TOWN BOARD PROCEEDINGS Minutes #2022-06 March 14, 2022

Supervisor Gary Dickson called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL:

Present

Gary Dickson

Supervisor

Joseph Cantafio Susan K. Kims

Councilmember Councilmember

Councilmember

Jeff Piekarec

Absent

Robert J. Breidenstein

Councilmember

Supervisor Dickson read the Fire Prevention Code instructing the public where to exit in case of a fire or an emergency.

MINUTES TO BE APPROVED

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Piekarec, to approve Minutes #2022-05 of February 28, 2022.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

LEGAL NOTICES

1. Proofs of publication and posting of legal notice: "OF A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FOR A HOME OCCUPATION USE PERMIT FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 159 EAST & WEST ROAD" in the Town of West Seneca received and filed.

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Piekarec, to open the public hearing.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

The applicant, Gary Reiche, stated he is looking to obtain his Federal Firearms Permit. There will not be signage or advertising, and sales will be by appointment only.

Code Enforcement Officer Jeffrey Schieber explained the town regulates home occupation use permits and the process includes Planning Board approval and notification of neighbors.

Chief Baker stated there are other locations like this in town and does not see any problem with this one.

No comments were received from the public.

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Cantafio, to close the public hearing.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Kims, to grant a home occupation use permit for property located at 159 East & West Road for the purpose of firearms sales.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

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2. Proofs of publication and posting of legal notice: "OF A PUBLIC HEARING TO HEAR ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE CREATION OF QUEEN'S LANDING DRAINAGE BENEFIT AREA" in the Town of West Seneca received and filed.

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Piekarec, to open the public hearing.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

Code Enforcement Officer Jeffrey Schieber stated this is a new subdivision with public roads and utilities. The town requires overlay districts, which apply to each property for payment of the streetlights and retention ponds.

Supervisor Dickson questioned how the tax is determined. Mr. Schieber stated there is a nominal fee divided per parcel.

Highway Superintendent Brian Adams stated an inspection of the street was recently done and he is pleased with the results.

Robert Pidanick of Nussbaumer and Clarke stated a map plan report containing the determination of fees for the drainage benefit area has been submitted to the town.

No comments from the public were received.

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Kims, to close the public hearing.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Piekarec, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Queen's Landing Subdivision has presented the Town of West Seneca with a proposed Drainage Benefit Area and has petitioned the Town with respect to same, and

WHEREAS, a map showing the proposed drainage benefit area has been prepared and is attached hereto, and

WHEREAS, plans have been received with respect to such development, and

WHEREAS, a notice of hearing was published and posted as required by law and is otherwise sufficient, and

WHEREAS, all the property and property owners within the proposed area or extension thereof are benefitted thereby, and

WHEREAS, all the property and property owners benefitted are included within the limits of the proposed area or extension, and

WHEREAS, the establishment of such drainage benefit area is in the public interest, and

WHEREAS, a public hearing has been held on the 14th day of March, 2022 with respect to such drainage benefit area, and

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WHEREAS, the establishment of such area is subject to a permissive referendum,

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Queen's Landing Drainage Benefit Area is hereby approved with respect to the Queen's Landing subdivision covering the totality of the subdivision, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the event that no petition is filed within thirty (30) days requesting that the matter be submitted to a referendum, the Town Clerk shall file in the Erie County Clerk's Office a certificate stating that no petition was received.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

3. Proofs of publication and posting of legal notice: "OF A PUBLIC HEARING TO HEAR ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN CREATION OF ELECTRIC LIGHTING DISTRICT NO. 67 FOR THE QUEEN'S LANDING SUBDIVISION IN PHASE 1" in the Town of West Seneca received and filed.

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Cantafio, to open the public hearing.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

Code Enforcement Officer Jeffrey Schieber stated this is required for the same reasons as the creation of the drainage benefit area.

No public comments were received.

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Kims, to close the public hearing.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Piekarec, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Queen's Landing Subdivision has presented the Town of West Seneca with a proposed Lighting District and has petitioned the Town with respect to same, and

WHEREAS, a map showing the proposed lighting district has been prepared and is attached hereto, and

WHEREAS, plans have been received with respect to such development including the establishment in phases, and

WHEREAS, a notice of hearing was published and posted as required by law and is otherwise sufficient, and

WHEREAS, all the property and property owners within the proposed district or extension thereof are benefitted thereby, and

WHEREAS, all the property and property owners benefitted are included within the limits of the proposed district or extension, and

WHEREAS, the establishment of such district is in the public interest, and

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WHEREAS, a public hearing has been held on the 14th day of March, 2022 with respect to such lighting district, and

WHEREAS, the establishment of such district is subject to a permissive referendum,

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that Lighting District 67 is hereby approved with respect to the Queen's Landing subdivision covering the totality of the subdivision, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the event that no petition is filed within thirty (30) days requesting that the matter be submitted to a referendum, the Town Clerk shall file in the Erie County Clerk's Office a certificate stating that no petition was received.

Ayes: All Noes: None Motion Carried

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NEW BUSINESS

 A resident referred to the home occupation use permit issued for 159 East & West Road and questioned if guns will be discharged at the residence – Chief Baker stated he is not aware of any firing range at this location.

NEW BUSINESS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. Councilmember Breidenstein re Resignation of Jacqueline Balikowski from the Recreation Commission effective March 2, 2022.
- 2. Councilmember Piekarec re Resignation of Emily Masset from the Environmental Commission effective February 22, 2022.
- 3. Highway Sup't. re Resignation of Jeffrey Schwing as Highway Laborer effective March 2, 2022.
- 4. Chief Baker re Resignation of Christian Necovski as Police Officer effective March 4, 2022.

6-B COMMUNICATIONS TO BE VOTED ON

1. Supervisor Dickson re Erie County Aggregation Contract

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Kims, to adopt the following resolution authorizing the Supervisor sign the necessary forms for participation in the Erie County Utility Aggregation:

WHEREAS, Article 5-G of the General Municipal Law authorizes municipal corporations to enter into cooperative agreements for the performance of those functions or activities in which they could engage individually; and

WHEREAS, Section 119-N of the General Municipal Law defines the term "Municipal Corporation" to mean a county outside the city of New York, a city, a town, a village, a board of cooperative educational services, fire district or a school district; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the Town of West Seneca can save money by the joint purchasing of energy; and

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WHEREAS, the Town of West Seneca has determined that it may purchase energy through the use of a marketing firm, individually or through an energy cooperative;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of West Seneca participate in the Erie County Utility Aggregation by authorizing the Supervisor execute the Electric and Natural Gas Co-Operative Purchasing Agreements for said Aggregation indicating the Town of West Seneca will agree to be bound thereby.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

2. Supervisor Dickson re Appointment of Evelyn Hicks as Chair of the Zoning Board of Appeals

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Kims, to appoint Evelyn Hicks as Chair of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

3. Town Engineer re Dedication of Queen's Landing Phase 1

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Piekarec, to accept the Queens Landing – Phase 1 (Sublot Nos. 1-24, 125-150, inclusive) completed by Russo Development Inc., 3710 Milestrip Road, Blasdell, NY 14219, under Public Improvement Permit No. 20-01, with the exception of street lighting which will require the setup of an escrow account.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

4. Town Engineer re Attendance at the WNY Stormwater Conference & Tradeshow

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Kims, to approve the attendance of Ron Pfeil and Eric Labrie at the Western New York Stormwater Conference & Tradeshow March 22, 2022, at a cost not to exceed \$90 per person noting the fee was already paid in 2020 but the event was cancelled due to the pandemic.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

5. Highway Sup't. re Appointment of Andrew Sandel and John Janiga as full time Sanitation Laborers

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Cantafio, to terminate Andrew Sandel and John Janiga as part-time Sanitation Laborers and appoint them as full time Sanitation Laborers Group 7, Step 1 at a rate of \$20.64 per hour per the Blue-Collar Contract effective March 15, 2022.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

6. Chief Baker re Appointment of Taylor Dolan as Public Safety Dispatcher

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Piekarec, to appoint Taylor Dolan as a Public Safety Dispatcher at an annual salary of \$46,549.56 effective March 15, 2022, noting this hire is contingent upon a background check and drug screening.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

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7. Chief Baker re Bid date for purchase of motorcycle

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Cantafio, to authorize Chief Baker to draw up specifications and set a purchase bid for the purchase of one (1) new 2022 or 2021 Harley Davidson Motorcycle Model FLHTP with police package, noting funds are available through the DASNY Grant and 2022 budget line 1.3120.0208.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

8. Director of Finance re Budget Transfer – Assessor's Office

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Kims, to authorize the following budget transfer for the Assessor's Office for expenses related to the increase of annual dues:

Increase

\$50.00

01.1355.50406 - Assessor - Membership Dues

\$50.00

Total Increases

Decrease

\$50.00

01.1355.50137 - Assessor - Salaries of Account Clerks

\$50.00 Total Decreases

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

9. Town Assessor re Status change for part-time permanent Clerk Typist Courtney Girard to seasonal

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Piekarec, to change the status of part-time permanent Clerk Typist Courtney Girard to seasonal effective March 1 – April 15, 2022, at which time she will return to part-time permanent.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

6-B APPROVAL OF WARRANT

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Cantafio, to approve the vouchers submitted for audit, chargeable to the respective funds as follows: General Fund - \$328,777.63; Highway Fund - \$110,336.97; Sewer District - \$147,373.25; Gas Conversion Lighting Districts - \$15.50; Electric Lighting Districts - \$511.04; Capital - \$163.50 (vouchers 23462-23678 and 22689-23800)

Aves: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

6-C REPORTS FOR FILING

- 1. Amy M. Kobler, Town Clerk's report for February 2022, Receiver of Taxes February 2022, & Return of Tax Collection received and filed.
- 2. Jeffrey Schieber, Code Enforcement Officer, building & plumbing reports for February 2022 received and filed.

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ISSUES OF THE PUBLIC

The following comments and questions were received:

- ✓ Described the effects of the recent flooding near Lexington Green in her home and requested the Town Board consider replacing the sewer lines in the Mineral Springs and Lexington Green area. Supervisor Dickson stated he will speak with the Engineering Department and will follow up.
- ✓ Heavy truck traffic on French Road has increased and expressed concerns with damage to the road and the noise. Highway Superintendent Brian Adams stated he will investigate placing additional signage. Chief Baker stated additional patrols can be assigned to this area.
- ✓ Waiting for an update on a sink hole and sewer issues on Burch Avenue. Supervisor Dickson stated he is aware of the sink hole and will ask the Engineering Department to follow up. Councilmember Piekarec stated he observed the problem and will be working with Engineering to follow up. Highway Superintendent Brian Adams stated he will have a crew add stone to the hole in the morning to address the immediate safety issue.
- ✓ Presented a document about mask mandates and the coronavirus and asked the Town Board to address mandates. Supervisor Dickson stated he will follow up.
- ✓ Evelyn Hicks thanked the Town Board for her appointment as Zoning Board Chair. Ms. Hicks referred to the Lexington Drive flooding and stated the Environmental Commission is working with the Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper on a grant proposal to alleviate the flooding; a presentation will be made at the March 28, 2022, Town Board meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS BY BOARD MEMBERS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

Deputy Supervisor

- Recreation updates: hiring for summer positions, new art program being added
- Student art exhibit will be on display in the atrium next week
- Farmer's Market will be scheduled on Thursdays
- Streaming technology being updated

Highway Superintendent Brian Adams

- Hiring for part-time positions
- Planning upcoming paving projects
- Overnight parking ban expired

Councilmember Piekarec

- A detailed report for the Internal Audit Committee's meeting can be found online in their minutes
- Interested candidates for the Environmental Committee should apply

Councilmember Kims

Residents have questions about the sidewalk replacement project and repaving of Covington Drive – Highway Superintendent Adams stated the town received the DASNY grant for repaving Tampa Drive but does not anticipate Covington Drive will be done this year. Supervisor Dickson stated the Engineering and Code Enforcement Departments are searching for a contractor that is offering a reasonable price for sidewalk replacement.

Supervisor Dickson

Encourage interested candidates for the Environmental Commission to email resumes

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Chief Baker

Bodycams and car cameras have arrived, and training is ongoing

Code Enforcement

- Regarding the sidewalk replacement and repairs: to date, half of the town has been addressed
- Permits can now be issued for Queens Landing subdivision
- Working with the Engineering Department on grease trap inspections

Finance Department

Working on reports for the Town Board including overtime, year-end, and budget monitoring

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Supervisor Dickson, seconded by Councilmember Cantafio, to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 P.M.

Ayes: All

Noes: None

Motion Carried

MAY N. KOBLER, TOWN CLERK