**Regular Monthly Meeting, Colton Town Board, May 8, 2019**

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

Present: George Cayey, Supervisor Councilpersons: Grace Hawley

Laurie Wright, Deputy Town Clerk Katheryn Hayes

Ronald Robert

Lisa Fisher-Davis

Absent: Darren Richards, Kevin Hawley, Donna Arquiett

Others Present: Rick Perkins, Penny Cayey, Tina Miller, Mary Jane Watson, Ruth & Joe McWilliams

Supervisor Cayey called the regular monthly meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:00 PM.

**Motion #1**

**Accept Minutes**

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Mr. Robert to accept the minutes of the April 10, 2019 regular monthly meeting.

Ayes 5 Cayey, Hawley, Hayes, Robert, Fisher-Davis

Noes 0

Motion carried.

**Motion #2**

**Approve Warrant #5, Transfers/Bank Statement & Reconciliation**

Motion made by Mrs. Fisher-Davis, seconded by Mr. Robert to approve the bills on Warrant #5, transfers as recommended and indicated below, and the bank statement & reconciliation.

Ayes 5 Cayey, Hawley, Hayes, Robert, Fisher-Davis

Noes 0

Motion carried.

General Fund $ 77,889.35

Highway Fund $ 20,876.44

Library Fund $ 1,401.40

Colton Light District $ 740.37

South Colton Light District $ 696.56

Sewer District #1 $ 5,649.64

Water District #1 $ 2,801.11

Moving three miscoded transactions for engineer services from 5132.2 (Pole Barn) to 1440.4 (Town Engineer). Transferring $ 27,700.00 from 5132.2 (Pole Barn) to 1620.2 (General Fund Equipment) to cover the purchase of the Sand Bagging Machine.

**Legislator Report**

Mr. Perkins reported that they had 46 resolutions at the May 6, 2019 Legislators Meeting.

**Dog Warden Report**

No report filed.

**Assessor Report**

* More changes coming from NYS DTF on STAR Credit and Exemption.  Basic STAR Exemption maximum income went from $500,000 to $250,000.  If you make more than $250,000 you will lose the Basic STAR exemption.  If you want to change to the STAR Credit you may do so through a process called renunciation whereas an application is filed with the County Director who forwards to the state.  Once the state receives the application for renunciation the homeowner then applies either online or by telephone to receive the STAR Credit. The income limit for the STAR Credit is at $500,000. With this you would receive a check versus the exemption on you tax bill.  If the Credit is chosen you would never be allowed to return to the Basic or Enhanced STAR exemption. There are a number of people who have been removed from the exemption program by NYS DTF. I do not send notices as these would be sent directly from DTF. This is a very complicated process and I am just learning of it.   When I gain more knowledge of the procedure I will pass it along.

**Bti Report**

* We completed the first round of stream treatments April 18th.
* It took us just over 1 month to treat all 193 streams, totaling 100 miles in length.  We actually hike a lot more than that since we have to hike up and back down the streams and their tributaries while treating and, also walk the streams for monitoring and assessments.  This is excellent progress especially with all the snow and cold.
* The river has not been treated because we haven't found many larvae in it yet.  We are continually monitoring it and anticipate treating it this month.  Hopefully it will be at more normal levels then.

1

**Regular Monthly Meeting, Colton Town Board, May 8, 2019**

**Bti Report (continued)**

* Mosquito treatments started April 17th.    Mosquito larval development has been slow because of the cold.  Right now all the black fly crew are treating for mosquitoes. Our mosquito crew member will be returning in mid May when she gets out of college.
* Attached is a checklist for reducing mosquito habitat around your home.  I cannot over emphasis the importance of each property owner doing their part.  Adult mosquitoes could be reduced significantly if everyone did at least some of the items on the checklist.
* The second round of black fly larvae are just starting to hatch out in the streams we treated earliest.  They are still very small so I anticipate starting the second round of stream treatments at the end of this week or early next week.

YARD & HOME CHECKLIST FOR REDUCING MOSQUITO HABITAT

* Get rid of old tires, tin cans, buckets, drums, bottles or any container that can hold water
* Fill or drain any low places (puddles & ruts) in yard
* Keep drains, ditches and culverts clean of weeds and trash so water will drain properly
* Cover trash containers to keep out rain water.
* If you have a rain barrel, cover it with a screen small enough that adult mosquitoes can’t get through to lay eggs in the water
* Repair leaky pipes and outside faucets
* Empty plastic wading pools at least once a week & store indoors when not in use
* Make sure your backyard pool is properly cared for
* Clean clogged roof gutters & drains
* Flip over wheelbarrows and boats, old freezers or refrigerators that have the door removed
* Fill in tree rot holes and hollow stumps that hold water with sand or concrete (these can breed an unbelievable amount of mosquitoes!)
* Change the water in bird baths and plant pots or drip trays at least once each week
* Keep grass cut short and shrubbery well trimmed around the house so adult mosquitoes will not hide there

All mosquitoes need water to complete their life cycle. So, if you take even a few of these simple positive steps to remove standing water in your yard, you will make a significant difference in the adult mosquitoes we have in Colton.

**Code Enforcement Report**

26 permits this year so far.  One new subdivision coming down the pike, and one new business being renewed from the Red Pine Pub days.  Attended a National Flood Insurance Program-Community Rating System seminar. Returned from the two day seminar near Albany, FEMA provided the hotel and conference fee for Municipal Code Officers.

**DPW Report**

Transfer Station

Currently updating flow control information, ie. What's recyclable, what's haz mat material, and new sources for accepted materials from companies.

Water/Sewer

Still looking for Sludge disposal solutions since Casella has gotten out of the business of Sludge processing.  They are however, still providing hauling so far.

Building and Grounds

Second round of bids currently out for highway barn’s roof project.  Softball field looks great. Great job by the school for their infield work and of course to the DPW crew on the dugouts.  We are still getting compliments on the recreation upgrades at Swift. Spring cleaning on grounds starting, windows at museum and siding at the Community Center next

Safety

Work is progressing quite nicely on the crosswalk in South Colton.  Currently, the LED crosswalk pedestals are in to be installed after the permit is issued.  Those were paid for by a grant from the Health Initiative. The design work by our Engineer is also paid for by the same grant.  State DOT is providing, striping, signage and curb cuts. Currently we are only needing to pay for the pedestal installation from a contractor.  I am enrolled in a safety seminar for PERMA for safety coordinator Training. I would like to adopt a sun protection policy for our town and employees, allow us to train our employees on sun damage prevention and I have obtained a 100% grant on sun protection equipment of nearly $3,000.00.  I need a vote for policy adoption. This includes a Gazebo type roof by our Swift Field playground, sunscreen dispenser and two 12 x 12 easy up canopies for our town uses.

**Motion #3**

**Adopt Sun Safety Policy**

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Mrs. Fisher-Davis to adopt the Sun Safety Policy as of 5/10/19.

Ayes 5 Cayey, Hawley, Hayes, Robert, Fisher-Davis

Noes 0

Motion carried.

**Highway Report**

No report filed.

2

**Regular Monthly Meeting, Colton Town Board, May 8, 2019**

**Motion #4**

**Cover Extreme Weather Funding**

Motion made by Mr. Robert, seconded by Ms. Hayes to cover $24,000.00 extreme weather funding for highway repair out of Bridge Maintenance under Highway Funds, unless it is restored by Albany in June. The $24,000.00 was excluded from CHIPS for 2019.

Ayes 5 Cayey, Hawley, Hayes, Robert, Fisher-Davis

Noes 0

Motion carried.

**Tourism & Beautification Report**

**Student Helpers during Spring and Summer** During the last month Colton-Pierrepont Central School high school students were given the opportunity to apply for positions related to Beautification & Trails, Festivals & Events, and Stone Valley Information Center. Nine students submitted applications by the deadline last Friday and were interviewed this week. All nine students will be offered jobs and those accepting will sign job agreements before starting work. And they will comply with the town’s new sexual harassment policy and training requirements. We expect many students will begin work in May, helping prepare the Museum for opening and assisting with Caring for Colton Days. We thank Heather Rousell and Jamie VanBrocklin at school for helping with the process. **Spring Clean-Up in May** During the month of May the committee will concentrate its efforts on the following two activities. All those wishing to help should contact Ruth McWilliams (ruth@catamountlodge.com). **Colton Museum**—On May 14-16 we will work with the Colton Historical Society (CHS) in preparing the Museum, including the Stone Valley Information Center, for opening after Memorial Day. Priorities include vacuuming throughout, cleaning display cases upstairs and down, washing down the Gazebo floor, cleaning the memorial bricks around the Gazebo, and updating information and displays in the info center and elsewhere. **Caring for Colton Days**—On May 18-19 the committee plans to focus on picking up trash at the Transfer Center and along Lenny Road as well as cleaning up town parks and landscaped areas in preparation for Memorial Day. Additional park and trail work will be scheduled afterward in preparation for Colton Country Days in July. Actual work done on May 18-19 will depend upon the availability of site leaders and volunteers. **Summer Schedule of Activities** The committee is once again getting ready for a busy summer of activities which includes: >Holding three music performances, currently scheduled for June 26 (Northbound), July 14 (New Horizons Swing Band to be confirmed), and July 20 (The Blue Mystics); >Staffing the Stone Valley Information Center in the Colton Museum from 10am to 2pm on Fridays and Saturdays during June and on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday during the rest of the summer through Labor Day; >Staffing an information tent at Stone Valley during whitewater releases on July 6 and 20, August 17 and 31, and September 2 (weather permitting); >Organizing and assisting with the week-long Colton Country Days celebration from July 14-21 for which the draft schedule of activities will be available soon; and >Helping organize the annual town-wide garage sales on July 26-28. All this is only possible with the help of volunteers; and more help is needed. Those wishing to participate should contact Ruth McWilliams ([ruth@catamountlodge.com](mailto:ruth@catamountlodge.com)). **Next Meeting** The committee’s next monthly meeting will be held on June 10 to continue planning summer activities.

**Library Report**

No report filed.

**Planning/Zoning Report**

No report filed.

**Town Clerk/Tax Collector Report**

* The summer swim program will run June 24 to August 2 at Postwood Beach. The request for use of a school bus from the school has been sent. I don’t have an answer from Higley Flow State Park yet. Lisa Fisher-Davis is getting the bus information to me. Upon having the information from the Park and the bus, I can call to get the “campers insurance” and the bus insurance.
* A motion is necessary for the hiring of James Perkins and what his salary is going to be.
* The 3rd/final tax payment is due May 31. If not paid here by then, they will be notified by the County Treasurer’s Office what their balance will be after they add on a penalty.
* The 2nd Notices have been mailed to the people who haven’t paid anything at all on their taxes. There was a total of 92.
* The Colton free rabies clinic is Thursday May 16 at 6:00 to 7:00, 25 Wildwood Rd. We do accept donations, because that is what pays for the Vet and Vet tech.
* The Tentative Assessment roll was emailed and has been put on our website.
* There is information on the counter for census jobs or go to 2020census.gov/jobs
* I will be back in the office Monday May 13.

3

**Regular Monthly Meeting, Colton Town Board, May 8, 2019**

**Motion #5**

**Hire Summer Swim Program Bus Driver**

Motion made by Mr. Robert, seconded by Ms. Hayes to hire James Perkins as the bus driver for the summer swim program at $20.00 per hour.

Ayes 5 Cayey, Hawley, Hayes, Robert, Fisher-Davis

Noes 0

Motion carried.

**Town Engineer Report**

Report on file.

**No Correspondence**

**Unfinished Business**

NYCLASS Investment – Made $6,145.94 for the month of April.

Town Barn Roof and Siding rebid – Went out for bid on 4/29/19. Pre-bid conference on 5/10/19 at 10:00 am.

Still waiting on final State approval for Library Grant. Still can’t tell me when the funds will be available.

$50,000 Grant for old Firehouse. Waiting on approval from grant folks to use money to purchase new furnace.

Applied for a $75,000 grant to fund invasive species. Haven’t heard yet.

Wheel chair lift should be installed next week.

BTI truck is in production.

Internet Service.

**New Business**

Sun Safety Policy

Hiring James Perkins as bus driver for swim program and proposed salary should be $19 an hour.

New siding has been selected for Community Center.

**Courtesy of the Floor**

Joe McWilliams requested that the Town’s speed radar be used on Windmill Road, above Morgan Road.

Ron Robert requested that the Town’s speed radar also be used on Gulf Road.

**Motion #6**

**Adjournment**

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Mrs. Fisher-Davis to adjourn at 6:50 PM.

Ayes 5 Cayey, Hawley, Hayes, Robert, Fisher-Davis

Noes 0

Motion carried.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Laurie Wright, Deputy Town Clerk

4