Proceedings of a regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Pamelia held on Monday, June 12, 2023 at the Municipal Building, Route 37; Supervisor Scott Allen called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Council members present were Lisa Brenon, Rusty VanTassel, Kenneth Hart and Ricky VanTassel., Engineers John Condino, Dustin Clark and Taylor Jennings, and Highway Superintendent Bruce Call were also present. Attorney Bill Buchan entered the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

Minutes approved

Minutes of the May 8, 2023 regular meeting were approved as submitted on a motion made by Rusty VanTassel and seconded by Ken Hart. All voted aye; carried.

Junkyard License Renewals

Payment of $50 was received by Eiss Brothers Auto and Watertown Recycling and Scrap Metal for renewal of Junkyard Licenses.

Rusty VanTassel made a motion and Ken Hart seconded to issue the Junkyard Licenses to Eiss Brothers Auto and Watertown Recycling and Scrap Metal. All voted aye; carried.

Public Hearing

A motion was made by Ken Hart and seconded by Lisa Brenon to open a Public Hearing at 7:04 p.m. in the matter of Local Law #2 of 2023 electing to opt out of enforcement of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code. All voted aye; carried.

Scott Allen reviewed Local Law #2 of 2023.

Supervisor Scott Allen asked the Public for any comments.

Resident Carl Herman stated that he feels that the Town should opt out and he stated that Jefferson County is doing a good job with the Building and Codes for the Town.

Walter VanTassel stated that the Town should not opt out because he said the County hasn't done any work yet, after which Scott Allen responded that the County has been working all along and that he works with the County a few times a week.

Carl Herman stated that the County has inspected the fire hall last year and this year and had not been inspected since Paul Drappo was inspecting. Walt responded that he was told not to inspect the fire hall by New York State.

Scott Allen asked again for any more comments. There were none.

The Public Hearing closed at 7:09 p.m. on a motion made by Rusty VanTassel and seconded by Lisa Brenon. All voted aye; carried.

Resolution #18

Scott Allen offered Resolution #18 and Lisa Brenon seconded adopting Local Law #2 of 2023; a Local Law electing to opt out of Enforcement of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code. All voted aye; adopted.

Water Main Breaks

Scott Allen was notified that due to a series of water main breaks in the Town's main water supply lines, certain areas of the Town would not have adequate water supply or sufficient water pressure to operate as designed.

Resolution #19

Scott Allen offered Resolution #19 and Lisa Brenon seconded Authorizing The Supervisor To Issue An Emergency Order dated May 9, 2023 Advising The Public That Certain Fire Hydrants Are Out Of Order Due To Water Main Breaks. All voted aye; adopted.

Barton & Loguidice

Dustin Clark updated the Town Board on the Water System Improvements Project stating that they are making good progress. Approximately 14 miles of new water main has been installed.

Approximately 0.3 miles of replacement main has been installed on Route 342 and are starting up Route 37. The areas remaining are along Route 37, crossings at Route 81 and Route 781.

Dustin Clark reported that vaults were started up on Patterson Road and Valley View Drive which have higher pressure to push the water over to areas such as Bush Rd, Highland Meadows Golf Course, and Hinds Rd, which are upper elevation areas of the Town. This will meet the minimum requirements and creates a second pressure zone in the Town.

One month ago pressure was increased by 15 pounds to allow that to happen. Several weak spots were found north on Rt. 37. Pressure was slowly increasing which created a water main break. Contractors isolated and fixed breaks four times. The condition of the pipe is not good. Dustin stated that there are more issues than the Project can do.

Dustin stated that they have contacted the Health Department and asked them to waive the 5' burial of pipe and put the new pipe in the existing trench. The Health Department granted approval.

Dustin presented a map of the area that needs to have water mains replaced. He stated one option is an $8.4 million Project with the possibility of a $5 million grant which would be capped at 60% of the Project cost.

Another option shows replacing everything left in the Town except for a couple small areas to be replaced and would be a $15 million Project capped at a $5 million loan.

The Engineers' recommendation is to do the SEQR tonight to prepare for the worse to maximize the opportunities.

Dustin Clark stated that Option A would be to keep the Replacement Project as planned with a user cost of $874.

Option B would be to revise the existing trench which would save $5 million and would have a user cost of $850.

Option C would be the $8.4 million Project with a user cost of $950 - $1,000.

Ricky VanTassel stated that we should stop rock cutting and save the money. Scott Allen agreed, also stating that it will be a lot of work for NCC to put pipe in the same trench.

Engineer Taylor Jennings stated that the areas selected for replacement are known problem areas. He also stated that the Project will replace hardware on Rt 342, Willowbrook Dr., and Rt 37.

Supervisor Scott Allen suggests going with the $8.4 million Project.

Attorney Bill Buchan asked after doing the $8.4 million Project, what happens to the rest of the system when the pressure is brought back up to specs. Dustin Clark stated that at that point it will be all new system.

After a discussion, the Town Board agreed to put the pipe in the trench, do the SEQR on the $15 million Project, and apply for a Grant for the $8.4 million Project.

Engineer John Condino stated that we are in the funding cycle and the Engineering Report has to be submitted by June 16th, and the Funding Applications are due July 28th.

Dustin Clark stated they would like to set a special meeting between July 24 – July 27 for a Public Hearing for SEQR Part 2 & 3, and authorization of Bond Resolution.

Taylor Jennings stated that there must be at least four Board members present for the special meeting for the Bond Resolution authorization.

SEQR – Water Main Replacement Project

Taylor Jennings presented to the Board and reviewed the SEQR – Part 1, The Full Environmental Assessment Form for the Water Main Replacement Project.

Resolution #20

Scott Allen offered Resolution #20 and Lisa Brenon seconded Declaring the Intent of the Town of Pamelia Town Board to Act as Lead Agency for purposes of conducting a SEQR Assessment of the Water Main Replacement Project.

Roll call vote as follows: Scott Allen, yes; Rusty VanTassel, yes; Lisa Brenon, yes; Ken Hart, yes; Ricky VanTassel, yes; adopted.

The Town Board set the Special Meeting for Monday, July 24th at 7:00 p.m. for a Public Hearing for SEQR Part 2 & 3, and authorization of Bond Resolution.

Dustin Clark updated the Board on the Rt 37 Improvements Project. He reported that the Project is now at $5.8 million and they will submit the Grant Applications for the Project.

Dustin reported that B&L is doing design work for Love's Travel Stop for the improvements to the Jefferson County Pump Station.

Dustin also reported the Town obtained a $50,000 Grant for the Rt 12 Sewer Project and B&L will be doing the Engineering Planning.

He presented the Agreement Between Owner And Engineer For Professional Services for the Project.

Lisa Brenon made a motion and Ricky VanTassel seconded to accept the Agreement. All voted aye; carried.

Supervisor Scott Allen reported that North Country Contractors are installing temporary mains to allow for the Town to replace some of the existing mains for the Water Project, and will be changing valves at the intersection of Rt. 342 and Rt. 37.

Scott reported that there has been numerous grinder pump failures. They have purchased three new E 1's and they have rebuilt eight motors.

Scott also reported that the Development Authority has increased rates for water and sewer. He stated that the last time the Town raised water/sewer rates was in 2016.

He is recommending increasing the rates as follows:
Consolidated Water District #1 from $3.75 to $4.25 per 1,000 gallons
Water District #1 (Palawood) from $3.30 to $3.85 per 1,000 gallons
Water District #2 from $120 per quarter which includes debt retirement and O&M with a $4.10 per thousand over 12,500 gallons, to $128 per quarter.
Sewer Districts #3, 4, 5, and 9 from $3.85 to $3.90 per 1,000 gallons

Scott Allen made a motion and Lisa Brenon seconded to accept the rate changes effective next billing cycle. All voted aye; carried.

Scott Allen stated that he will present a draft of the Standard Operating Procedures for water and sewer at the next meeting.

Public Comments

Gary Mack of County Route 16, stated that his assessment was raised $52,000 and his waste land is assessed at $36,000 without the assessor even seeing his property. He also stated that the Board of Assessment Review voted another person as chairman to replace him last year while he was away, and does not feel that it was right.

Highway Superintendent

Highway Superintendent Bruce Call reported that he has taken possession of the new tractor and mowing system. He stated that he will be advertising the Ford tractor on Auctions International.

Payment of the Bills

Rusty VanTassel made a motion and Ken Hart seconded to pay the General Fund bills totaling $120,535.19 No. 99 - 124, Highway Fund bills totaling $104,565.65 No. 80 - 90, Special District Fund bills totaling $66,109.94 No. 56 - 71, Capital Fund bills totaling $745,519.04 No. 25 - 31, which includes Water Replacement Project totaling $3,005.50, Sewer 10 Capital Project totaling $6,085.50, Sewer 9 Capital Project totaling $69.30, and Trust and Agency bills totaling $9,840.63 No. 9, including Love's Escrow Account totaling $19,404.50. All voted aye; carried.

Scott Allen stated that the next Regular Meeting will be July 10th and will include a Resolution to schedule a Public Hearing for July 24, 2023.

Scott Allen stated that there will be a Special Meeting on Monday, July 24, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. for a Public Hearing for SEQR Part 2 & 3, and authorization of Bond Resolution.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m. on a motion made by Lisa Brenon and seconded by Rusty VanTassel. All voted aye; carried.

Gwen

Call

Town Clerk
June 12, 2023