

TOWN OF GHENT  
TOWN BOARD MEETING  
May 16, 2019

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board was held May 16, 2019 at the Ghent Town Hall, Route 66, Ghent, NY. Supervisor Benvenuto opened the meeting at 7:30 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: 6 audience members

**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

NO COMMENT

**MOTION #2 TO ACCEPT MINUTES OF TOWN BOARD MEETING ON APRIL 18, 2019** with one correction made by Councilman Wood, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

CORRESPONDENCE:

Invitation from the Ghent VFW Post 5933 for the annual Memorial Day parade on May 27, 2019. Line up is at 8:30 AM at the Dairy Queen. Supervisor Benvenuto updated the Board on the upcoming bridge project on Route 66. Slate Hill Road will be open for local business customer traffic. Truck traffic will have to use County Route 9 to State Route 203. Notices will be put in the paper and other local media. Food Pantry numbers for April 2019 Families- 49, Children 55, Adults 76, Seniors 21, and 2944 pounds of food.

**MOTION #4 TO ACCEPT CORRESPONDENCE** 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 BUILDING INSPECTORS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL** made by Councilwoman Matheney, seconded by Councilman Wood and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

**MOTION #6 TO ACCEPT THE TOWN CLERK REPORT/ TAX COLLECTOR REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL** made by Councilman Wood, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

PLANNING, ZONING AND COMMITTEES:

Climate Smart- Karen Mort presented the Town Board and Planning Board a copy of the Columbia County Natural resource for book for information and training purposes. An electronic copy will also be available. Councilman Mort was will be meeting with RISE engineering and a NYSERDA consultant for the new solar project.

**MOTION # 7 TO ACCEPT THE HISTORIANS REPORT APRIL** made by Councilwoman Matheney, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

DOG CONTROL:

**MOTION # 8 TO ACCEPT THE DOG CONTROL REPORT FOR APRIL** made by Councilman Wood, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

HIGHWAY:

We have been dealing with water issues around town wash outs drainage issues. Waiting for rain to give us a break so we can start black top patching areas. We have finished switching our equipment over from winter use to summer. Hoisted a dig safe class on April 29 to certify guys under new state law. We are busy hauling stone in for upcoming paving projects. With the weather coming down now, roads are starting to go back into place some areas we thought where going to be shot are stabilized and others feel right apart which is very common. Today was our first day of Blacktop patching we tested our newly built 10' drag box and it went well quite a bit of work but manageable laid smooth patch's. State chips program has come in and unfortunately we were cut one of the programs of around \$40,000 which is causing me to adjust my plans and switch gears on prioritizing where the state money is spent along with poor weather. So I do have an adjusted 284 form for the board to sign tonight just like in years past doing 284 for in winter does not always pan out with mother nature's wrath on the Highway system .I will be attending the annual Highway school trying at Ithaca college the first week in June coming up.

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

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

Nays: 0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

LOCAL LAW # 1 2019

Referral will be made back to the Zoning review committee for changes and revisions to address public concerns and questions. The law also has to be reviewed by County Planning as well for approval and recommendations. A date will be set for the GZRC to meet and then they will meet again with the Town Board. The current Public Hearing will be closed.

**MOTION # 10 TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING MADE BY** made by Councilwoman Matheney, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION # 19 FOR 2019:

WHEREAS, ON APRIL 17, 2019 THE TOWN OF GHENT RECEIVED NOTICE OF INTENT TO ESTABLISH A SUPERVISED INDIVIDUAL RESIDENTIAL ALTERNATIVE (IRA) FACILITY AT 34 PJ LANE IN THE TOWN OF GHENT FOR FIVE INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES FROM ACCESS: SUPPORTS FOR LIVING, INC., THE SPONSORING AGENCY WORKING UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE FOR PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES; AND WHEREAS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 41.34 OF THE NEW YORK STATE MENTAL HYGIENE LAW, THE TOWN HAS FORTY DAYS AFTER THE RECEIPT OF SUCH NOTICE TO: (A) APPROVE OF THE SITE IDENTIFIED IN THE NOTICE; (B) SUGGEST ONE OR MORE SUITABLE SITES WITHIN THE TOWN WHICH COULD ACCOMMODATE SUCH A FACILITY; OR (C) OBJECT TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FACILITY OF THE KIND DESCRIBED IN THE NOTICE BECAUSE TO DO SO WOULD RESULT IN SUCH A CONCENTRATION OF CO=UNITY RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES FOR THE MENTALLY DISABLED IN THE TOWN, OR IN THE AREA IN PROXIMITY TO THE SITE SELECTED, OR A COMBINATION OF SUCH FACILITIES WITH OTHER CO=UNITY RESIDENCES OR SIMILAR FACILITIES LICENSED BY OTHER AGENCIES OF STATE GOVERNMENT, SUCH THAT THE NATURE AND CHARACTER OF THE AREAS WITHIN THE TOWN WOULD BE SUBSTANTIALLY ALTERED; AND WHEREAS, THE TOWN BOARD HAS REVIEWED THE NOTICE AND PROPOSED SITE AND FINDS NO BASIS FOR OBJECTION. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT PURSUANT TO SECTION 41.34 OF THE MENTAL HYGIENE LAW THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GHENT APPROVES THE PROPOSED IRA FACILITY TO BE LOCATED AT 34 PJ LANE IN THE TOWN OF GHENT; AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT THE SUPERVISOR OF THE TOWN OF GHENT IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO THE SPONSORING AGENCY AND THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE FOR PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.

**MOTION # 11 TO ACCEPT RESOLUTION # 19 FOR THE YEAR 2019** made by Councilwoman Matheney, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

PAYMENT OF AUDITED BILLS AND ACCEPTANCE OF MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT:

AUDITED BILLS:

General A \$35173.47

S.L. \$853.62

General B \$2399.3

Highway DB \$41140.60

TOTAL: \$79566.99

**MOTION# 12 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 # 13 TO ADJOURN MEETING MADE AT 8.10 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