

Minutes from Town of Caton Zoom Board Meeting February 10, 2021 – Caton Town Hall

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BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Paul Michaloski, Supervisor
Hank Bentley, Councilman
Jeff Wheaton, Councilman
Ed Rose, Councilman
Tim Scott, Councilman

OTHERS PRESENT

Representative from AMR Ambulance Services
Carol Ferratella, Legislator
Don Haussener, Bookkeeper
Town Clerk, Avonne Dickerson
Visitors

At 6 pm Supervisor Michaloski brought the meeting to order with the pledge to the flag.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Scott seconded by Councilman Bentley the following resolution ADOPTED VOICE VOTE-AYES 5 (Scott, Bentley, Rose, Wheaton, Michaloski) NAYS-0 to approve minutes from the January 13, 2021 Re-org and Town Board meetings as presented.

BILLS

On motion of Councilman Scott seconded by Councilman Wheaton the following resolution ADOPTED ROLL CALL VOTE-AYES 5 (Scott, Bentley, Rose, Wheaton, Michaloski) NAYS-0 to approve paying the monthly bills as follows:

General Fund-vouchers #0201 to 0221-\$215,482.11 Street Lighting-voucher #0002-\$113.00
Highway Fund-vouchers #0201 to 0210-\$47,654.73.

LEGISLATOR FERRATELLA

Stated that the COVID-19 cases are coming down.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- **Town Clerk Avonne Dickerson**-Town has received all of 2021 budgeted tax due.
- **Highway Superintendent Ray Riesbeck**-reviewed and filed. Presented a quote of \$30k to repair excavator. Board would like to view the estimate to understand what is wrong with the equipment and whom would be fixing it. Also, Superintendent does not have \$30k in his repair budget and Supervisor Michaloski said no budget transfers for this repair.
- **Code Enforcer Al Buckland**-reviewed and filed.
- **Constable Mike Smith**-reviewed and filed. Supervisor Michaloski has met with Mike about the Memorandum of Understanding.
- **Dog Control Officer Bruce Akins Jr**-not available.
- **Court Justice Russell Diederich**-available to Supervisor only.
- **Assessor Erin Mosher**-not available. Supervisor Michaloski has been in touch with her to improve her schedule and participation. The Supervisor and the Clerk have received numerous calls as to why residents are unable to reach her.
- **Councilman Wheaton**-Jody Fisher from Lawrenceville would like to meet with the Board as he is interested in doing the brush and ditch work.
- **Councilman Scott**-has been working on a maintenance of equipment schedule that the Highway Superintendent may be interested in using.
- **Board of Assessment Review**-date for this year is June 1, 2021.

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On motion of Supervisor Michaloski seconded by the Councilman Rose the following resolution ADOPTED ROLL CALL VOTE-AYES 5 (Scott, Bentley, Rose, Wheaton, Michaloski) NAYS-0 to approve Jeff Tobey as the replacement member for Michael Royce, to expire in 4 years.

- o **Supervisor Michaloski**-announced that Planning Board Chair Bob Lord is moving out of Town and will be resigning from the Planning Board.

Accounts	Amount	Capital Reserves	Amount
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General Imma	\$598,748	Highway Equipment	\$315,689
Highway Imma	\$171,283	Highway Repair	\$112,166
General Checking	\$ 4,979.71	General Building	\$ 18,620
Highway Checking	\$ 7,953.22	General Office	\$ 2,347
Payroll Checking	\$ 2.99	General Park	\$ 6,690
Light District	\$ 2,912.70	General Insurance	\$ 30,000
Capital Project	Closed	General Retirement	\$ 0

NEW BUSINESS

Zoom Meeting with AMR contract representative Jeff Neary concerning the annual contract. At this particular time, there has been no new contract available, however; the company can do an extension or an amendment to the current contract.

Questions and comments were heard from the Town Board. Mr. Neary stated the following:

The AMR is not under any contract with Steuben County to serve the Town of Caton.

There are 12 physical ambulances with approximately 60 fulltime and about 30-40 part time employees.

Contract costs are based on population and it is a for-profit organization that receives income through local town contracts and transports.

If a municipality does not have a contract and eleven ambulances were at other medical calls, there is no guarantee that the last available ambulance would come to a call for the municipality that does not have a contract.

Ambulances are automatically dispatched out with fire department calls for aid if needed.

The taxpayer helps the ambulance company to maintain their readiness to be able to answer calls and also offsets the cost of about 40% of emergency calls where patients are not transported. There is no fee to the patient if not transported, although items such as a diabetic wakeup (which is much more involved) may require billing.

Sometimes there are questions pertaining to billing and these can be reviewed with the AMR service for correction if needed.

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On motion of Councilman Bentley seconded by Councilman Scott the following resolution ADOPTED ROLL CALL VOTE-AYES 5 (Scott, Bentley, Rose, Wheaton, Michaloski) NAYS-0 to approve paying the AMR month by month at the previous contract rate while we wait for a new contract, including the January and February bills as presented.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Comprehensive Plan**
is complete and is now posted on the Town of Caton website.
- **Retirement resolution**
On motion of Councilman Scott followed by Councilman Wheaton the following resolution ADOPTED ROLL CALL VOTE-AYES 5 (Scott, Bentley, Rose, Wheaton, Michaloski) NAYS-0 to approve the following; BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Caton, Location code 30774 hereby, establishes the following standard work day for the following title and will report the official to the New York State and Local Retirement based on their record of activities:
Title-Town Clerk, Tax Collector, Registrar; Standard Work Day-6.00 hrs./day.
- **Year-end**
Bookkeeper Haussener met with Account Advisor Carol Golden and closed out 2020 with no major problems, however Town is unable to use workers comp reserve fund to pay for comp in 2021 as it was not budgeted.
- **Compressor station**
On motion of Councilman Scott seconded by Councilman Bentley the following resolution ADOPTED ROLL CALL VOTE-AYES 5 (Scott, Bentley, Rose, Wheaton, Michaloski) NAYS-0 to approve hiring a commercial assessor to proceed with the compressor station assessment situation and to share the cost of a commercial assessor with Steuben County and CPP School District.
- **NYS plan requirements for COVID-19 or other disasters**
Supervisor Michaloski provided a list of deemed essential workers allowed to work remotely if necessary and employees allowed to make purchases for the Town, subject to updates.
- **NYS Comptroller & Insurance Co. Requirements**
Complete inventory of town hall, highway dept. and park needed.
- **Annual internal audits**
Bookkeeper & Payroll-Councilman Bentley; Clerk & Tax Collection-Councilman Wheaton both at discretion of officials.

OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Discussed plans for a new Caton Fire Station.

At 7:30 pm, Supervisor Michaloski closed the meeting.

Caton Town Clerk, Avonne Dickerson