

A Work Session of the Town Board of the Town of Clarence was held on Wednesday, August 7, 2013, at Clarence Town Hall, One Town Place, Clarence, New York.

Supervisor David Hartzell called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. Members of the Town Board present were Councilmember's Bernard Kolber, Patrick Casilio and Robert Geiger. Councilman DiCostanzo was absent. Other Town Officials present were Director of Community Junior Planner Jonathan Bleuer, Town Attorney Lawrence Meckler, Town Engineer Timothy Lavocat and Town Assessor Christine Fusco.

#### **Town Engineer Timothy Lavocat**

Town Engineer Lavocat distributed a hand-out listing a number of projects he is working on.

*Main Street Sidewalk Project* – the grant is being submitted early next week for new/replacement sidewalks continuous from Thompson Road to Transit Road under the NYS DOT Enhancement Program. The estimated cost is \$520,000. Should we be awarded the grant, the Town's share is 20%. Mr. Lavocat and Grant Writer Bernie Rotella have been meeting with the Department of Transportation.

*Bike Paths/Recreation Trails* – there is a total of three segments that the Town is applying for: Waterford extension along Dana Marie Drive to current terminus in Waterford Village PURD, Salt Road from West Shore Bike Path north to Greiner Road and Greiner Road (Clarence Middle School) from Strickler Road to Salt Road. There were two other segments included but there were issues with state wetlands and that would have jeopardized the application for all the segments so the three most favorable segments were selected. The grant application will be submitted this week, it is one application broken down into three segments. The estimated cost is extensive however it is a total project cost which includes all surveying, design work, inspections, contingencies (because of the nature of where the bike paths would be located) etc.

*Historical Museum Roof* - the grant application is being submitted this week for roof replacement and structural modifications. The total estimate is \$140,000. If awarded the grant, the towns share will be 50% of that. The museum is a dedicated structure so that will have to be taken into consideration with the Historic Preservation Commission.

*Harris Hill Sewer Project* – the grant will be submitted in October. The estimated cost is \$41-million dollars. The towns share will be determined depending on which specific grant the town applies for at that time. Copies of the entire report are available in the Engineer's office.

*Sanitary Sewer District #9/Clarence Hollow* – a grant will be submitted in October to finish up the district per se, the district is approximately 82% complete. Town Engineer Lavocat is working on estimates to submit with the application.

*Library Parking Lot Expansion* – The library system was awarded the grant in the amount of \$19,740. The estimated cost is approximately \$51,000. The towns share is 50%. The project is currently out to bid with a bid date of August 20, 2013.

*Senior Center entrance improvement* – because the Senior Center is used for a polling location for elections, Mr. Lavocat is currently working with the Board of Elections and their grant program. Everything looks promising however he is waiting to hear from the Board of Directors and is hoping to get a decision soon.

The library reconstruction project is on schedule, there have been some minor issues along the way. A new cat walk system is being installed and the current hatch system on the roof will be replaced. To date, there have been six minor change directives amounting to just over \$9,000. Mr. Lavocat is expecting to realize some savings on the interior work from the work that was able to be done from the outside. The exterior work should be completed within the next four weeks. The interior work will begin September 9<sup>th</sup>. The entire job should be completed by the end of October.

The Brookhaven Drive sanitary sewer project is on schedule. The contractor has made a suggestion for the road restoration work hence Change Order #1 in the amount of \$12,198, the Highway Department is in agreement with this. The project is on schedule to be completed by the end of August.

The Sawmill Road box culvert is in our Capital Project Program. Councilman Casilio has a resolution to award the design work for this project. A water line and gas main will have to be relocated and some road work will have to be done as well. Construction will begin next summer 2014.

Councilman Casilio has a resolution for an amended schedule and contract amendment for the Main Town Park pool lining project. The contract amendment is to deduct 50% from the contract amount in the amount of \$33,346.15 and extend the completion date from June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013 to October 31, 2013.

#### **Town Assessor Christine Fusco**

Town Assessor Christine Fusco gave a summary going back to 2007 as far as informal reviews, Assessment Board of Review hearings, small claims review process etc. There were 59 informal reviews this year. Housing sales are starting to pickup. The Town of Clarence is slated to do a full revaluation in 2014 however; Christine does not think the town should do this. Her office can review approximately 4000 parcels to maintain the 100%. The Town of Clarence has been at 100% (full assessment) since 1998.

The town has approximately 13,000 parcels – this includes vacant land and commercial properties. The Assessor's Office has been maintaining all along, to do a full revaluation; you have to look at every parcel. Christine is looking to do a full revaluation in 2015.

GAR is on retainer for \$30,000 per year (on an as needed basis) last year they were paid \$6,000. A full revaluation will cost more than \$30,000 and will have to be budgeted for 2015. If Town Assessor Fusco does not see major changes, she does not have to do a full revaluation; she can continue to maintain those numbers.

The Assessor's office is using GAR less than in years past however the market is different as well. The Assessor's Office will physically review 4,000 parcels this year. They also have the advantage of pictometry, they have access to the multiple listings and they are able to track sales much better – everything boils down to sales verification.

The Assessor's Office has some good feedback from their new website. Residents have easy access to the information. It has reduced the amount of informal reviews and assessment challenges.

**Supervisor David Hartzell**

At the request of Mr. Fogelsonger, Supervisor Hartzell will introduce a motion at the next Town Board meeting renaming Glenwood Park to Fogelsonger. The land for the park was donated by Mr. Fogelsonger.

Supervisor Hartzell would like to request a deposit for large town wide events (Hollow Fest, Taste of Clarence, Lobsterfest) for anyone using the Main Street Park. Some towns require \$1,000. The deposit will be returned upon inspection by the Parks Department. There will be no deposit required for the smaller pavilions in the other town parks, mainly for groups of 500 or more. Councilman Kolber suggested having Parks Crew Chief James Burkard come in and give an estimate of how many events have required excessive clean up by the Parks Department.

**Councilman Bernard Kolber**

Councilman Kolber had no report.

**Councilman Patrick Casilio**

Motion by Councilman Casilio, seconded by Councilman Kolber that pursuant to Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law, the Clarence Town Board issue a Negative Declaration on the proposed funding and rehabilitation of the roof structure at the Clarence Historical Museum located at 10465 Main Street. After thorough review of the application, materials and proposal and the Short Environmental Assessment Form, it is determined that the proposed action is consistent with Master Plan 2015 and will not have a significant negative impact upon the environment. On the question, Town Engineer Lavocat stated that this has to be done as part of the grant application. Upon roll call – Ayes: Councilman Geiger, Councilman Casilio, Councilman Kolber, Supervisor Hartzell; Noes: None. Absent: Councilman DiCostanzo. Motion carried.

Motion by Councilman Casilio, seconded by Councilman Geiger that pursuant to Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law, the Clarence Town Board issue a Negative Declaration on the proposed funding and construction of bike paths/recreation trails at the following locations:

1. Waterford extension along Dana Marie Drive to current terminus in Waterford Village PURD.
2. Salt Road from West Shore Bike Path to Greiner Road.
3. Greiner Road from Strickler Road to Salt Road.

After thorough review of the application, materials, proposal and the Short Environmental Assessment Form, it is determined that the proposed action is consistent with Master Plan 2015 and will not have a significant negative impact upon the environment. Upon roll call – Ayes: Councilman Geiger, Councilman Casilio, Councilman Kolber, Supervisor Hartzell; Noes: None. Absent: Councilman DiCostanzo. Motion carried.

Motion by Councilman Casilio, seconded by Councilman Kolber to approve Change Order No.1 to the Brookhaven Drive Sanitary Sewer contract between the Town of Clarence and Yarussi Construction, Inc. of Niagara Falls, New York in the add amount of \$12,198. On the question, this project is funded under Capital Project 55. Upon roll call – Ayes: Councilman Geiger, Councilman Casilio, Councilman Kolber, Supervisor Hartzell; Noes: None. Absent: Councilman DiCostanzo. Motion carried.

Motion by Councilman Casilio, seconded by Councilman Kolber to award design, bid assistance and construction phase services for the Sawmill Road Box Culvert Replacement Project to Nussbaumer and Clarke, Inc. of Buffalo, New York in the amount of \$40,800 in accordance with their proposal dated June 20, 2013. On the question this project includes concrete box culvert replacement, utility relocations and pavement work. This project is funded under Capital Project 33. Upon roll call – Ayes: Councilman Geiger, Councilman Casilio, Councilman Kolber, Supervisor Hartzell; Noes: None. Absent: Councilman DiCostanzo. Motion carried.

Motion by Councilman Casilio, seconded by Councilman Kolber to approve Change Order No. 1 to the Main Town Park Pool Lining Project contract between the Town of Clarence and Aquatic Renovation Systems, Inc. of Indianapolis, Indiana in the deduct amount of \$33,346.15. On the question, this change order is the result of negotiations to extend the contract completion date from June 15, 2013 to October 31, 2013. This Project is funded under Capital Project 32. Upon roll call – Ayes: Councilman Geiger, Councilman Casilio, Councilman Kolber, Supervisor Hartzell; Noes: None. Absent: Councilman DiCostanzo. Motion carried.

Councilman Casilio suggested Supervisor Hartzell submit a letter to SMEC indicating that the Town of Clarence would like to opt out of their proposal for the group's annual electric usage.

**Councilman Robert Geiger**

The West Shore Line mural was dedicated last week and adds a nice touch to Clarence Hollow.

Animal Control Officer Jerome Schuler is requesting Town Board approval for himself and Anne Cimato to attend a seminar in Albany from September 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013. The training is provided by the National Animal Control Association. Councilman Geiger will make a motion at the August 14<sup>th</sup> Town Board meeting approving this request once he gets final cost figures.

Councilman Geiger has some brochures regarding the towns sign ordinance that he will distribute to Clarence Hollow merchants.

There was a discussion regarding political signs, as long as they were not in the right of way, Town Security will not pick them up.

Motion by Councilman Kolber, seconded by Councilman Casilio that after proper audit and review by the Town Board, the following bills of August 1, 2013 are approved for payment: General Fund - \$83,618.77; Highway Fund - \$160,310.62; Water District - \$586.00; Fire Protection Districts - \$713.43; Sewer District - \$36,897.34; Capital Fund- \$8,309.72; Trust & Agency 203 \$2,805.00 for a total amount of \$293,240.88. Upon roll call – Ayes: Councilman Geiger, Councilman Casilio, Councilman Kolber, Supervisor Hartzell; Noes: None. Absent: Councilman DiCostanzo. Motion carried.

Councilman Casilio and Town Assessor Christine Fusco requested Executive Session regarding two Attorney - Client issues.

There being no further business, Supervisor Hartzell adjourned the Work Session at 10:00 AM.

Darcy A. Snyder  
Deputy Town Clerk

