

Regular Town Board Meeting  
May 22, 2019  
7:00 PM

Supervisor Feehan called the meeting to order.

Roll call of members present:

Supervisor Kim Feehan	Councilman Stuart Sammis
Councilman Dave Shafer	Councilman Mike Brenning
Councilwoman Jen Mullen	

Others present: Water Superintendent Ken Fields, County Legislator Carol Ferratella, Town Historian Ron Hodge and various other members of the community.

**Public Hearing**

The motion to leave regular session and enter into a Public Hearing regarding the dissolution plan for the Town of Corning Total Joint Fire District was made by Councilwoman Mullen and seconded by Councilman Sammis. All were in favor, the motion carried. Supervisor Feehan explained this is the formal process to dissolve the district and to set the commissioners.

After hearing no comment, Councilwoman Mullen made the motion to close the public hearing and reenter regular session. Councilman Brenning seconded. All in favor. The motion was carried.

**Resolution #24**

On a motion made by Councilman Sammis and seconded by Councilwoman Mullen, Resolution 24 of 2019 was approved. This resolution authorizes the dissolution plan for the General and East Corning Fire Protection districts. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**Recusal**

Councilman Shafer recused himself from the next two agenda items and left the building before discussion began as he is asking to be considered for one of the Commissioner positions.

**Commissioner Discussion**

The discussion to designate fire commissioners was approved on a motion made by Councilman Sammis and seconded by Councilman Brenning. All were in favor to discuss. Motion carried. The following residents have asked to be considered:

Brian VanDusen, Kathy Rose, Don Karns, Dave Shafer from East Corning, John Clarkson from North Corning, Ryan Burrell from South Corning, Chet Tuttle From the Village of South Corning. Councilman Brenning made the motion to appoint Brian VanDusen to represent the Town of Corning commissioner, with Councilman Sammis seconding. All in favor, carried.

**Commissioner Appointments**

The motion to approve setting John Clarkson, Chet Tuttle, Ryan Burrell, Brian VanDusen, and Dave Shafer as the five commissioners for the first 14 months of the Corning Total Joint Fire District was made by Councilwoman Mullen and seconded by Councilman Sammis. All in favor, motion carried.

**Municipal Solutions Waiver**

The consent waiver from Municipal Solutions was acknowledged on a motion made by Councilman Sammis and seconded by Councilman Shafer. All were in favor and the motion carried. This waiver is to disclose that a staff member from Municipal Solutions is also working with the Village of South Corning.

**Cost of Service Study**

Councilwoman Mullen made the motion to approve the Cost of Service Study performed by Municipal Solutions for the Pinewood Acres Water District. The motion was seconded by Councilman Shafer. All in favor, the motion carried.

**Abstract Approval**

Abstract #5 for April 2019 was approved on a motion made by Councilwoman Mullen and seconded by Councilman Shafer. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Minute Approval**

The minutes from April 16<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> were approved on a motion made by Councilwoman Mullen and seconded by Councilman Sammis. All in favor, carried.

**Town Clerk Report**

Councilwoman Mullen made the motion to approve the April Town Clerk's Report. Councilman Sammis seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**Supervisor Reports**

On a motion made by Councilman Brenning and seconded by Councilman Sammis the Supervisor's Reports for February and March 2019 were approved. All in favor, motion carried.

**Highway Report**

The April 2019 Highway Report was approved on a motion made by Councilwoman Mullen and seconded by Councilman Sammis. All were in favor and the motion was carried.

**Code Report**

Councilwoman Mullen made the motion to approve the Permit/Code Report. Councilman Sammis seconded. All in favor, carried.

**Building and Grounds Report**

On a motion made by Councilman Brenning and seconded by Councilman Shafer, the Building and Grounds report for April was approved. All in favor. The motion carried.

### **Tax Collection Software Discussion**

The motion to discuss switching the Tax Collection software from BAS to the County software was made by Councilwoman Mullen and seconded by Councilman Sammis. All in favor. Motion carried. The County software is free to use and allows residents to pay their tax bills on-line, there will be IT help nearly around the clock, and all corrections and splits will automatically download. The Town will still receive the penalties and the reminder fees. This will also save over \$1,400.00 yearly, the cost of the tax software from BAS.

### **Tax Collection Software**

On a motion made by Councilwoman Mullen and seconded by Councilman Sammis the switch from BAS to the County software was approved. All in favor, motion carried.

### **Excavator Discussion**

Councilwoman Mullen made the motion to approve the discussion regarding the purchase of an Excavator and trailer for the Building & grounds/ water departments. Councilman Brenning seconded. All in favor, motion carried. The John Deere excavator met all specs, and the cost of the equipment was approved not to exceed \$82,000.00.

### **Excavator Resolution**

The Resolution for the purchase of the Excavator and Trailer was approved on a motion made by Councilwoman Mullen and seconded by Councilman Brenning. All in favor, the motion carried.

### **Full Time Court Clerk Position**

The discussion regarding the creation of a new duty statement for a full time Court Clerk was made by Councilwoman Mullen and seconded by Councilman Brenning. All in favor to discuss. Motion carried. Councilman Sammis asked how this would impact the current hiring freeze. Supervisor Feehan told him that the hiring freeze was never re-instated. Anne Haynes is not willing to increase the number of hours she works, leaving Carol shorthanded and the Court without coverage. Judge Leonard doesn't want to let Anne go in order to replace her with a full-time clerk. Supervisor Feehan says this is a competitive job and there is a list at the County to draw from. This court brings in roughly \$156,000.00 per year and is comparable in size to the Erwin Court that has 3 full time Court clerks. Councilman Sammis recommends hiring a clerk full time under the Court and moving Anne to the part time clerk under the direction of the Town Board. The Board agreed to revisit this item at next month's meeting.

### **Board Appointment Application**

Councilwoman Mullen made the motion to approve the application created by Councilman Shafer for those interested in an appointed position. Councilman Sammis seconded. All in favor. Carried. Mr. Shafer believes it is important to have some basic information on a person before appointing them to a position, such as address information to prove their eligibility, etc. Supervisor Feehan explained that there will be a need two members soon as Mike Donnelly will be resigning soon from the Zoning Board.

**New Disclosure Forms**

The updated disclosure forms were approved on a motion made by Councilwoman Mullen and seconded by Councilman Shafer. All in favor, motion carried.

**Visitor's Comments**

Jamie Cooney asked how the commissioners for the new fire district will be elected. Supervisor Feehan explained that the next set of commissioners will be elected by the residents and the one with the most votes will be elected for 5 years and the one with the next most votes will be elected for 4 years and so on down the line. Ken Fields is concerned about his budget as he has had to replace the doors and fix the sewer lines in the parking lot, the floor repair in the Code office and replace the refrigerator in the staff kitchen. Supervisor Feehan reminded him that she can move funds if needed. Carol Ferratella informed the Board that there will be a roadside cleanup coming up and those interested should contact the County. There is also an app soon to be available regarding solar fields in the county. She wished to acknowledge the wonderful repair of the bank on Hamilton Road done by the County with Superintendent DeWerts help.

**Adjourn**

Councilwoman Mullen made the motion to adjourn at 7:40 PM. Councilman Sammis seconded. All in favor, the motion carried.

These minutes respectfully submitted by:

Susan Edwards  
Town Clerk

