

The Town of Fenton Town Board held its regular meeting on Wednesday, April 5, 2017, at 6:58 pm, at the Fenton Town Hall, 44 Park Street, Port Crane, New York.

PRESENT: Town Board Members Michael Husar, Councilman
Richard Pray, Councilman
Thomas Moss, Councilman
Highway Superintendent Randy Ritter
Town Attorney Albert Millus, Jr. (arrived at 7:05 pm)
Town Clerk Melodie Bowersox

ABSENT: Town Board Members David Hamlin, Supervisor
Gary Holcomb, Deputy Supervisor

OTHERS PRESENT: Building Inspector Matt Banks, Planning Board Chair John Eldred, Broome County Legislator Cindy O'Brien, and seven members of the General Public

John Eldred led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

RESIDENTS' TIME

Joan Giblin – Joan and the neighbors around 1142 Chenango Street are very upset about the condition of this home. It is deteriorating daily with shingles falling off and landing on neighboring lawns, etc. The plastic tarp on the roof has blown off. It has been four years and the condition of the property is bringing their property values down. Mr. Moss said Atty. Millus has discussed this property regarding its condition and foreclosure issues. Joan said she has had an increased number of rodent issues and another neighbor, Virginia Walicke, had part of a dead tree break through the roof of her porch. Mrs. Walicke's insurance company denied the claim because the homeowner at 1142 Chenango Street is liable. The Town was unable to locate the male owner of the property and the female owner directed Atty. Millus to her Attorney Peter Orville. Atty. Millus said the property is in foreclosure and at this point the only thing the Town can do is start an Unsafe Structure proceeding and then the Town would spend the money to secure the property until it is sold. The foreclosure proceeding with M&T Bank started not that long ago. Atty. Millus said that until the bank has control of the property, there is nothing the Town can do to the bank. Mr. Husar asked Building Inspector Matt Banks to determine whether the Town can move forward with an Unsafe Structure proceeding.

Joan Giblin – Joan said there is a conveyance that plows the Library and the sidewalk in front of the Car Wash and she was wondering if it was available to plow any other sidewalks on the main street in Hillcrest. Mr. Husar stated they are only allowed to plow Town-owned properties and sidewalks are the responsibility of the property owner.

Residents' Time closed at 7:12 pm

TOTAL BILLS – ABSTRACT 3, 2017 approved during the March 19th, 2017 meeting:

FUND	VOUCHER #s	AMOUNT
General & PC/CF Fire	105 – 164	\$189,368.05

Highway	55 – 95	\$153,263.80
Hillcrest Water	38 – 59	\$14,738.87
Hillcrest Sewer	3 – 6	\$529.69
Porter Hollow Sewer	3 – 6	\$4,463.61
Port Crane Light District	3 – 4	\$1,011.68
Hillcrest Light District	3 – 4	\$2,247.19
Capital Projects	0	\$0.00
Trust & Agency	3 – 4	\$4,476.21

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

- There was no Supervisor's Report.

TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT

- 1001 Chenango Street – This is progressing.
- 21 Franklin Avenue – The County will be taking over this property for back taxes.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

- Monthly Report was read by Melodie Bowersox.
- Total Local Shares for March 2017 were \$2,781.75.

TOWN ENGINEER'S REPORT

- There was no formal Town Engineer's Report.
- Mr. Pray reported John Mastronardi of Griffiths Engineering sent out the bid documents for the vault today. Atty. Millus will be preparing the Notice.
- Mr. Husar spoke with Mr. Hamlin about the Town Engineer's contract. Griffiths Engineering is willing to work at the same rate they worked for the Town last year. Mr. Hamlin said he will be working toward defining what is considered extra work and what is included in the Agreement.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building and Grounds – Mr. Moss reported the Library project has been completed. Building Inspector Matt Banks and John Mastronardi of Griffiths Engineering were satisfied with the work done by Peranich and Shelp and the bill has been paid. LED lighting for the Town Hall is still being researched. Rebate opportunities continue to be looked into and options/estimates from Tom Connors are pending. All the window blinds in the Crime Lab are going to be replaced within the next month. Mr. Moss is in the process of obtaining quotes.

Zoning Enforcement – Report was summarized by Mr. Moss.

Water and Sewer – Report was summarized by Mr. Pray.

Dog Control – Report was summarized by Mr. Pray.

Highway and Solid Waste – There was no Highway and Solid Waste Report.

Building Inspector – Report was summarized by Mr. Husar.

Justice Court – Report was read by Mr. Husar. Mr. Husar also reported Maureen Roberts, the Court Clerk, has terminated her employment with the Town and has taken a position at the Sixth Judicial District Office overseeing the Court Clerks throughout an 8 to 10 County area. Rebecca Hartman has been hired as the new Court Clerk effective April 3rd. She currently lives in Windsor and is in the process of moving to the Town of Fenton.

Assessor – There was no Assessor Report.

Historical Advisory Committee – Mr. Husar reported Barbara Guernsey has retired as the Town Historian and her replacement will be voted on later in the meeting. Barbara will stay involved doing work at home rather than coming into the Town Hall. She has also done a lot of work on the Town website and the Town owes a lot of gratitude to Barbara and her late husband Jim for the work they have done for the Town. The Advisory Committee is working on a periodical for the Town as well as a new Town of Fenton History Book. They are still selling their 2016 calendars and currently have a \$72 balance in their account.

Conservation Advisory Committee – There was no Conservation Advisory Committee Report.

Mr. Pray made a motion to approve all committee reports as submitted, seconded by Mr. Moss. **Motion carried.**

VOTE: Ayes 3 Husar, Moss, Pray
Nays 0
Absent 2 Hamlin, Holcomb

MINUTES

Mr. Moss made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 22nd, 2017 Work Session and the March 2nd, 2017 Town Board Meeting, seconded by Mr. Pray. **Motion carried.**

VOTE: Ayes 3 Husar, Moss, Pray
Nays 0
Absent 2 Hamlin, Holcomb

OLD BUSINESS

- **Farm Brewery** – The property where the Farm Brewery is located has been approved as an Agricultural District. The Brewery will be submitting a SWPPP application for review and approval.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Resolution #2017-08: Resolution for Acceptance of Agreement with THOMA Development Consultants – Mr. Pray made a motion to approve Resolution #2017-08 as follows:**
WHEREAS, the Town of Fenton has approved THOMA Development Consultants to administer the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) with approval from the Office of Community Renewal, and
WHEREAS, the Town has reviewed the proposed agreement with THOMA Development Consultants,
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Fenton accepts the agreement with THOMA Development Consultants and approves the Town Supervisor, David Hamlin, to sign this agreement.
Seconded by Mr. Moss. **Motion Carried.**
ROLL CALL VOTE:
Councilman Mr. Holcomb absent
Councilman Mr. Husar aye
Councilman Mr. Moss aye
Councilman Mr. Pray aye
Supervisor Mr. Hamlin absent
- **CDBG – “Kick Off” Meeting** – The “Kick Off” organizational meeting with THOMA was held on Thursday, March 30th. Mr. Husar commented that the organization of the Project Manager was very impressive.
- **Fair Housing Month** – The Town of Fenton, through its Supervisor, David Hamlin, has declared April as Fair Housing Month.
- **CDBG** – Additional information on the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) will be forthcoming. The Grant will only apply to stick built structures.
- **Randy Ritter and the Highway Department** – Randy Ritter and the Highway Department were complimented by the Chenango Valley and Chenango Forks School Districts for the outstanding job done during the historic snowstorm. Broome County Legislator Cindy O’Brien also complimented Randy and the Highway Department, as well as the Hillcrest Fire Company, for going above and beyond.
- **Hillcrest Fire Company** – Mr. Pray reported that during the Water and Sewer Committee Report that the Water Department staff was very grateful to new members of the Hillcrest Fire Company during the last snowstorm. They assisted the Water Department by cleaning out 10 fire hydrants during the storm, which left only 97 hydrants to clear.
- **Planning Board Meeting** – The monthly Planning Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 11th instead of the regularly scheduled date of April 25th.
- **Appointment of New Historian Cheryl Mammano** – After a Board interview and following the recommendation of Barbara Guernsey, the Town has selected Cheryl Mammano as the new Town Historian, subject to Board approval. **Mr. Pray made a**

motion to approve Cheryl Mammano as the new Town Historian, seconded by Mr. Moss. **Motion carried.**

VOTE: Ayes 3 Husar, Moss, Pray
Nays 0
Absent 2 Hamlin, Holcomb

- **Resolution #2017-09 – Resolution to Accept Policy for Section 504 Grievance Procedure – Mr. Moss made a motion to approve Resolution #2017-09 as follows:**
RESOLVED, that the Town of Fenton Town Board accepts the policy for the Section 504 Grievance Procedure.
Seconded by Mr. Pray. **Motion Carried.**
ROLL CALL VOTE:
Councilman Mr. Holcomb absent
Councilman Mr. Husar aye
Councilman Mr. Moss aye
Councilman Mr. Pray aye
Supervisor Mr. Hamlin absent
- **Crime Lab Generator** – Mr. Pray reported the State Police have acquired a generator they want to have installed to keep the Crime Lab running in the event of a power outage. It will be large enough to take care of all the primary systems throughout the building and some lighting.
- **Hillcrest Fire Company Application** – An application was received from Corey Hanson to join the Hillcrest Fire Company. **Mr. Pray made a motion to approve the application**, seconded by Mr. Moss. **Motion carried.**
ROLL CALL VOTE:
Councilman Mr. Holcomb absent
Councilman Mr. Husar aye
Councilman Mr. Moss aye
Councilman Mr. Pray aye
Supervisor Mr. Hamlin absent
- **Hillcrest Fire Company** – Hillcrest Fire Chief Rick Larson reported the Hillcrest Fire Company is up 38% in their calls over 2015/2016. They have had 85 calls so far this year and in the month of March their Members volunteered 822 hours.
- **Natural Gas Compression Station** – Planning Board Chair John Eldred said Assistant Town Engineer Rick Armstrong deserves a big hand for assisting with the progress on the Natural Gas Compression Station Project so that the Planning Board is able to meet on April 11th. Mr. Husar asked if anything has gone to BMTS (Binghamton Metropolitan Transportation Study) because there is a concern regarding what it is going to do to traffic. John said everything has come back with the exception of the 239 Review.
- **Neighborhood Advisory Council** – Mr. Moss said he has been participating in the Neighborhood Advisory Council, which was recently formed by the Children's Home of Wyoming Conference. Mr. Moss encouraged Residents to look into the Committee and become involved in what the Children's Home does for our Community. The Children's Home is working to become more transparent as well as become involved in what our Community does for them. Mr. Moss believes there are some perceptions that would likely change if Residents considered becoming involved in the Advisory Council. Mr. Moss went as a Representative of the Town for the first meeting and a Hillcrest Civic Association Member was also present, as well as another Resident. Mr. Moss suggested

a Member of the Hillcrest Fire Department might want to consider becoming involved. The Council plans to meet four times a year, with the next meeting scheduled for June or July at 6:00 pm.

At 8:32 pm, Mr. Moss made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Pray.
Motion carried.

Melodie A. Bowersox, Town Clerk/sf