

Newstead Town Board Meeting- April 27, 2020

A regular meeting was called to order by the Newstead Town Board on Monday, April 27, 2020 at 7:30pm at the Newstead Town Hall.

Present: David Cummings- Supervisor
Edmund Burke- Councilman
John Jendrowski- Councilman
Joseph Dugan- Councilman
Brendan Neill- Town Attorney via phone
Emily Janicz- Assistant Town Attorney via phone
Michael Bassanello- Highway Supt.
Dawn Izydorczak- Town Clerk

Roll Call was taken with all board members present except Councilwoman Morlacci.

Highway Supt. Bassanello led the pledge to the flag.

Minutes from the regular meeting held on April 13, 2020 were presented for approval. A motion was made by Councilman Dugan, seconded by Councilman Burke to approve as presented.
Carried

Agenda Changes – a motion was made by Councilman Burke, seconded by Councilman Dugan to make the following agenda changes: add motion cancelling next work session due to COVID-19
Carried

Communications – The Clerk presented the following correspondence:

A notice was received from Charter Communications announcing programming changes effective May 15, 2020.

A letter was received from Commissioner Thomas Hersey of Erie County Dept. of Environment & Planning regarding the Town’s CDBG agreement with the County which will automatically be renewed for a 3-year period unless they receive written termination from the Town.

A letter of resignation was received from Jason Akin resigning from his position of Assistant to the Water Superintendent effective April 26, 2020.

A motion was made by Councilman Dugan, seconded by Councilman Jendrowski to accept and file the presented correspondence.
Carried

Work Session: The Supervisor reported no work session was held last week but the following items were discussed prior to tonight’s meeting: water & sewer project updates, planning item updates, building issue updates, grant updates, plus any other items brought before the Board.

Agenda Items Question Period: no one present to speak, no written comments

Budget transfers: none

Approval of Bills – Councilman Dugan reported that the Abstract(s) from Batch(es) #2030 have been reviewed with the previously un-audited vouchers and everything was found in order. He presented Abstract Batch(es) #2031 for payment. Vouchers on this abstract(s) numbered 393-427, totaling \$86,390.41. Councilman Burke seconded to approve payment as follows:

Abstract Batch(es) #2031:
General Fund (A)-\$14,818.98, General Fund- Outside Village (B)-\$42.81, Highway (DA) -\$0, Highway: Outside Village (DB)-\$22,578.17, CAP-SEW 1 Rehab (HAR)-\$47,294.25, CAP- Bike Path (HTG)-\$0, CAP- Water Improvement (HW)-\$0, CAP Water-Downey (HW01)-\$0, CAP- Water- Cedar (HW02)-\$0, CAP- Water-Knapp- (HW03)-\$1,505.00, Drainage (SD)-\$0, Fire Protection (SF)-\$0, Refuse (SR)-\$0, Sewer #1 Fund (SS)-\$27.69, Sewer District #2 (SS02)-\$81.17,

Sewer District #3 (SS03)-\$0, Trust & Agency(TA)-\$0 and Water Districts: Consolidated (SW00)-\$42.34, (SW1) \$0, (SW2) \$0, (SW3) \$0, (SW4) \$0, (SW5) \$0, (SW6) \$0, (SW7) \$0, (SW7A) \$0, (SW8) \$0, (SW9) \$0, (SW10) \$0; Total:\$86,390.41 Carried

COMMITTEE AND DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Highway – Mike presented his report for the past month and a half stating crews have completed normal plowing & salting, cut trees on McNeeley & Greenbush roads, painted & repaired park benches, pushed up the salt pile, made repairs to #3 apron chain, #10 breaks, #8 new fuel tank, serviced the tractors, the shoulder machine & rebuilt battery box on #10, replaced a leaky hose on #7, put up new 50 mph signs on Howe Rd & 45 mph signs on Hiller Rd, picked up garbage, tires & limbs on town roads, pushed snow up on Scotland Rd by the airport, unclogged weeps on Stage Rd, did road ditching and settled cross culverts on McNeeley, swept the bike path & town roads, put up guard rails on the bike path, replaced driveway pipe on Brucker Rd, boom mowed Cummings Rd by the bike path, rolled the town parks, picked up old broken chairs at the Denio/Community building, cleaned cemetery’s & town hall lots and took sanders out of #10, #9 & #5.

Assessor – a report from Tina read by the Supervisor stated she is holding informal hearings until April 29th and after that time the tentative roll will be filed. If she reviews any cases after that time, a stipulation agreement must be used. So far hearings have gone well and most residents are being reasonable. She will still review appraisals and anything that comes in via mail or email but will require the extra step of a stipulation agreement. She is trying to limit them if possible because they are time consuming for the Grievance Board.

Building Office – the following building report was presented by Christine Falkowski of the Planning & Building Department:

James Miller	7581 Greenbush	Roof
Steven Bork	7574 Greenbush	Roof

The Town Board accepted the building report as presented.

Town Clerk- Dawn reported she will be out for the next 2 weeks as her grandson will be being born. She will keep up with emails and work remotely, but Jen will be in charge in the office.

Town Attorney(s) – nothing at this time

COUNCILPERSONS:

Jendrowski- he attended 2 online meeting of the Library Board, spoke with a resident about a beaver dam on Dye & Draper roads, spoke with the CEO regarding his weekend patrols, spoke with a couple residents regarding questions on who is essential vs. non-essential personnel.

Dugan – nothing at this time

Burke – nothing at this time

Morlacci- not present

Supervisor- the March Supervisor’s Report is on file with the Town Clerk. The Association of Erie County Governments is developing a facebook page and hosting zoom meetings to attempt to get information out to the public. He continues to attend weekly meetings with the County Executive and the Erie County Supervisors, as well as Congressman Tom Reeds webinar meetings. The information from the latest meetings was regarding a very slow opening up schedule for WNY, increases in testing sites for the public, expected decreases of state funding up to 50% and county funding down 25% to local municipalities. He has seen the proposal for our area, but it has not yet passed. Depending on the length of time this goes on and the decreases in revenues, it may result in layoffs of town staff or cuts in hours/pay. He hopes it won’t come to that. He has already spoken to Dan Roland regarding the summer recreation program, which will probably not be feasible to go on, but they are watching it.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Buildings- A lengthy discussion was held regarding the town parks and access, which will be assessed weekly. The Limerick group seems happy with the proposal sent and a resolution could be ready for next meeting. Some minor language changes will be made over the next week regarding snow removal, mowing and trimming.

Planning- the CEO is working weekends spot checking campgrounds and construction sites. Tina & Brendan are working on the solar PILOT agreement. A contract should be ready by summer. The owner of the gas well at the JMF replaced some parts last week. New signage is being made for the bike path to reflect the new added path.

Water/Sewer- nothing new

Grants- nothing new

NEW BUSINESS:

Approval- Clarence Center Rd/Cummings Rd Light swap:

A motion was made by Councilman Dugan, seconded by Councilman Jendrowski approving the removal of pole 1-1 across from 12975 Clarence Center Rd, which is within the Village of Akron limits and adding a new street light to be located on Cummings Rd at the Town trailway crossing at pole #15-1, with all costs of installation & maintenance to be billed to the Town thru National Grid. (Resolution) Cummings-Aye, Dugan-Aye, Burke-Aye, Jendrowski-Aye, Morlacci-Absent
Carried

Approval- Support Federal Funding to Local Municipalities:

A motion was made by Councilman Burke, seconded by Councilman Dugan supporting the federal funding related to COVID-19 pandemic that is to be directly delivered to all municipalities, regardless of population size and asking our Congressional and Senate representatives to support this initiative. (Resolution) Cummings-Aye, Dugan-Aye, Burke-Aye, Jendrowski-Aye, Morlacci-Absent
Carried

Approval- NextEra Temporary Construction Access Agreement:

A motion was made by Councilman Jendrowski, seconded by Councilman Dugan approving the proposed agreement with NextEra for temporary construction access along the Town's bike path(s) as specified in the agreement. (Resolution) Cummings-Aye, Dugan-Aye, Burke-Aye, Jendrowski-Aye, Morlacci-Absent
Carried

Approval- Lateral Restriction Exception- 5867 Barnum Rd:

A motion was made by Councilman Dugan, seconded by Councilman Jendrowski approving the application for a lateral restriction exception hardship for construction of a new build home in water district #5 at 5867 Barnum Rd as submitted by the owner, based on supporting documentation provided. Cummings-Aye, Dugan-Aye, Burke-Aye, Jendrowski-Aye, Morlacci-Absent
Carried

Approval- Reschedule Ride for Roswell:

A motion was made by Councilman Dugan, seconded by Councilman Burke approving the rescheduling of Ride for Roswell's use of town roads to August 22, 2020 for their annual bike ride fundraiser. Cummings-Aye, Dugan-Aye, Burke-Aye, Jendrowski-Aye, Morlacci-Absent
Carried

Approval- Cancel Work Sessions:

A motion was made by Councilman Burke, seconded by Councilman Dugan approving the cancellation of the work sessions on May 4, 2020 due to the COVID-19 emergency requirements. Cummings-Aye, Dugan-Aye, Burke-Aye, Jendrowski-Aye, Morlacci-Absent
Carried

Privilege of the Floor/Question Period: no one present to speak, no written comments received

Councilman Burke thanked Supervisor Cummings, the staff & all essential personnel that are out there working on behalf of everyone every day during this pandemic.

Marilyn Kasperek of the Akron Bugle informed the Board that a virtual Memorial Day event is being planned for the community that will be streamed for people to watch. She asked the Supervisor to reach out to Commander Fred ask about recording a statement for the event. Ken will assist with recording the statements and then compiling the recordings for the event with Fred.

There being no further business to come before the board for the regular meeting, Supervisor Cummings closed the meeting in memory of Coach Tom Wetzen who will be sadly missed. A motion was made by Councilman Burke, seconded by Councilman Dugan to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:10pm. Carried

Respectfully Submitted,
Dawn D. Izydorczak, RMC, Town Clerk