**Regular Monthly Colton Town Board Meeting, November 3, 2021**

**County of St. Lawrence, State of New York, 94 Main St., Colton 13625**

Present: George R. Cayey, Supervisor Councilpersons: Grace Hawley

 Darren Richards, DPW Supt. Ronald Robert

 Donna Buckley, Clerk Lisa Fisher

Jennifer Cole, Deputy Clerk Kevin Hawley – Highway Supt.

Meeting attendees: Kirke Perry, Penny Cayey, Darren Richards – CEO, Shelley Rayner, Jake Poste

Zoom attendees: Mary Jane Watson, Dennis Eickhoff, Cyndy Hennessy, Randi-Lee Cook-Planty, Judy Fuhr

Supervisor Cayey lead the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion # 1

**APPROVE October 2021 MINUTES**

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Mr. Robert to approve the October 13, 2021 minutes.

Ayes 4 Hawley, Robert, Fisher, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

Motion #2

**AUTHORIZE, BANK RECON, TRANSFERS & BILLS IN WARRANT #11, 2021**

Motion made by Ms. Fisher, seconded by Mr. Robert to authorize payment of bills labeled Warrant #10, do a budget amendment and a transfer as indicated below.

Ayes 4 Hawley, Robert, Fisher, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

General Fund $ 64,257.58

Highway Fund 18,713.96

Library Fund 1,477.24

Sewer Fund #1 2,045.26

Water Fund #1 1,680.56

Colton Light District 797.89

South Colton Light District 742.86

The following accounts are or will be over budget as of October 31, 2021:

 General Fund: A1620.410 Food Pantry Contr. $3,082.67

Supervisor Cayey requested board approval for the remainder of the NYSERDA grant monies to be used to take care of the budget amendment.

 Motion# 3

 Mr. Robert made the motion to use the remainder of the NYSERDA grant monies for the budget amendment, seconded by Ms. Fisher.

 Budget Amendment: A3089B NYSERDA Grant $28,000.00

 A1620.410 Food Pantry Contr. $28,000.00

Recommended Transfer:

 Highway Fund DA5110100 Road Maint.P.S. $17,449.41 $25,000.00

 DA5142.100 Snow Removal P.S. $25,000.00

 Library Fund L7410.433 Postage $26.97 $200.00

 L7410.450 Fuel $224.65 $1,400.00

 L7410.454 Covid Expenses $750.00

 L1990.400 Contingency $850.00

**COUNTY LEGISLATORS REPORT:**

Nothing at this time.

**DOG WARDEN REPORT:**

Nothing at this time.

**ASSESSOR REPORT:**

Nothing at this time.

**BTI REPORT:**

Nothing at this time.

**PLANNING BOARD REPORT:**

Nothing at this time.

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**HIGHWAY REPORT:** Highway Supervisor Kevin Hawley reported:

* Since the last board meeting, we have finished our sand pile. We also added stone material that we had stockpiled for the Carry Falls Road. We also fixed an erosion issue on French Pond Road. This was a fairly significant project that I’ve wanted to do for some time.
* We started this week hooking up the plows getting ready for the upcoming snow season. We did get the 2015 truck back from Stadium International. However, Monday morning we had our 2018 derate in the garage so that had to be transported to Watertown for repair. I have not heard from them today but I’m hopeful this repair will be completed tomorrow.
* I was talking with Vikki from rose and Kiernan on another issue. I mentioned to her about the failing wall in front of the library. This wall is leaning significantly and eventually will fall over. Vicky said we have coverage for attached real estate that might cover the necessary repairs. I don’t think this is part of my responsibility as Highway Superintendent possibly the Supervisor can contact her and file this claim hopefully get it fixed.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT:** Mr. Richards reported:

**Transfer Station**

Transfer Station plans are placed on hold until the new board comes along to decide on much needed upgrades to the transfer station. Preliminary designs are complete at this point and a survey on the two adjacent boundary lines have been requested from Louis Maine. New retaining walls are on location.

**Water/Sewer**

WWTP is currently getting the overhaul on the new plant upgrades. Blower three now has the ability to be isolated to the digester for additional air. All materials will be on site soon. The parts are taking an extremely long time to get in due to supply issues. We are prepping the digester tank for rails and jib crane next.

**Building and Grounds**

Our last payment from NYSERDA for 28,125.00 has been approved by the board to utilize for the Food Pantry. The sheet rock is up for the furnace. All materials are in for the boiler. Wright’s Choice will be installing boiler next week. Still waiting on the entrance, meter box, disconnect and panel box to arrive at SNL. Materials are taking longer to get in. Maintenance on the plows were done and they have been moved inside. Swift Field has been prepped for winter with outdoor equipment stored and rink has been cleaned. The Rink liner is in and we are installing when our crew is up to enough people to install. We hope to have a rink season this year.

 Motion #4

Ms. Fisher made the motion to open the skating rink at Swift Field to the public for this upcoming 2021-2022 winter season, seconded by Mr. Robert.

Ayes 4 Hawley, Robert, Fisher, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

**Safety**

All Fire panels are tested from NCC in the Month of November. It is getting difficult again to keep up with the rules and regulations for COVID and quarantine requirements. If someone is sent home, understand it’s not a personal issue, but a policy issue please!

**Code Enforcement Office**

78 Permits so far this year. Many Contractors are scrambling to shell in home builds prior to snow fall. Still waiting on a ZBA application from an Arbuckle Pond denied subdivision.

**TOWN CLERKS REPORT:** Deputy Jennifer Cole reported:

* The court recommends the Town hire Brittney Gravlin for Colton Court Clerk. After several interviews, most of which were very qualified, Brittney seemed to be the best choice with years of computer skills experience, some clerical experience, a professional demeanor and personable attitude. Supervisor Cayey recommends that her pay start at $18.47 per hour, 25 hours per week.

Motion #5

Motion made by Ms. Fisher to approve the hire of new Colton Court Clerk Brittney Gravlin at $15.00 an hour for 25 hours a week, seconded by Mr. Robert.

Ayes 4 Hawley, Robert, Fisher, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

* Request to apply the unpaid water and sewer relevies to the January tax bill.

Motion #6

Mr. Robert made the motion to apply the unpaid water and sewer relevies to the January tax bill, seconded by Mrs. Hawley.

Ayes 4 Hawley, Robert, Fisher, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

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**LIBRARY REPORT:**

* + - Thank you to Kevin Hawley and crew for removing the guard rail.
		- Mr. Eickoff received notice of a possible donation of an 8x10 storage barn.
		- The street lights outside of the library, half of them are not working.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

 None at this time.

**COURTESY OF THE FLOOR:**

Town bookkeeper Shelley Rayner requested the board approve payment of NYS Retirement annual invoice with the early bills.

 Motion #7

Mrs. Hawley made the motion to pay the annual NYS Retirement invoice with the early bills, seconded by Ms. Fisher.

 Ayes 4 Hawley, Robert, Cayey, Fisher

Noes 0

Motion carried

 Town bookkeeper Shelley Rayner stated the town received the 4th quarter sales tax check in the amount of $272,665.00. Also received the PERMA Risk Assessment audit refund in the amount of $22,306.00.

 Town Clerk Donna Buckley requested the board approve payment of Hanover Insurance, Griffith Oil, and Toshiba bills with the early bills to avoid late fees.

 Motion#10

Mrs. Hawley made the motion to pay Hanover Insurance, Griffith Oil and Toshiba bills with the early bills, seconded by Mr. Robert.

 Ayes 4 Hawley, Robert, Cayey, Fisher

Noes 0

Motion carried

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

* NYCLASS and NBT Bank account together made $261.46 for October 2021.
* National Grid has installed outlets on poles for the Christmas decorations.
* Koester has started the upgrade at the sewage plant. This upgrade should take approx. one month total to finish.
* National Grid will not remove the light bulb in the street lamp near A. Garlough’s house or remove the light unless the Town pays $1,000.00.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* The town has possibly found a new Town Attorney. Waiting to hear back from Mr. Matt Norfolk. Attorney Norfolk is out of Lake Placid.
* Leak in the roof at the museum. RSI took a look at it. Suggesting completely new roof.
* Renewal of the outside protection for Colton Volunteer Fire Department. This is a 4 year contract. Total of $37,500.00. $10,000.00 to go to ambulance services and $27,500.00 to go to fire protection.

Motion #8

Mr. Robert made the motion to accept the renewal of the outside fire protection for the Colton Vol. Fire Dept for the 2022 calendar year at $37,500.00, seconded by Mrs. Hawley.

Ayes 4 Hawley, Robert, Cayey, Fisher

Noes 0

Motion carried

* Approval of 2022 budget for Town of Colton.

 Motion #9

 Mrs. Hawley made the motion to accept the 2022 Town of Colton Budget, seconded by Ms. Fisher.

Ayes 4 Hawley, Robert, Cayey, Fisher

Noes 0

Motion carried

**Resolution of the Colton Town Board to Adopt the 2022 Town Budget**

**Whereas,** the Town Board met on this date and place as specified in the Public Hearing Notice on the Preliminary Budget and heard all persons asking to be heard, therefore,

**Resolving that,** the preliminary budget be and hereby is adopted as the Annual Budget for the Town of Colton for the fiscal year beginning on the first day of January 2022 and that said budget be adopted and entered in detail in the minutes of the proceeding meeting, be it

**Further resolved,** that the Town Clerk of the town shall prepare and certify in duplicate, copies of said Annual Budget as adopted by the Town Board pursuant to Section 202A Subdivision 2 of Town Law, and deliver one copy thereof to the Supervisor of the Town, in which he will present the said budget to the Legislative Body of the County.

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* Request to modify 2014 Resolution #10-14 – Income limitations for Senior Exemptions. Requesting an increase to $22,499.99.

Motion #10

Mr. Robert made the motion to modify Resolution #10-14, increasing income limitations for senior exemptions to $22,499.99, seconded by Ms. Fisher.

Ayes 4 Hawley, Robert, Cayey, Fisher

Noes 0

Motion carried

**ADJOURNMENT:**

 Motion #11

 Mr. Robert made the motion to close the regular meeting at 7:05pm, seconded by Mrs. Hawley.

 Ayes 4 Hawley, Robert, Cayey, Fisher

Noes 0

Motion carried

Meeting minutes taken by Deputy Clerk Jennifer Cole

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