

Town of Friendship Meeting Minutes

December 18, 2019

7pm

Deputy Supervisor Hall calls meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance observed by all.

Roll call: Deputy Supervisor Russell Hall-present

Councilperson: Jill Hoopes-present

Councilperson: Carolyn Carney-present

Councilperson: Linda Mascho-present

Also present: Attorney: David Pullen

Town Clerk-Patricia Schurr

Assemblage: Jim Monheim, Steve Ritter, B.J. Howe, Mike Bidwell, Oakley Sortore.

Motion to approve the Minutes from November 20, 2019 meeting, offered by Jill Hoopes, seconded by Linda Mascho. All approve.

Motion to approve the Supervisor's report for November 2019, offered by Linda Mascho, seconded by Jill Hoopes. All approve.

Motion to approve the audited bills for November 2019 in the amount of \$ 98,123.13, offered by Jill Hoopes, seconded by Linda Mascho.

Roll call vote: Jill Hoopes-aye, Carolyn Carney-aye, Linda Mascho-aye, Russell Hall-aye.

Motion to approve the attached end of the year transfers as submitted by Baldwin's Business Accounting firm including \$27.68 savings to T&A and \$50,000.00 water to pay back to Highway,#1 and #3 need to be explained from the email from Christiana(12/18/19) at Baldwin's before approval, offered by Jill Hoopes, seconded by Linda Mascho.

Roll call vote: Jill Hoopes-aye, Carolyn Carney-aye, Linda Mascho-aye, Russell Hall-aye.

**SUPERVISOR'S CONCERNS**

Springbrook springs on Mossbrook conveyance to Blouvet - Deputy Supervisor Hall advised Mr. Blouvet is not present at Board meeting tonight, however the cost of this conveyance of property to Blouvet will be more costly than the Town originally thought. Mr. Blouvet should contact Attorney Pullen directly to complete this property transaction.

**Ambulance Officer Elections-** Deputy Hall advised that the ambulance is part of the Town. The Ambulance is covering fewer calls due, and having no one that will respond to calls, there have been more complaints about the ambulance crew. There are a slate of officers that would participate but will not due to the liability of members that are there. They did have their elections with the few crew that they did have, in years past the ambulance had elections, but they would have to be confirmed/ approved by the Town Board. Deputy Hall will contact Tim Hall regarding this. Dilemma: MTS has certificate of necessity for the whole County and the Towns not meeting the response time. The Town could disband the ambulance, but as soon as you Give up your certificate of necessity; it is difficult to obtain a certificate, so Deputy Hall thinks it is better not to disband at this time. Trans Am is trying to get a certificate of necessity.

**PUBLIC CONCERNS:**

Steve Ritter questioned if anything has been heard about Armstrong communications and fiber optics. Deputy Hall advised there has been a delay between them and the utility companies.

Motion to set the Organizational meeting for Monday, January 6, 2020 at 7:00pm, offered by Linda Mascho, seconded by Jill Hoopes. All Approve.

Motion to advertise in the Town newspaper for non-collusive sealed bids for diesel fuel and unleaded gasoline for the Town of Friendship for the year o2020; Bid opening will be at the 1<sup>st</sup> regular board meeting in January at 7:05pm, offered by Jill Hoopes, seconded by Linda Mascho. All approve.

Motion to approve to reappoint Nathan Frutiger as a Board of Assessment Review member for the 5 year term ending 9/30/2024, offered by Linda Mascho, seconded by Jill Hoopes. All approve.

Motion to approve a Rear Fail mower for the Highway Department in the amount of \$7,191.00 through Montage Enterprises, offered by Linda Mascho, seconded by Jill Hoopes.

Roll call vote: Jill Hoopes-aye

Carolyn Carney-aye

Linda Mascho-aye

Russell Hall-aye

Motion to approve the 2020 Bell Jar License for the American Legion Post 1168, and the Friendship Fire Dept., Inc., offered by Jill Hoopes, seconded by Linda Mascho.

Request for water/sewer penalty forgiveness on account #0571 Jason Stupp, 45 Pennsylvania Ave., late fee \$41.58 total, due to he stated he never received his bill.

Motion to forgive the \$41.58 on penalty, offered by Jill Hopos, seconded by Linda Macho. All approve.

**DISCUSSION REGARDING BAIL REFORM**

OIC Officer Howe advised there are changes on Bail reform per Governor Cuomo, as of Jan. 1, 2020, most offenses will have to be only given an appearance ticket, whereas before for example someone was arrested for assault on an officer they were placed in jail with bail, now they have to let them go with just an appearance ticket. Officer Howe stated in 20 years, this is the worst that has happen in Public Safety. He is fearful people will be upset at the officers or the Town but per the new law they can do so little. All arrest records have to be sent to Belmont, any paper record, recordings, body cameras, Security camera recordings, and they have a small time frame to get it in, if any paperwork is missing to that case the person is let go and file gone as if it didn't happen.

OIC officer Howe is asking to purchase a 1200.00 tazer as the ones they have are almost absolute.

It was agreed that Officer Howe should go ahead and order the tazer. He advised there are about 20 inmates that will be let go out of the jail because of the new law.

**Part time help for Court**-Tabled due to Candayce (court Clerk) not at meeting. Deputy Supervisor Hall advised that he has spoke to Candayce before on this in the past.

**MILEAGE Reimbursement for Oakley Sortore under Public works** - Oakley Sortore's Dept. is unable to purchase a new vehicle at this time, Oakley is asking the board for approval for mileage reimbursement if he uses his own vehicle. He knows with the water going to Belvidere he will need to be down there. He has 3 employees, soon to be 4 employees total with only 2 operating vehicles. After board discussion the following motion was brought forth.

**Motion to short term** allow Oakley Sortore to keep track of mileage used for Town Business and be reimbursed for mileage reimbursement, offered by Carolyn Carney, seconded by Jill Hoopes. All approve.

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**Out of district water** committee, Linda Mascho, Jill Hoopes and Oakley Sortore met prior to the Board meeting to discuss Crossroads Homeowners to discuss how they would pay for their meters.

**Oakley Sortore/Shared Services**

Oakley Sortore suggested the Town with other Towns put together an Intermunicipal agreement to combat operator shortage, it an ongoing epidemic not having an operator. With an agreement, they help us we help them out. There would have to be upgrade certification involved then he could cover. Belmont's style plant will be what Friendship will eventually end up with, with the schooling then he will be already able to run Friendship's Plant without having to pay additional for someone to do it. Bolivar is already interested in this shared service, the operators first would have to see if this would work. Deputy Hall would see if he could get some information on this shared service.

**REPORTS RECEIVED**

Town Clerk Report  
DCO Report  
Shared Refuse Services with Cuba  
Justice Report-October  
Waste Water Report  
Water Report  
Public works Report

Motion to adjourn offered by Jill Hoopes, seconded by Linda Mascho.

Adjourned 8:35pm

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Schurr  
Town Clerk