

Minutes of September 8, 2020 Germantown Town Board meeting via Zoom, commencing at 7:00pm.

Present: Supervisor Beaury
Councilman Sullivan
Councilman Kukon
Councilmember Suarez
Councilman Christian

Town Attorney, Corinne Smith

Recorded by: Town Clerk, Joyce Vale

Supervisor Beaury welcomed everyone and then Led with the Pledge to the Flag.

Motion to open the meeting made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilmember Suarez, with all in favor and none opposed.

Motion to approve the August 11, 2020 regular meeting minutes made by Councilman Kukon, seconded by Councilman Sullivan, with all in favor and none opposed.

Motion to pay audited bills made by Councilmember Suarez, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

Old Business

- Finance update. Sales tax receipts are down approximately 15%. Supervisor Beaury sent the tentative budget to the clerk for the fiscal year 2021. Town Board will review tentative budget.

Motion to adopt the tentative budget for fiscal year 2021 made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Christian, with all in favor and none opposed.

- Budget workshop (before 10/13/2020 meeting). Sewer and lighting districts are in good shape. Supervisor Beaury said the two areas to look into are the DPW which is Highway and Maintenance. Proposed date for workshop is September 22, 2020 at 7:00pm starting with an executive session, followed by the workshop.
- Public hearing- Preliminary Budget Fiscal Year 2021 on October 13, 2020 at 6:45pm. Supervisor Beaury recommended having the public hearing before the next monthly meeting at 6:45pm.

Motion to set workshop date for September 22, 2020 at 7:00pm made by Councilman Kukon, seconded by Councilmember Suarez, with all in favor and none opposed.

Motion to set Public Hearing for Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2021 on October 13, 2020 at 6:45pm made by Councilmember Suarez, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

- Hiring freeze. Supervisor Beaury talked to Rich about the personnel situation and they came to an understanding they may need one extra person during a snow season for wingman for the snowplow driver.

Motion to approve hiring freeze contingent upon a one person hire for seasonal needs made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

Councilman Kukon asked what to do in a situation of a big snowstorm when they need a wingman for the snowplow? Supervisor Beaury said we have three drivers with CDLs and two wingmen. If we need a third we can hire one and he will keep the Town Board informed as the season unfolds.

- Flagpole at Lasher Memorial Park. Councilman Christian said the American Legion is supplying the park with a well needed new flagpole. Councilman Christian said he would like to see the flagpole by the memorial and not near the boat launch. Councilman Christian suggests one flagpole for both flags instead of the 2 flagpoles that are there now. Councilman Sullivan wondered if there was a reason for the 2 flagpoles. Supervisor Beaury asked if Councilman Christian talked to the committee who made the recommendations because we should take into consideration their recommendations. Councilman Christian said he spoke to two members. Supervisor Beaury will send out an email to the committee tomorrow.
- Resolution- Amtrak fences and gates. Supervisor Beaury sent the resolution to the Town Board to read.

TOWN BOARD

TOWN OF GERMANTOWN

COLUMBIA COUNTY, NEW YORK

RESOLUTION ADOPTING COLUMBIA COUNTY RESOLUTION 236-2020

A RESOLUTION URGING NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO JOIN WITH OUR COMMUNITIES IN A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT TO REVIEW LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND REGIONAL PUBLIC ACCESS NEEDS AND IMPLEMENTATION FOR LOCAL WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION PROGRAMS UPON, recommendation of the Finance Committee; at a meeting held on the 6th day of August, 2020.

Dated: September 8, 2020

WHEREAS, Amtrak filed an application in early 2018 with the NYS Department of State to install fences and gates in three areas of the town along the railroad tracks, at Ernest R. Lasher Memorial Park, lower Main Street and Cheviot Park; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of Germantown recognizes and acknowledges the efforts of local community leaders and volunteers for their work with the NYS Department of State, the NYS Department of Transportation and Amtrak on ensuring public access to the Hudson River;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Germantown hereby adopts Columbia County Resolution 236-2020; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Germantown joins with the Columbia County Board of Supervisors in their belief that it would be valuable for the New York State Department of State to join our waterfront communities in a collaborative effort to review local government and regional public access needs and implementation; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a letter to the Secretary of State will be sent requesting assistance from the NYSDOS in developing a regional riverfront access plan; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Germantown authorizes the Supervisor to continue working with local, County, State and Federal officials to achieve our shared goal of maintaining public access to the waterfront.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Germantown that this Resolution is hereby adopted.

Introduced by Councilmember Suarez

Seconded by Councilman Christian

The question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to vote, which resulted as follows:

Supervisor Beaury	Aye
Deputy Supervisor Sullivan	Aye
Councilmember Christian	Aye
Councilmember Kukon	Aye
Councilmember Suarez	Aye

This Resolution having been approved by a majority of the Board, the same was declared duly adopted.

Joyce Vale, Germantown Town Clerk

- Re-Opening Plan.
- Activity Building. Councilman Kukon would like the Town Board's opinion with having the budget workshop in person. Councilman Kukon feels meeting in person is better as long as everyone is comfortable with it. Supervisor Beaury said the Activity Building might not be ready for the workshop and they would have to re-configure the Town Hall. Councilmember Suarez is not comfortable meeting in person and will need to think about it. Councilman Sullivan said the Public Hearing for the budget will have to be on zoom. Corinne said the board will have to decide on how they will hold the meeting and the public notice has to include everything.
- Playground. Councilman Kukon doesn't understand why the playground is closed. Councilman Sullivan said he saw people taking their kids in the dog park. Supervisor Beaury said the playground can't be cleaned after each use. Councilman Christian suggested putting a notice to the public that the playground is cleaned once a day in the high touch areas. Corinne said as long as there are guidelines and a time frame of it being cleaned that would protect the town. Corinne

also said the town should follow the Governor's guidelines for reopening the playground. More discussion on playground cleaning followed. Councilman Christian asked if the restrooms at the lake were still closed so he could update? Supervisor Beaury answered yes.

- Parsonage. Status quo.
- Update notice of status of Town facilities 9-15-2020 through 9-30-2020.
- Update Technology Committee. Councilman Sullivan said they were adding forms from the departments. Councilmember Suarez said the Park Commission is adding a description of all the parks with some photos.

New Business

- Purchase of Gator. Supervisor Beaury said they want to purchase a new Gator for just under \$14,000 and the 6-wheeler has to be replaced, the cost is approximately \$215,000. Anthony and Rich came up with a suggestion purchasing the Gator was more important to use around the park. George can use the black pickup that Anthony uses and the guys can use the red truck that Rich uses when he's not around. Supervisor Beaury said they will partially pay for the Gator using Chips money.

Motion to purchase the Gator made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Kukon with all in favor and none opposed.

- Surplus utility truck.

Motion to surplus the utility truck on delivery of the Gator made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

- DPW laptop and fuel software. We have a fuel depot and sell at a discounted rate to the school and the fire company. The laptop we have uses Windows 7 and if we upgrade to a laptop with Windows 10 specific software is needed and will cost \$6,500 to make it compatible with Windows 10. Councilman Christian suggested purchasing a laptop with windows 7 from ebay. Supervisor Beaury asked if Councilman Christian would look into possibly purchasing the laptop from a reputable company. Janet will get fuel prices. Councilman Sullivan said the Livingston highway department just updated and to check with them. Supervisor Beaury will check with Supervisor Guzzi.

Supervisor's Report

- 9/11 Ceremony and Purple Heart proclamation at Pavilion/Monument at 9am. If weather is good ceremony will be at the monument, if not under the pavilion.
- CC DOH Covid-19 testing at Activity Building lot on 9/13/2020 from 9-11am.
- Fire Company BBQ pickup at the Activity Building lot on 10/3/2020 from 4-6pm.

- CC DOH Flu Clinic at Activity Building lot on 10/8/2020 from 9-11 am.
- Next meeting is October 13, 2020 at 7:00pm. Town Board workshop is September 22, 2020 at 7:00pm.

Comments from Councilmembers

Councilmember Suarez said GEDAC is asking permission to host a movie night in September. Supervisor Beaury thinks this is a good idea and asked if the Town Board can see a plan.

Councilman Christian asked if you had to register for the Covid testing and is there a fee? Supervisor Beaury asked Janet to follow up.

Councilman Christian asked if there was a cost for the flu shots? Janet said there is paperwork to fill out first on the Columbia County website and she also said there is no charge for the drive up Covid testing. Supervisor Beaury said they will post notices for both.

Comments from the public.

Tony Albino asked if the Gator was electric or gas. Supervisor Beaury answered gas.

Written Communications to the Town Clerk

Town Clerk received an email from a resident on Anchorage Road concerned about cars speeding up and down the road.

Town Clerk received a resignation from Mattie Gifford resigning as a court clerk.

Supervisor Beaury said he let the Sheriff Deputies know about the speeders.

Councilman Sullivan wondered if they could ask Supervisor Guzzi if we could borrow their portable speed signs. Supervisor Beaury will ask Supervisor Guzzi.

Councilman Christian said he sees people speeding not only with boats but sports cars. Supervisor Beaury asked if he sees them to get the times of day this is going on. Councilman Christian will try to get license plates.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

Meeting closed at 8:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,