

Town of Caton Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting Minutes  
Meeting held at the Caton Town Hall - March 14, 2018

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Supervisor Lynn Tucker  
Councilman Paul Michaloski  
Councilwoman Jaime Card  
Councilwoman Michelle Fitzsimmons  
Councilman Timothy Scott

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Atty for the Town Stephen Maio  
County Legislator Carol Ferratella  
Town Clerk Avonne Dickerson  
Visitors

Supervisor called the meeting to order at 6 pm with the pledge to the flag.

**TOWN OFFICIALS REPORTS** for February 2018 as follows:

Highway Superintendent David Card-report viewed/filed.

Code Officer Al Buckland-report viewed/filed.

Constable Mike Smith-no report filed.

Dog Control Officer Bruce Akins-no report filed.

Justice Terri Divens-Bruffey-report viewed/filed with Supervisor only.

Assessor Katherine Deal-no report filed.

Supervisor Lynn Tucker-report as follows:

<b><i>Imma /Checking Accounts</i></b>		<b><i>Capital Reserves</i></b>	
General Imma	\$486,803	Highway Equipment	\$298,193
Highway Imma	\$666,147	Highway Repair	\$111,779
General Checking	\$1,509	General Building	\$18,521
Highway Checking	\$5,566	General Office	\$2,347
Payroll Checking	\$724.50	General Park	\$6,690
Capital Project Checking	\$172.69	General Retirement	\$25,000
Light District	\$4,709	General Insurance	\$50,000

**2017 Bookkeeper Audit**

Supervisor Tucker set the audit of the Supervisor's 2017 books for March 21, 2018 @ 10:00 am.

**Discussion from Supervisor Tucker**

Supervisor and Comprehensive Planning Committee had a difference of opinion about which survey was presented and approved by the Town Board at the November 8, 2017 Town Board meeting and also, which survey was actually mailed out to Caton residents.

He then talked about a petition that was presented to Town Clerk Dickerson on March 12, 2018, requesting a permissive referendum (town vote) for borrowing money to complete the new highway garage. He advised the Board that if the voters disagree to borrow money for the building, the Town will run out of money to continue the project and possibly the contractors may put a contractor's lien on the building, disallowing the Town to use the partially built garage.

**Petition for a Permissive Referendum**

At the current meeting of March 14, 2018 Town Clerk Dickerson presented the petition to the Caton Town Board, written as follows:

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*“ I, the undersigned, do hereby state that I am a duly qualified voter of the State of New York and an elector of the Town of Caton, County of Steuben, State of New York qualified to vote upon a proposition to raise and expend money in the Town of Caton, County of Chemung, State of New York; that my place of residence is truly stated opposite my signature hereto; that on February 14, 2018, the Town Board of the Town of Caton approved and adopted Resolution No. 001 authorizing and agreeing to seek a loan of \$350,000 to finance the completion of a new Town garage, as per the said resolution; and I do hereby protest against the adoption by act or resolution of Resolution No. 001 and the said authorization to seek said financing I further request that it be submitted to the qualified electors of the town affected, that is the Town of Caton, for their approval or disapproval pursuant to Article Seven of the New York State Town Law.”*

At 6:30 pm, Supervisor Tucker opened the floor for discussion of the new highway building.

Attorney Maio stated that if there are enough signatures on the petition to not borrow money needed to compete the garage project, the voters have the right to vote on borrowing the money. To verify validation of the petition, the Town would need to contact the Board of Elections at the County, as the law states there needs to be 5 % of residents that signed the petition and voted at the last gubernatorial election. Once petition is validated, the vote would be held within 60-75 days.

On the other hand, the petition may be rescinded which would make the petition request mute, as the item requested to vote on is no longer being requested.

On motion of Councilwoman Fitzsimmons seconded by Councilman Scott the following resolution adopted ROLL CALL VOTE-AYES 5 (Fitzsimmons, Card, Michaloski, Scott, Tucker) NAYS-0 to acknowledge that a petition has been presented to the Caton Town Board and also, to rescind Resolution # 001 on that petition, which was received by Town Clerk on March 12, 2018.

**Carol Ferratella**

Met with the Senior Citizens and brought extra pamphlets from the Office of the Aging pertaining to Seniors that may need help with most anything.

Also, there are 683 miles of roads in Steuben County. The cost to maintain those roads for this year is \$5.5 million dollars.

Survey on County website for broad band information.

**Minutes for January and February**

On motion of Councilwoman Fitzsimmons seconded by Councilwoman Card the following resolution adopted VOICE VOTE AYES 5-(Fitzsimmons, Card, Michaloski, Scott, Tucker) NAYS-0 to accept both sets of minutes with a correction to January minutes-(Councilman Scott did not make any motions as stated at the January meeting for approval of appointees as he did not arrive until 6:10 pm).

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**Budget adjustments**

On motion of Councilwoman Fitzsimmons seconded by Councilman Scott the following resolution ADOPTED ROLL CALL VOTE-AYES 5 (Fitzsimmons, Card, Michaloski, Scott, Tucker) NAYS 0-RESOLVED to move \$33.76 and \$48.99 out of account A1990.4 (Contingency) to account A8020.41 for shortages.

On motion of Supervisor Tucker seconded by Councilwoman Card the following resolution ADOPTED ROLL CALL VOTE-AYES 5 (Fitzsimmons, Card, Michaloski, Scott, Tucker) NAYS-0 to borrow \$110,606.00 out of General IMMA fund account for payment to the highway project account, to be paid back to General IMMA as soon as \$110,606.00 is received from CHIPS money budgeted for the highway building bills.

**PAYMENT of BILLS**

On motion of Supervisor Tucker seconded by Councilwoman Fitzsimmons the following resolution ADOPTED ROLL CALL VOTE-AYES 4 (Fitzsimmons, Michaloski, Card, Tucker) NAYS 0-RESOLVED and ABSTAINED-1 (Councilman Scott) to pay the monthly bills on Abstract # 3 as follows:

Lighting District voucher #0004: \$98.09  
Highway Fund vouchers #0301- #0318: \$33,145.82  
General Fund vouchers #0301- #0326: \$7,353.76  
Capital Projects vouchers: #0301-#0303: \$69,793.27

**Fire Department**

Report for February 2018 received and read.

**Justice Court**

On motion of Supervisor Tucker seconded by Councilwoman Card the following resolution ADOPTED VOICE VOTE-AYES 5 (Fitzsimmons, Card, Michaloski, Scott, Tucker) NAYS-0 to accept the Justice Court audit for 2017 as completed by Caton Town Board and to forward a copy to the NYS Unified Court System as required.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**2018 Caton Park Committee**

On motion of Supervisor Tucker seconded by Councilman Scott the following resolution ADOPTED VOICE VOTE-AYES 5 (Fitzsimmons, Card, Michaloski, Scott, Tucker) NAYS-0 to appoint the following residents to the Park Committee for year 2018:  
Peggy MacNaughton, Chair; June Gordon, Garry Coon, Barbara Cowles and Joni Kehoe.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Comprehensive Committee**

Councilman Michaloski gave Supervisor Tucker a copy of the notes from the Comprehensive Survey Meeting that was held at the Caton Fire Hall on March 7, 2018. Town Clerk has a copy available.

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**Network Capability for the Town**

Bob Lord and Councilman Michaloski met with Steve Manning regarding adding more network to Caton. No direct hope at this time only searching for State or Federal grants, etc.

**Meeting open to the Public**

- Bidding for the new highway building should have been done differently.
- Steuben County will be doing West Caton Road and Marsh Road this year.
- Frustration with residents is not the highway workers, but the condition of the roads.
- There are several towns that have poor road conditions.
- Board appreciates the Comprehensive Plan Committee for all of the time and effort in creating an updated Comprehensive Plan.

Meeting closed at 8 pm.

Caton Town Clerk, Avonne M Dickerson