sent to the state. The board suggested this to hopefully avoid denial as before.

#### Supervisor's Report

##### Resolution #55

Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilman Harrington to approve the Supervisor's report from October 2020.

Vote:                      Ayes – 5                      Noes – 0

#### Approving of the minutes

##### Resolution #56

<https://www.townofcambridgeny.org>

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Councilwoman Wilmot motioned, seconded by Councilman Ford to approve the minutes of the October 5, 2020 meeting as mailed.

Vote:                      Ayes – 4                      Noes – 0                      Abstain - 1

Bruce Bailey abstained from voting due to being absent from the meeting.

#### Planning Board and BAR position

The Supervisor mentioned that the position for Bob Wright on the BAR has expired as of September 30, 2020. Judy Leon's position for the Planning Board will be expiring December 31, 2020. Both members are interested in being reappointed. The Supervisor asked for direction from the Town Board on whether to reappoint or advertise positions as in the Appointment Policy. She also asked if the Appointment Policy could be revisited so that they could only advertise once in hopes to save money. Councilman Harrington said the problem with moving away from the Appointment policy is transparency. It was suggested to amend the Appointment policy to read that positions would be advertised for 7 days.

#### Resolution #57

Councilman Bailey motioned, seconded by Councilman Ford to amend the Appointment Policy so it reads that will advertise the vacant positions for 7 days.

Vote:                      Ayes – 5                      Noes – 0

#### Planning Board Report

The Planning Board Meeting was cancelled for November 5<sup>th</sup> due to nothing on the agenda. As stated above Judy Leon's position will be expired as of December 31, 2020. The Planning Board Clerk has spoken with her and she is interested in being reappointed. Next Planning Board Meeting will be held December 3, 2020.

#### Town Clerk Report

Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt reported that Verizon has changed the Town of Cambridge phone lines from the copper lines to the FIOS (FTTP-FIOS analog handoff). She also reported that the Town and County paperwork has been filled out for the 2021 Town and County Tax Bills. On the paperwork it was submitted as accepting in-person payments. The Clerk has spoke with both the Office of Real Property and Washington County Treasurer's Office about the method of payment. It was stated that if the office was closed down again due to COVID, the method of payment could be changed to by appointment only. The Clerk did mention that there would be a box outside her office door for drop and go!

#### Highway Report

The Highway Superintendent Jim Buckley Jr. reported that the roadside mowing is finished. Though we will have the boom arm mower out trimming back when weather and other projects allow. They have done some more ditching and have spot graded around town to get the gravel roads ready for winter. The Highway Superintendent has had a complaint concerning some of the ditch on Conley Road. He has made an attempt to improve the situation and is thinking of different and more permanent solutions, but they will have to wait for next year. They have done a considerable amount of work on Conley, and the other gravel roads in the last few year, but there are still places that can be improved. The Highway crew has also capped the cross-culverts that we changed this fall with black top, and have done some

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more patching on the black top roads. They have rebuilt the frame for the grates on the drop-in sander. They have spent several days in the Village assisting with leaf pickup. The Highway Superintendent has looked into the WEX Government Fleet Card option for gasoline purchasing. The current system of getting our gasoline from the Village is less expensive and simpler.

Bridge N.Y. sent a notice that the Stump Church road bridge will be done in 2021 or 2022. There are 5 bridges in the area and they have put out a single bid on all the small projects. When the bridge starts will depend on the demand and severity of the bridge and the construction season. Highway Superintendent Jim Buckley is still waiting to receive the letter from D.O.T. about the next round of CHIPS payments. A few towns have gotten theirs and there is cautious optimism about more reimbursement. Possibly if numbers left in columns, what is left will be resubmitted. They have stripped down and removed the body from truck #3. Tomorrow the truck will go to Zwack's to begin getting the new body installed.

N.Y. State Legislation S8617B/A 10832 This is the legislation that was mentioned last month. The bill was signed Labor Day 2020. Requires state and local governments and school districts to plan for future state disaster emergency involving a communicable disease. This Plan will need to be finalized by April 1, 2021. He has been working on getting hold of some sample outlines which should help us to put our plan on paper.

#### Fuel Oil Bids

Highway Superintendent Jim Buckley opened the Fuel Oil Bids. Doug's Oil was the only company that submitted a bid. The bid submitted for Fuel Oil and Diesel Fuel for all the Town locations of Cambridge NY, for the period from December 14, 2020 to December 14, 2021 is \$.15 over Doug's Oil cost for that day of delivery.

#### **Fuel Oil**

Cost as of October 29, 2020	\$1.239
Cents over cost	\$0.15
Total	\$1.389

#### **Diesel with winter blend**

Cost as of October 29, 2020	\$1.459
Cents over Cost	\$0.15
Total	\$1.609

This was the same amount that was submitted last year by Doug's Oil, Inc..

#### Resolution #58

Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Wilmot to accept the Fuel Oil bid from Doug's Oil, Inc. as shown above (\$.15 over Doug's Oil cost for that day of delivery).

Vote:                      Ayes – 5                      Noes – 0

#### Local Law #1 Tax Cap Override

#### Resolution #59

Councilman Ford motioned, seconded by Councilman Bailey to approve the Local Law #1 Tax Cap Override for 2020.

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Vote:                   Ayes – 5                   Noes – 0

Adopting the 2021 Budget

Resolution #60

Councilwoman Wilmot motioned,

Seconded by Councilman Ford,

Be It Resolved and Determined, that the Town Board of the Town of Cambridge adopts the 2021 Budget as presented at the Public Hearing as the Annual Budget for the Town of Cambridge beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021 with the budget figures of \$1,168,723 for total appropriations less \$314,075, less estimated revenues less \$112,000 unexpended balance resulting in \$742,648 to be raised by taxes.

Be it further Resolved, that the Cambridge Town Board accepts the fire contract with the Village of Cambridge Fire Department for year of 2021 for \$35,101, the Easton Fire Department \$9,000 and the Buskirk Fire Department \$17,459.

Vote:                   Ayes – 5                   Noes - 0

County Report

The Supervisor reported that Tourism has contracted with Black Dog-Andrew Meader and he works with Eight of Eight. This was to head up the Air B&B signed agreement to collect occupancy tax estimated at \$12,000. There is a Finance meeting later this week, it is reported that sales tax looks better than anticipated. Annual meeting at the county will be November 20<sup>th</sup> and the Budget Meeting will be on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>.

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