

January 13, 2021: Minutes

Body:

**TOWN OF CLIFTON
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 13, 2021
6:30PM CRANBERRY LAKE**

CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the Town of Clifton was called to order at 6:32pm by Supervisor C Hooven.

Board Member	Present	Absent		Town Officials	Present	Absent
Supervisor Charles Hooven	X			Town Clerk, Karen Soltau	X	
Councilman Julie Lanphear	X			Deputy Clerk, Cynthia Whitmore		X
Councilman Cory Perrault	X			Bookkeeper, Nancy Russell	X	
Councilman John Russell	X			Highway Superintendent, Kelly Smith	X	

Councilman Mary Zuhlsdorf	X			Code Enforcement Officer, Herb Snider		X
				Dog Control Officer, Ronda Williams		X

;

L. Denesha, B. Griffin, M. Friden

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Board, having received a copy of the minutes for review prior to the meeting, voted to read the minutes and approve the minutes as read with corrections, motion to approve, C. Perrault a second was made by J. Russell. Ayes = 5, Noes = 0, Absent = 0

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

L. Denesha

- Covid-19 – 70 new cases as of 01/13/21, 3428 cases to date, 52 deaths. Vaccines have started to be administered to people in the 1A category. Category 1B for persons 65&older will be starting soon. St. Lawrence has the highest vaccination rate per 1000.
- St. Lawrence County organizational meeting on January 4, 2021, Bill Sheridan elected Chair and Larry Denesha elected Vice Chair.
- Investment performance we were down but still earned \$275,000.
- Sales tax, a resolution was passed at the full board meeting to honor the current distribution formula of sales and use tax through November of 2030.

- Resolution at the finance committee on sales tax for the City of Ogdensburg. They have two choices; they can accept the same distribution formula as the towns and villages, or they can preempt, and they would collect whatever sales tax they collect. Resolution was tabled.
- Resolution for the Sheriff's Department, to purchase 34 body cam units at a cost of \$60,000. \$50,000 will come from the Sheriff's Department contingency budget and \$10,000 will come from asset forfeitures.
- DANC – Broadband Survey on January 19th. They will canvas all of St. Lawrence county to see who has access to broadband.

B. Griffin

- Inquired about the current Covid-19 numbers and if the Town of Clifton should follow suit with the Town of Fine on closing to the public. Asked if other townships are doing the same.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Association of Towns is holding a virtual meeting for any board member.
- Contract for audit with Fust Charles for the year is \$12,730.00 and an hourly fee of \$125-175. Motion to accept contract was made by J. Lanphear with a 2nd by C. Perrault. Ayes = 5, Noes=0, Absent = 0, motion carried.
- Letter from Nicole Curry about the Arena. Supervisor Hooven explained that because the Covid-19 numbers are high and that the volunteers for skating are mostly teachers, they didn't want them to be exposed and not be able to teach. The Arena is to be winterized and closed due to Covid-19. A motion to close the Arena until spring was made by C. Perrault with a 2nd by J. Russell Ayes = 5, Noes=0, Absent = 0, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

- National Grid LED Streetlight conversion Supervisor Hooven contacted our customer representative and she sent him the same information we already have. Discussion on whether we should convert to LED, if we are not going to save a lot of money there is no need to continue.
- M. Zuhlsdorf inquired about the progress of finding a new library director.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Councilmen Lanphear mentioned that there are still boats parked behind the Clifton Community Center.
- Star Lake Fire Protection Contract for 2021. A motion to enter into this contract was made by C. Perrault with a 2nd by J. Russell. Ayes = 5, Noes=0, Absent = 0, motion carried.

HIGHWAY:

- Superintendent Smith request the permission to the purchase of 2021 F350 with a Western plow for \$50,017.50. A motion to purchase was made by C. Perrault with a 2nd by J. Russell Ayes = 5, Noes=0, Absent = 0, motion carried.
- Superintendent Smith brought to the boards attention that new man doors are needed at the Highway Barn, one in the front by his office, one in the back and one by the bookkeeper's office. He will need to present 2 quotes.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

- **Supervisor's report** – The board having examined the report had a motion to approve the report by J. Lanphear and seconded by C. Perrault. Ayes all; motion carried.

· **Town Clerk's report** – The board examined the Town Clerk's report. A motion was made by J. Lanphear, to approve the report and seconded by C. Perrault. Ayes all; motion carried.

· **Audit of the bills:** The board audited the bills for payment. A motion to approve payment of the bills as audited was made by J. Lanphear and seconded C. Perrault. Ayes all; carried.

	AMOUNTS
GENERAL	\$61,891.06
HIGHWAY	\$15,363.81
STAR LAKE/WOODHAVEN WATER DISTRICT	\$540.00
CF ARENA	\$1,261.95
NEWTON FALLS SEWER DISTRICT	\$25,316.59
NEWTON FALLS WATER DISTRICT	\$656.32

ORGANIZATION MEETING: Called to order at 7:30 by Supervisor Hooven.

- Consent Agenda will not be changed from last year.
 - We are looking to fill a spot on the Board of Election Review and on the Site Plan Review Board. Would like to see someone from the Newton Falls, Star Lake, Benson Mines area apply.
 - Discussion on the Dog Control Officer and the Code Enforcement Officer about not submitting monthly reports to the Board.
- Committee Assignments
 - Change to the Youth Commission. Appointments are Councilman Perrault and Russell
 - Change to the Clifton Fine Golf Course. Appointments are Bob LaTray and Councilman Russell.
 - All other appointments remain the same as 2020.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn at 7:40pm was made by J. Russell and seconded by C. Perrault. Ayes all; adjourned.

The next Town Board meeting will be a Regular meeting on February 10, 2021 in Cranberry Lake, at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted.

Karen Soltau

Karen Soltau, Town Clerk