

TOWN OF GHENT  
TOWN BOARD MEETING  
April 19, 2018

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board was held April 19, 2018 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: Claire Gilbert- Columbia Paper

Public Comment Waived

**MOTION #1 TO ACCEPT MINUTES OF TOWN BOARD MEETING ON MARCH 15, 2018** made by Councilwoman Matheney, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

A letter from NYSDOT acknowledging the Town's submission of request to lower speed limit on Route 203. Chatham Fire Company sent a request for ad in their upcoming Convention journal. Hudson Flag Day sent an invitation to participate in this year's parade. Food Pantry numbers for March 2018 Families- 83, Children 78 Adults 121, Seniors 38, New Clients 1 and 2881pounds of food.

**MOTION #2 TO PLACE AN ½ PAGE AD IN THE CCVFA JOURNAL TO ADVERTISE THE BICEENTENNIAL EVENT USING BICENTENNIAL FUNDS** made by Councilwoman Matheney seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

**MOTION #3 TO ACCEPT CORRESPONDENCE** made by Councilwoman Matheney, seconded by Councilman Wood and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

**MOTION #4 TO ACCEPT THE BUILDING INSPECTORS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH** made by Councilman Wood, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

**MOTION #5 TO ACCEPT THE TOWN CLERK REPORT/ TAX COLLECTOR REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH** 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 # 6 TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES FROM THE PLANNING BOARD ON JANUARY 3, 2018 , MARCH 14, 2018 AND THE JOINT PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD ON JANUARY 10, 2018** made by Councilman Wood seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.  
Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Matheney, Wood  
Nays: 0

The Zoning Review Committee will meet with the Town Board at the May 10, 2018 workshop to discuss progress and ideas. Their next meeting is April 23, 2018.

Broadband Committee reports a plan to turn on better /new service at the end of the summer.

Climate Smart- Charging Station almost finished, waiting on final hook up. All Town buildings were also inspected by Walberg Electric through another State grant on electric /lighting efficiency.

The Ghent Historian submitted his monthly report for the Boards review. The Event on April 3, 2018 celebrating Ghent's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday was well received. Journals are available for sale at the Town Hall, Kozels and Love Apple Farm.

YOUTHS, PARKS AND RECREATION:

Councilwoman Matheney will meet at the West Ghent Rec Center to review tennis court repair, water system and general maintenance needed to improve facility via grant monies. Superintendent Perry also rolled the fields on Water Street and cleaned up the area for the season.

DOG CONTROL:

**MOTION # 7 TO ACCEPT DCO REPORT FOR MARCH** made by Councilman Wood seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.  
Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Matheney, Wood  
Nays: 0

HIGHWAY:

Winter does not want to let go it keeps holding on. We have had two pretty severe wind storms blowing trees down across roads this past month on top of still trying to clean all the down trees do to snow storms in March. We have received our chips financial numbers and we are receiving \$246,806.08 \$842.61 more than last year not sure were and what we will be doing until we get our bridge all figured out. I received an email last Friday on the bridge and the bid info for the Prestressed Concrete slab unit bids will be closing on April 27 for this section and there will be two other steps that have to be put out to bid yet the guiderails system and the Geosynthetic Reinforced Soil Bridge Blocking System. Last week we completed our portion of the charging system project which had its challenges with underground buried wires but all went well. We have completed our spring cleaning of roads with street sweeper and broom all went well recovering tons of material not sweep into our ditches. - We are very close to completing our last plow truck which leads us to moving old worn out equipment that will no longer serve out fleet including a2004 GMC top kick 5500 dump,1997 GMC 3500 non running dump ,2002 fisher minute mount plow 8'.6",Steam Jenny with burnet out hot box,air grease unit with 2 barrels and two chip boxes. After reviewing with the Town Attorney I would like to use Auction International Inc. with a contract for 2 years to sell this equipment.

**MOTION #8 TO ENTER INTO CONTRACT WITH AUCTION INTERNATIONAL INC. TO SELL EQUIPMENT NO LONGER NEEDED AND ACCEPT THE HIGHWAY MONTHLY REPORT** made by Councilwoman Matheney seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

UNIFINISHED BUSINESS:

Local Law # 3 for the Year 2018:

**MOTION #9 TO ISSUE A NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR SEQRA FORM PERTAINING TO LOCAL LAW # 3 FOR THE YEAR 2018** made by Councilman Mort, seconded by Councilwoman Matheney and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

RESOLUTION # 19 FOR THE YEAR 2018:

WHEREAS, THE TOWN BOARD HAS BEFORE IT PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. 3 FOR THE YEAR 2018, WHICH AMENDS THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF GHENT, CHAPTER 156 (SUBDIVISION OF LAND), AS IT PERTAINS TO LOT LINE ADJUSTMENTS;WHEREAS, THE PROPOSED CHANGES ARE THOSE RECOMMENDED BY THE TOWN OF GHENT PLANNING BOARD;WHEREAS, THE TOWN BOARD, AFTER CONSIDERING THE PROPOSALS OF THE PLANNING BOARD, DIRECTED THE ATTORNEY FOR THE TOWN TO PREPARE A LOCAL LAW FILING FOR THE ENACTMENT OF THE RECOMMENDED CHANGES;WHEREAS, A PUBLIC HEARING WAS HELD BEFORE THE GHENT TOWN BOARD ON FEBRUARY 15, 2018, AFTER DUE AND PROPER NOTICE BY PUBLICATION AND POSTING, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW NO. 3 OF 2018, WHICH WAS KNOWN AS PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. 1 OF 2018 AT THAT TIME;

WHEREAS, PROPOSED LOCAL LAW NO. 3 OF 2018 WAS REFERRED TO THE COLUMBIA COUNTY PLANNING BOARD, WHICH REVIEWED THE MATTER AND INDICATED THAT ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW TOWN OF GHENT  
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NO. 3 OF 2018 IS A "LOCAL DECISION"; WHEREAS, THE TOWN BOARD HAS DETERMINED THAT LOCAL LAW NO. 3 OF 2018, IF ADOPTED, WOULD BE APPROPRIATE AND IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE RESIDENTS OF THE TOWN; AND WHEREAS, THE TOWN BOARD CONDUCTED A REVIEW OF THE PROPOSED LOCAL LAW UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT AND DETERMINED THAT THE PROPOSED LOCAL LAW WOULD HAVE NO SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND THAT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION BE ISSUED. NOW, THEREFORE, UPON MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED IT IS RESOLVED, BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GHENT THAT THE ADOPTION OF LOCAL LAW NO. 3 OF THE YEAR 2018 IS HEREBY APPROVED AND SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

**MOTION #10 TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #19 FOR YEAR** made by Councilwoman Matheney seconded by Councilman Wood and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

NEW BUSINESS:

**MOTION # 11 TO APPROVE CHATHAM CENTRAL SCHOOLS AND CHATHAM LITTLE LEAGUE USE FOR THE WATER STREET FILEDS PENDING LICENSING AGREEMENT AND PROOF OF INSURANCE** made by Councilman Mort seconded by Councilwoman Matheney and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

A discussion was held regarding the use of the Town Hall by the A&E Network to tape a segment for a future documentary.

**MOTION #12 TO ALLOW A&E NETWORK TO FILM AT THE TOWN HALL CONDITIONAL ON PROOF OF INSURANCE AND AUTHORIZING SUPERVISOR BENVENUTO TO SIGN A REVISED RELEASE FORM FOR PRODUCTION** made by Councilwoman Matheney seconded by Councilman Wood and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

Consulted with Attorney Cabral regarding Lawn Mowing services. A RFP will be drafted and posted for bids.

RESOLUTION # 20 FOR THE YEAR 2018:

WHEREAS, THE TOWN OF GHENT FROM TIME TO TIME HAS THE NEED TO CONTRACT FOR CERTAIN MATERIALS IN CONNECTION WITH HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE, INCLUDING STONE AND GRAVEL PRODUCTS; AND WHEREAS, GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW, SECTION 103, SUBDIVISION 3, AUTHORIZES A

MUNICIPALITY TO CONTRACT FOR SUCH SERVICES THROUGH THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE MUNICIPALITY IS LOCATED; AND

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WHEREAS, THE COUNTY OF COLUMBIA HAS RECEIVED BIDS FOR STONE AND GRAVEL PRODUCTS, WHICH ARE COMPETITIVE AND WILL PROVIDE GOOD VALUE TO THE TOWN OF GHENT; AND WHEREAS, THE TOWN OF GHENT HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT HAS REQUESTED THAT THE TOWN ACCEPT THE COUNTY OF COLUMBIA BIDS FOR STONE AND GRAVEL PRODUCTS; AND WHEREAS, THE TOWN BOARD AGREES THAT IT IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE TOWN TO DO SO. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GHENT, THAT THE TOWN OF GHENT HEREBY ACCEPTS THE COLUMBIA COUNTY BIDS FOR STONE AND GRAVEL PRODUCTS COVERING THE PERIOD MAY 1, 2018 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2019, WHICH WERE AWARDED BY THE COUNTY OF COLUMBIA TO THOSE VENDORS LISTED IN APPENDICES TO THE COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RESOLUTION NO. 153-2018, ADOPTED BY SAID BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ON APRIL 11, 2018 AND ATTACHED HERETO FOR REFERENCE.

**MOTION #13 TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #20 FOR YEAR** made by Councilwoman Matheney seconded by Councilman Wood and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

PAYMENT OF AUDITED BILLS AND ACCEPTANCE OF MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT:

AUDITED BILLS:

|            |             |
|------------|-------------|
| General A  | \$47148.03  |
| S.L.       | \$835.62    |
| General B  | \$767.70    |
| Highway DB | \$56544.63  |
| TOTAL:     | \$105295.98 |

**MOTION# 14 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 # 15 TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION** made by Councilwoman Matheney seconded by Councilman Wood and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

**MOTION # 16 TO LEAVE EXECUTIVE SESSION AND ADJOURN MEETING MADE AT 9:07 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