

April 13, 2022: April Minutes - Approved

Body:

**TOWN OF CLIFTON
REGULAR 2022 MEETING
APRIL 13, 2022
6:30PM CRANBERRY LAKE**

REGULAR MEETING:

CALL TO ORDER:

The Town of Clifton held their regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 13, 2022, at the Cranberry Lake Fire Department. The meeting was called to order at 6:32pm by Supervisor C Hooven. Minutes were taken by N. Russell.

| Board Member | Present | Absent | Town Officials | Present | Absent |
|--------------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Supervisor Charles Hooven | X | | Town Clerk, Karen Soltau | | X |
| Council Member William Griffin | X | | Deputy Clerk, Cynthia Whitmore | | X |
| Council Member Julie Lanphear | X | | Bookkeeper, Nancy Russell | X | |
| Council Member John Russell | X | | Highway Superintendent, Kelly Smith | X | |
| Council Member Mary Zuhlsdorf | X | | Code Enforcement Officer, Herb Snider | | X |
| | | | Dog Control Officer, Ronda Williams | | X |

GUESTS:

M. Leroux, M. Zimmer, S. Griffin, L. Denesha, D. Norman, G. Lutz, J. Perrault, R. Rusaw, R. Burg

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Board, having received a copy of the minutes for review prior to the meeting, voted to forego the reading of the minutes and approve the minutes with the following corrections being made:

- Under Correspondence – A resignation letter from the Code Enforcement Officer was submitted. Need to add the motion to accept resignation, was made by J. Lanphear with a 2nd by M. Zuhlsdorf, Ayes = 5, Noes = 0, Motion carried.
- Under Correspondence – Milton Cat was a quote for a screen plant engine.
- Under Old Business - To move forward with the NFSD project whether we get the WWIA money or not. It will be a \$25 or \$33 increase, 0% interest. Motion to move forward was made by J. Russell with a 2nd by W. Griffin. Ayes = 5, Noes = 0, motion carried.
- Under Old Business a typographical error, change the word moths to months in the first bullet.

Motion to approve the minutes with the corrections was made by J. Lanphear with a 2nd made by M. Zuhlsdorf.

- **Ayes = 5, Noes = 0, Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- L. Denesha was present to discuss what is happening at the county level.
 - talked with Pat Kelly of the IDA about the Newton Falls Mill, pieces are owned by several people, IDA had right of refusal, sounds like they are tearing down everything, warehouse included.
 - Updated on COVID numbers - appears to be on increase again
 - Department of Social Services appointed a new Commissioner, Joseph Sever was appointed
 - 2 bills in Albany NYS Senate bill and an assembly bill to impose an excise tax on the sale of ammo, County passed a resolution to oppose the tax, if passed money will go to a fund for a group to study handgun violence
 - Public Health Director - temp was appointed as the director
 - Sheriff donating bullet proof vest to Ukraine
 - Franklin county paid their staff \$3500 due to COVID and now the union in St Law Cty is requesting monies also. Franklin county furloughed their staff, St Law Cty never did, everyone got paid just as they were at work the whole time
 - Larry wants to know how his towns feel about giving the county employee's monies from ARPA. This will be discussed the last month of April at the finance committee meeting
- M. Zimmer

o Asked what was going on at the mill and who owned and who is tear it down. Kelly said someone out of Utica

· Star Lake Fire Department/District

o Chuck indicated that someone was supposed to be here from the Newton Falls Fire Commissioner's, at this time no one is here. Chuck offered to set up a meeting in Newton Falls with both sides to discuss, Rick was fine with that. Tuesday or Wednesday May 4, in the Newton Falls office or at Newton Falls fire station at 6 pm. Chuck will call April and arrange. Rick invited all to the Tuesday May 19th meeting at 630 pm at Star Lake Fire District meeting. All of District 6.

CORRESPONDENCE:

OLD BUSINESS:

· Resolution #7 - Board member to remain as employee at the Clifton Comm Ctr -
Roll call vote C. Hooven _Y_, J. Lanphear _Y_, J. Russell _Y_, M. Zuhlsdorf _Y_, W. Griffin - Abstained

o Motion to accept Resolution #7 was made by J. Russell with a 2nd by M. Zuhlsdorf

§ Ayes = 4, No=0, Abstain=1, Motion carried.

· Request Bids for the Clifton Comm Ctr - No bids at this time, had a couple of calls no appointments, will advertise in bargain hunter again

· Resolution #8 - will replaced Resolution #3 Authorizing supervisor to pay public utility claims

Roll call vote C. Hooven _Y_, J. Lanphear _Y_, J. Russell _Y_, M. Zuhlsdorf _Y_, W. Griffin - _Y_

o Motion to accept Resolution #8 was made by J. Lanphear with a second by W. Griffin

§ Ayes = 5, No=0, Motion carried.

· Resolution #9 - Order establishing hearing on Newton Falls Sewer District Improvements

Roll call vote C. Hooven _Y_, J. Lanphear _Y_, J. Russell _Y_, M. Zuhlsdorf _Y_, W. Griffin - _Y_

o Motion to accept Resolution #9 was made by J. Russell with a second by W. Griffin

§ Ayes = 5, No=0, Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

· Code Enforcement refunds - Total of \$150 to refund, discussion on what to do with this money. All cash will be given to Karen for her to deposit and refund person and checks and money orders will be mailed back

· Code Enforcement Application

Chuck would like to sit and meet with applicant to discuss what is expected. Does the town want to pay for training? John would like to know how much it would cost to train him and maybe get some kind of contract if we pay for it. Bill asked what Fine was going to do.

- Motion to call Nicholas Snyder and have a discussion with him and possibly make him an offer was made by J. Russell with a 2nd by M. Zuhlsdorf

§ Ayes = 5, No=0, Motion carried.

- Building permits - Chuck can't write building permits, so offering N. Snyder the position
- Town Garage roof - RSI was lowest bid, RSI tried to make a change to the project, we could save \$17,000 but C. Hooven doesn't want any changes to the bid.

- Motion to award to RSI \$237,290 was made by J. Russell with a 2nd by J. Lanphear

· Ayes = 5, No=0, Motion carried.

- Star Lake Board of Fire Comm - See Public comment
- CL Mountaineers support letter - Motion for Chuck to sign letter of support dated 4/13/22
- Motion to authorize was made by J. Russell with a 2nd by W. Griffin

§ Ayes = 5, No=0, Motion carried.

- Hauling clay for school ball fields – C. Hooven received a call from Matt Southwick at Clifton Fine Central School this afternoon and Matt feels 2 tandem loads will do 1/2 of the job. Chuck asked why not to do 4 loads and do it all. School will fill our trucks up. When we return. Travel to get in Whitehall. Kelly to send up to 2 of our trucks.

HIGHWAY:

- Bulldozer - Kelly discussed his current dozer year and what it needs to fix. Can't find one in the budget already approved. Found a 2009 Cat D5K XL tractor, comes with sprockets and chains. Can't afford to pay for with amt budgeted so set up a lease option. See Quote dated 4/13/22. Kelly says because it is a lease purchase we don't have to go out for bid, it is used and not on state contract.
- Motion to purchase 2009 Cat D5K Tractor with a lease over 4 years with \$1 buy out was made by M. Zuhlsdorf with a 2nd by J. Russell

§ Ayes = 5, No=0, Motion carried.

NF - mess uptown - sweeping - Cars and garbage

- Kelly wants to somehow make it so during the winter and sand sweeping the street to be clean. Lawyer sent us some sample law that we can look at to adopt. Asked if they could be ticketed. Need to look at a law. Will dig out the samples and look at.

- A couple of instants on Columbian road with trucks on the roads while it is posted. Worried about favoritism. If someone goes up and breaks the road that person is responsible for fixing. Chuck says he should be putting in the bargain hunter.

- Screening plant motor has been sent.

- Started sweeping roads

- December board meeting announced Terry Wendt was retiring, and we would look at hiring in May. Kelly proposed that 2 of his guys would take over the sewer dist. if they let him hire this next man. Would

like to send 2 guys to learn how to rebuild the grinder pumps, 1 is willing to go to school if town would pay for it. Talked about how much time each man gets for vacation and comp time. He feels he needs the manpower. Doesn't mind taking on more work to justify all 6 men. John told he can't do the 2 men in the sewer plant they need 1 year experience to get a license. They can learn how to rebuild the pumps. Chuck said he doesn't have the power to tell him what to hire or fire, however they had a plan to reduce to 5 men on attrition. Kelly wants them to know what he does may not be able to get done. Moe stated there has been lot of things added to what the men do. Kelly said at times he doesn't have enough men to flag. Kelly stated they are not just a highway department, that they always do what they are asked. Kelly brought up that they get paid \$46000 a year from the county road plowing and he feels that is almost the salary of a man. John mentioned that in 2012 they let Butch Pelo go and hired 1/2 a man to be laid off in the spring. Why is it not ok now? Kelly stated that he needs to know if he's getting a 6-man crew or if keeping to 5 1/2, if so, things will change.

- o Motion for a six-man crew was made by W. Griffin with a 2nd by M. Zuhlsdorf

§ **Ayes = 3, W. Griffin, M. Zuhlsdorf, C. Hooven – No's =2, J. Lanphear, J. Russell**

§ Chuck made it clear that he is to advertise and interview for this 6-man crew, and no more temps if guys are out

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

- Supervisor's Financial Report: motion to approve was made by J. Lanphear with a 2nd by W. Griffin

- o **Ayes = 5, Noes = 0, Motion carried.**

- Town Clerk's Report: motion to approve was made by J. Russell with a 2nd by M. Zuhlsdorf

- o **Ayes = 5, Noes = 0, Motion carried.**

- Audit the Bills: motion to approve was made by J. Lanphear with a 2nd by J. Russell.

- o **Ayes = 5, Noes = 0, Motion carried.**

- Abstract #15: motion to approve and sign was made by J. Lanphear with a 2nd by J. Russell.

- o **Ayes = 5, Noes = 0, Motion carried.**

| | AMOUNTS |
|----------|----------------|
| CF ARENA | \$10,192.06 |
| GENERAL | \$21,281.05 |

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| HIGHWAY | \$18,966.86 |
| NEWTON FALLS WATER DISTRICT | \$284.99 |
| NEWTON FALLS SEWER DISTRICT | \$2,071.92 |

ADJOURNMENT: Was announced at 8:21pm

The next Town Board meeting will be a Regular meeting on May 11, 2022, at the Cranberry Lake Fire Department, at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted

Karen Soltau

Karen Soltau, Town Clerk