

The Town of Fenton Town Board held its regular Work Session on Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at 6:00 PM at the Fenton Town Hall, 44 Park Street, Port Crane, New York.

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Town Board Members	David Hamlin, Supervisor Gary Holcomb, Deputy Supervisor Michael Husar, Councilman Richard Pray, Councilman
	Town Engineer	Richard Bassler, P.E.
	Highway Superintendent	Frank Root, Jr.
	Town Clerk	Melodie Bowersox
	Administrative Asst./Bookkeeper	Susan Crosier

**ABSENT:** Town Attorney Albert Millus, Jr.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Randy Ritter, Deputy Highway Superintendent; Tom Moss, Planning Board Member.

### Review Abstract #5, 2016

- Voucher #21 Tn of Fenton Sewer Reserve for 'Portion of 2009 Pickup Sale' for \$4,012.75 – Mr. Pray asked Bookkeeper Sue Crosier if this voucher went into the Hillcrest Sewer Account first and then into the Reserves Account; she verified that this was how it was processed.
- After a review of the Abstract, **Mr. Pray moved to approve payment of the bills for Abstract #5, 2016**, seconded by Mr. Husar. **Motion carried.**  
**VOTE:** Ayes 4 Hamlin, Holcomb, Husar, Pray  
Nays 0

**Chenango Valley and Chenango Forks Tax Collection** – Mr. Hamlin spoke with Town Clerk Melodie Bowersox about collecting taxes for Chenango Valley and Chenango Forks in September and October, 2016. She is agreeable to work for the County and collect the school taxes just as she collects the Town and County taxes in January – March. There will be three sites for paying your school taxes: the Town of Fenton, the County Office, and a new satellite office at the DMV on Washington Avenue in Endicott. Previously the taxes were collected at the Town of Dickinson, but there is limited space there and they no longer wish to have the taxes collected at their site. There is ample space here.

**Roofing Project** – Mr. Holcomb would like the Town Board to consider using the Town's reserve money to pay for the roofing project because the cost of the project is a smaller amount than originally anticipated. At the 2017 budget time, a payment schedule could be established to pay it back over ten to fifteen years like we would if we had borrowed from a bank. This would save the Town from having to pay interest to a bank. Mr. Holcomb will still look into bank options; Tioga recently had good rates. The insurance papers from the

Contractor were received today. Atty. Millus has the contract and once he is done reviewing it, Mr. Hamlin will need to sign it.

**Smoke Testing of Sewer Lines** – The smoke testing of the sewer lines will be done in July. The camera testing is still being done and may be completed by Thursday. The results should be available soon. Pink flyers regarding this will be hung on Residents' doors and the information was posted on the website and included in the newsletter.

**Tom Moss Swearing In** – The Town Board will appoint Tom Moss to the position of Town Councilman at the Town Board Meeting next week on Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016, at 7 PM, after the Pledge of Allegiance. After the appointment, he will be given the oath by either Melodie or Judge Ambrose Madden. Once he has been given the oath, he will join the rest of the Councilmen for the meeting.

**Copier Quotes** – Sue provided copier quotes and stats from Toshiba and Ricoh, including black and color quotes. The County uses Toshiba. Ricoh is our current provider and Sue noted that we have only had to call Ricoh for service two times since our lease began in August, 2012. The Town Board would like Sue to obtain one more quote. Mr. Husar suggested checking with the District Office of the Courts to see who their provider is.

**Depot Hill Road** – Highway Superintendent Frank Root said that ZMK Construction, Inc. has completed 99% of the Depot Hill Road pipe project. Frank added to their workload and added 400 feet of pipe on the lower, right side of the tracks where there was no drainage. This will be a separate bill, the cost of which will be under \$10,000. The blacktopping will be completed tomorrow.

**Solid Waste Issues @ Town of Dickinson** – Joel Kie from Town of Dickinson contacted Frank and said that they are having issues with disposing of solid waste. They were taking the waste to the Town of Chenango but they were having some problems with them, so now he is looking for a place to take two loads per week. Joel has \$1,000 in his budget to offset the cost which he was giving to the Town of Chenango for the disposal of their solid waste. Frank said that we take one to two loads per week to our landfill, depending on the time of year. The waste is compacted in the back of the big white truck, put on the right of the landfill site then bulldozed – a form of composting. Town Engineer Dick Bassler stated that when the landfill is annually tested, we usually exceed the standards and these are reported to the DEC; however, DEC has not asked the Town to do anything about this. There may or may not be hazardous chemicals in the landfill and Dick is not sure if these chemicals are coming off of the solid waste (grass, trimmings, etc.) or the landfill itself. Mr. Husar suggested the Town of Dickinson assist with the labor in addition to the charge of \$1,000 if we should entertain helping them. Mr. Hamlin will speak to Town of Dickinson Supervisor Mike Marinaccio regarding the situation before a decision is made.

**Dee's RC/Building Renovation – 347 West Service Road** – The Planning Board approved Phase One of Dee's RC/Building Renovation at 347 West Service Road, which Dick explained includes setting up the business portion in the front part of the building. The racetrack in the flats, the parking, and the other issues associated with the project will require the applicant to return to the Planning Board for approval.

**Ten Worst Properties in the Town** – Mr. Husar would like the Town Board to look at the non-compliant/worst properties in the Town, beginning with ten. Often calls are made on properties and they are cited and sometimes even go to Court, but there is no follow up or good record keeping of their status. Mr. Holcomb suggested having Building Inspector Matt Banks and Town Constable John Broughton keep a list of the non-compliant properties in their monthly report so they are visible to the Town Board. Mr. Husar mentioned posting John's monthly report. (Mr. Pray requested that John take a look at the property on the corner of Towpath and Lock Streets; a camper is parked in the front lawn with a truck parked beside it.)

**262 Vincent Hill Road** – Randy said that the house at 262 Vincent Hill Road has fallen down and that there is a big pile of rubble with a tarp over it. There is also a dumpster beside it. Mr. Hamlin questioned what happened to the asbestos; Mr. Pray said that Matt had contacted DEC and that we should let them handle the asbestos issue.

**First Ward Action Council** – Mr. Hamlin attended a meeting this past week and no one from the First Ward Action Council attended the meeting. Mr. Husar has called the Council three times; he left a message today and still has not heard back from anyone. Mr. Hamlin will see if he can find another contact number for Mr. Husar to call. The website was not helpful either.

**1001 Chenango Street** – Mr. Husar asked what the status was of 1001 Chenango Street. He thought that there was an initial deadline for the demolition of the building. Mr. Hamlin will contact Atty. Millus tomorrow morning to find out the status of it.

**Town Engineer** – The Town has been fortunate to have two very good Engineers, first with Don Brown and second with Dick Bassler. With Dick retiring in July, the Town needs to find a replacement for Dick. Often Residents, Town Board Members, Departments such as the Water and Highway, and the Building Inspector contact Dick with questions or to obtain information regarding the Town. Dick is also very involved in Town projects and works approximately 800 hours per year for the Town. Assistant Town Engineer Rick Armstrong has agreed to continue working for the Town one day per week. He would be a good buffer between Residents and some of the questions that are typically asked of the Engineering Department, but when it comes to projects or items that need to be reviewed on a large scale, a Town Engineer would be needed. There was a discussion about the possibilities for Dick's replacement. Information was received from the Keystone Law Firm and from Engineer Linda Shumaker, who also works for the Village of Deposit. It was suggested that if the Town chooses to go through an Engineering Firm, then possibly we could have a set-up similar to the one the Town has with

Atty. Millus and the HH&K Law Firm. The Town Board agreed that individuals need to be interviewed from different firms, including Delta, Keystone, Shumaker, and Alex Urda who currently is the Town Engineer working for the Town of Chenango. Mr. Holcomb will contact Deposit to see how their Engineer is working out; Mr. Hamlin will contact Keystone. Another suggestion was sharing an Engineer with another Town or contracting with the County. The Board would like Dick to provide them with a list of projects and tasks that the Town Engineer is responsible for; Dick will scan a list to the Board. This will be discussed further at the Town Board Meeting next Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016.

At 7:17 pm, **Mr. Pray made a motion to adjourn the meeting**, seconded by Mr. Holcomb.  
**Motion carried.**

Melodie A. Bowersox, Town Clerk