

END OF THE YEAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
December 29, 2020

The End of the Year meeting of the Burke Town Board was called to order on December 29, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. at the Burke Town Court House and Municipal Offices by Supervisor Bill Wood. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. A moment of silence was observed to pay respects to 2 Burke residents who died: Donald Johnston, who was a Town Justice for 29 years and Vedora Maloney.

Roll Call:

Councilmen:

Arnold Lobdell

Tim Crippen

Jim Otis

Pat Downing, absent

Supervisor:

Bill Wood

Supt. of Highways:

Larry LaPlante

Town Clerk:

Elizabeth Downing, absent

Bookkeeper:

Linda Trudell

A motion to dispense with the reading of the previous minutes was made by Tim Crippen and seconded by Jim Otis. Roll Call: Arnold aye, Tim aye, Pat absent, Jim aye and Bill aye.

The following people were noted as possible replacements for the Town Clerk position by the Town Supervisor but have declined: Kate Barrett, Diane Ashline, Tammy Spinner, Kristine Spinner, Beth Lubold, Jill Steiner, and Debbie Harrigan. The following people asked by the Town Supervisor, have shown an interest in filling the position for the Town Clerk: April Gokey, who will talk to Elizabeth Downing, Town Clerk about the position, Tampa Debyah, who will likely decline the position and Judy Tavernier, who is interested in the position and is currently a Notary. Tim Crippen has asked Tina Wade but has not heard back at this time. Arnold Lobdell has asked Darlene Abbott, but she has declined the position. A person will be appointed to fill the position in January 2021 until January 2022.

Supervisor Wood has asked Keith Trudell if he interested in fulfilling the vacant Town Councilmen position. He has shown interest. Mary Moore and June Parmeter were also recommended. A person will be appointed to fill the position in January 2021 until January 2022.

The Town of Burke will need to draft a COVID-19 Public Health Plan per Governor Andrew Cuomo's directive. The Franklin County's plan is being used for guidance. A plan must be presented to the Union's by February 2021.

The Ambulance District has received a letter from Hannigan Law Firm, PLLC, the law firm representing the Ambulance District formulation requesting a retainer fee of \$3,500.00. A motion was made by Tim Crippen and seconded by Jim Otis to pay the Town of Burke's share of the Harrigan Law Firm, PLLC's retainer fee of \$1,166.66 for the Ambulance District formulation. Roll Call: Arnold aye, Tim aye, Pat absent, Jim aye and Bill aye. Additional funding will be paid by the District. A motion was made by Arnold Lobdell and seconded by Jim Otis to give the Town Supervisor, Bill Wood permission to sign the Ambulance District retainer fee letter with Harrigan Law Firm, PLLC for the Town of Burke. Roll Call: Arnold aye, Tim aye, Pat absent, Jim aye and Bill abstain.

Barton Pitts, from Nexamp, will be at the January 2021 Meeting to update the Board on the progress of the Burke Solar Project located on Robert Johnston's property.

A letter was received from Franklin County stating that their tax numbers correlate with what was adopted in the 2021 Burke Town Budget.

A letter dated December 15, 2020 was received from the Friends of the North Country updating the Franklin County Hazard and Mitigation Plan.

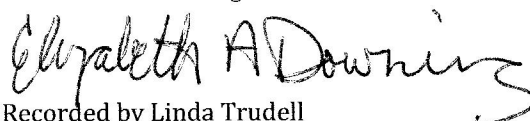
Judge Miller is required to have an annual audit of the Justice Court performed by the Board. Court Clerk, Linda Trudell, informed the Board that the Court's bookkeeping will be done in January 2021. Supervisor Wood will appoint Board members to perform the Justice Court audit at the January 2021 Meeting.

Bills were paid.

A motion was made by Jim Otis and seconded by Tim Crippen to transfer \$7,000.00 from Account DA200.1 Highway Savings to Account #DA200 Highway Checking to cover payroll until the CHIPS funding is received. Roll Call: Arnold aye, Tim aye, Pat absent, Jim aye and Bill aye. A motion was made by Arnold Lobdell and seconded by Tim Crippen to accept the Bank Reconciliations. Roll Call: Arnold aye, Tim aye, Pat absent, Jim aye and Bill aye.

A motion to adjourn at 7:29 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 by,
Elizabeth A. Downing, Town Clerk



Recorded by Linda Trudell