

**TOWN OF BELFAST  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES  
May 15, 2017**

Present: Sandy Taber, Mike Hillman, Randy Ellison, David Cox, Annette Kish, Patty Oliver, Bill Nichols, Kevin Margerum, David Jennings

Community present: Tim Atherton, Bob Kish, Tom Yackeran, Rick Smith, Nick Miller

Supervisor Kish called the meeting to order at 7:00 and all stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Nick Miller requested a variance from the 50' requirement from the road to 30' for the construction of his new garage. That would make it even with his house. Bill Nichols stated he could see no problem and the Board granted the variance.

There was a question regarding a highway insurance claim and if the amount was to be taken out of general or highway. Baldwin's will be asked to verify where this should be taken from.

Roll call was taken for payment of the April Abstracts:

Water #50-62	\$9057.93
Street Lighting #05	\$644.51
General #91-113	\$10,199.35
Highway #75-93	\$28,992.42

Taber-aye, Ellison-aye, Hillman-aye, Kish-aye, Cox-aye      Carried

Councilwoman Taber moved to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2017 meeting with a second from Councilman Hillman. All in favor      Carried

The April, 2017 Supervisor's Report and the April, 2017 Town Clerk's Report were both approved by a motion from Councilman Hillman and a second from Councilwoman Taber. All in favor      Carried

David Jennings, Water Superintendent, reported on the following:

- Reported arsenic levels for Houghton came in at 1.7 (under max)
- Repaired water leak at Gladys Snyder's
- Read water meters and sent out bills
- Updated Annual Water Report and mailed to district users
- Put up banners on poles

Two firms picked up information for the water engineering study, but only Larson's submitted a bid. A few years ago, this same firm did a free abbreviated study and proposed Belfast buy their water from Houghton. The Board would like to know what needs to be done to make the Belfast water system self-sufficient and just use Houghton as a back-up. David will ask a representative from Larson's to come to the next board meeting.

Bill Nichols, Highway Superintendent, reported on the following:

- They have been grading and rolling
- Working on sidewalks and roadsides
- Paved Chestnut and part of Sherman Streets
- Will begin working on Crawford Creek next week
- Problem with RG&E and a buried cable that needs to be moved out of the highway right-of-way. Bill seems to think a lawyer needs to get involved, but the Board asked that he first contact RG&E to give them the opportunity to rectify the problem and if no satisfaction, go to the Public Service Commission before hiring an attorney
- The Gleason Hill erosion problem was brought up with the fact that Leonard Preston feels there is a fix to the problem without involving an engineer
- Dave Cox asked about the bend and the falling away of the road by Ruth Baillargeon's. The highway department can reach the bank from David's property
- The standing water situation on Main and Chestnut Street was mentioned and Bill said it was on his list of things to do. The main problem is there is electric running under the road.
- Another letter will be sent to NYS DOT regarding the dangerous crosswalk (or lack thereof) situation between the bank and the post office
- Annette and Bill will meet with Tom Becker next week regarding the pre-grant application for a new gradall

Kevin Margerum, Code Enforcement Officer, shared the following:

- Mr. Temple is slowly working on his property and ownership will change hands in June
- Moving along with the Gary Cassady case
- Remedy order issued to Cody Cobb for appearance, rubbish and garbage. Next step is an appearance ticket
- Remedy order issued to Herb Howe regarding the double wide on 305. Herb says plans to demo by mid summer
- 24" by 24" DANGEROUS BUILDING signs, a new State requirement, need to be obtained and placed on abandoned buildings. Questions arose as to who will pay for the signs (approximately \$29 each including shipping). Dave Jennings said perhaps the Fire Department could get them cheaper, find a grant somewhere. Also suggested that Cathy Youngs' office may have funding or the Association of Towns

The Teamsters negotiated contract with the Highway Department runs out December, 2017. Dave Cox was appointed to head an ad hoc committee to review the new proposals and will have information at the next board meeting.

Councilman Hillman moved and Councilman Ellison seconded to go into executive session at 8:20 p.m. to discuss personnel.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:35 p.m. with a motion from Councilman Cox and a second from Councilwoman Taber.

Councilman Ellison moved and Councilwoman Taber seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Oliver  
Town Clerk

