

**Town of Candor
101 Owego Road
Candor, NY 13743
Regular Meeting of March 9, 2021**

The Regular meeting of March 9, 2021 was called to order at 6:00pm with review and approving vouchers. At 7:00pm the Board opened up with a Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Supervisor Strosahl, Clm. Brixey, Clm. Williams, Clm. Reichert and Clm. Douglas

Others present: Attorney Pelella, Highway Superintendent Noble and Town Clerk Dence.

Guest: Planning Board Member Beebe, Webmaster Malone, 1 Press Representative, Riggs, Starkweather from EMS, Former REAP Representative Alpert and 1 resident.

Privilege of Floor: Robert Riggs gave a presentation for the EMS Squad titled The Squad Saved Us, Let's Save Them. The meeting was on YouTube and also Zoom for people to comment. The Squad has been in service for 57 years which consisted mostly of volunteers. The problem there are not enough volunteers to answer calls with increased training requirements; costs; lack of nearby training resources; increased responsibilities; personal liability impact of the 2019 NY Discovery Law; NYS stopped funding EMT classes in 2020 and dealing with COVID-19 and increasing labor costs. Expected 2022 deficit \$-435,000 which is based on staffing one full-time ALS/Director of Operations at \$30/hour plus Basic Life Support Paramedics at \$25/hour and drivers at \$15/hour sufficient to crew an Ambulance 24/7. The question is does the Town go into a contract agreement with EMS after having a hearing and passing a resolution to exceed the Tax Cap or does it become a District like the Fire Department which will be included in your taxes.

Supervisor Strosahl is leaning towards a contract; he has contacted Attorney Brad Pinsky from Syracuse which the Association of Towns suggested for he is familiar with these kinds of cases. A Public Hearing will be held at the Pavilion once the weather breaks.

M-19 Clm. Douglas moved, seconded by Clm. Williams to approve of the February 9, 2021 minutes as presented. Motion Carried.

M-20 Clm. Reichert moved, seconded by Clm. Douglas to approve the vouchers on Abstract 3 of 2021 as follows: General Fund Claim numbering 35-63 in the amount of \$52,754.00 and Highway Fund Claim numbering 25-48 in the amount of \$140,152.66. Roll Call Vote: Strosahl-aye, Brixey-aye, Williams-aye, Reichert-aye and Douglas-aye.

Monthly Reports of the Supervisor, Dog Control, Town Clerk and Code Enforcement were presented to the Board.

M-21 Clm. Reichert moved, seconded by Clm. Brixey to accept Gretchen Huizinga's resignation from Deputy Bookkeeper effective immediately. Motion Carried.

Committee Reports

Assessor - Clm. Reichert stated Assessor Spaulding has been processing Agricultural and Senior Exemptions which were due by March 1st. Spaulding will be doing road work soon to re-assess properties.

Building and Grounds – Supervisor Strosahl stated the Town Hall roof has been leaking; ice built up around the solar panels which were suppose to be removed a few years ago. He has contacted NYMIR our insurance company which will be sending an appraiser to look at the damage.

Code Enforcement - Clm. Brixey stated he turned in his monthly report with \$1,125 in revenues.

Justice – Clm. Douglas had nothing to report; Supervisor Strosahl stated Gretchen Huizinga turned in the Court audit for 2020.

M-22 Clm. Douglas moved, seconded by Clm. Brixey to accept the Court Audit for 2020 as presented. Motion Carried.

Cemetery – Clm. Williams will be giving an ad to Clerk Dence to place in the paper for the mowing services for the Town Hall and the Town's Cemeteries with the bids to be turned in by April 13, 2021.

Highway – Superintendent Noble stated it's been a long winter; Town Engineer Murray sent an email to Labella Engineer Consultants for them to submit an application for Bridge NY at the cost of \$1,000.

M-23 Clm. Williams moved, seconded by Clm. Brixey to approve Labella Engineering Consultants to process the application for Bridge NY at a cost of \$1,000. Roll Call Vote: Strosahl-aye, Brixey-aye, Williams-aye, Reichert-aye and Douglas-aye.

Superintendent Noble addressed the Board that the 10-Wheeler is being processed, gave information on graders to the Board; they actually went and looked at the grader from Bradco Supply in Towanda a 2015 for \$170,000.

Supervisor Strosahl suggested to Superintendent Noble that he rent 2 Street Sweepers at \$2800each/month; it was a hard winter and there's a lot of dirt and sand on the roads.

Dog Control – Clm. Brixey reported Dog Officer Liske turned in her monthly report.

Planning Board – Planning Board Member Beebe stated they are working on the new law regarding dead-end roads and they choose Candy Ross to replace Peter Ward on the Planning Board.

M-24 Clm. Williams moved, seconded by Clm. Reichert to appoint Candy Ross to take Peter Ward's place on the Planning Board to finish out his term which ends on December 31, 2021.

Board of Appeals – No Report given

Supervisor Strosahl received a request for financial support for the Tioga County Rural Economic Area Partnership (REAP) for the year of 2021 at a cost of \$1,040 (equivalent to .20 cents per capita).

M-25 Clm. Reichert moved, seconded by Clm. Douglas to pay REAP \$1,040 for this year to improve the life for all Tioga County residents in 2021 and beyond. Roll Call Vote: Strosahl-aye, Brixey-aye, Williams-aye, Reichert-aye and Douglas-aye.

Village Mayor Halstead is having a paper shredding day on June 4 & 5 at a cost of \$1,000 and has asked the Town if they wanted to partake; also having an electronic drop off the same day - .35/pound and \$70/pallet.

Supervisor Strosahl stated having a tire clean up on June 4 & 5 with each trailer costing \$2300 and suggested we get two trailers. Clm. Brixey asked if the Village was going to help with the cost.

M-26 Clm. Douglas moved, seconded by Clm. Brixey to accept the tire clean up being held at the Town Barns, electronic drop off and paper shredding to be held at the Village DPW on Rich Street on June 4 & 5 with the Town sharing the expense of electronic drop off and the shredding with the Village. Roll Call Vote: Strosahl-aye, Brixey-aye, Williams-aye, Reichert-aye and Douglas-aye.

M-27 Clm. Reichert moved, seconded by Clm. Douglas to look into hiring Attorney Brad Pinsky at \$250/hour to help out with the EMS Contract. Roll Call Vote: Strosahl-aye, Brixey-aye, Williams-aye, Reichert-aye and Douglas-aye.

Superintendent Noble requested Executive Session regarding a Town Employee.

M-28 Clm. Brixey moved, seconded by Clm. Douglas to go into Executive Session at 9:07 to discuss an employee.

M-29 Clm. Douglas moved, seconded by Clm. Reichert to come out of Executive Session at 9:22 and return to the Regular Board Meeting.

M-30 Clm. Douglas moved, seconded by Clm. Reichert to have Roger VanVorce moved to Working Forman with a .50/hour raise starting March 27, 2021. Roll Call Vote: Strosahl-aye, Brixey-aye, Williams-aye, Reichert-aye and Douglas-aye.

M-31 Clm. Douglas moved, seconded by Clm. Reichert to adjourn the Regular Meeting of March 9, 2021 at 9:25pm. Motion Carried.