

## TOWN OF FRIENDSHIP MEETING AGENDA

JULY 19, 2023

7PM

Supervisor Russell Hall calls meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance observed by all.

Roll call: Supervisor Russell Hall-present

Councilperson: Carolyn Carney-present

Councilperson: Linda Mascho-present

Councilperson: Steve Ritter-present

Also present: Patricia Schurr, Town Clerk

Assemblage: Karl Kruger, Les Dahill, George and Yvonne Marks, Dell & Michelle Baker, Dave Freeman, Mark Voorheis, George Ritter, Oakley Sortore.

Motion to approve the Minutes from June 21, 2023, offered by Steve Ritter, seconded by Carolyn Carney. All approve.

Motion to approve the Supervisor's Report for June 2023, offered by Linda Mascho, seconded by Carolyn Carney. All approve.

Motion to approve the Audited bills for June 2023 in the amount of \$ 97,179.73, offered by Steve Ritter, seconded by Linda Mascho.

Roll call vote: Carolyn Carney-aye

Linda Mascho-aye

Steve Ritter-aye

Russell Hall-aye

### SUPERVISOR'S CONCERNS:

#1 A Friendship employee has been approached by another Town offering them a wage above what they are making in Friendship. Towns are stealing employees from other Towns. How do you raise the rates of a part time when your full time does not even make that rate. Hard time trying to retain employees. Right now you can get \$17-\$18.00/hr working at Walmart. The Town will probably lose this person because this Town cannot meet the money demands.

#2 Article 7 Lawsuit- The Friendship Dairies is suing the Town of Friendship on their assessment. They want a 90% reduction in taxes. The Town of Friendship does have a commercial appraiser and Lawyer(Kurtholz). The Dairies has amended the offer and it is still going back and forth. The Dairies will end up getting a huge reduction and it will have a huge impact on the tax liability, and the residents of the Town of Friendship will have to pick up the difference. It is a commercial food business, their assessment should have gone down every year, it is worth less and less every day. When we settle we will owe the refund for 2022 and the 2023, we should lower the assessment now so we do not owe for 2024.

#3 Budget time is coming up- Dept. Heads to start working on their wish/need list.

Refuse worker's wages-Motion to approve Refuse driver's wage from \$16.22 to 18.00/hr. to be included in the next payroll check, pay period.

(civil service title: part time sanitation worker), offered by Linda Mascho, seconded by Carolyn Carney

Roll call vote: Carolyn Carney-aye

Linda Mascho-aye

Steve Ritter-aye

Russell Hall-aye

Motion to approve the refuse picker(civil service title :part time laborer) from \$14.70/hr. to \$16.50 hr., to be included in the next payroll check, pay period, offered by Linda Mascho, seconded by Steve Ritter.

Roll call vote: Carolyn Carney-aye

Linda Mascho-aye

Steve Ritter-aye

Russell Hall-aye

#### Pool Sewer Credit

Motion to approve the pool sewer credit for acct.#1440 for **a full pool fill** in the amount of \$73.22, offered by Linda Mascho, seconded by Steve Ritter. All approve.

#### Public Concerns-

Yvonne Marks and George Marks question why isn't the Rental Local Law enforced and she has made complaints before about different properties in Town two of which are Elmwood Ave. , garbage on the porch, front and back yard sewage in the yard. Also, there is the "burnt" house on Maple Ave. that needs to be down. There are nice houses on Elmwood Ave., then you have these garbage houses. Questions why we pay a Code Enforcement officer when he does nothing. Supervisor Hall thinks maybe our code enforcement is spread too thin, he also does the Town of Wellsville and works very well there. Supervisor Hall advises that there is no one else for code enforcement, you have to go through state training to even be a code enforcement officer. There is always the Consortium, but they dictate what you can and cannot do on your property such as what flags you can hang out, it's a control thing. If you think zoning is bad, this is worse. Karl Kruger stated that you give up individual freedoms. There is a process from a written complaint and the code enforcement has to follow that.

There is also the problem with residents putting out couches and heavy furniture 2-3 weeks before heavy pickup. It just sits there. D/t Homecomers next weekend the heavy pickup was changed to this Friday, to get everything off the streets.

There is a problem with the refuse tax that is assessed on different properties, it should not be based on the assessment, and this was agreed on however how should it be assessed? Flat rate? Maybe the refuse should just be dropped and the resident make arrangements for how their garbage gets picked up. It will be a lot more expensive. Supervisor Hall advised that it is up to the Police to have garbage that is prematurely out to be removed or to write tickets, but the police are working on a lot of other things that are of more urgency.

Dave Freeman Questioned why the roads that ATV's can travel on do not include Rte 275.

It was explained that the State does not want ATV's on state Roads.

He also stated that vehicles seem to be speeding 40-45 miles per hr. past his house on W. Water and Co. Rd. 31.

Supervisor Hall advised he would see about getting the speed sign placed out there and will let the Police OIC know.

Les Dahill is asking for the next budget if the Highway dept. could include N. Branch Rd., major repairs are needed. He also included work needed to be done on Mossbrook rd, however the Highway Dept. was just working on that road this past week. George Ritter advised the work on North Branch will be a

3 year project by the time they are done. The Town Board does not choose which roads to Budget for the next year, the Highway Dept. does that, the Town board just supports the Highway Dept. in whatever they decide.

Reports received:

Town Clerk report for June 2023

Highway Report

Dog Control Report

Water Report

Police Report

8:40pm Motion to go into executive session to discuss employees matters( Oakley Sortore and George Ritter asked into session), offered by Steve Ritter, seconded by Linda Mascho. All approve.

10:10 Motion to out of executive session back into regular session offered by Linda Mascho, seconded by Carolyn Carney. All approve.

10:12 Motion to adjourn offered by Carolyn Carney, seconded by Steve Ritter.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Schurr

Town Clerk