

Draft
TOWN OF GHENT
TOWN BOARD MEETING
January 16, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board was held January 16, 2020 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
Koethi Zan	Councilwoman
Patti Matheney	Councilwoman
Mallory Mort	Councilman
Ben Perry	Highway Superintendent
Matthew Cabral	Attorney for Town

MOTION #1 TO OPEN THE MEETING FOR PUBLIC COMMENT made by Councilwoman Matheney seconded by Councilwoman Zan and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

Mark Johnson- questioned why the Town website has not been updated and is very difficult to navigate.

Councilwoman Matheney- The Town website is being worked on after having been hacked in mid-December. Issues will hopefully be resolved very soon.

Dan Barufaldi- Asked about the speed limit reduction for Garage Place and CR 21C, how the process works and what is needed.

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

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

MOTION #3 TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 19, 2019, PUBLIC HEARING DECEMBER 19, 2019 AND ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING ON JANUARY 2, 2020 made by Councilman Mort seconded by Councilwoman Matheney and approved unanimously.

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

MOTION #4 TO ACCEPT CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE WHITESTONE CAFÉ REGARDING RENEWAL OF THEIR LIQUOR LICENSE made by Councilman Mort seconded by Councilwoman Matheney and approved unanimously.

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

DEPARTMENTS:

MOTION #5 TO ACCEPT THE ASSESSOR'S, BUILDING INSPECTOR'S AND TOWN CLERK'S REPORTS FOR DECEMBER made by Councilwoman Zan, seconded by Councilwoman Matheney and approved unanimously.

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

PLANNING, ZONING AND COMMITTEES:

MOTION #6 TO ACCEPT THE ZBA MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 13, 2019 made by Councilwoman Matheney seconded by Councilwoman Zan and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

Climate Smart- Solar bid for Highway garage tabled until next month.

MOTION # 7 TO ACCEPT THE HISTORIANS REPORT DECEMBER made by Councilwoman Matheney seconded by Councilwoman Zan and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

MOTION # 8 TO ACCEPT THE DOG CONTROL REPORT DECEMBER made by Councilwoman Matheney seconded by Councilwoman Zan and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

HIGHWAY:

We have had a break from winter weather and are capitalizing on it with doing ditch work on Harlemville and with assistant from T/O Chatham's Hammer to put in a proper ditch where shale came to edge of road. We have also been doing tree work on Harlemville for upcoming summer chip sealing project. We have been very busy with pot holes with this warm weather has caused havoc on roads when water gets into a crack then freezes it breaks roads causing pot holes. We helped Town of Chatham haul gravel over 1500 ton as a joint effort through our Shared service agreement for their dirt roads in two days many towns are in a world of trouble with their dirt roads turning to mush almost impassable. Our summer work schedule is getting longer one thing is for sure we will never run out of work .We dealt with blow down trees today along with phone poles being taken out from these trees falling due to high winds. We are getting ready for some winter weather this weekend .Lights we put out to auction I need approval to except whatever the bid come in at I need my space it's either we except or I get rid of them. Approval to put new truck body out to bid for an all season dump body.

RESOLUTION #16 FOR THE YEAR 2020

WHEREAS, THE TOWN SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS HAS INDICATED TO THE TOWN THAT THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT IS IN NEED OF PURCHASING AN ALL SEASON DUMP BODY IN CONNECTION WITH MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF THE TOWN HIGHWAYS FOR THE TOWN OF GHENT, AND WHEREAS, THE TOWN SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS HAS CONDUCTED A PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF THE PRICE TO PURCHASE SAID EQUIPMENT AND ANTICIPATES THAT THE TOTAL COST WILL BE NO MORE THAN \$45,000.00, AND WHEREAS, THE 2020 TOWN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT BUDGET INCLUDES \$30,000.00 DESIGNATED FOR THE PURCHASE OF THIS EQUIPMENT; AND WHEREAS, THE TOWN SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS REQUESTS THAT THE TOWN BOARD MAKE AVAILABLE UP TO \$15,000.00 FROM THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT CAPITAL RESERVE FUND TO COMPLETE THE PURCHASE OF THE EQUIPMENT AND SIMULTANEOUSLY AUTHORIZE A BID ADVERTISEMENT TO DETERMINE THE ACTUAL COST OF SAID EQUIPMENT; AND WHEREAS, THE USE OF UP TO \$15,000.00 IN HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT RESERVE FUNDS IS SUBJECT TO A PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM, PURSUANT TO §91 OF THE TOWN LAW. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GHENT, THAT THE TOWN BOARD DOES HEREBY AUTHORIZE A BID ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF AN ALL SEASON DUMP BODY IN CONNECTION WITH MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF THE TOWN HIGHWAYS FOR THE TOWN OF GHENT; AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GHENT, THAT THE TOWN BOARD DOES HEREBY AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE OF UP TO \$15,000.00 FROM HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNT DB878 TO COMPLETE THE PURCHASE OF SAID EQUIPMENT; AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THIS RESOLUTION IS SUBJECT TO A PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF §91 OF THE TOWN LAW, AND SHALL AUTOMATICALLY TAKE EFFECT THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER ITS ADOPTION, WITHOUT ANY FURTHER PROCEEDINGS BEING NECESSARY BY THE TOWN, UNLESS A PETITION IS PRESENTED TO THE TOWN CLERK, CONFORMING TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF §91 OF THE TOWN LAW, SEEKING A PERMISSIVE REFERENDUM .

MOTION #9 TO ACCEPT RESOLUTION #16 FOR THE YEAR 2020 made by Councilman Mort, seconded by Councilwoman Matheney and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

MOTION # 10 TO ALLOW SUPERINTENDENT PERRY TO ACCEPT AUCTION BID FOR OLD LIGHTING made by Councilman Mort, seconded by Councilman Wood and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION #15 FOR THE YEAR 2020

WHEREAS, A PUBLIC HEARING WAS HELD BEFORE THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GHENT ON JANUARY 16, 2020 AT 6:55 P.M. TO CONSIDER THE APPROVAL FOR THE TOWN OF GHENT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR FIRE PROTECTION WITH THE WEST GHENT VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY FOR THE AREA KNOWN AS THE "WEST 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 WEST GHENT VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY FOR THE AREA KNOWN AS “WEST 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 WEST GHENT VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY FOR THE AREA KNOWN AS THE “WEST GHENT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT” FOR A ONE (1) YEAR TERM, COMMENCING ON JANUARY 1, 2020 AND TERMINATING ON DECEMBER 31, 2020, THE PROPOSED PAYMENT TO THE WEST GHENT VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY FOR THE CONTRACT TERM IS \$100,000.00.

MOTION #11 TO ACCEPT RESOLUTION #15 FOR THE YEAR 2020 made by Councilwoman Matheney, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

Speed limit reduction tabled until petition is received by the Town.

MOTION #12 TO CHANGE FEBRUARY’S TOWN BOARD AND WORKSHOP DATE FROM FEBRAURY 20TH, 2020 TO FEBRUARY 27, 2020 made by Councilwoman Matheney seconded by Councilwoman Zan and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

MOTION #13 TO APPROVE THE ENHANCED PATROL CONTRACT WITH THE CCSO PENDING REVIEW BY TOWN ATTORNEY made by Councilwoman Matheney seconded by Councilwoman Zan and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

MOTION #14 TO APPOINT BRENDA GEVERTZ TO THE BOARD OF ETHICS COMMITTEE IN REPLACEMENT FOR RICHARD LEGGETT made by Councilwoman Matheney seconded by Councilwoman Zan and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

MOTION #15 TO APPOINT STEPHANIE LAZAR TO THE PLANNING BOARD TO THE TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2020 made by Councilwoman Zan seconded by Councilwoman Matheney and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

MOTION # 16 TO EXTEND THE RFP FOR THE WGCC WORK UNITL FEBRUARY 13, 2020 made by Councilwoman Matheney seconded by Councilman Wood and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

MOTION # 17 TO ESTABLISH NEW STANDING COMMITTEES TO INCLUDE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, COMPREHENSIVE PLAN IMPLEMENTATION, AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY, COMMUNITY PRIDE AND AD HOC FOR THE RAIL TRAIL IN ACCORDANCE TO THE COMP PLAN made by Councilwoman Zan seconded by Councilwoman Matheney and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

Councilwoman Zan asked Supervisor Benvenuto for an update from the County Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor Benvenuto stated the County is in the process of adopting a Local Law regarding vaccination requirements for summer camps throughout the County. This will be addressed at the February BOS meeting.

PAYMENT OF AUDITED BILLS AND ACCEPTANCE OF MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT:

AUDITED BILLS:

General A	\$43386.90
S.L.	\$878.50
General B	\$588.80
Highway DB	\$83764.24
TOTAL:	\$128618.44

MOTION # 19 TO PAY ALL AUDITED BILLS AND ACCEPT THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT made by Councilman Wood seconded by Councilwoman Matheney and approved unanimously.

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

Nays: 0

NO PUBLIC COMMENT

MOTION #20 TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:00 PM made by Councilman Mort, seconded by Councilman Wood, approved unanimously.

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

Nays 0

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Radley