

**A MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BUTLER TOWN BOARD WAS HELD AT THE BUTLER TOWN OFFICE BUILDING, 4576 BUTLER CENTER ROAD, BUTLER, WAYNE COUNTY, NEW YORK STATE ON MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2023, AT 7:00 PM.**

**PRESENT:** TOMMY METTLER, SUPERVISOR  
GENE VANDEUSEN, COUNCILMAN  
DAVID SOULES, COUNCILMAN  
DUANE VANGELDER, COUNCILMAN

**ABSENT:** JOHN DATES, COUNCILMAN

**ALSO PRESENT:** , Town Clerk, Kimberly Parmeter, Lori Schmidt, Town Historian, Albie Huntington, Highway Superintendent, Rick Robinson, Trent Fralick, Nick Rizzo, John Moeller, Duke Energy Rep, Joe Young, Mark Sweeney of Sweeny Law, Mindie Wedgewood, Stephen Gile, Mason Gile, Chad Mendenhall, Sara Wollek, Don Camp Codes Enforcement

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm and all present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** North rose Wolcott high school student Sara Wollek spoke to the board about the new GEO Tech program this year. This is a half day hands on program which includes English and Geometry along with technology and woodworking. The program is looking for projects that can be completed by the end of the year and also funding for such projects. Miss. Wollek suggested a picnic table for the town offices. Councilman Van Gelder motioned to grant \$650.00 to the Geo Tech program for a picnic table, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen. All were in favor. Miss. Wollek thanked the board for the generosity.

John Moeller of Duke Energy and Mark Sweeney of Sweeney law firm spoke to the board about the solar project for route 89. Much discussion was had about the tax assessment, PILOT vs full assessment taxes. There will be more discussion of this to come. The board did grant codes officer permission to sign a letter granting permission for Duke Energy to move forward with the site preparation only at this time. This project is smaller than when first presented by Community Energy. There will no longer be battery storage and other minimal changes.

Chad Mendenhall of Westbury road inquired about the where panels will go when project is decommissioned, at this point there is not an answer for that question. MSDS information sheets will be filled and maintained so disposal in 30 years will be possible in the most efficient way possible.

What benefits are there for residents?

Every resident can apply for the solar program reduction. The reduction will only be eligible for a certain number of applicants. However any resident can apply to subscribe to any solar project. Not just this exact project.

Stephen Gile, Saile Road inquired about DEC review, bonds, wind shear protection, tillable acre reimbursement and ascetics of project.

Mr. Moeller and Mr. Sweeney explained that the bond is good for the life of the project and that there is also an inflation clause.

A fence and trees will be in place for ascetics.

Wind Shear will be covered under the insurance.

This is a private land owner so reimbursement for tillable acreage does not apply as land owners are permitted to do with their property as they wish within reason.

**MINUTES:** Motion was made by Councilman Van Gelder, seconded by Councilman Van Deusen to accept the minutes from February 13th, 2023. All were in favor.

**MONTHLY REPORTS:** Supervisor, Town Clerk, Historian, Assessor and Justice submitted written monthly reports.

Supervisor Mettler informed the board that there were two mistakes where payroll was taken from the wrong account. This has been fixed.

Highway Superintendent Robinson reported that the Highway has been busy with some plowing, working in the shop and at the Historical Church. May 6<sup>th</sup> will be the Town wide clean up.

This year Superintendent will be working with area Town and to set up a electronics recycling program. More information on this will come.

Town Historian reported that she has been busy scanning and organizing files and memoirs The Town will be getting a historical marker, this may possibly be put at the Town Office building.

If there are any older residents looking to share history or old stories please contact Lori. There will be a tent in June for the Wolcott historic days.

Lori asked for permission to purchase a larger hard drive for storage. Board granted this as the money is in the budget.

Codes enforcement officer Camp reported computer troubles. Supervisor Mettler will talk to Wayne County IT about the next step.

Schooling will be April 11,12,13

Councilman Soules motioned to accept the monthly reports, Seconded by Councilman Van Gelder. All were in favor.

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Councilman Soules informed the board that the bell at the church is hoping to be used for an event in April. This will be looked into to see if this is mechanically possible, yes the bell will ring however there will be more investigation into this. The Vent over the backroom heater has been taken care of.

A tree had fallen down on the shed. This has been taken care of by the Highway department.

Carine's tree service and Egnor's will be approached about clearing the rest of the trees.

**GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE:** Wayne County Soil and Water annual Plan, Meeting notice from Atlantic Sates Legal foundation.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Supervisor Mettler requests permission to sign the red Creek fire contract with the 3% increase which was approved in the budget for this year. Motion was made by councilman Van Gelder, seconded by Councilman Soules and approved by all.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**TRANSFERS:** Councilman VanGelder moved to grant permission to amend the budget and transfer \$19,509.00 from the town wide contingency account to the personnel contractual account to pay for Independent medical exam for former employee.

**AUDIT & PAY:**

Councilman Soules moved to pay General Town Wide bills, General Town outside Bills and Highway Town wide Bills in the amount of \$70,333.92 Seconded by Councilman Van Gelder. All were in favor

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Board entered into executive session at 8:30pm for a matter not disclosed to the clerk.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Councilman Van Deusen moved to adjourn at 8:50 pm seconded by Councilman VanGelder, All were in favor. Carried

