FEBRUARY 11, 2019
ONTARIO TOWN BOARD MEETING

A regular meeting of the Ontario Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Frank Robusto at 7:00 p.m. in the Ontario Town Hall. Present were Supervisor Robusto, Council members: Joseph Catalano, Richard Leszyk, Scott TeWinkle, Jeremy Eaton, Superintendent of Highways Marilee Stollery, Code Enforcement Officer Brian Smith, Town Engineer/Water Superintendent Adam Cummings, Assessor Melissa Halstead and Town Clerk Debra DeMinck.

Absent: Library Director Sandra Hylen and Director of Recreation & Parks William Riddell

14 residents and visitors were present at portions of the meeting.

Mrs. Halstead led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda – A motion was made by Mr. Leszyk, seconded by Mr. Eaton, to approve the agenda as presented. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

Comments from the Public – A resident would like to submit a proposal for a different retirement plan for town employees. He is looking to the Board for direction. Mr. Robusto will get back to him.

Approval of Minutes - Mr. Robusto asked for approval of the minutes of the January 28, 2019 Town Board Meeting. A motion was made by Mr. TeWinkle, seconded by Mr. Catalano, to approve the minutes as presented. 4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Abstention (Leszyk) MOTION CARRIED

Correspondence – The Town Clerk read a letter from the Ethics Board determining that the sign located at Route 104 and Furnace Road is not unethical.

Mr. Robusto read the following statement:

I wanted to bring everyone up to date on a question posed by a community member in a recent meeting – regarding the sign posted on private property on Furnace Road and Route 104.

The sign welcomes people to the Town of Ontario as they drive on Route 104.

As many of you know, it’s a sign purchased by money out of my own pocket and a way of greeting people into our town with the number to my town office. I’ve made it my mission to be as accessible as possible to the people in our town, but with the question posed I decided to ask our Ethics Board to look into it.

Our Ethics Board informs me the sign can remain up, posing no ethical issue. I thank them for their time in looking into it, and I thank the messages and phone calls of support I’ve gotten from a number of people since the question was first brought up, knowing I am here to highlight everything our town has to offer.

Their support in how the town is moving forward cannot be understated, and while I have thanked them individually, I would also like my gratitude to be known publicly.

With that, I am always open to ideas. I would like to utilize the sign to have seasonal messages – whether that be to wish happy holidays to our neighbors or to highlight something great happening in our community.

I want the sign to start a conversation, and welcome any of you to partake in that. So please do not hesitate to contact me with ideas or messages you’d like to see placed there.

A motion was made by Mr. Robusto, seconded by Mr. Leszyk, to accept and file the correspondence. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

Department Head Reports -
Town Clerk – a motion was made by Mr. TeWinkle, seconded by Mr. Eaton, to receive the January 2019 report as presented. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

Superintendent of Water Utilities/Town Engineer – A motion was made by Mr. Leszyk, seconded by Mr. TeWinkle, to accept the January 2019 report as presented. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

Code Enforcement Officer – A motion was made by Mr. Catalano, seconded by Mr. TeWinkle, to accept the January 2019 report as presented. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

Sole Assessor – A motion was made by Mr. TeWinkle, seconded by Mr. Leszyk, to accept the January 2019 report as presented. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

Superintendent of Highways – A motion was made by Mr. Catalano, seconded by Mr. Eaton, to accept the January 2019 report as presented. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

Director of Recreation & Parks – No report

Economic Development Department – No report

Watershed Management Advisory Council – A motion was made by Mr. Leszyk, seconded by Mr. Eaton, to accept the January 2019 report as presented. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

Library – No report

Supervisor’s Financial Statement – A motion was made by Mr. Robusto, seconded by Mr. TeWinkle, to accept the January 2019 Supervisor’s Financial Statement as presented. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

Ontario Town Court – No report

Animal Control Officer – No report

New Business – Nick D’Angelo and Code Officer Brian Smith gave a brief overview of a Town house development that Mr. D’Angelo would like to proceed with. The address is 6775 Furnace Road and is in an SR zone that does not allow town homes. They will look into a Planned Unit Development (PUD) or change the zoning to allow for town homes. There is approximately 18 acres and they would like to construct 120 units. 50 ranch style and 10 two story. They would be rentals and they are hoping to appeal to senior citizens.

A motion was made by Mr. Leszyk, seconded by Mr. Eaton, to accept and approve the Water Utilities Staffing Evaluation Plan as submitted by the Superintendent of Water Utilities Adam Cummings. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

A motion was made by Mr. Eaton, seconded by Mr. TeWinkle, to authorize the hiring of Jacob Coomber to fill the position of Water Treatment Plant Operator covering second shift. His 26 week probationary start date is on or about March 4th at $19.92 per hour with all the license and shift differential add ons. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

A motion was made by Mr. Leszyk, seconded by Mr. Eaton, to approve and accept the 5-year Capital Improvement Plans (2019 -2023) for the Water, Wastewater and Laboratory facilities as recommended by the Superintendent of Water in a memo dated 2/7/19. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Cummings would like to close out the H76 Capital Project – Wastewater Treatment Plant Entrance Unit – and use the remaining $43,278 to pay towards remaining debt service associated with the Entrance Building as recommended by the Superintendent of Water Utilities in a memo dated January 29, 2019.
A motion was made by Mr. TeWinkle, seconded by Mr. Leszyk, to authorize the Supervisor and Water Superintendent to execute the necessary paperwork to participate in an Energy Management – Power Demand Response Program through NRG. This program is free and could potentially save the town money. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

A motion was made by Mr. Catalano, seconded by Mr. TeWinkle, to authorize Andrew Kujawski and Randy Balliet to attend the Grade 1 Advanced Operations Course from June 10-14, 2019 in Tonawanda, NY for an amount not to exceed $2,080 from fund F8310.4. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

A motion was made by Mr. Catalano, seconded by Mr. Leszyk, to authorize the Supervisor and Councilmen to sign the 2019 Agreement to Spend Highway Funds in the sum of $360,000 for general repairs and $146,912 for various improvements to Town highways and submit to the County Highway Superintendent for approval. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

**Reports by Town Board Members** – Mr. Eaton will meet next week with department heads to learn about their departments.

Mr. Leszyk stated this is his final year on the Town Board and would encourage members of the community to serve. He also stated that it has been a very enjoyable experience.

Mr. Catalano gave an update on the County Planning Board meeting. He also thanked Mr. Bebernitz from BHT for coming to the Highway Department and fixing a truck when it was acting up. He has met with both Justices and discussed payroll issues that may come up. The Justices also received a grant for new desks and a filing cabinet. He also thanked Mr. Robusto for helping with an ongoing asbestos problem. It has been tested and everything is alright. He also stated the sign in front of the courthouse needs sprucing up.

Mr. Robusto stated that on January 28th it was approved for centralized arraignments with the start date of April 1, 2019. He spoke a little on town hall renovations and showed the gaming and sales tax distribution for Wayne County Towns.

**Comments from the Public** – None

**Approval of Claims** - A motion was made by Mr. TeWinkle, seconded by Mr. Leszyk, to approve the abstract of claims for 2018 including vouchers #3925 through #3930 with a grand total of $32,000.25 and for February 11, 2019 including vouchers #133 through #266 (133-139 and 175 used by the Business Office) with a grand total of $1,324,409.24 and to authorize the Supervisor to issue payments for same. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

**Workshop** – Town Cleanup – There was a brief discussion on holding a cleanup. All board members were in agreement to have one as it is in the budget. The Highway Superintendent will contact Alpco and a cleanup date will be scheduled for spring.

**Executive Session** - A motion was made by Mr. Leszyk, seconded by Mr. TeWinkle, to move into an executive session at 8:30 p.m. for a personnel matter leading to said dismissal, removal, promotion, appointment, employment, discipline, demotion or suspension of a particular personal and pending litigation. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED
Reconvene – 9:29 p.m.

Adjourn - A motion was made by Mr. Eaton, seconded by Mr. Leszyk, to adjourn at 9:30 p.m. 5 Ayes 0 Nays MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Debra DeMinck
Ontario Town Clerk

The above minutes will become official upon approval of the town board.