**Regular Monthly Colton Town Board Meeting, October 13, 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 Sup’t

Supervisor Cayey opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:01 p.m. as advertised.

Meeting attendees: Kirke Perry, Penny Cayey, Jeff Tubolino, Laurie Wright, Darren Richards – CEO, Deborah Richards,

Zoom attendees: Mary Jane Watson, Dennis Eickhoff, Leah Worden, Shelley Rayner, Cindy Hennessy

Motion # 1

**APPROVE September 2021 MINUTES**

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Mr. Robert to approve the September 15, 2021 minutes.

Ayes 4 Hawley, Robert, Fisher, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

Motion #2

**AUTHORIZE, BANK RECON, TRANSFERS & BILLS IN WARRANT #10, 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 $ 59,509.24

Highway Fund 88,258.57

Library Fund 1,477.24

Sewer Fund #1 4,014.27

Water Fund #1 2,744.24

Colton Light District 789.32

South Colton Light District 734.70

The following accounts are or will be over budget as of August 30, 2021:

General Fund: A1490.12 Public works Sec. P.S. $1,542.02 $7,500.00

A5140.40 Brush Weeds Contr $ 307.87 $ 500.00

Recommended Transfer: A3010.200 Public Safety, Equip. $8,000.00

DA5110.40 Road Maint. Contr. $5,620.00 - $15,000.00

DA5140.10 Brush & Weeds P.S. $15,000.00

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

* One appointment to make as their term is ending on October 31, 2021. Fuhr as Planning Board Member
* Copies of the tentative budget have been provided.
* Just finishing up the 30+ page annual insurance.
* Copies of the upcoming election ballot are available at the town hall.
* Jennifer took a trip to Utica for the Notary test October 12th.
* We have seen at least 7 applications/resumes come in for the Court Clerk position. Interviews start Monday October 18th.
* There will be a public meeting on October 19th at 4pm for the 2022 budget.

Motion #3

Motion made to advertise the public meeting for the 2022 budget scheduled for October 19th made by Mr. Robert, seconded by Mrs. Hawley.

Ayes 4 Hawley, Robert, Fisher, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

* There will be a public hearing for the 2022 budget and the fire protection on November 3rd at 5:50 and 5:55pm.

Motion #4

Motion made to advertise the public hearing for the 2022 budget and the fire protection scheduled on November 3rd made by Ms. Fisher, seconded by Mrs. Hawley.

Ayes 4 Hawley, Robert, Fisher, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

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

**Transfer Station**

Blue line Engineering has conducted a site map, cost analysis, and new design rendering on a transfer station. We had a meeting with Jeff Tubolino, Ronnie Roberts, Supervisor George Cayey, Skip Bisnett and myself discussing a conceptual sight plan. We are looking at an estimated cost of $1.2 million for the updates to the transfer station. Jeff is currently working on the Grant’s Gateway Application as well. Will be working on a cost analysis comparison – new transfer facility vs. local trash pickup. The DPW obtained the cost and design schematics for the proposed new compactors. The retaining walls are already secured for the transfer station set up.

**Water/Sewer**

WWTP is gearing up for the overhaul on the new plant upgrades. All materials will be on site soon. Cleaning of the digester tank will start when we have a hard date to work with. All three hydrants are in and working great. Pumps and diffusers are being done next. Rural Water is coming out to identify water lines for Slic System upgrades in reference to dig safe tickets. DEC inspection of the WWTP is being conducted this Friday, October 15, 2021. Blue Line Engineering will be on sight for the inspection.

**Building and Grounds**

Our final check came from NYSERDA. The Town received $28,125.00 for the final payment to us. Interior walls are constructed inside the Food Pantry. Bids are in for the spray-foam and heating systems. Materials were cleaned on site and it is looking better each day. Swift also had some grounds improved for materials being moved.

**Safety**

G & E fire extinguishers are updating and inspecting hydrants today for all buildings and equipment. I am attending a PERMA conference on October 28 and 29th in Verona on NYS Legalization of Marijuana and other current safety topics.

**Code Enforcement Office**

72 Permits so far this year. Three new home builds and another garage are coming next week. The ZBA will have an area variance application soon from Arbuckle Pond Rd.

**COUNTY LEGISLATORS REPORT:**

We had 48 resolutions.

We had 13 modifications to the budget.

We had 5 Agreements/ Contracts to be signed of which were 5 grants.

We had a resolution authorizing the filling of vacancies, 20 positions.

We had a resolution declaring October as Domestic Violence month.

We had a resolution supporting the Senate and Assembly bill Known as the Digital Fair Repair Act 9in relation to the sale of digital electronic equipment and providing diagnostic and repair information.

We had a resolution proclaiming October 24th- 30th, 2021 as National Lead Poisoning Prevention week.

We had a resolution opposing the Covid-19 vaccine mandates imposed by Federal, State, or Local governmental bodies.

We had a resolution adopting the equalization rates for 2022 county taxes.

We had a resolution authorizing collection of omitted taxes.

We had a resolution authorizing real property tax law correction of errors.

We had a resolution authorizing a settlement agreement with respect to an action relating to the Opioid crisis.

We had a resolution amending the Bank Depositories and investment of county funds.

We had a resolution proclaiming October 2021 as cybersecurity awareness month.

We had a resolution authorizing the group health plan administrator to submit a claim against Blue Cross/Blue Shield regarding a class action law suit.

We had numerous resolutions calling on the Governor regarding monies owed due to unfunded State mandates.

If anyone has any questions please feel free to reach out to me.

Rick

**DOG WARDEN REPORT:**

One horse loose – returned to residence/barn. Two welfare checks on dogs. One cat taken to Potsdam Humane Society. Also, two dogs non stop barking.

**ASSESSOR REPORT:**

Mr. Ball will be back to work next week full time.

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**LIBRARY REPORT:**

Waiting for final paperwork on the LLSA grant. Also, need a light replacement.

**HIGHWAY REPORT:**

* Since the last meeting we did finish our shoulder work.
* The capital projects went well this year.
* We also have our winter sand pile up and ready for winter.
* I have a truck at Stadium International that was having issues with the emissions. Parts and labor are going to be about $10,000 to fix it. This is a main plow truck so we have to fix it. I wish to ask the board’s approval of this repair.

Motion #5

Ms. Fisher made the motion to fix the Stadium International Plow truck, seconded by Mr. Robert.

Ayes 4 Hawley, Robert, Fisher, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

**BTI REPORT:**

Invasive Species:

* I finished treatments for knotweed for the season.
* The phragmites project in Horton flats, where I got the special permit last year was very successful. I just had to treat a few plants that were missed. The native cat tails are starting to regrow in the areas I had treated. Just, like the knotweed though, I’ll have to keep monitoring it each season, treating the invasive plants as they reappear.

BTI

* I found out recently that another crew member will not be returning. I am looking for one more person.
* I’m planning on teaching the 30 hour course in mid-November. We need to start that early because DEC exams are prescheduled around NYS. There aren’t many scheduled in northern NY, plus with Covid, they aren’t allowing many people in the exam sessions, so they can fill up. Then it takes at least a month after the exams, if passed, to get their ID card which must be in hand to be able to treat.

Andrea Malik

**PLANNING BOARD REPORT:** Kirke Perry reported

* Two separate meetings since last Town Board meeting. One on September 21st discussing five subdivisions. One subdivision was sent to the ZBA due to variance issues. Another meeting October 6th discussing two subdivisions.
* Mr. H. Granger put in his resignation as Board member of the Town of Colton Planning Board.

Motion #6

Ms. Fisher made the motion to accept Mr. Granger’s resignation as member of the Town of Colton Planning Board, seconded by Mr. Robert.

Ayes 4 Hawley, Robert, Cayey, Fisher

Noes 0

Motion carried

Motion #7

Ms. Fisher made the motion to advertise the opening of the Town of Colton Planning Board member, seconded by Mrs. Hawley.

Ayes 4 Hawley, Robert, Cayey, Fisher

Noes 0

Motion carried

* Mr. E. Fuhr is due for reappointment to the Town of Colton Planning Board.

Motion #8

Mrs. Hawley made the motion to reappoint Mr. Fuhr to the Town of Colton Planning Board, seconded by Ms. Fisher.

Ayes 4 Hawley, Robert, Cayey, Fisher

Noes 0

Motion carried

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

* NYCLASS and NBT Bank account together made $268.01 for September 2021.
* Waiting on National grid to install the outlets on the poles for the Christmas Decorations.
* Removal of light bulb near A. Garlough’s on County Route 58/Pleasant Street.
* ARPA funds will be used by Koester to update sewage plant.

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**NEW BUSINESS:**

* Colton Town Attorney Colin Loomis resigned as our Town Attorney. We are looking for a new attorney to represent the town.
* Colton Town Handbook has been approved.
* Renewal of Human Recourses Attorney Matt Ryan. First year cost will be $775.00 monthly. Second year cost will be $800.00 monthly. Third year cost will be $825.00 monthly.

Motion #9

Mrs. Hawley made the motion to accept the renewal of Human Recourses Attorney Matt Ryan, seconded by Mr. Robert.

Ayes 4 Hawley, Robert, Cayey, Fisher

Noes 0

Motion carried

**FOOD PANTRY:**

* The food pantry committee has been meeting weekly.
* M. Schwartfigure finished the walls on the food pantry office, bathroom and mechanical room.
* Next will be the electric which was generously donated by S&L Electric.
* Spray foam will be done after the electric.
* Wright’s Choice will be installing the furnace. The cost for the furnace will be approx. $7,250.00.

Motion #10

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley for the cost of the furnace and labor from Wright’s Choice of $7,250.00, seconded by Ms. Fisher.

Ayes 4 Hawley, Robert, Cayey, Fisher

Noes 0

Motion carried

* Bonno Builders to work on the dry wall, porch, finishing touches etc.
* We are hoping the soft opening will be on December 3rd, grand opening December 17th.
* Monies CEO D. Richards acquired through a grant in the amount of $28,000.00 have been used to help finish the food pantry.
* The Town is still accepting donations for Kathryn’s Cupboard Food Pantry.

**COURTESY OF THE FLOOR:**

Supervisor Cayey read an email pertaining to Town Assessor B. Ball and the quality job he is and has been doing for the Town of Colton.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Request for executive session.

Motion #11

Mr. Robert made the motion to close the regular meeting at 6:53pm, seconded by Mrs. Hawley.

Ayes 4 Hawley, Robert, Cayey, Fisher

Noes 0

Motion carried

No decisions were made in the executive session.

Motion #12

Mrs. Hawley made the motion to adjourn the Town Board meeting at 7:20pm, seconded by Ms. Fisher.

Ayes 4 Hawley, Robert, Cayey, Fisher

Noes 0

Motion carried

Meeting minutes taken by Deputy Clerk Jennifer Cole

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