

PITTSFIELD TOWN BOARD MEETING

JULY 11, 2023

Call to order: 6:30 p.m.

Pledge: Led by Shelby Wing

Roll Call:

Shelby Wing – Supervisor: Present

Kelly York – Councilman: Absent

AJ Digsby – Councilman: Present

Jeff Galley – Councilman: Absent

Liam Keyes – Councilman: Present

Others present: Sandy Clapperton (Town Clerk), James Wing (Highway Superintendent), Charles Koop, Jerry Madsen, Justin Weidman, Kaylee Weidman, Joseph Holbert.

Community members concerns and statements: A resident still has concerns regarding Camp Road. He feels that the water is still running along the edge of the road and into the top corner of their driveway. Photos were shown. He does not think enough work was done to fix the road and would like the Highway Superintendent to talk with the engineer on how to fix his problem.

Assessor: Sheri Falcone

This information is from Jerry Madsen regarding the Real Property tax law 487 (Solar opt in/opt out which was enacted about 8 years ago.

A gentleman came and talked with the County Board about this. None of the County Representatives feel comfortable telling people what to do. Jerry has contacted the gentleman and believes he will come out to do a presentation. He would like to get the three towns together for this. People opt out so the company doesn't get a tax break. If the company doesn't get a tax break, then they don't want to come to that community.

This is why the Town of Pittsfield is working on a Comprehensive Plan. The Board feels that we need more information before setting up a public meeting.

Ambulance: The ambulance has been down for 3 weeks with a transmission problem. A loaner from Sidney was brought in but that is down now too. They are trying to work on a newer ambulance, hopefully 2018 or newer.

Fire District: Chief Tim Lidell submitted a report.

Justice: Honorable Gary Carson

His furniture has arrived. Judge Carson is unpacking boxes and getting everything appropriately filed. Shelby will follow up by sending this information to the Grant so that it can be closed out.

Prior Judge Bill Curto – The closing out of the bank account is still pending. The Honorable Dona Yeardon is assisting us with this. \$1,361.02 remains in Judge Curto's account.

Comprehensive Plan: Liam Keyes

Liam is looking into grants for this Comprehensive Plan. He feels that \$10,000 would be enough to hire someone to go out into the community with questionnaires. This should cover the wages and paper. The Comprehensive Plan basically defines the community and how we, as a community, want it to remain and grow.

Planning Board: James Austin

A public hearing was opened for the Roy Johnson subdivision with no one in attendance. It was reviewed by the board members and no issues were found. The application was approved.

Motion – Paul Stein Second – Larry Keenberg

The board received a subdivision application from Tom Enstrom regarding a simple split. The board members reviewed his application and map. They found no issues. A public meeting is planned for the July meeting.

The board is reviewing Lynn Crawford's subdivision application. A public hearing on the application is also scheduled for the July meeting.

Transfer Station: Jeff Galley

Next white goods day is September 30th, 2023.

County Representative: Jerry Madsen

The County is putting in a major budget line for the Ambulance Service budget so everyone can see how much revenue they are taking in and how much maintenance is taken out.

The County has 63 tax parcels due to be sold. The money from the sale now goes into the County budget after the tax sale. The governor is stating that any money that is made on the property that is sold for back taxes will go back to the owner of that property. One of the problems is that some of the owners have passed away and the family can't be found. If the property does get sold and later a family member shows up, they will get the money from that sale. The County doesn't dare sell these parcels because there is a possibility that the County could be sued. The governor stated they will decide sometime in June. The properties that are due to be sold this year will not be sold for another year.

Animal Control: Julie Polulech

No report

Town Clerk/ Tax Collector: Sandra Clapperton

Effective August 1, 2023 the Town Clerk/Tax Collector hours will be:

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

1st and 3rd Saturday of the month from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Closed Holidays and Holiday weekends.

The IRS 2020 issue was completed and sent in before Terron left. The check was cashed.

Building:

No report

Financials:

The reallocation of the General fund is as follows:

A11104 – Court Expenses – increase by \$3000 to \$5000.

A14204 – Law – increase \$300 to \$2800

A19104 – Insurance – increase \$2000 to \$27,000

A19204 – Dues – increase \$100 to \$700

A35104 – Animal Control – increase \$1000 to \$1750

A1990-4 – Contingency – reduce by \$3600 to \$2150

RESOLUTION 33 – to Reallocate funds in the General fund as stated above.

Motion: AJ Digsby

Second: Liam Keyes

3/0/2

Our plans for the culvert projects are up for renewal. We will either have to pay them off or renew them. Shelby checked with NBT regarding the interest rates for next year. Right now, the interest rate is 2.8%. Next year it will increase to 4.8%. It was decided to pay them down with the money we have received from FEMA in the amount of \$550,000 plus interest incurred, with a renewal amount of \$1,650,000.

Highway Department: James Wing

Bridge New York grants are very hard to get. Jim applied for two of them. We received one of the grants along with the Town of Oneonta. Otsego County got two grants. This grant is 100% paid for. It's 1.1 million for Hawks Road to replace the double culvert by Luke Millers place. The engineer will come and help us with that project.

Concrete slabs went down today on Cobb Road. On Card Road they are still driving sheets. In August, Mooretown Road starts, which will take about two months. Hopefully, at the end of September, this will be done. Then, all of our FEMA projects will be completed for this year.

Other Business:

2023 elections – on the ballot for Pittsfield is 2 Council positions, Supervisor, Superintendent, Judge, and County Representative.

Approval of Vouchers for July 2023.

General fund - \$13,524.94

Highway Department - \$314,176.54

Transfer Station - \$2,145.00

Motion: Liam Keyes

Second: AJ Digsby

3/0/2

Approval of the board meeting minutes from June 2023

Motion: Liam Keyes

Second: AJ Digsby

3/0/2

Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Motion: AJ Digsby

Second: Liam Keyes

3/0/2

The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 8, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

The minutes of the July 11th, 2023 meeting were taken and typed by Sandra Clapperton, Town Clerk/Collector.