

Town of Corning Regular Board Meeting
May 19,2021 7:00 PM
20 S. Maple Street Corning NY 14830

Supervisor Feehan called the meeting to order.

Roll call of members present:

| Present | Absent |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Councilwoman Jenn Mullen | Councilman Mike Brenning |
| Supervisor Kim Feehan | |
| Councilman Stuart Sammis | |
| Councilman Lon Fiscus | |

Others present: Water Superintendent Ken Fields and Justice Glen Rose and other various members of the community.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

TOWN CERKS REPORT

Councilwoman Mullen made the motion to approve the Town Clerk's reports for April. Councilman Sammis seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

MINUTE APPROVAL

The Board meeting minutes for May 13, 2021 were approved on a motion made by Councilman Sammis and seconded by Councilman Fiscus. All were in favor and the motion carried.

ABSTRACT APPROVAL

On a motion made by Councilwoman Mullen and seconded by Councilman Fiscus the May abstract was approved with discussion. All in favor. Motion carried. The voucher submitted by Justice Rose for reimbursement was missing receipts. Supervisor Feehan feared she may have lost them amongst her papers. She will submit them to the Board when found.

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| General Fund | \$54,038.17 |
| General Outside | \$24,380.72 |
| Highway | \$100,606.99 |
| Gibson Light | \$553.90 |
| Elmhurst Light | \$203.24 |
| Cng. Manor Light | \$127.68 |
| Birch Dr. Light | \$154.70 |
| Pine Shad. Light | \$70.70 |
| Pinewood Water | \$394.06 |
| Hornby Rd Water | \$47.67 |
| E. Cng Consol. Water | \$2,489.49 |
| TOTAL | \$183,067.32 |

EMPLOYEE MANUAL DISCUSSION

Councilwoman Mullen made the motion to discuss the Employee manual. Councilman Fiscus seconded. All in favor, motion carried. Councilman Fiscus reported to the Board all that had transpired at the prior meeting with the committee to update the employee manual. He asked that if there were any points the Board wished included that they speak now so as not to need another re-write. There are plans for another meeting on Tuesday May 25th at 12:30 to begin to integrate two manuals together.

STRATEGIC PLAN DISCUSSION

The motion to discuss the strategic plan was made by Councilman Sammis and seconded by Councilwoman Mullen. All were in favor to discuss. Carried. Since there is very little space for further development and the cost for improved infrastructure, such as sewer and internet connectivity, the Town will have to remain a bedroom community. With the zoning ordinance being updated there are some needed changes regarding home occupations, made evident with this pandemic. The location of Hickling Station would be a great place for solar or sewer, but the cost of remediation is far too expensive.

COURT SECURITY CHANGES

Agenda item 17 was next due to the Justice schedule. Councilwoman Mullen made the motion to approve the discussion with justice Rose regarding court security. Councilman Sammis seconded. All in favor, and the motion carried. Justice Rose began by explaining that due to the Covid 19 pandemic the court system is backed up. Two court security officers will need to be removed. Mike Ruocco has taken on a full-time job and Don Strong has had some legal issues that need to be worked out. Markessa Griffin is a Steuben County Sherriff and has agreed to step in for one of those positions. On a secondary motion Councilman Fiscus made the motion to appoint Markessa Griffin as a Court Security Officer and remove Mr. Ruocco and Mr. Strong. Councilwoman Mullen seconded. All in favor. The motion was carried.

CSEA CONTRACT

On a motion made by Councilman Sammis and seconded by Councilman Fiscus the CSEA contract was approved with the date correction of 2021. All in favor, motion carried. The 2% pay increase was effective in April and was not retroactive. The contract will be in effect from January 1,2022 through December 31, 2025.

Councilman Mike Brenning joined the meeting.

FIRE DISTRICT PLANNING DISCUSSION

Councilman Sammis made the motion to approve the discussion regarding the Fire District and Town Plan. Councilwoman Mullen seconded. All in favor. Councilman Brenning explained that he met with the South Corning Village mayor and trustees to discuss the options available for housing the South Corning Fire Department. They were not willing to consider any of the options discussed. Labella Engineering has had experience with municipal buildings and suggests doing a feasibility study to consider all avenues. Supervisor Feehan believes there are government monies available for such studies.

PLANNING BOARD DISCUSSION

The motion approving the Planning Board discussion was made by Councilwoman Mullen and seconded by Councilman Sammis. All were in favor to discuss. Motion carried. Since the Town law makes no reference for an alternate member for the Planning Board and Dick Pope has not yet resigned, the only option to correct what has already taken place is to change the local law to a 7-member board instead of five members. A Public Hearing could take place at the next board meeting to begin the local law change if a resignation is received. If Mr. Pope resigns prior to the next meeting there would be no need to change the local law. On a secondary motion made by Councilman Brenning and seconded by Councilman Sammis Sara Hale and James Harrison were appointed to the Planning Board. This was a repeat of a prior motion at a prior meeting due to the question of the meeting being deemed legal. All in favor, the motion carried.

EMERGENCY PLAN

On a motion made by Councilman Fiscus and seconded by Councilwoman Mullen, the Public Health Emergency Plan was discussed. All in favor. Motion carried. Dr. Enders would like to suggest the following changes:

- Pg. 6- contact tracing to be done by dept. of health at the county
- Pg. 11 2A- 72 hours
- Pg. 10- Current state and CDC guidelines
- Pg. 9- 3A internet capable devices
3C or create hot spot capabilities

Councilwoman Mullen made the motion to approve the plan with corrections. Councilman Sammis seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

LOCAL LAW CHANGE

The motion approving setting a public hearing for the board meeting on June 15th 2021 at 7 PM for purposes of amending the local law #2 of 2018 and authorizing the Supervisor to addend the law to increase the number of planning board members from 5 to 7 and email the final version for approval after the public hearing was made by Councilman Brenning and seconded by Councilman Fiscus. All in favor. Motion carried.

ETHICS BD RESIGNATION

Councilwoman Mullen made the motion to accept Hope Johnson's resignation from the Board of Ethics. Councilman Sammis seconded. All in favor. Motion Carried.

ETHICS BD INTEREST

On a motion made by Councilwoman Mullen and seconded by Councilman Fiscus the board approved posting the need for two members for the Board of Ethics on the web site. All in favor. The motion was carried.

RESOLUTION #16

The following resolution was approved on a motion made by Councilman Sammis and seconded by Councilwoman Mullen. All in favor and the motion carried.

WHEREAS, Rite Corporation, Walgreen Co. and Riverside Development LLC commenced legal proceedings against the Town of Corning Board of Assessment Review, the Town Assessor and the Town challenging the tax assessment on property commonly known as 375 Pultney Street, Town of Corning, for tax assessment years 2018, 2019 and 2020;and

WHEREAS, extensive negotiations between the parties have taken place over an extended period of time and

WHEREAS, the Town and the petitioners have reached a tentative agreement whereby the tax assessment on the subject property for the taxable assessment years 2018,2019 and 2020 would be reduced from 3.563 million dollars to 2.8 million dollars and the assessment for each of the years 2021,2022 and 2023 will remain fixed at 2.8 million dollars subject to certain exceptions pursuant to Real Property Tax Law Section 727 all as is more specifically set forth in a “Stipulation and Consent Order”, copy of which is attached herto and made part hereof;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town Board of the Town of Corning, New York does herby approve the terms of the Stipulation and Consent Order and hereby authorizes John J. Ryan, Jr. Esq., attorney for the Town of Corning to execute the Stipulation.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS REPORT

Councilwoman Mullen made the motion to approve the May Building and Grounds report. Councilman Brenning seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried.

Councilman Brenning discussed the flooding issue in East Corning. Jeff Parker from Steuben County Soil and Water is aware of the problem but is backed up with other issues throughout the County. A Chemung County representative is willing to walk the area with Councilman Brenning to discuss what could be done on their end. A report will be given at next month’s meeting as to what was decided.

Councilman Brenning also would like the upcoming Fire Fighter Experience Camp info posted to the Town’s web site.

Councilman Sammis was pleased to announce that 18 more beds were added to the Community Garden area with 6 of those still available.

VISITORS COMMENTS

A gentleman from King Circle asked the Board if anything could be done about the speeding cars on Schoonover Drive and King Circle. Many drivers use those roads to avoid being behind the school buses. He would like a stop sign placed at the end of Schoonover if possible.

Carol Kane from Lee Road has an issue with drainage on her property and would like the Town to clean the ditches.

Councilwoman Mullen made the motion to adjourn at 8:35PM. Councilman Brenning seconded and all were in favor. Motion carried.

These minutes respectfully submitted by:

Susan Edwards
Town Clerk