

TOWN OF GHENT  
TOWN BOARD MEETING  
March 21, 2019

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board was held March 21, 2019 at the Ghent Town Hall, Route 66, Ghent, NY. Supervisor Benvenuto opened the meeting at 7:00 pm with a pledge to the flag.

Present were: Michael Benvenuto	Supervisor
Charles Wood	Councilman
Peter Nelson	Councilman
Patti Matheney	Councilwoman
Mallory Mort	Councilman
Ben Perry	Highway Superintendent
Matthew Cabral	Attorney for Town

Also Present: Tony Brahm, Aaron and Skylar Groom

**MOTION #1 TO OPEN THE MEETING FOR PUBLIC COMMENT** made by Councilman Wood seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Wood, Matheney, Mort, Nelson

Nays: 0

Aaron Groom- representing the Chatham Lady Reds softball team requesting use of the Water Street fields. Thanked the Board for their support of the team and as well as the use of the WGRC during the winter.

**MOTION #2 TO CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENT AND OPEN THE MEETING** made by Councilman Wood seconded by Councilman Nelson and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Wood, Matheney, Mort, Nelson

Nays: 0

**MOTION #3 TO ACCEPT MINUTES OF TOWN BOARD MEETING ON FEBRUARY 21, 2019** made by Councilwoman Matheney, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Wood, Matheney, Mort, Nelson

Nays: 0

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

An article from the Register Star earned Ghent veteran Steve Pachacek a congratulations from the Board on his recent win of a silver medal at the Empire State Games. A letter requesting use of the Water Street parking area for the annual Emily Eckstrom Foundation 5k run/ walk on May 11, 2019. A letter from the NCCrop Walk committee announcing the date of this year's walk as May 5, 2019 in Kinderhook. Food Pantry numbers for February 2019 Families- 58, Children 47 ,Adults 73, Seniors 31, and 2881 pounds of food.

**MOTION #4 TO ACCEPT CORRESPONDENCE AND APPROVE USE OF WATER STREET PARK PENDING INSURANCE CERTIFICATE** made by Councilwoman Matheney, seconded by Councilman Wood and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Wood, Matheney, Mort, Nelson

Nays: 0

DEPARTMENTS:

**MOTION #5 TO ACCEPT THE ASSESSORS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY** made by Councilman Wood, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Wood, Nelson, Matheney, Mort

Nays: 0

**MOTION #6 TO ACCEPT THE BUILDING INSPECTORS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY** made by Councilman Wood, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Wood, Nelson, Matheney, Mort

Nays: 0

**MOTION #7 TO ACCEPT THE TOWN CLERK REPORT/ TAX COLLECTOR REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY** made by Councilwoman Matheney, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Wood, Nelson, Matheney, Mort

Nays: 0

PLANNING ZONING AND COMMITTEES:

**MOTION # 8 TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES FROM THE PLANNING BOARD FEBRUARY 6, 2019** made by Councilman Wood seconded by Councilman Nelson and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Matheney, Wood

Nays: 0

Zoning Review- Attorney Cabral is still reviewing changes.

Broadband Committee- Supervisor Benvenuto and Dave Berman met with Kevin Egan to discuss issues arising with residents and service connections.

Historian- Councilwoman Matheney met with Gregg Berninger, Ed Parran and Jim Guidera to discuss forming a Committee of the Town /Citizen Committee called the tentatively the Ghent Preservation Committee for the purpose of utilizing grants to preserve Ghent's history. She will present to the Board more information including a mission statement at next month's meeting.

**MOTION # 9 TO ACCEPT THE HISTORIANS REPORT FOR FEBRUARY** made by Councilman Wood, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Wood, Nelson, Matheney, Mort

Nays: 0

YOUTH PARKS AND RECREATIONS:

Bid received from Copland Coating regarding resurfacing and recoat the Town's tennis courts will be tabled until next month in order for the Board to review estimate.

HIGHWAY:

I attended Advocacy Day on the first Wednesday in March. We have been busy dealing with soft spots throughout the town some just have to wait till they dry. We have been doing some tree work with one last road to finish up before April hits. We have been doing a bunch of brush mowing cutting over growth back. We have started to switch vehicles from winter to summer. We tested the water pump we bought out today worked quite nice it will be a very useful tool for us. We will be starting our road sweeping the first of April. We have already started mixing our winter salt sand mix for next season. We received some info from the state regarding 66 bridge that Mike has responded to due to the state marking the bridge on Slate Hill to a 12 ton limit from 17 ton. I have not seen anything of the paper work the state is supposed to be sending me on the grant yet. We helped Canaan out this week with some major muddy road issues assisted with grader and a couple of trucks throughout our shared services.

**MOTION # 10 TO ACCEPT THE HIGHWAY REPORT FOR FEBRUARY** made by Councilman Wood, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Wood, Nelson, Matheney, Mort  
Nays: 0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

**MOTION #11 TO CHANGE THE DATE ON LIGHTING RFP TO APRIL 11, 2019** made by Councilwoman Matheney, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Wood, Nelson, Matheney, Mort  
Nays: 0

NEW BUSINESS:

**MOTION # 12 TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH THE CCSO FOR ENHANCED POLICE PATROLS FOR THE TOWN OF GHENT** made by Councilman Wood, seconded by Councilman Nelson and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Wood, Nelson, Matheney, Mort  
Nays: 0

**MOTION # 13 TO ACCEPT RESOLUTION # 17 FOR THE YEAR 2019 FOR STANDARD WORK DAY AND REPORTING FOR ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS** made by Councilwoman Matheney, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Wood, Nelson, Matheney, Mort  
Nays: 0

**MOTION # 14 TO SIGN A LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH THE CHATHAM LADS REDS FOR USE OF THE WATER STREET FIELDS FEBRUARY** made by Councilman Wood, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Wood, Nelson, Matheney, Mort  
Nays: 0

A speed limit reduction request was received by Ghent resident Dawn Steward. Supervisor Benvenuto will contact her for some more detailed information.

PAYMENT OF AUDITED BILLS AND ACCEPTANCE OF MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT:

AUDITED BILLS:

General A	\$28949.16
S.L.	\$853.62
General B	\$1620.17
Highway DB	\$34718.73
TOTAL:	\$66141.68

**MOTION# 15 TO PAY ALL AUDITED BILLS AND ACCEPT THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS** made by Councilman Wood, seconded by Councilman Nelson and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Nelson, Wood, Matheney, Mort  
Nays: 0

Public comment waived

**MOTION # 16 TO ADJOURN MEETING MADE AT 8.15 PM** made by Councilwoman Matheney seconded by Councilman Wood and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Matheney, Wood  
Nays: 0

Respectfully Submitted

Michelle Radley, Town Clerk