

**Town of Belfast**  
**Minutes**  
**Regular Meeting 8/17/2020**

Present: Mike Hillman, Andrew Chamberlain, Josh Cole, David DeRock, David Jennings, Patty Oliver, Bob Kish, Kevin Margerum, Tim Atherton

Public Present: Vicki Enders, Will Enders, Robin Owens, Mike Unfus, Jeremy Histed, Christina Histed, Charles Hull, Joe Curcio, Jodi Patterson, Rick Smith, Maggie Thompson

Supervisor Jennings called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and all stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jeremy Histed spoke regarding a variance that would allow him to install vinyl skirting on a mobile home. The fact that a former supervisor allowed for vinyl skirting on a mobile home on the same road a couple of years ago was brought up. Councilman Chamberlain moved and Supervisor Jennings seconded to allow for the skirting variance. All in favor                      Carried

Supervisor Jennings stated that after the 2021 budget is approved, the 2009 local law regulating the placement of mobile homes be reviewed and updated.

Vicki Enders spoke regarding the dangerous roof situation on 23 Main Street. Kevin Margerum will write a letter to the County to notify them that the building could be in danger of collapse. He will also make contact with owner Dillon Harrington or Steve Diffenderfer, or even Bruce Harrington for permission to enter the building. If he doesn't receive permission to enter from the property owners, he will get an administrative document that would allow him to access the building to check for safety issues.

Due to the fact there was no tax auction this year, folks are unsure of how to proceed with foreclosures. Councilman Chamberlain said he spoke with Jena Kelley from the County Clerk's office along with someone in Albany. The woman from Albany stated that if one is interested in a property, pay the back property taxes to the property owner and that property owner would/should turn over the title to the property. Supervisor Jennings stated that surrounding counties are holding their tax auctions on line and he's unsure why Allegany County couldn't do the same.

Joe Curcio spoke regarding his efforts to revitalize the Town of Belfast and make it esthetically desirable. He owns several buildings on the Main Street and has installed

new doors, windows, electric, paint, etc. He intends to turn the top floors of the buildings into apartments.

Jodi Patterson spoke regarding a website (belfastny.com) she is building regarding the Town of Belfast and she would like it to link with the website we already have, belfastny.org. She stated that there are many areas of interest and historical events in and around Belfast that need to be expounded. Both she and Joe encouraged board members to check out the website.

Chuck Hull attended the meeting to ask if he needed a building permit to construct two agricultural buildings. Kevin Margerum answered that if the buildings are dedicated strictly to agricultural use, he did not need a building permit.

Chuck Hull went on to ask Supervisor Jennings about theseptic system on Dave's piece of property on 305 where there are 5, sometimes 6 campers. Mr. Jennings stated that he was in compliance with the County Health Department and Mr. Hull was welcome to come and inspect things for himself as well as contact the Health Department.

The presentation of the July bills were approved by a motion from Councilman DeRock and a second from Councilman Cole:

Highway	105-115	\$6305.95
General	118-137	\$21,904.26
Street Lighting	08	\$645.27
Water	59-67	\$10,335.10

DeRock-aye, Cole-aye, Chamberlain-aye, Hillman-aye, Jennings-aye All in favor  
Carried

Because there was a coding issue on the July Supervisor's Report, it was tabled until the next meeting along with the line transfer requests. Supervisor Jennings will be in contact with Baldwins for clarification.

Councilman Hillman moved to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2020 meeting.  
Councilman Cole seconded. All in favor Carried

The Town Clerk's report, dated July, 2020 for the June accounts, was approved by a motion from Supervisor Jennings and a second from Councilman DeRock. All in favor  
Carried

Water Superintendent Atherton's report contained the following:

- continue disinfecting park/playground
- weed wacked grass on sidewalks on Main St.
- read water meters and and replaced old meters

- mowing as necessary
- trimmed hedges at library and town hall
- installed LED lights around town hall building
- turned on water at residence, investigated leak to residence
- have two young men helping from Summer Youth Program for next five weeks

Highway Superintendent Kish reported the following:

- water problems on the Art McClay Road
- two bridges have some problems
- crosswalks are being done
- promises from County regarding the cemetery road/guardrails
- will put millings down on cemetery road
- mowing and ditching/grading
- Murray Hill holding up nicely
- bricks around trees on Main St. bad, but not Bob's problems

Supervisor Jennings mentioned the warning letter from DEC regarding spreading brine on Coyle Hill. Mr. Kish said it was a pretty common practice to spread the brine.

Mr. Kish stated that he would dump some gravel in the ruts by Chuck Hull's house.

Code Enforcement Officer Margerum reported that Gwen Ashford has not moved the shed by her tiny houses because she has to take down some trees first. If she finds she cannot move the shed, she will demolish it.

He has talked with Terry Sisson regarding his old garage/storage facility on South Main. Terry wanted to know who complained and went on to state he has an interested buyer in the property and would see about cleaning up. Mr. Kish stated that Lenny Preston from Soil and Water informed him that work would begun out back of Sisson's building to keep the bank from eroding. Mr. Margerum stated that they would need a local Flood Plane Permit through the municipality.

The sump pump issue at 4 Chestnut Street behind the library has not been rectified. Kevin said he's sent them a letter along with a letter to the owners of the Allegany Grill. Kevin has sent a letter to Ms. Robinson on 23 Chestnut Street regarding the dangerous barn, but he will send a second letter.

Kevin has been busy issuing building permits and doing on site inspections. There is a MACE meeting scheduled for August 18 which Supervisor Jennings will be attending. Kevin said one of the issues to be addressed at that meeting is issuing permits for interior renovations. It has been a requirement in the law for years, but never acted upon.

Regarding the ownership of the Davenport property, Kevin says that Lavonne has a paper stating that she is NOT the owner. Supervisor Jennings will visit Lavonne and get a copy of that paper.

Supervisor Jennings stated that he had spoken with Mr. Buck from Pullen's office regarding the Cassady property. It may have to start from square one and may cost \$4 to \$5 thousand dollars.

The new Town Hall roof has been finished and the digital sign in the park is being worked on this week.

Supervisor Jennings will meet with Pullen's office to go over the proposed Non-Union Employee Policy as well as review the Noise Ordinance that was written years ago but never filed with the State.

A budget meeting with Baldwin's office is scheduled for Monday, August 24 at 1:30.

Councilman Chamberlain asked about a re-entry plan and if the Town was required to do one. Councilman Hillman stated he thought it would be a requirement.

Supervisor Jennings shared an e-mail encouraging everyone to fill out the census form. To date, only 15% of the residents have sent theirs in. It can be done on line.

Supervisor Jennings shared an e-mail from the Health Department stating that there was funding available to those having residential septic problems. They are trying to do away with cess pools.

Mr. Kish asked about the Sexual Harassment training required by October 15. Arrangements will be made with Lee James from the insurance office to conduct the training.

The Board was reminded of the special meeting on Monday, 8/31, at 7:00 p.m. to work on the 2021 budget and discuss personnel.

Councilman Chamberlain moved and Councilman Cole seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Oliver

Town Clerk