

TOWN OF GHENT
TOWN BOARD MEETING
December 15, 2016

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board was held December 15, 2016 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
Mallory Mort	Councilman
Matthew Cabral	Attorney for Town

Also present- Dave Berman Absent- Councilwoman Matheney

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

Ayes: 4 Benvenuto, Wood, Nelson, Mort

Nays: 0

No Comments

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

Ayes: 4 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Wood

Nays: 0

MOTION #3 TO ACCEPT MINUTES OF TOWN BOARD MEETING ON NOVEMBER 17, 2016 made by Councilman Wood seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 4 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Wood

Nays: 0

CORRESPONDENCE:

Food Pantry numbers for November 2016- Families- 88, Children 88, Adults 158, Seniors 19, New Clients 6 and 4520 pounds of food. Distribution of about 100 thanksgiving dinners.

MOTION #4 TO ACCEPT CORRESPONDENCE made by Councilman Mort seconded by Councilman Wood and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 4 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Wood

Nays: 0

DEPARTMENTS:

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

Ayes: 4 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Wood

Nays: 0

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

Ayes: 4 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Wood

Nays: 0

MOTION #7 TO ACCEPT THE TOWN CLERK REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER made by Councilman Mort seconded by Councilman Wood and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 4 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Wood

Nays: 0

PLANNING, ZONING AND COMMITTEES:

MOTION #8 TO ACCEPT THE PLANNING BOARD MINTUES FROM SEPTEMBER 7, 2016, SEPTEMBER 14, 2016 AND OCTOBER 5, 2016 made by Councilman Mort seconded by Councilman Wood and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 4 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Wood

Nays: 0

Councilman Mort reported the ZRC is scheduled to meet again December 20, 2016 and review the proposal submitted by Nan Stolzenburg. Attorney Cabral will review the proposal as well and the Board will revisit this proposal at the January 4th, 2017 meeting.

Dave Berman reported the Broadband committee is still waiting on more information pertaining to Charter and Time Warner merger. CEDC is taking the lead on the County level. Maps still not precise and still trying to get more accurate data.

Councilman Mort reported the Unified Solar permit is almost done. Needed to add electrical inspectors to the permit. Energy code training has begun. Looking a possibly putting a charging station in the Village of Chatham.

YOUTH, PARKS AND RECREATION:

Supervisor Benvenuto reported The West Ghent center ran out of fuel and Dells was called to re start furnace. Asked Councilman Nelson to look at the front door, it is in need of some repairs. Suggests looking into a temperature alarm that will alert the Town of any issues regarding the center. Brian Mayes has been maintaining winter snow removal at the center as well as Town Hall sidewalk and is doing a great job. Superintendent Perry went to Gettysburg flags to get a quote on replacing the American flags displayed throughout the hamlet.

DOG CONTROL:

MOTION #9 TO ACCEPT DCO REPORT FOR NOVEMBER made by Councilman Wood seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 4 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Wood

Nays: 0

HIGHWAY:

We have been busy transitioning from fall work into winter work with equipment & snow now falling. We have completed our in house rebuild of one of our plow trucks and the unit is back in service working quite well estimated around an \$8,000 savings by rehabbing truck in house. We are now at the time of year of tree work we have just taken care of 10 public safety trees issues and we continue to cut over growth back to keep highways open and clear of infringing the highway. We recently received paper work from two different Departments of the State looking to update all town and county road system layouts. Then State department of Local Highway Inventory which is what our chips is based off of and The Federal Highway Administration this is a new requirement set back In 2012 which they are now getting around to our Region 8 this is a complete Geographic Information System. They submit their info to us and then I have to go through everything with a fine tooth comb to make everything is correct. The two resolutions before the Board tonight regard these changes.

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

Ayes: 4 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Wood

Nays: 0

RESOLUTION #32 AND #33 FOR THE YEAR 2016

WHEREAS, PURSUANT TO FEDERAL STATUTE, STATES ARE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT PUBLIC ROAD MILEAGE ANNUALLY TO THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION ("FHWA"); WHEREAS, IN AUGUST, 2012, THE FHWA EXPANDED THE REQUIREMENT TO INCLUDE THAT THE DATA BE SUBMITTED IN GEOSPATIAL FORMAT FOR USE IN A GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION SYSTEM ("GIS"); WHEREAS, TO ADDRESS THIS REQUIREMENT, THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ("NYSDOT") HAS BEEN PERFORMING A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE ROADWAYS CONTAINED IN THE LOCAL HIGHWAY INVENTORY AND THEIR LENGTHS; WHEREAS, UPON COMPLETION OF SAID REVIEW, THE UPDATED ROADWAY INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED TO LOCAL HIGHWAY OFFICIALS FOR THEIR REVIEW AND INPUT; WHEREAS, INACCURATE OR INCOMPLETE INFORMATION IDENTIFIED BY LOCAL HIGHWAY OFFICIALS MAY BE CORRECTED UPON SUBMITTAL OF A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE MUNICIPALITY; WHEREAS, THE TOWN OF GHENT HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT HAS REVIEWED THE UPDATED LOCAL HIGHWAY INVENTORY INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THE TOWN OF GHENT AND HAS DETERMINED THAT THERE IS INACCURATE AND INCOMPLETE INFORMATION THAT MUST BE CORRECTED; AND WHEREAS, THE TOWN BOARD WISHES TO CORRECT THE INACCURATE AND INCOMPLETE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE UPDATED LOCAL HIGHWAY INVENTORY PERTAINING TO THE TOWN OF GHENT BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GHENT, THAT THE TOWN OF GHENT HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT BE AND HEREBY IS AUTHORIZED TO SUBMIT THIS RESOLUTION TO THE NYSDOT WITH REQUEST THAT THE NYSDOT CORRECT THE UPDATED LOCAL HIGHWAY INVENTORY AS PROVIDED HEREIN.

WHEREAS, THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ("NYS DOT") RELIES UPON LOCAL HIGHWAY INVENTORY DATA FOR APPORTIONMENT OF CONSOLIDATED LOCAL STREET AND HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ("CHIPS") FUNDING; WHEREAS, NYS DOT HAS RECENTLY PRODUCED AN UPDATED LOCAL HIGHWAY INVENTORY PERTAINING TO THE TOWN OF GHENT; WHEREAS, UPON REVIEW, THE TOWN OF GHENT HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT DETERMINED THAT A NUMBER OF TOWN ROADWAYS WERE MISSING FROM SAID UPDATED LOCAL HIGHWAY INVENTORY; WHEREAS, IN ORDER FOR THE MISSING TOWN OF GHENT ROADWAYS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE UPDATED LOCAL HIGHWAY INVENTORY, THE TOWN OF THE GHENT HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT MUST SUBMIT TO NYS DOT A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GHENT STATING THAT SAID BOARD DESIRES THE ROADWAYS TO BE SO INCLUDED AND EXPRESSLY ACCEPTS RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF SAID ROADWAYS; AND WHEREAS, THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GHENT DESIRES TO PROVIDE SUCH RESOLUTION FOR SUBMISSION BY THE TOWN OF GHENT HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT TO NYS DOT. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GHENT, THAT THE FOLLOWING ROADWAYS ARE TOWN OF GHENT ROADWAYS FOR WHICH THE TOWN OF GHENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR AND, THEREFORE, SHOULD BE ADDED TO THE TO THE UPDATED LOCAL HIGHWAY INVENTORY PERTAINING TO THE TOWN OF GHENT: BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GHENT, THAT THE TOWN OF GHENT HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT BE AND HEREBY IS AUTHORIZED TO SUBMIT THIS RESOLUTION TO THE NYS DOT WITH REQUEST THAT THE ROADWAYS DESCRIBED HEREIN BE INCLUDED IN THE UPDATED LOCAL HIGHWAY INVENTORY PERTAINING TO THE TOWN OF GHENT.

MOTION # 11 TO ACCEPT RESOLUTION # 32 AND #33 FOR THE YEAR 2016 made by Councilman Mort seconded by Councilman Wood and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 4 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Wood

Nays: 0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

RESOLUTIONS # 34 AND #35 FOR THE YEAR 2016

WHEREAS, A PUBLIC HEARING WAS HELD BEFORE THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GHENT ON DECEMBER 15, 2016 AT 6:50 P.M. TO CONSIDER THE APPROVAL FOR THE TOWN OF GHENT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR FIRE PROTECTION WITH THE GHENT VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY FOR THE AREA KNOWN AS THE "GHENT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT": WHEREAS, THE MATTER IS NOW BEFORE THE TOWN BOARD FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL; AND WHEREAS, IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE TOWN OF GHENT TO SECURE FIRE PROTECTION THROUGH THE GHENT VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY FOR THE AREA KNOWN AS "GHENT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT" IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE PROPOSED AGREEMENT. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GHENT THAT THE TOWN OF GHENT SHALL ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR FIRE PROTECTION WITH THE GHENT VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY FOR THE AREA KNOWN AS THE "GHENT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT" FOR A ONE (1) YEAR TERM, COMMENCING ON JANUARY 1, 2017 AND TERMINATING ON DECEMBER 31, 2017, THE PROPOSED PAYMENT TO THE GHENT VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY FOR THE YEAR 2017 IS \$156,000.00.

WHEREAS, A PUBLIC HEARING WAS HELD BEFORE THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GHENT ON DECEMBER 15, 2016 AT 6:55 P.M. TO CONSIDER THE APPROVAL FOR THE TOWN OF GHENT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR FIRE PROTECTION WITH THE VILLAGE OF CHATHAM FOR THE AREA KNOWN AS THE "CHATHAM FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 2"; WHEREAS, THE MATTER IS NOW BEFORE THE TOWN BOARD FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL; AND WHEREAS, IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE TOWN OF GHENT TO SECURE FIRE PROTECTION THROUGH THE VILLAGE OF CHATHAM FOR THE AREA KNOWN AS "CHATHAM FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 2" IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE PROPOSED AGREEMENT. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GHENT THAT THE TOWN OF GHENT SHALL ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR FIRE PROTECTION WITH THE VILLAGE OF CHATHAM FOR THE AREA KNOWN AS THE "CHATHAM FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 2" FOR A ONE (1) YEAR TERM, COMMENCING ON JANUARY 1, 2017 AND TERMINATING ON DECEMBER 31, 2017, THE PROPOSED PAYMENT TO THE VILLAGE OF CHATHAM FOR THE YEAR 2016 IS \$24,291.00.

MOTION # 12 TO ACCEPT RESOLUTION # 34 AND #35 FOR THE YEAR 2016 made by Councilman Wood seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 4 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Wood

Nays: 0

MOTION #13 TO SET THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR WEST GHENT FIRE DEPARTMENT ON JANUARY 19, 2017 AT 6:55 PM made by Councilman Mort seconded by Councilman Wood and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 4 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Wood

Nays: 0

A brief discussion was had regarding the districts lines on fire contracts. They will be reviewed.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION #14 TO APPROVE THE COLUMBIA GREENE HUMANE SOCIETY CONTRACT FOR 2017 made by Councilman Wood seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 4 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Wood

Nays: 0

MOTION #15 TO APPROVE THE BUILDING INSPECTOR'S CONFERENCE MARCH 3-8 2017 made by Councilman Mort seconded by Councilman Nelson and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 4 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Wood

Nays: 0

MOTION #16 TO SET THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING FOR JANUARY 4, 2017 AT 6:00PM made by Councilman Mort seconded by Councilman Wood and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 4 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Wood

Nays: 0

MOTION # 17 TO ACCEPT THE JUSTICE COURT AUDIT FOR THE YEAR 2015 made by Councilman Wood seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 4 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Wood

Nays: 0

MOTION# 18 TO APPROVE THE RESCUE SQUAD CONTRACTS FOR GREENPORT made by Councilman Mort seconded by Councilman Wood and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 4 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Wood

Nays: 0

BUDGET AMENDMENT #2 for 2016

	INCREASE	DECREASE
A1420.4	\$5,0000.00	
A7550.4		\$5,000.00
TA20	\$9304.16	
DB9060.8		\$9304.16
B9010.8	\$2116.76	
DB9010.8		\$2116.76

MOTION # 19 TO APPROVE BUDGET AMENDMENT #2 FOR THE YEAR 2016 made by Councilman Mort seconded by Councilman Wood and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 4 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Wood

Nays: 0

PAYMENT OF AUDITED BILLS AND ACCEPTANCE OF MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT:

AUDITED BILLS:

General A	\$30245.20
S.L.	\$787.62
General B	\$8765.36
Highway DB	\$29796.64
TOTAL:	\$69594.82

MOTION# 20 TO PAY ALL AUDITED BILLS AND ACCEPT THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS made by Councilman Wood, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Nelson, Wood, Mort

Nays: 0

MOTION# 21 TO FOREGO PUBLIC COMMENT AND ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:15PM made by Councilman Wood, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Nelson, Wood, Mort

Nays: 0

Respectfully Submitted,
Michelle Radley