

**TOWN OF BELFAST
MINUTES REGULAR MEETING
2-15-2021**

Town officials present: Mike Hillman, Andy Chamberlain, Josh Cole, Bob Kish, Tim Atherton, Patty Oliver

Others present: David Cox, Leslie Clagett, Rodney Hull, Chuck Hull, Rick Smith, Justin Slater

Deputy Town Supervisor Hillman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and all stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Visitors with questions or concerns were asked to speak. Rodney Hull inquired about a draft of a noise ordinance that was briefly discussed at a previous meeting. It was explained that the draft was prepared from a template of another town and “Belfast” was inserted in place of the other town’s name. The Board was given the draft at a board meeting for their perusal, but it was not discussed in length and no action was taken at that time. Conversations with the State Police, after the fact, provided information that noise ordinances were hard to enforce and the better solution was to call them to give the offending parties a warning. Chuck Hull asked that the minutes reflect that the Town was not pursuing a noise ordinance, which is true at this time. However, this does not rule out that the subject will not come up again in the future. Folks were asked to remember that before a Local Law can be made, there must first be a Public Hearing where the facts are presented.

Councilman Hillman requested that he or any board member be contacted first about questions or concerns regarding town issues rather than they be aired on Facebook where assumptions can be made.

Justin Slater informed the Board that he was considering starting a slaughter house in the old River Valley building on Route 19. He had some questions regarding ordinances and water. He was directed to speak with Kevin Margerum, our Code Enforcement Officer and Tim Atherton, Water Superintendent.

The December vouchers were approved by roll call:

Highway	#16-29	\$5791.81
General	#23-43	\$5771.32
Water	#11-23	\$8818.55
Street Lighting	#02	\$731.96

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

Carried

The December, 2020 meeting was cancelled, therefore there were no minutes.

Minutes of the January 4th meeting were approved by a motion from Councilman Cole and a second from Councilman Chamberlain. All in favor Carried

The Supervisor's Report for the month of December, 2020, was approved by a motion from Councilman Cole and a second from Councilman Chamberlain. All in favor Carried

Councilman Chamberlain moved to approve the Supervisor's Report for the month of January, 2021 and Councilman Cole seconded. All in favor Carried

The Town Clerk's Report, dated December, 2020 for the November 2020 accounts, was approved by a motion from Councilman Cole and a second by Councilman Chamberlain. All in favor Carried

Highway Superintendent Bob Kish reported the following:

- Resolution 1-2021 entitled Resolution Approving the Mutual Aid and Agreement Between the Municipalities of Allegany County needs to be passed, signed and sealed
- Informed the Board of a January 11th incident with an employee that resulted in a power outage on White Creek Road
- Informed the Board that he received 15% of the CHIPS money back (20% was deducted this year)
- Bo Preston has started taking trees down in town
- Salt and sand usage is below average so far
- Overtime is below average so far
- Tom Yackeren will be having surgery on March 10 and may be out for 4 to 6 weeks
- Equipment is holding up well

Water Superintendent Tim Atherton reported the following:

- The expensive water testing that was proposed by the DOH does not have to be done
- Continue to check playground daily
- Cleaned up park from Christmas trees and put Christmas stuff away
- Water tank check chl....all good
- DEC Report has been finished and sent and AWQR for 2020
- Keeping up on everyday jobs

- Street lights around town have the new LED
- Bat in the Library....not sure if it's gone
- Replaced light switches in the Library annex
- Worked on getting a quote to upgrade meters and readers
- Plowing and salting when necessary

Water meters are obsolete and cannot find a replacement company. Distributed a quote from Schmidt's Wholesale, Inc. for replacing Badger Meters, upgrading the meter reading system along with training for the Board's perusal. Mr. Atherton will ask the representative to attend the March meeting at 6 p.m.

Councilman Hillman stated that he thought some of the replacement lights seemed brighter than others. Councilman Chamberlain replied that lights are being replaced equivalent to what they were originally.

Noone was here for a Code Report or a Library Report.

Councilman Cole moved and Councilman Chamberlain seconded to update certain fees of the dog licensing law, Local Law 1-21. A copy is attached to the minutes. All in favor. Carried

A motion was made by Councilman Chamberlain and seconded by Councilman Cole to approve Resolution 2-2021 to Abolish the Office of Elected Tax Collector/Receiver of Taxes and Provide for an Appointed Tax Collector/Receiver of Taxes. All in favor Carried (A copy is attached to the minutes)

Councilman Cole moved and Councilman Chamberlain seconded to approve Local Law 2-2021 which provides for rescheduling of the date for hearing complaints by the Board of Assessment Revies. All in favor Carried (A copy is attached to the minutes)

A public hearing is set for March 15, 2021 at 6:45 to discuss both Local Law 1-2021 and Local Law 2-2021.

Councilman Hillman reported to the Board that Judge Young had received a grant in the amount of \$984 in order to purchase a new fire retardant file cabinet and some file boxes.

There were two applications for Dog Control Officer. Before appointing an officer, Councilman Hillman wanted an opportunity to interview both candidates. The

appointment was tabled until the March meeting and interviews will take place before then.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 by a motion from Councilman Cole and a second from Councilman Chamberlain.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Oliver
Town Clerk