**Regular Monthly Colton Town Board Meeting, May 12, 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-Davis

Jennifer Cole, Deputy Clerk

Supervisor Cayey opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:00 p.m. as advertised.

Zoom attendees: Mary Jane Watson, Dennis Eickhoff, Shelly Raynor, Jeff Tubolino, Ed Fuhr, Judy Fuhr, Jean Fallon, Deborah Richards

Motion # 1

**APPROVE April 2021 MINUTES**

Motion made by Mr. Robert, seconded by Mrs. Hawley to approve the April 14, 2021 minutes.

Ayes 4 Fisher, Hawley, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

Motion # 2

**AUTHORIZE, BANK RECON & BILLS IN WARRANT # 5, 2021**

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Ms. Fisher to authorize payment of bills labeled Warrant # 5, do a budget amendment and a transfer as indicated below.

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Hawley, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

General Fund $ 49,289.88

Highway Fund 48,548.23

Library Fund 1,477.24

Sewer Fund #1 6,935.42

Water Fund #1 2,656.17

Colton Light District 738.81

South Colton Light District 695.48

**COUNTY LEGISLATORS REPORT**

At the May 3rd, 2021 Full Board Meeting

We had 32 resolutions

We had 8 modifications to the budget

We had 14 Agreements/ Contracts to be signed

We had a resolution authorizing the filling of 15 vacancies.

We had a resolution setting a date for a public hearing on a proposed Local Law Allowing 12 and 13 year old licensed hunters to hunt deer with a firearm or crossbow during hunting season with the supervision of an adult licensed hunter.

We had two resolutions accepting donations to be used towards the implementation of an additional K( team, equipment and training for St Lawrence County

We had a resolution determining that the construction of the Lafavre road snowmobile bridge in the town of Russell will not result in any significant adverse environmental impact

We had a resolution authorizing the approval of the issuance of revenue bonds by the St Lawrence County IDA agency civic development corp for Clarkson University

We had a resolution appointing the Risk Manager as Corporate Compliance officer for St. Lawrence County

We had a resolution proclaiming May as older Americans month with the 2021 theme being Communities of Strength

We had a resolution proclaiming May15, 2021 as Police Officer Memorial Day during National Police week in St Lawrence County

We had a resolution authorizing the grade changes to the titles of Assistant County Attorneys for St. Lawrence County

We had a resolution adopting proposed Local Law for the Year 2021 reestablishing the St Lawrence County Multi-Use Recreational Trail system and establishing a Trail Permitting Process

We have passed a new local law requiring a trail permit for the Multi-use trails this year, however the permits passes are not available yet.  The trails can be used without a permit until they become available, we are expecting delivery in a week or two.  People wishing to purchase the annual trail pass it will be available on the county website and some local establishments along the trails. We will update as soon as the information is confirmed.  I would like to remind all users to follow all the Trail rules.

1

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**ASSESSOR’S REPORT**

* No new sales have been sent to me this month. Since January 1st 2021 there have been 7 property transfers, of these sale 4 are arm’s length transactions. All of these sales have been processed and sent back to NYS.
* I currently have 66 open site visits.\* I closed out 44 of these permits last month when finalizing the Tentative Roll.
* The 2021 Tentative Assessment Roll was finalized and filed with the Town Clerk on May 1st of 2021.
* 61 Change of Assessment notices were processed and mailed out to property owners who received a change in assessment. The changes were from physical changes to the property such as a new garage, or house.
* A Tentative Net Change of $2,673,124 was made to the 2021 Tentative Assessment Roll. This number along with changes in exemptions add a tentative taxable value of $2,498,979 to the Town. This number is still subject to change at Grievance Day.
* Grievance Day will be held on Wednesday June 2nd from 4:00pm – 8:00pm. I am requesting that property owners schedule an appointment for their Grievance to be heard. The appointment is not required for grievance to be heard, but they are encouraged.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert. B. Ball, IAO

\*Site visits are properties I have to visit and conduct field reviews on. These include building permits I receive from Darren, Property Sales, and requests from property owners to review the assessed value of a property.

**BTI REPORT**

* The Bti program is going well. The cooler weather has slowed the development of the larvae and densities of the amount of larvae are much less.
* This week we found some larvae in various parts of the river. We have empty Clorox jugs filled with sand, attached to long nylon ropes, to help with sampling larvae since it is difficult to get in the river when it is so high. Larvae attach to the jugs and rope. We haven't found a lot. I just found out the river will remain fairly high, 3150-3250 CFS, for the rest of the week. So, we will continue to monitor it.
* DANC GIS staff met with us earlier this season and showed us how to use the collector app to re-map our streams, also noting access routes, "hotspots", beaver dams and locations where we take measurements. This will be extremely helpful especially when new crew members join the team.

Andrea Malik

**HIGHWAY REPORT**

Since the last board meeting, we did get a chance to plow snow a couple more times. This has put us behind on hauling stone for our summer projects.

We did get started last week on the spring cleanup in the Colton Hamlet. We should finish this up this week, then we will move to South Colton.

We will be missing tomorrow from our cleanup project as we will be attending the annual Mine Safety refresher training in Canton. This is an all day long training event required for our sand and gravel pit operations.

I plan on starting grading our gravel roads as soon as the cleanup is completed.

After that we will be starting on our summer projects.

I have had one of our trucks in Watertown for three weeks now waiting for a radiator. This just started leaking for no apparent reason and it should be covered under warranty, however i still do not have confirmation of that, or when the radiator may arrive.

SALT BARN - Mr. Jeff Tubolino reported no new update on this. Jeff will follow up with Casey.

**PLANNING BOARD REPORT**

The planning board met April 20 at 6:00 pm via zoom.

There was no new business. We continued our discussion of changes to the zoning districts by looking at the Residential Recreational zone. One of several possible additions discussed was a marina. In order to get the best definition for a marina, and get an idea of setbacks and other conditions, we decided to look at other Adirondack lake towns with marinas, and bring that information back to the next meeting.

Kirke Perry Chairperson, Colton Planning Board

2

**Regular Monthly Colton Town Board Meeting, May 12, 2021**

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

**Transfer Station**

Vermin continue to undermine our compactor unloading area. Bait boxes from Jocks pest control not very effective. I contacted Skip from Casella to take our compactors out after every transfer station day. This was effective last time as we eliminated the food source and it couldn’t sustain hundreds of rats other-wise. It will get worse during warmer weather. I still, and will continue to advocate a major overhaul at our transfer station in terms of new facilities and excavation of the entire embankment and start over. This includes new building, new compactors, new retaining walls, etc. This is becoming a severe safety issue.

**Water and Sewer**

Wastewater plant is operating as it should. Spring maintenance is complete. The full time position was budgeted for the full year and we were asked to hold off till May to hire. A few of our good candidates have gotten jobs and are not applying. Can we re-advertise for April and hire in May as promised? The Town Supervisor would like to hold off until a labor negotiations issue is settled. We did not have our ad hoc committee meeting to discuss the replacement of a retiree. We have a 4 or 5 water digs with curb stops and hydrants we would like to complete and need a safe dig site to do so.

**Building and Grounds**

Spring cleaning has blended into mowing season. Less than ideal but happens with snow and inclement weather going from winter to summer missing parts of spring. Grounds are looking decent though. Mowing season has begun. Summer hires are put on hold as well.

**Safety**

Everyone 16 years old or older is now eligible for the vaccine. They are making the Pfizer eligible for 12 year olds. Masks and social distancing still highly recommended. New policies are coming down the pike on vaccinated folks getting more ability to do things it seems. MSHA training occurred yesterday for the highway crew, BTI had a safety meeting last week on PPE and standard safety hazards in the field. We also met with the school maintenance department with DPW workers on softball field conditions and swift field maintenance.

**Code Enforcement Office**

23 Permits so far this year, more in the hopper. Home builds and full garages are continuing to be planned regardless of the building material prices. Another new hunting cabin permit this week coming. The zoning use table has been updated and the wind law is done and the SEQR process is in the mix. The County is planning on attending the next planning board meeting to discuss changes, they have a two tier pilot idea.

Atlantic Underwater Services 5 year inspection is due June or July of this year. This is a mandatory inspection. Cost is $1800.00.

Motion #3

Motion made by Ms. Fisher, seconded by Mr. Robert for payment of $1,800.00 for mandatory Atlantic Underwater Services 5 year inspection.

Ayes 4 Fisher, Hawley, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

**LIBRARY REPORT**

1. The removal of air conditioning coverings and plastic from the vent over the door.
2. Caulking of the woodwork on either side of the entrance way to prevent water damage from occurring.
3. Trimming of the library hedge.
4. Cleaning the leaves, etc. from the gate at the back door on the lower level.
5. Grading of the front yard so that water doesn’t continue to pool where patrons walk on the sidewalk to the library.
6. Repair of back wall in the office which has been ruined by continued leaking.
7. Painting of the outside handrails.
8. Windows need to be washed on the outside.
9. Sealing of the front steps.

3

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**TOWN CLERK’S REPORT** Deputy Clerk Jennifer Cole reported:

1. This is the last month to collect tax payments. To make the final installment or to pay in full here at the Town Clerks office is June 1 or have a postmark of June 1.
2. Pass a resolution for Shelley’s and Dennis’s standard workday for retirement.

Motion #4

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Mr. Robert to pass the resolution for Shelley’s and Dennis’ standard workday for retirement.

Ayes 4 Fisher, Hawley, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

1. The town-wide garage sale will be July 16, 17 & 18. Call 315-262-2810 x1, and talk to Jennifer or Donna to get on the map.
2. Fishing license sales are picking up.
3. Jennifer has been working in the Clerk’s Office a few hours per week, coding invoices,

entering tax payments, sorting and filing paperwork and updating our website for starters.

Food Pantry – Grace, Penny and Donna visited the Pierrepont Food Pantry. Sandy gave us a tour and explained a lot of what she does, how food is delivered and from where.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. NYCLASS Investment – Made $82.89 for April.
2. New phone installation for all Town buildings is progressing.
3. New printers are being installed May 13, 2021.
4. Wind Law – required notices were sent. 30 days to reply back.

**CLOSE REGULAR MEETING, MOVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION** – 6:50PM.

Mr. Richards went into executive session with the Board. The following motions are the results of the executive session.

Motion #5 – Hire 1 person for summer help at minimum wage.

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Ms. Fisher to hire 1 person for summer help at minimum wage.

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Hawley, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

Motion #6 – Hire 1 person full time DPW as per union contract.

Motion made by Mr. Robert, seconded by Ms. Fisher to hire 1 person full time for DPW.

Ayes 3 Fisher-Davis, Hawley, Robert

Noes 0

Abstain 1 Cayey

Motion carried

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion #7 Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Robert, seconded Mrs. Hawley.

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Hawley, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried 7:30PM

Board meeting minutes by,

Deputy Clerk, Jennifer Cole

4