

TOWN OF GHENT
TOWN BOARD MEETING
March 16, 2017

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board was held March 16, 2017 at the Ghent Town Hall, Route 66, Ghent, NY. Supervisor Benvenuto opened the meeting at 7:05 pm with a pledge to the flag.

Present were: Michael Benvenuto	Supervisor
Charles Wood	Councilman
Peter Nelson	Councilman
Patti Matheney	Councilwoman
Mallory Mort	Councilman
Matthew Cabral	Attorney for Town

Also present- 4 audience members.

MOTION #1 TO OPEN THE MEETING FOR PUBLIC COMMENT made by Councilwoman Matheney, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Wood, Nelson, Mort, Matheney

Nays: 0

Gunnar Wordon- Thanked the Town Board and Councilman Mort for presenting to the Village Board the idea of the placement of charging stations within the Village.

MOTION #2 TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC COMMENT AND OPEN MEETING made by Councilman Mort seconded by Councilwoman Matheney and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Matheney, Wood

Nays: 0

MOTION #3 TO ACCEPT MINUTES OF TOWN BOARD MEETING ON FEBRUARY 16, 2017 made by Councilman Wood, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Wood, Matheney, Mort, Nelson

Nays: 0

CORRESPONDENCE:

A letter regarding the Mid Hudson Watershed Discovery Process; Fairpoint has been acquired by Consolidated Communications; Charter sent information regarding the new contact for this area; Viridan sent notice of our fixed rate change as of April 12, 2017. Food Pantry numbers for February 2017 Families- 87, Children 92, Adults 180, Seniors 34, New Clients 5 and 4173 pounds of food.

MOTION #4 TO ACCEPT CORRESPONDENCE made by Councilman Mort, seconded by Councilman Wood and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Wood, Matheney, Mort, Nelson

Nays: 0

DEPARTMENTS:

MOTION #5 TO ACCEPT THE BUILDING INSPECTORS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY made by Councilwoman Matheney, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Wood, Nelson, Matheney, Mort

Nays: 0

MOTION #6 TO ACCEPT THE TOWN CLERK / TAX COLLECTOR REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY made by Councilwoman Matheney, seconded by Councilman Wood and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Wood, Nelson, Matheney, Mort

Nays: 0

PLANNING, ZONING AND COMMITTEES:

MOTION #7 TO ACCEPT THE PLANNING BOARD MINTUES FROM JANUARY 4 AND 11, 2017 , FEBRUARY 1, 2017 AND ZONING MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 9, 2016 made by Councilwoman Matheney seconded by Councilman Wood and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Wood, Nelson, Matheney, Mort

Nays: 0

ZONING REVIEW COMMITTEE:

Councilman Mort reports they are ready to present the changes to the Board. They Planning Board is reviewing as well. Attorney Cabral will create the changes in Local Law format and the Board will review at the next workshop. It will also have to go before the Columbia County Planning Board as well.

BROADBAND COMMITTEE:

Out of the round two state awarded money for broadband, 65% was allotted to Columbia County. Fairpoint will receive the most money for this area. Still waiting on coverage maps from Charter.

CLIMATE SMART COMMITTEE:

Councilman Mort attended the Village Board meeting regarding the charging stations. The village was receptive to the idea. This will be funded by a grant and requires a resolution between the Village and the Town.

RESOLUTION #19 FOR 2017:

WHEREAS, THE TOWN OF GHENT IS A CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITY (“CSC”) AS ESTABLISHED BY THE CSC PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE NYS DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION’S OFFICE OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND, AS SUCH, THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GHENT IS WORKING TO IMPLEMENT VARIOUS CSC INITIATIVES; AND

WHEREAS, ONE SUCH INITIATIVE IS TO APPLY FOR AND SECURE DEC ZERO EMISSION VEHICLE (“ZEV”) GRANT FUNDING TO ACQUIRE AND INSTALL ELECTRIC VEHICLE SUPPLY EQUIPMENT (EVSE”) WITHIN THE TOWN; WHEREAS, THE TOWN BOARD HAS INVESTIGATED POTENTIAL LOCATIONS FOR THE SITING OF THE EVSE AND HAS DETERMINED THAT THE MOST APPROPRIATE LOCATION IS SITUATED WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF CHATHAM; WHEREAS, THE TOWN BOARD HAS APPROACHED THE VILLAGE OF CHATHAM REGARDING THE PROPOSED EVSE INSTALLATION AND THE VILLAGE OF CHATHAM IS IN FAVOR OF THE PROJECT; WHEREAS, THE TOWN BOARD DESIRES TO PROCEED WITH THE DEC ZEV GRANT APPLICATION IN ORDER TO SECURE FUNDING FOR THE ACQUISITION AND INSTALLATION OF EVSE TO BE SITED WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF CHATHAM; AND WHEREAS, THE TOWN BOARD RECOGNIZES AND ACKNOWLEDGES THAT ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDING AND COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT WILL REQUIRE THE COMMITMENT OF TWENTY PERCENT (20%) MATCHING FUNDS FROM THE TOWN OF GHENT AS WELL AS THE FORMATION AND EXECUTION OF AN INTER-MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT (“IMA”) AND A CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION EASEMENT (“EASEMENT”) BETWEEN THE TOWN OF GHENT AND THE VILLAGE OF CHATHAM. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GHENT, THAT THE TOWN SUPERVISOR SHALL BE AND HEREBY IS AUTHORIZED TO SUBMIT THE DEC ZEV GRANT APPLICATION ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN; AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GHENT, IN THE EVENT THAT THE TOWN IS AWARDED DEC ZEV GRANT FUNDING, THE TOWN SUPERVISOR SHALL BE AND HEREBY IS AUTHORIZED TO EXECUTE THE REQUISITE IMA AND EASEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF GHENT AND THE VILLAGE OF CHATHAM, PROVIDED SAME ARE APPROVED BY THE ATTORNEY FOR THE TOWN.

MOTION #8 TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #19 FOR THE YEAR 2017 made by Councilman Wood seconded by Councilwoman Matheney and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Wood, Nelson, Matheney, Mort
Nays: 0

DOG CONTROL:

MOTION #9 TO ACCEPT DCO REPORT FOR FEBRUARY made by Councilman Wood, seconded by Councilwoman Matheney and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Nelson, Mort, Matheney, Wood
Nays: 0

HIGHWAY:

We have been very busy with tree work trimming back and heavy winds and falling trees it's a good thing we have the equipment we do for all aspects of the job you never know what Mother Nature is going your throw at us. I attended Advocacy day at the state including with over 700 other Highway Superintendents and others who support us in this much needed economy. I also attended a meeting with Kathy Marchione our local Senator the same day. We are asking The Governor for additional 150 million increase to help local highways with paving New York programs. We have already hauled all of our winter sand in and stock piled it for next winter. We have been dealing with snow this week which we have made it through with one of our big trucks down which makes more work for the little trucks with no major break downs during the storm we are continuing to clean up from storm on Tuesday all went well with a man down and a large plow truck as well. The American flags we spoke about I have two proofs that the supervisor need to approve

We received a bid for the last piece of equipment which is the end dump trailer which Matt has graciously made a resolution this will leave us with a total savings on equipment purchases left just over \$6,000.

RESOLUTION # 20 FOR 2017

WHEREAS, THE TOWN SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS HAS INDICATED TO THE TOWN BOARD THAT THE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT IS IN NEED OF PURCHASING A TRI-AXLE, FULL-FRAMED ALUMINUM END DUMP TRAILER IN CONNECTION WITH MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF THE TOWN HIGHWAYS FOR THE TOWN OF GHENT, AND WHEREAS, THE TOWN SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS HAS CONDUCTED A REVIEW REGARDING THE PRICING FOR PURCHASE OF SAID TRUCKS AND EQUIPMENT, AND WHEREAS, TOWN BOARD HAS AUTHORIZED THE ISSUANCE OF A BOND IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$530,000.00 FOR THE ACQUISITION OF EQUIPMENT FOR HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT PURPOSES, INCLUDING THE TRAILER DESCRIBED HEREIN; AND WHEREAS, THE TOWN HAS PLACED A BID ADVERTISEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE PURCHASE OF THE TRAILER DESCRIBED HEREIN, PURSUANT TO §103 OF THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW, AND WHEREAS, BEST USED TRUCKS OF PA. INC., 655 BROWN ROAD, MYERSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 17067, WAS THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER MEETING THE SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE ACQUISITION OF THE TRAILER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,550.00, AND WHEREAS, THE TOWN BOARD WISHES TO ACCEPT THE AFOREMENTIONED LOWEST BID AND ACQUIRE THE TRAILER DESCRIBED HEREIN IN CONNECTION WITH MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF THE TOWN HIGHWAYS. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF GHENT, THAT THE TOWN BOARD DOES HEREBY APPROVE AND ACCEPT THE AFOREMENTIONED BID FOR THE ACQUISITION OF THE TRAILER DESCRIBED HEREIN IN CONNECTION WITH MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF THE TOWN HIGHWAYS FOR THE TOWN OF GHENT, AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN SUPERVISOR IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO PROCEED WITH THE PURCHASE OF SAID TRAILER, AS SPECIFIED IN THE BID APPROVED AND ACCEPTED HEREBY.

MOTION #10 TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 20 FOR THE YEAR 2017 made by Council seconded by Councilwoman Matheney and approved unanimously.
Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Wood, Nelson, Matheney, Mort
Nays: 0

PAYMENT OF AUDITED BILLS AND ACCEPTANCE OF MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT:

AUDITED BILLS:

General A \$13151.57
S.L. \$807.62
General B \$6624.32
Highway DB \$355899.78
TOTAL: \$376483.29

Budget Amendment # 3 for the Year 2016 year end was also submitted and is attached.

MOTION# 11 TO PAY ALL AUDITED BILLS, ACCEPT THE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS AND ACCEPT BUDGET AMENDMENT #3 FOR THE YEAR 2016 made by Councilwoman Matheney, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Nelson, Wood, Matheney, Mort

Nays: 0

MOTION #12 TO OPEN THE MEETING FOR PUBLIC COMMENT LIMITED TO THE TOPICS DISCUSSED AT MEETING made by Supervisor Benvenuto, seconded by Councilman Mort and approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Wood, Nelson, Mort, Matheney

Nays: 0

No comments

MOTION #13 TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:50 PM made by Councilman Wood, seconded by Councilman Nelson, approved unanimously.

Ayes: 5 Benvenuto, Wood, Nelson, Matheney, Mort

Nays 0

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Radley
Town Clerk