

Town of Triangle  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday October 12, 2023

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

Guests: two

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

**Minutes:** Motion by Councilman Mesceda to accept the minutes of September 14, 2023 with one change. Second by Councilwoman Mesceda-Knoop. Vote: Supervisor Manasse, Council: Mesceda, Bennett, Rapp and Mesceda-Knoop all ayes.

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

**Abstract of Payment:** Motion by Councilwoman Mesceda-Knoop to approve Abstract # 10 with the addition of voucher # 373 to Suit Kote for \$10,030.64 Voucher # 374 to the State Comptroller for \$ 9,314.01, Voucher # 375 to the Village of Whitney Point for \$25.00 and Voucher 376 to Charles Manasse for \$25.00. Second by Councilman Mesceda. Vote: Supervisor Manasse, Council: Mesceda, Bennett, Rapp and Mesceda-Knoop all ayes.

**Claims:** Claims 343-376 in the amount of \$ 22,776.33 in the General Fund, \$ 27,238.20 in the Highway Fund and \$ 31,743.33 in the Fire Districts.

**Public Participation:** Dan Shafer, Detective from Broome County Sheriff's Department, is just checking in as there is a new administration and would like to touch base with the Town to answer any questions or address problems that have come up. Dan Shafer said the direct contact would be Josh Davidson. Councilman Rapp asked to be informed if there is any incident that the Town Board could facilitate resolving. Dan will add us to a press release. Dan Shafer said the County has a clause in the Charter for "illegal" dumping of public land, but that does not cover private land. Dan left at 7:15 PM. Andy Johnston, Triangle Volunteer Fire Company, was here to explain any budget related questions that have come up. The fire company would like to install a new sign to communicate with the community better, and it will cost \$80,000, Andy left at 7:22 PM.

**Department Reports: Historian:** none **Building:** Supervisor Manasse spoke with Mark See, current Building Inspector, on Monday. Supervisor Manasse decided to terminate Mark See for abandonment of duties. Supervisor interviewed Doug Bergold on Wednesday and more will be discussed at the executive session. Supervisor Manasse inspected 850 Sappush Road prior to a concrete pour and Doug accompanied him to that inspection. Supervisor Manasse reports the Village of Whitney Point is looking for a Building Inspector as well. Triangle Town Board would like to keep that separate from our decision. Supervisor Manasse recommends purchasing a laptop if that is necessary. **DCO:** Clerk Martin read the report for September: Complaints/Calls 6, License 2, Missing 0, Hangup 1, Village 0, Other 3, Complaints /Calls complete 6, Dogs seized 0, Dangerous Dog Cases 0, Appearance tickets issued: 17. Reports/Information: all good **Clerk report:** Clerk Martin submitted that : E& V Energy requested the Town be the lead agency for and sign the SEQR (State Environmental Quality Review) for a driveway pipe being installed at 3056 US 11. Town Board tabled it for more information, as the property is on a State Highway, have they secured all the permits and contacted NYS DEC (New York State Department of Environmental Conservation) for permission regarding the tanks and storing of propane on site. Triangle Town Board is questioning jurisdiction. Clerk Martin had a request for a final inspection at the Delaware River Solar project on Catskill Turnpike. Clerk Martin provided pipeline safety pamphlets. A request for a permit to place solar panels on the roof at 4 Ichabod Lane. Clerk Martin was not sure what to do with the information if Mark See was no longer the Building Inspector. Clerk Martin had a request from Thomas Tierney to inspect a wood stove that he installed 20 (twenty) years ago. Clerk informed Thomas that if he did not get a permit the Town cannot assume any liability on the installation of the stove. Supervisor Manasse reports the New York State Department of Labor sent us an unemployment claim for Mark See a month ago, when we considered him still employed here. New York State Claims he is correct in the fact that he is not fully employed and is able to collect benefits from the Town. Supervisor Manasse spoke with the Village of Whitney Point, who denies they are liable and refuses to pay. Supervisor Manasse wrote a letter back to New York State Department of Labor explaining that Mark See is still employed by us during that time. The Town should not have to pay Mark See and pay New York State. Clerk Martin provided AFLAC (American Family Life Assurance Company) information Steve Shipp left for the Board. **Payroll Clerk:** Clerk Martin states payroll is up to date, September is not balanced, there is a discrepancy between the software and the bank statements. Clerk Martin has not settled the IRS (Internal Revenue Service) claim dating back to 2019 1099's, the taxpayer advocacy service has not responded. **Highway Department:** Highway Superintendent McGowan reports the major road projects are done, there are projects the highway could get ahead of for next year. Highway Superintendent McGowan spoke with Justin Puglisi about the grant for the salt shed, still waiting for word. Highway Superintendent McGowan handed out truck and grader quotes. Highway Superintendent McGowan has been informed by the salesman that there will be a 20(twenty) % increase next year on all truck prices. Highway Superintendent McGowan states the highway department has taken the grader apart and found numerous mechanical problems. Highway Superintendent McGowan does not think it is wise

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to fix it, because of the age and the impracticality of parts being available. Councilman Mesceda found a used drive unit in Illinois that will cost \$18,000. Highway Superintendent McGowan sent oil samples from the John Deere at the New Holland

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dealership on Old Vestal Road. Highway Superintendent McGowan is waiting for the results of the oil sample. Highway Superintendent McGowan went over the new dump truck, grader and tractor/boom mower quotes. Motion by Councilman Mesceda to approve the purchase of the John Deere Grader from Ford/New Holland for \$30,000 to include making an offer pending results of the oil samples. Second by Councilman Rapp. Roll call vote: Supervisor Manasse aye, Councilman Mesceda aye, Councilman Bennett aye, Councilman Rapp aye, Councilwoman Mesceda-Knoop aye. Town Board would like to keep the old one over the winter swapping tires and or parts and list it with Auctions International or sell scrap. Motion by Councilman Mesceda to purchase the Volvo dump truck complete, with stainless steel box, plow wing and sander for \$333,000. Second by Councilwoman Mesceda-Knoop. Roll call vote: Supervisor Manasse aye, Councilman Mesceda aye, Councilman Bennett aye, Councilman Rapp aye, Councilwoman Mesceda-Knoop aye. Town Board to sell the 2019 Western Star on Auctions International next fall when the new truck has been delivered. Triangle Town Board decided to talk about the mower during budget meetings. Highway Superintendent McGowan will find rental rates for a tractor /boom mower. Supervisor Manasse wanted to know about the brine solution pre-treat options. Highway Superintendent McGowan is considering the salt brine as a wetting agent to the roads, but only for the Village. Highway Superintendent McGowan believes the system as a pre-treat before a storm, could save some money . Highway Superintendent McGowan wants to talk to someone that uses it already prior to setting it all up, the tank set up could cost \$10,000. Highway Superintendent McGowan and Public Works Superintendent Adam Wells, Village of Whitney Point Public Works Superintendent likes the idea, since they are purchasing salt from Greene's by the pallet to do the parking lots and sidewalks and it is expensive.

**Unfinished Business:** Supervisor Manasse heard another presentation from NY Audit at the County Association of Towns and Villages meeting. Supervisor Manasse reports the group did not adopt the resolution, Colesville drew up a different version.

Supervisor Manasse reports bank accounts are still in process, NBT asked the Supervisor and Deputy Supervisor to sign more signature cards to gain access to the accounts on line. Supervisor Manasse is doing research on what money is available in the accounts.

**New Business:** Supervisor Manasse states the 2023 budget is good so far, and plans on an increase in sales tax revenue for 2024. Supervisor Manasse to schedule budget meetings for Thursday October 19 at 7 PM and Thursday October 26 at 7 PM. Supervisor Manasse handed out the preliminary budget for 2024.

Motion by Supervisor Manasse to adjourn this meeting to conduct an executive session pursuant to Section 105 paragraph F of Public Officers Law to discuss 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 9:05 PM. Let the record show that the board returned from executive session at 9:25 PM and no decision was made.

Motion by Councilman Mesceda authorizing Supervisor Manasse to appoint Doug Bergold as Building Inspector/Code Enforcement. Second by Councilwoman Mesceda-Knoop. Vote: Supervisor Manasse, Councilman Mesceda, Bennett and Rapp, and Councilwoman Mesceda-Knoop all ayes.

Motion by Councilman Mesceda to adjourn this meeting at 9:36 PM

Sandra K Martin  
Town Clerk