

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING  
October 13, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Burke Town Board was held on October 13, 2020 at the Burke Town Court House. Supervisor Bill Wood declared the meeting to order at 6:58 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was said.

Roll Call:	
Councilman:	Arnold Lobdell Tim Crippen Jim Otis Patrick Downing, absent
Supervisor:	Bill Wood
Supt. of Highways:	Larry LaPlante
Town Clerk:	Elizabeth Downing
Bookkeeper:	Linda Trudell
Code Officer:	Jim Dumont

This Meeting is being voice recorded by the Burke Town Clerk, Elizabeth Downing, as always.

A motion to accept the September 8, 2020 minutes as read was made by Tim Crippen and seconded by Arnold Lobdell. Roll Call: Arnold aye, Tim aye, Pat absent, Jim aye and Bill aye.

A motion to accept the September 22, 2020 minutes as read was made by Jim Otis and seconded by Tim Crippen. Roll Call: Arnold aye, Tim aye, Pat absent, Jim aye and Bill aye.

No Public Comments were made.

New Business:

1. Barton Pitts and Rod Morrison presented a new site plan for the Burke Solar LLC Project. The solar arrays will be moved approximately 40 feet south and vegetative screening will be added. A new Decommissioning Plan and the Full Environmental Assessment Form parts 2 and 3 were given to the Burke Town Board. These documents will be addressed by the new Engineering Consulting and Law Firms the Town Board will be hiring in the future.
2. Greg Mountain of The West Firm, PLLC addressed the Board. The West Firm are attorneys that provide legal assistance with Renewable Energy Regulatory Permitting, Compliance and Enforcement. A new process for permitting called Executive Law 94C put into effect in April 2020 makes the permitting process more streamlined and it is recommended that Municipalities takes steps to keep pace with the new process. Resolution #14-2020 - A motion was made by Arnold Lobdell and seconded by Tim Crippen to pass resolution to retain the services of The West Firm, PLLC as the legal representative on Renewable Energy Projects in the Town of Burke. Roll Call: Arnold aye, Tim aye, Pat absent, Jim aye and Bill abstain.
3. Stephen Le Fevre and Bryce Dingman of Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C. addressed the Board. Barton & Loguidice is a consulting firm whose practice areas include engineering, environmental science, planning and landscape architecture. Resolution #15-2020 - A motion was made by Tim Crippen and seconded by Arnold Lobdell to pass resolution to retain the services of Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C. as the civil and engineering consultant on Renewable Energy Projects in the Town of Burke. Roll Call: Arnold aye, Tim aye, Pat absent, Jim aye and Bill abstain.
4. Kevin Sheen of Terra-Gen addressed the Board. Terra -Gen continues to sign up landowners and conduct environmental testing for the proposed North Country Wind Farm. He will keep the Board informed of their progress.
5. The 2021 Tentative Budget was discussed. Linda Trudell, Burke Bookkeeper, stated that the 2021 Budget at this time will be over the tax levy cap by \$67,500.00. Linda needs to talk to the accountant to see how much money from the funds left over that the Town needs to carry over into 2021 as appropriated balances. This money has been going into the savings accounts for years and has not been added to the appropriated balances on older budgets. A 2021 Budget Work Session was scheduled for Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. at the Burke Courthouse.

The Highway Committee did not meet.

Highway Superintendent Larry LaPlante's Report:

1. Paving on the Fluery Road is finished.
2. The Burke Highway Department is assisting with paving in the Town of Chateaugay.
3. A culvert was replaced on the Griffith Road.
4. The John Deere tractor has been put back together.
5. Broken manifold bolts on the 2004 Mack Truck were replaced.
6. U bolts on the rear springs of the 2009 Mack Truck were replaced.

7. The new Volvo plow truck was invoiced on October 9, 2020 and will be in Watertown, NY soon. The Estoppel notice for the USDA truck loan was placed into the Malone Telegram on October 9, 2020.
8. Shoulders along the newly paved roads in Burke are being done.

No Old Business was brought before the Town Board.

The Code Officer collected \$125.00 for the month of September. A motion to accept the September 2020 Code Officers Report was made by Arnold Lobdell and seconded by Jim Otis. Roll Call: Arnold aye, Tim aye, Pat absent, Jim aye and Bill aye.

The accountant has recommended that separate savings and checking accounts be set up for Highway Townwide and Highway Outside. A motion was made by Tim Crippen and seconded by Arnold Lobdell to establish separate savings and checking accounts for Highway Townwide and Highway Outside. Roll Call: Arnold aye, Tim aye, Pat absent, Jim aye and Bill aye. Budget Amendments to fund depleted Highway Health Savings Accounts have not been done at this time. A motion was made by Arnold Lobdell and seconded by Jim Otis to table the September 2020 Financial Report. Roll Call: Arnold aye, Tim aye, Pat absent, Jim aye and Bill aye.

No Public Comments were made.

Bills were paid.

A motion to adjourn at 9:27 P.M. was made by Jim Otis and seconded by Tim Crippen. Roll Call: Arnold aye, Tim aye, Pat absent, Jim aye and Bill aye.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth A. Downing, Town Clerk



Recorded by, Elizabeth A. Downing, Town Clerk