

May 11th, 2023 Town Board Minutes

The regular meeting of the Greenfield Town Board was held May 11th, 2023 at 7PM with the following members present: Kevin Veitch, Supervisor, MaryAnn Johnson, Ty Stacey, Rick Capasso and Mike Gyarmathy, Councilpersons. Also present was Town Counsel Mark Schachner, Highway Superintendent Justin Burwell and approx. 7 residents. The meeting was opened by Supervisor Veitch with the Pledge to the Flag.

On a motion by Capasso, C seconded by Johnson, C the minutes from April 6th, 2023, April 13th, 2023 and April 20th, 2023 were approved as submitted by all board members present. Abstained: Gyarmathy, C.

CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence was received and filed. Letter from Karen Wadsworth regarding what she learned at the Planning & Zoning Conference in February, Letter from Jamie Gamble and Karen Wadsworth regarding establishing a noise ordinance and a Letter regarding Champlain Hudson Power Express Proposed Road Use Agreement.

OLD BUSINESS

Jamie Gamble from 235 Locust Grove Road Greenfield Center, NY 12833 was here to talk about the Town instituting a sound ordinance. Jamie and his wife Karen have been having an issue with their neighbors at 233 Locust Grove Road being very loud at all hours of the night. Jamie gave each board member a packet, in that packet was the Noise and Nuisances from the Town of Wilton to look over. He feels a sound ordinance would support Town of Greenfield residents in many ways:

1. It gives the Sherriff's Department a clear mandate to help maintain the peaceful character of residential neighborhoods.
2. Residents will be able to plan their own gatherings and events with a clear understanding of the rules regarding sound.
3. Residents will know when sound is excessive under the law and will have someone to call to help if they are not able to resolve the problem directly with their neighbors.
4. It provides meaningful but not excessive penalties to encourage compliance.
5. It seems to us that an increasing number of properties in residential neighborhoods are being operated as short-term vacation rental businesses. A sound ordinance will provide a specific regulation of which homeowners can inform on-line rental platforms, placing them on notice of the need for rentals they facilitate to comply with the law.

Jamie and Karen believe that a reasonable sound ordinance will protect residents' right to the peaceable use of their property.

RESOLUTION #81 – 2023 ACCEPT MS4 ANNUAL REPORT

Motion: Johnson, C

Seconded: Capasso, C

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby accepts the 2022 MS4 Annual Report from EDP.

Vote: Ayes: Veitch, Johnson, Capasso, Stacey and Gyarmathy

Noes: None

May 11th, 2023 continued

RESOLUTION #82 – 2023 PAY CONTRACTOR FOR WORK DONE ON THE BROOKHAVEN SEPTIC SYSTEM

Motion: Johnson, C

Seconded: Stacey, C

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves to Pay Wolfe Excavation, LLC \$69,400.00 and will retain \$1,250.00 until a final walk through is complete.

Vote: Ayes: Veitch, Johnson, Capasso, Stacey and Gyarmathy

Noes: None

RESOLUTION #83 – 2023 A RESOLUTION IN CONNECTION WITH THE AMENDMENTS TO NYS DOMESTIC RELATIONS LAW, CHAPTER 14, ARTICLE 3, DESIGNATING LAY INDIVIDUALS TO SOLEMNIZE MARRIAGES.

Motion: Johnson, C

Seconded: Gyarmathy, C

WHEREAS, NYS Domestic Relations Law has been amended for Town/City Clerks to provide for designation of a one-day marriage officiant, which became effective March 28th, 2023, and

WHEREAS, the authority is limited to applicants who want to marry a couple to whom the Town Clerk issued a marriage license and limited to the specific couple identified in the application and for that specific ceremony, and

WHEREAS, the legislation clearly states the information to be included in the application for a one-day officiant license and requirements, and has intitled the clerk to collect a twenty-five-dollar fee for the service to be retained by the Town now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk will be accepting applications for One-Day Marriage Officiants and collecting a twenty-five-dollar fee.

Vote: Ayes: Veitch, Johnson, Capasso, Stacey and Gyarmathy

Noes: None

LOWE'S BUSINESS ACCOUNT – The Town has an account with Home Depot. Brookhaven would like us to open a business account with Lowe's because some of the products they need they can't get at Home Depot and also that receipts would be automatically emailed to us which we seem to have a hard time getting. There will be further information and discussion to take place on this matter.

RESOLUTION #83 – 2023 ACCEPT THE NEW IRS MILEAGE RATES

Motion: Johnson, C

Seconded: Stacey, C

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby accepts the new IRS mileage rates from .625 to .655

Vote: Ayes: Veitch, Johnson, Capasso, Stacey and Gyarmathy

Noes: None

RESOLUTION #83 – 2023 APPROVE HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT TO ATTEND HIGHWAY SCHOOL

Motion: Capasso, C

Seconded: Johnson, C

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves Justin Burwell Highway Superintendent to attend Highway School at Ithaca College from Sunday June 4th thru Wednesday June 7th.

Vote: Ayes: Veitch, Johnson, Capasso, Stacey and Gyarmathy

Noes: None

May 11, 2023 continued

DISCUSSION ON ZONING AND SOLAR COMMISSION

James Wimet from 400 Middle Grove Rd would like to say, "Remember the Town of Greenfield is unique. It is really about small-town Charm and its rural character. Please don't made code changes without first determining their impact on everyone and the Town as a whole."

The Town of Greenfield wishes to evaluate its current Zoning Code to identify deficiencies and area of improvement to better serve the community, its land use review boards, residents and other stakeholders. The Town has identified an initial zoning diagnostic as a first step in understanding potential area for updating and in understanding the level of effort that may be required for those updates. The Town has identified the need for technical assistance in the preparation of such diagnostic. MJ Engineering and Land Surveying, P.C. has experience assisting communities with zoning amendments and updates, including the preparation of zoning diagnostics, and is qualified to assist the Town in this effort. Tonya Yasenchak, chair of the Planning Board is here to talk about what the Planning Board and Zoning Board chair Denis Eskoff would like to see going forward with this process. "We see limitations or maybe some omissions in the zoning code that may often limit the way that we can review projects or maybe just not help the public as much as we should be able to in reviewing projects. There are updates that need to happen to the code. We are at the tip of the iceberg and just beginning. With this process it is very lengthy, time consuming and that the Town isn't doing the whole comprehensive plan just looking at updating right now. Denis Eskoff, Andrew Wine, Robert Roeckle and myself came up with a small list with suggestions of what could be a focal point on what we know needs to be updated." The Chair's and Vice Chair's of each board submitted a list of 16 things that they would like to see reviewed. They also had a list of definitions, an application intake list, a project required submittal checklist and an application process checklist. Again, this is all in the beginning stages and will not be done overnight. It will take time. The Town will be in contact with M.J. Engineering and Land Surveying, P.C. to see when they will be able to begin this process. More will be coming about this as they start the process.

426 MIDDLE GROVE ROAD - The Town of Greenfield is now the owners of 426 Middle Grove Road. It is adjacent to the Middle Grove Park and has been abandoned for the past few years. All back taxes, recording fee and filing documents were done and the Town received the deed on May 4th, 2023. It will need to be cleaned up and taken care of but the Town will make good use of this piece of property.

TRAILS IN GREENFIELD - Vince Walsh 300 Greene Road is here and would like to address the Town Board with some questions and concerns that he has with the existing or upcoming Trails. He handed out his questions and the board will address them or try to get answers if they can. If any Trail system comes into the Town of Greenfield they will need to go through the proper procedure and get in front of the Planning Board or they will be shut down just like Tupelo was and is. Tupelo hasn't been in front of the Planning board since February 14th, 2023. They have yet to provide the Planning Board with the information that they have requested.

Monthly reports were submitted by Supervisor, Town Clerk, Court, Recreation, Brookhaven, Building & grounds, Dog Control and Building Department.

RESOLUTION #84 – 2023 BUDGET RESOLUTION AND AMENDMENT TO AUTHORIZE A TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Motion: Stacey, C

Seconded: Johnson, C

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor be allowed to make the following transfer of funds as presented:

May 11th, 2023 continued

To: Town Board

May 11, 2023

RE: Budget Resolution and Amendment to Authorize a Transfer of Funds

In Order to properly account for increased costs due to oversight at the Dog Park, including associated mileage, increase General Fund Account, **A3510.400 Control of Dogs, Contractual Expense** in the amount of \$5,000 from **A1990.400 Contingency**:

GENERAL FUND:

Decrease A1990.400 Contingency by \$5,000

Increase A3510.400 Control of Dogs, Contractual Expense by \$5,000

Respectfully,

Cara A. Parks

Principal Account Clerk

Town of Greenfield

Vote: Ayes: Veitch, Johnson, Capasso, Stacey and Gyarmathy

Noes: None

RESOLUTION #85 – 2023 GENERAL BILLS

Motion: Capasso, C

Seconded: Gyarmathy, C

RESOLVED, that the General Bills in the amount of \$219,353.61 be paid.

Vote: Ayes: Veitch, Johnson, Capasso, Stacey and Gyarmathy

Noes: None

RESOLUTION #86 – 2023 HIGHWAY BILLS

Motion: Johnson, C

Seconded: Stacey, C

RESOLVED, that the Highway Bills in the amount of \$305,081.90 be paid.

Vote: Ayes: Veitch, Johnson, Capasso, Stacey and Gyarmathy

Noes: None

RESOLUTION #87 – PARKS BILLS

Motion: Stacey, C

Seconded: Capasso, C

RESOLVED, that the Parks Bills in the amount of \$36,854.74 be paid.

Vote: Ayes: Veitch, Johnson, Capasso, Stacey and Gyarmathy

Noes: None

RESOLUTION # 88 – TRUST AND AGENCY FUND

Motion: Johnson, C

Seconded: Capasso, C

RESOLVED, that the Trust and Agency Bills in the amount of \$209.10 be paid.

Vote: Ayes: Veitch, Johnson, Capasso, Stacey and Gyarmathy

Noes: None

May 11th, 2023 continued

On a motion of Stacey, C and seconded by Capasso, C the Board moved to Executive Session at 8:15 PM to discuss a personnel matter. On a motion of Capasso, C and seconded by Stacey, C the Board returned to regular session at 8:35 PM. There was no decision or action taken.

On a motion from Johnson, C and seconded by Capasso, C the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 PM.

Town Clerk

DRAFT