

Town Board Meeting
September 11, 2023

The Regular Town Board Meeting of the Town of Cambridge was duly called, Monday, September 11, 2023 at Cambridge Town Hall, at 7:30 PM the following were present:

Supervisor Catherine Fedler

Councilwoman Gretchen Wilmot

Councilman Robert McIntosh

Councilman Bruce Bailey

Councilman Larry Carrino arrived at the meeting at 8:35 PM.

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

Auditing of the Bills

General	#138 – 155	\$ 5,639.89
Highway	# 92 – 106	\$12,347.28

Councilman McIntosh asked if Cobble Rd. was on the schedule for paving next year. The Highway Superintendent said yes.

Approving the Supervisor's Report

Resolution #48

Councilman Bailey motioned, seconded by Councilman McIntosh to approve the Supervisor's report for August 2023.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes – 0

Amended Resolution

Resolution #49

Councilman Bailey motioned,
Seconded by Councilman McIntosh,

Whereas, the highway salaries have been amended as of July 1st, 2023, it has been noted that the Superintendent of Highways will be in need of part-time help. Therefore, another adjustment to the highway titles/salaries needs to be made. The title of HEO (Heavy Equipment Operator) will also have a designation of PT (Part-time) and the rate established for HEO-PT shall be \$21.00/hour, commencing with the date of August 15, 2023.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the title of HEO-PT be included in the Organizational Resolution with a salary of \$21.00/hr., commencing on August 15th, 2023.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes – 0

Approving of the minutes

Resolution #50

Councilman McIntosh motioned, Seconded by Councilwoman Wilmot to approve the minutes from the August 14, 2023 meeting as mailed.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes – 0

Privilege of the Floor

Resident with concerns

Arlene Siegel was at the Board meeting to address her school tax bill. She said that her school tax bill has increased by \$900. The Supervisor suggested that she contact the Assessor, he is in the office

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Wednesday. It is possible that the Assessment could be issue, exemption, school budget increase or even a combination of things.

The Supervisor mentioned that the October meeting is always affected by Columbus Day. The October Town Board meeting will be the first Monday of the month, October 2, 2023. The Public Hearing for the 2024 Budget will be scheduled at the October meeting.

Assessor's Report

The Supervisor reported that the Assessor said that he had some questions on the school bills. There were a few potential small claims. The Assessor would be at next months meeting and then could possibly decide how they would move forward. Possibly already foreseeing problems of the equalization rate dropping. He would like to discuss the options of how to keep the rate at 100%.

Supervisor's Report

- Supervisor reported that received communications on Crossroads Way, Inc., Non-Profit for Kids. This was a letter expressing interest in establishing a youth center with the perimeters of Owlkill Commons or an alternative location close to the center in Cambridge.
- County Budget would be Brutal, County is projecting an increase of per parcel cost for assessing. Could possibly be \$14.02 per parcel.
- For the Town Budget Highway Department costs have gone up, must give the employees raises (cost of living increase), insurance possible 6% increase, cyber security insurance increase and fuel oil costs.
- The official County budget meeting will be on Tuesday, September 19th
- Mortgage tax has been coming in good and hoping that it stays that way

Planning Board Report

- Planning Board meeting was held on September 7, 2023 with 4 members present, secretary and 3 people from the Public.
- Public Hearing held for Barbara Goodyear (daughter Erin O'Neil) subdivision, Final Mylar map for 137 Stage R. Tax Map #280.-2-12.3 submitted showing the Subdivision of 1.37 acres from 27.70 acres. Both parcels will eventually have a residence on them. Planning Board granted Final Approval of the Goodyear subdivision with no concerns, looked to be a good lot.
- Copses Farm LLC. (Former owner was Pat Hepp) Tax Map #288.-1-23, 97 County Rt. 74, 100.30. Proposing to subdivide out 5.25 acres with the house. Brian Holbritter is the surveyor and Jacob Keasbey, his assistant presented the minor subdivision same as last meeting. The 5.25 acres and the house and barns will be listed with Real Estate agent now and the remaining 95 acres will be farmed by Copses Farm LLC. The Planning Board granted Preliminary approval to move forward with Public Hearing at the October 5th meeting. The Environmental form will be done then.
- Pamela Landi, has been in contact with Planning Board members and said that the Solar information that has been sent can be used for Training purposes for the Planning Board. The Planning Board is requesting of the Town Board to grant permission that this information that is received via email from the Washington County Planning Department, Pamela Landi be used as training credit.

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- Next Planning Board meeting will be on Thursday, October 5, 2023 at 7:00 PM.

Town Clerk Report

- Selling many hunting licenses. Reminder DMP's (Doe Permits) will be available till October 1st.
- Pamela Landi from the County emailed information on Solar Installations on Agricultural Land and few other informational materials. All information was forwarded on to the Planning Board and Town Board members.
- The Town Clerk has received a letter of resignation from Linda Record the Court Clerk as of December 31, 2023.

Highway Report

- Highway Superintendent Jim Buckley reported that they have been grading, mowing with both regular mower and the boom arm.
- Changed culverts and ditching
- Thanks to Chuck Watkins for running the excavator
- Changed the culvert up the end of the Center Cambridge Road/ rented an excavator
- Spend today, Monday, Sept. 11th cleaning up lots of trees from the storm.
- Councilman McIntosh said that the mowing looks beautiful, thanks to Charlie
- Frame for the pickup plow has been sent out
- Fighting the beavers on the other side of County Rt.74, Center Cambridge.
- Turnpike still fighting the beavers (still have not been able to contact anyone that owns property)
- Pickup ordered maybe will see the end of this year
- The Tandem order board has not yet been opened, body for the single axle not sure where it is.
- Another applicant for the job, but rather not. (Possible part time if desperate)
- Fall School for the Highway Superintendent will be later this month, end of September 26th- 29th
- Have not put sand up yet

Larry Carrino was running late entered the meeting at 8:35 PM (this is only entered in the minutes to explain why the number on the vote is what it is.)

The Supervisor did mention that she received a copy of last year's Rescue Squad Budget. She had a conversation with Public Safety Chair and if Cambridge EMS had its own district, they would have their own Board and Budget. This is a concern. Fire Dept. and Rescue Squad are very needed. However, the Town cannot support the request of \$30,000. In the past years the town board has cut money from rescue squad, members of the Board thought that budgeted amount should be reduced. The Board will have to wait and see how budget figures look.

The Supervisor requested that the Town Board go into executive session for Personnel reasons.

Executive Session

Resolution #51

Councilwoman Wilmot motioned, seconded by Councilman Carrino to enter executive session at 8:53 PM.

<http://www.townofcambridgeny.org>

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Vote: Ayes – 5 Noes – 0

Resolution #52

Councilman Bailey motioned, seconded by Councilman McIntosh to exit out of Executive session at 9:12 PM.

Vote: Ayes – 5 Noes – 0

Town of Cambridge Mobile Home Ordinance

The Supervisor mentioned that the Town Board should consider making updates to the Mobile Home Ordinance. There are so many kinds of tiny homes now to live in: ADU-Accessory dwelling unit, add room to house – pods. Another example is people who want to stay in a trailer while they are building their house. The portion of the Ordinance needs to be changed about the length of time that can be spent in the trailer/camper. Possibly make it so they come and get special permission from Town Board, need to look at the wording and make the period and the conditions different.

There was a question about what is going on at 594 King Road and whether the County checked the property out as requested?

There being no further business before the Town Board the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Greenawalt
Town Clerk/Town of Cambridge