

Town of Triangle
Regular Meeting
Thursday June 13, 2024

The meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Triangle was held at 7:00 PM at the Town of Triangle Town Offices, 2612 Liberty Street, Whitney Point, New York.

Order: 7:00 PM

Present: Supervisor Manasse, Councilmen Mesceda, Bennett, Rapp, Councilwoman Mesceda-Knoop, Superintendent McGowan, and Clerk Martin.

Guests: Jason Somers, Mayor of Whitney Point, Ron Keibel, Triangle Assessor and one resident

Minutes: Motion by Councilman Mesceda to approve, with additions, the minutes of May 9, 2024. Second by Councilwoman Mesceda-Knoop. Vote: Supervisor Manasse, Councilmembers: Mesceda, Bennett, Rapp, Mesceda-Knoop all ayes.

Supervisors Report: Motion by Councilman Mesceda to accept the May Supervisor's Report as submitted. Second by Councilman Rapp. Vote: Supervisor Manasse, Council Mesceda, Bennett, Rapp, Mesceda-Knoop all ayes.

Abstract of Payment: Motion by Councilman Mesceda to approve Abstract # 6, Second by Councilman Bennett. Vote: Supervisor Manasse, Council Mesceda, Bennett, Rapp, Mesceda-Knoop all ayes.

Claims: Claims 199-230 in the amount of \$13,836.84 in the General Fund, \$ 38,785.27 in the Highway Fund.

Public Participation: One resident is here to ask the Town of Triangle Town Board to request a handicapped crosswalk for the blind. Whitney Pint Chiropractic Office has a client that comes in once a week and cannot get across Main Street safely. Resident also complained about the speed of the cars on Main Street and is there any way to enforce the speed limit. Town Board deferred her request for a handicapped crosswalk to Mayor of Whitney Point. The Town Board also suggested that enforcement is up to New York State Police or Broome County Sheriff's Department. Supervisor Manasse introduced Ron Keibel, as Assessor for the Town, to discuss the Aged Exemption for Town, Village County and School purposes. Ron recommends the Town (and the Village) pass a local law adopting Broome County's sliding scale for tax exemption purposes. Ron would recommend a COLA (cost of living increase) be factored in and if the County changes the income scale the Town would automatically change as well. Councilman Mesceda said the annual salary of someone on minimum wage is \$ 31,200.00. Ron would like this exemption adopted before the first of the year, so the notices can go out to eligible residents. Ron explained that reducing the amount of money collected from one individual would be divided up between the rest of the residents, spreading the tax burden across the whole jurisdiction. Clerk Martin needs ten days to advertise the Public Hearing notice. Ron provided the sliding scale Broome County uses: income of \$ 31,500 would qualify for a 10 % (ten) percent reduction in property taxes. Mayor Jason Somers, Village of Whitney Point provided the Local Law the Village of Whitney Point used to adopt in 2015-16. The Town Board of the Town of Triangle agrees to move forward and work on adopting this as a local law to update the income guidelines. Jason, Ron and resident left at 8 PM.

Department Reports: Historian: none. **Building Inspector:** none **DCO:** none **Clerk report:** Clerk Martin reports that after Supervisor Manasse contacted the County about needing another Board of Assessment Review member, Town of Chenango sent up Russ Estus. Clerk Martin stated that Pete Larsen had not "officially" resigned and showed up as well. Clerk Martin received an estimate from Ferrellgas for setting up a back up tank of propane for the generator. Clerk Martin reports the estimate is for \$ 3205.00 to set up a 1000 gal tank. Clerk Martin reports the Red Barn estimate of \$300 per month would cover equipment and remote support. Clerk Martin has a quote from Textmygov to set up a program that would use cell phone numbers (after permission is given) to send out messages to residents. Clerk Martin stated the first year would cost \$ 5250.00 and then there is annual fee of \$1,750.00. Clerk Martin cannot justify the expense at this time. Clerk Martin is getting messages from New York State Department of Environmental Conservation about using white paper. Clerk to call an New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Officer about the use of orange paper. **Payroll Clerk:** Clerk Martin is up to date with the payroll. Clerk Martin has January balanced and is working on February.

Highway Department: Highway Superintendent McGowan reports the Highway Department is getting the black top done, mowing is done, and have been working with the County on mowing the County roads as well, giving the Town a "credit" on any future request we might have that the County could help us with. Highway Superintendent McGowan has a build by date for the F550 of July 25, with a delivery date of mid-August. Highway Superintendent McGowan will then take it to Palmers for installation of the box. Highway Superintendent McGowan went to Cornell Local roads school and is glad the Town is on the six-year plan for replacement of vehicles. Highway Superintendent McGowan provided the Town Board members with the quotes for the parking lot work as requested. Supervisor Manasse noticed the curb bumpers are disintegrating and should be replaced. Highway Superintendent McGowan to look into new ones. Motion by Councilman Rapp to accept the bid from Takas Paving and Seal coating for \$3,500.00. Second by Councilman Bennett. Roll call vote:

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Councilman Mesceda aye, Councilman Bennett aye, Supervisor Manasse aye, Councilwoman Mesceda-Knoop aye, Councilman Rapp aye. Vote: all ayes.

Highway Superintendent McGowan has added the fuel to the generator, Josh needs to return to bleed the lines and set up the electronics. Highway Superintendent McGowan has hired a full time Heavy Equipment Operator, Nick Clark. Highway Superintendent McGowan states that he is currently employed but when he gives his two-week notice, he may be available immediately. Nick does have his CDL (Commercial Driver's License) Class A. Highway Superintendent McGowan had the resolution stating the physical is required but wants to know from the Board who is going to pay the bill. Highway Superintendent McGowan has read the Union contract and Medical Certification is not included in it. Motion by Councilman Mesceda that the Town of Triangle will pay for and it will be required that any new hires after 2016 take the New York State Department of Transportation physical, annually or biannually, to be paid for the Town. Second by Councilman Rapp. Vote: all ayes.

Supervisor Manasse will meet with Union Agent Bob Firmstone and Highway Shop Steward Joseph Swan and one other employee on June 19 at 9 AM at the Town Hall. Supervisor Manasse and Clerk Martin contacted Lisle, Nanticoke, and Barker to get some idea of what other Towns are paying and offering as health insurance benefits. Clerk Martin to send out a memo to employees about the physical and to send the bill to the Town. Highway Superintendent McGowan was at Local Roads School and learned that the Town should have a Snow and Ice removal policy with guidelines or parameters: IE: school bus safety in the morning or road accessibility. Councilwoman Mesceda-Knoop suggested set up a plan for the future Highway Superintendent and one for public use.

Unfinished Business: Supervisor Manasse thanked the Highway Department. Supervisor Manasse reviewed the information Highway Superintendent gave the board earlier: no news on the salt shed and new truck. Supervisor Manasse reports that the Highway generator installation is complete but not functional yet. Supervisor Manasse reports that Clean Up Day was a success thanks to: (Deputy Clerk) Suzanne Burns, (Councilwoman) Mary Mesceda-Knoop, (Highway Superintendent) Dan McGowan, (Clerk) Sandra Martin and (Supervisor) Charles Manasse. Supervisor Manasse reports Grievance Day went well. Supervisor Manasse met with Roger from Chenango Carpet to assess the board room flooring. Roger thought it was fine, no repair necessary. Councilman Bennett submitted a quote from Clapper Construction on an estimate for the roof at the Town Hall at 2612 Liberty Street: one for shingles, and one for standing seam metal roof. Clapper Construction would not recommend a metal roof for the size and complexity of the existing roof. Clapper Construction pointed out several issues with the current roof that may require securing the plywood and or replacing the plywood of the current roof. Councilman Bennett would recommend the specifications include a 30 year minimum life on the shingle or higher.

New Business: Supervisor Manasse read the e mail about the Route 11 bridge project, and spoke with Henry DeJaeger, engineer on the project. Supervisor Manasse received notice from New York State Department of Transportation about the Triathlon to be held at Dorchester Park on June 29. Clerk to respond to the request from NYS DOT. Supervisor Manasse move to adjourn this meeting to conduct an executive session pursuant to section 105 paragraph F: the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation at 8:44 PM. Second by Councilman Mesceda. Return at 10:20 PM Let the record show no decision was made.

Correspondence: Supervisor Manasse made all correspondence available. Supervisor Manasse requested flowers and a card sent to Family of Jerry Mackey.

Motion by Councilman Mesceda to adjourn this meeting at 10:24 PM

Sandra K Martin
Town Clerk