

Regular Meeting of the Verona Town Board

Oneida County, New York

6:00 pm on Monday, February 5, 2024

Verona Town Office Building, 6600 Germany Road, Durhamville, New York

Board Members in attendance:

Scott Musacchio, Supervisor
 Jeff Kahler, Councilman
 Fred Scherz Jr., Councilman
 Kenneth Brewer, Councilman
 Dan Breckenridge, Councilman

Others in attendance:

Amy Kotwica, Town Clerk
 Billy Lohr, Highway Superintendent Dan Maciag, Codes Enforcement Officer
 Tim Dodge, Water Operator in Responsible Charge

Citizens: 36

Call to Order with Pledge of Allegiance @ 6:00pm

A. Supervisors' Report.

Getting close to approving the Pipe Bridge with the Coast Guard and Canal Corp. We'll be switching to the Rome water system within the next year.

B. Approval of minutes from the January 3, 2024, Regular/Organizational Town Board Meeting.

Motion made by Councilman Brewer to approve minutes as presented.

Seconded by Councilman Kahler.

All those in favor: 4

Motion carried.

C. County Legislator Report.

Cynthia Witt: Gave report on last meeting of the County 1/17/24. Touched on the Women's World Championship tournament being held at the Nexus Center in early April. An agreement was made with the Town of Vienna for reconstruction of the Oswego Road bridge. Also approved flood mitigation funds for Ava. Board of Elections was authorized to purchase 100 poll pad packages.

Norm Leech: County snowplows now have GPS tracking, that residents can view. There was a discussion on the Gov. Budget proposed a bed tax for air b&b's.

RC: Tom Urtz has been paying a bed tax to Oneida County for the last year. Norm will investigate that, as it sounded that, that was not the case within the County.

Mark Wixon, to discuss VVS HS coming up project.

There are other presentations at all the district schools. 7 additional sessions, including a virtual session. You can email Mark Wixon directly with any questions.

RC: I heard a rumor that the Vernon Lib has approached the School Board on adding a tax from district residents like Sherrill Library.

Martha Group: that is correct, they have reached out, to which we directed them to speak with the school attorney. They have certain regulations that must be met to comply with taxing residents for a library. The communication comes directly from the library, the school is just the vesicle by which the vote takes place.

D. Public Concerns

RC: Nelson Dodge directed to Councilman Scherz. Regarding a vote of no for new judge's expense report presented in January Town Board meeting. According to 3 separate laws, you are in violation, by not approving those expenses. The 3 laws were read. The matter should not have been addressed during a public forum. You attacked 2 new judges while they were not here to defend themselves. Councilman Scherz responded: I will not apologize; I was not grandstanding – I cannot control who comes to a meeting. I have no issue with training. The issue was the training was not pre-approved in front of the board. The fact that one stayed and one drove, is not the issue. The issue was that one did not get the state rate and paid tax. And the second judge should have gone from his home, not the town building. Paperwork should have been filled out properly.

RC: Question about Water project, properties that have been modified. A ditch was added to my property and has limited assess to the rest of my property.

RC: Resident Concern/Comment TB: Town Board

TB: The ditch was amended to where it should have been, we can put a pipe in there in the spring to allow access.

RC: now I have a 100’ ditch to maintain.

TB: The town has right of ways on either side of the road, maintain the ditch will fall to the town.

E. Reports:

1. Water Operator in Responsible Charge – Tim Dodge
 - Installed new water service on Tilden Hill Road
 - New flow meter has been installed at Oneida Creek pump station
 - DSNY requests
 - Finishing up the meter replacements
 - Repaired Fire Hydrant on Rock Road
2. Dog Control Officer – Sue Gardinier
 - 2 complaints 1 resolved 1 wait and see
 - Still have 3 dogs
 - We need a Plan B – if there is an ER on the weekend or after hours ...we still do not have a vet
 - Board suggested we utilize Bridge Street ER Vet for any after hours or weekend emergencies
3. Assessor – Susan Strain
 - Sent 2100 postcards to residents regarding Senior Exemptions.
 - 10 sales and 7 Welcome packets
 - 39 open building permits
 - Second notices sent out last week to seniors, limited income disability and Ag Assessments
4. Codes Enforcement Officer – Dan Maciag

• Building Permits 3	Inspections 25
• Footings 3	Foundations 1
• Plumbing, Heating, framing 8	Insulation 4
• Septic systems 2	Misc 7
• Property Maintenance 3	Violation notices 2
• Certificate of compliance 12	Certificate of occupancy 4
• Concerning the Verdon Village issue, (rats) the county health department has been in contact; however, the home owner will not let them in. The home owner has hired an exterminator. The DOH is still in contact with Scott.	
5. Planning Board – Peter Kaido
 - Listened in on zoning board meeting regarding the dollar General Store proposed for the Rt. 365 location
6. Highway Superintendent – Billy Lohr
 - 21 times out plowing and sanding
 - Shop work
 - Cleaning trucks and the floors
 - Replacing stolen road signs
7. Town Clerk – Amy Kotwica

• 2 Decals	2 Marriage Licenses	1 Marriage Officiant
• 17 Certified copies	1 Notary nonresident	1 water permit
• 53 dog licensees	2 trailer park licenses	1 junk yard renewal
• 3 building permits	1 Peddler’s permit	1 Genealogy Search
• 1 water install		
• Sent out PILOT letters for Gwilt and Marion Manor		
• Working on scholarship for NYSTCA training		
• Working on grant for NY Archives submission		
8. Zoning Board – Henry Gerwig
 - 1 public hearing for G. Dodge
 - 1 tabled for dollar General building
 - Discussion on apartment building on Rt. 31

9. SWOCO – Ken Brewer
 - At January Meeting, they selected new officers (same as last year)
 - Solar may not be an option for the landfill, due to the grid
10. OCAOT – Fred Scherz
 - Meeting is set for 2/29 @ 6pm to set new officers and set up speakers
11. Events –
 - Verona VFW Fish Fry on Fridays
 - NLFD holding Breakfast this Sunday

F. New Business:

1. Approve Payment of the MVP bill in the amount of \$29,348.78
 Motion made by Councilman Scherz.
 Seconded by Councilman Brewer.
 All those in favor: 4
 Motion carried.
2. Discussion and Approval to pay the following Barton and Loguidice invoices for the Willow Tap Grant: Invoice #16 -133810 \$2,765.52, Invoice #17-134582 \$5,279.39, Invoice #18 - 135213 \$1,145.22, Invoice #19 -137045 \$1,459.56.
 Motion made by Councilman Brewer.
 Seconded by Councilman Scherz.
 All those in favor: 4
 Motion carried.
3. Discussion & Approval to set a Public Hearing for a Local Law regarding Short Term Rentals on March 4, 2024 @ 6:15 pm.
 Motion made by Councilman Brewer.
 Seconded by Councilman Scherz.
 All those in favor: 4
 Motion carried.
4. Discussion & Approval allowing Dan Maciag, Codes Enforcement Officer; to attend his required annual NYSBOC training at \$400.00 for a 3-day conference in April (Syracuse, NY) and \$60 for his annual dues to satisfy the NYS Requirements.
 Motion made by Councilman Brewer.
 Seconded by Councilman Scherz.
 All those in favor: 4
 Motion carried.
5. Discussion & Approval to allowing Amy Kotwica to attend the NYSTCA gaming training for a cost of \$40.00 plus travel.
 Motion made by Councilman Kahler.
 Seconded by Councilman Scherz.
 All those in favor: 4
 Motion carried.
6. Discussion & Approval to allow Tim Dodge to complete the required water certification \$160.00 This is online training.
 Motion made by Councilman Scherz.
 Seconded by Councilman Brewer.
 All those in favor: 4
 Motion carried.
7. Discussion & Approval allowing Tim Dodge and Nate Netzband to attend required water backflow device training at Monroe Community College at the cost of \$275.00 each.
 Motion made by Councilman Kahler.
 Seconded by Councilman Brewer.
 All those in favor: 4
 Motion carried.

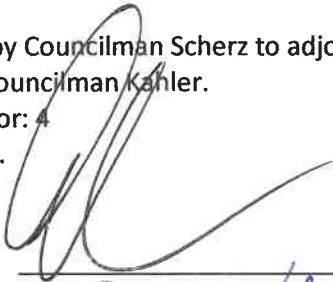
8. Discussion and Approval for Amendment No. 4 presented from Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C
Amendment No. 4 is a modification of payment to engineer. See documents for details.
Motion made by Councilman Brewer to make the net \$0 shift change to continue forward movement.
Seconded by Councilman Kahler.
All those in favor: 4
Motion carried.
9. Discussion and Approval – OIN Maple Leaf Market and New Retail, Rt. 31 and Rt. 365, Proposal from Barton & Loguidice for Engineering Technical Review Services for a fee not to exceed \$6,000.00. See documents for details.
Motion made by Councilman Brewer to approve the proposal as presented.
Seconded by Councilman Breckenridge.
All those in favor: 4
Motion carried.
10. Discussion and Approval of Change Order No. 7 from B&L regarding WD#3.
2 items included: Fosters Corners Rd. 8” Distribution Main to Serve Old Erie Golf Course and the Revised Station Street Revised Pricing
Motion made by Councilman Brewer to approve the proposal as presented.
Seconded by Councilman Kahler.
All those in favor: 4
Motion carried.
11. Discussion and Approval to appoint Carmen Compoli to an opening on the Board of Assessment Review.
Motion made by Councilman Scherz to approve the appointment for a term to end 9/2025.
Seconded by Councilman Brewer.
All those in favor: 4
Motion carried.

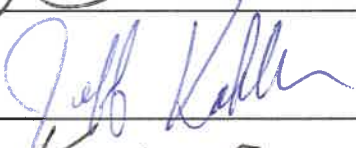
H. Vouchers:

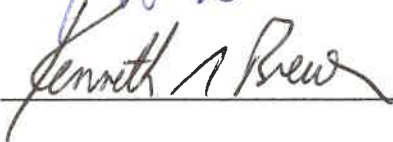
1. Prepaids \$ 972,733.20
Motion made by Councilman Scherz to adjourn at 7:13pm.
Seconded by Councilman Kahler.
All those in favor: 4
Motion carried.
2. General \$ 115,974.08
Motion made by Councilman Scherz to adjourn at 7:13pm.
Seconded by Councilman Kahler.
All those in favor: 4
Motion carried.
3. Highway \$ 12,136.57
Motion made by Councilman Scherz to adjourn at 7:13pm.
Seconded by Councilman Kahler.
All those in favor: 4
Motion carried.

I. Adjournment

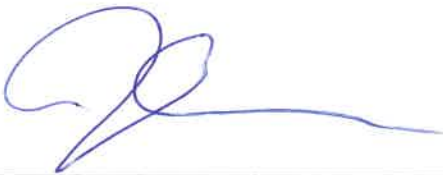
Motion made by Councilman Scherz to adjourn at 7:39pm.
Seconded by Councilman Kahler.
All those in favor: 4
Motion carried.

Scott Musacchio, Supervisor: 

Jeff Kahler, Councilman: 

Ken Brewer, Councilman 

Fred Scherz Jr., Councilman: _____



Dan Breckenridge, Councilman: _____



Amy Kotwica, Town Clerk: _____

