**Regular Monthly Colton Town Board Meeting, January 8, 2020**

**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. Katheryn Hayes

Donna Buckley, Clerk Lisa Fisher-Davis

Absent: Ronald Robert

Others present: Penny Cayey, Robert Ball, Kirke Perry, Ruth McWilliams, Mary Jane Watson, Pam Dumas,

Jean Fallon and Len Page.

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

Mr. Cayey asked the Board if they had time to review their paperwork for the meeting and if so asked for a motion to pay the bills on warrant #1.

Motion # 1

**APPROVE DECEMBER 2019 MINUTES**

Motion made by Mrs. Fisher-Davis, seconded by Mrs. Hawley to approve the December 2019 minutes.

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Hawley, Hayes, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

**COUNTY LEGISLATOR’S REPORT** Mr. Cayey read aloud the report Mr. Perkins emailed.

At the January 2nd full board meeting:

We had 30 resolutions

We elected Joe Lightfoot as the Chairman and Dave Forsythe as the Vice Chair

We had 5 modifications to the budget

We had 1 vacancy position consisting of 12 positions that we filled

We had 10 agreements/contracts to be signed

We had 6 grant resolutions

We had a resolution writing off bad debt for the community services department for $996,614 for approx. 20 yrs

We had a resolution authorizing the use of County owned machinery

We had a resolution correcting and refunding erroneous tax errors

We had a resolution authorizing petty cash and departmental drawers

We had a resolution authorizing blanket bonds for employees and elected officials

We had a resolution authorizing bank depositories and investment of county funds

We had a resolution designating the newspaper and rotation schedule

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

**ASSESSOR’S REPORT** Mr. Ball reported:

* Since January 1st 2020 there has been no new property transfers. There was a total of 3 property transfers in the month of December 2019.
* Currently have 74 open building permits. I am in the process of visiting each of these properties. After I have visited a property and the building is complete, I then update the property record card, the RPS program and add the value to the assessment roll.
* This month I finished preparing the exemption renewal applications and mailed them out to property owners. A total of 11 renewals were mailed out. These applications are due back to my office by March 1st 2020.

Mr. Ball had requested the Town Board enact a local law to change the date of grievance day to be the second Wednesday after the fourth Tuesday in May. Ms. Buckley has the copies ready for the board to review and a public hearing will be scheduled prior to next month’s meeting.

Mr. Cayey read aloud Mr. Richards reports in his absence.

**CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT** No permits this year so far. One ZBA application might be coming up soon and an operating permit as well.

**SAFETY REPORT** The new Security Camera System has been ordered for the Courthouse. That will solve any issues on security with our new second egress. The book drop box has been ordered to assist ADA compliance. It will also bring the new drop box by the street for closed hours of service to eliminate the slippery walk and stairs during winter hours. Safety officer attended a joint PESH and PERMA meeting in Albany to discuss injury reporting and forms.

**TRANSFER STATION REPORT** Reminding the public we are closing the transfer at 1:00 on this Saturday, January 11 for our Jamboree. We have a rodent issue undermining the docking station at the Transfer station. We will be fixing that sink area between storms very soon.

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**DPW REPORT** The Station propane boiler conversion from fuel oil is complete. Wright Choice is moving their operations to the Community Center to convert to a new propane furnace from forced air fuel oil furnace and a backup small boiler to heat the new section of the Community Center. The Museum is complete by Aeon in switching to propane furnace from a fuel oil furnace. S&L Electric will begin their LED conversion starting Monday and will continue through the remainder of our buildings. They had some issues they helped out with on other accounts and is now getting our LED lighting project started.

**WATER & SEWER REPORT** Sludge study being completed this month for review by Town board thereafter. Our yearend report on Fund Summary came out. Our Sewer acct. was over by $9,557.40 and our Water acct. was under budget by $40,669.17. The much needed lift station pumps we our big ticket items which put us over budget on Sewer

**HIGHWAY REPORT** Mr. Hawley reported:

* Since the last board meeting we have been mostly focused on snow and ice. We have had some truck repair issues with the 2013 truck and the 2018 as well.
* Chads truck the 2013 had its 3rd EGR valve installed about a month ago. Two days ago the check engine light came on. We scanned the truck computer and it showed a EGR issue again. The truck is still in service and Stadium is supposed to be up here tomorrow to diagnose the issue.
* The 2018 had another DEF sensor go on it on Veterans day. I had a lengthy conversation with the head of service in Syracuse and he agreed something else was going on with the truck. After a week in the Syracuse shop with an engineer from International working on it, they discovered the system was hooked up in reverse from the factory. This problem has been corrected and was covered under warranty. I am hopeful this will solve the issues that we have had since day 1 with this truck.
* The new plow was installed on the fish hatchery truck at Whitesboro Spring and it looks real good. The sander is built awaiting pickup from the carrier. I expect it to be in Harrisville the middle of next week.
* We budgeted for a new roadside mower tractor to be purchased this year. I would like to ask permission to advertise bids for a new 75 horse four wheel drive tractor, with bid opening date prior to next months meeting for potential board approval at next months meeting.

Motion # 2

**AUTHORIZE HWY SUPT TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND PURCHASE**

Motion made by Mrs. Fisher-Davis, seconded by Mrs. Hawley to authorize the Highway Superintendent to advertise for bids and purchase on a new mower tractor.

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Hawley, Hayes, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

Mr. Cayey mentioned the condition of the 2013 plow truck and recommended it be next to be replaced since it was budgeted for.

Motion # 3

**AUTHORIZE ORDER AND PURCHASE OF NEW PLOW TRUCK**

Motion made by Mrs. Fisher-Davis, seconded by Mrs. Hawley to authorize Highway Superintendent to order and purchase a new plow truck.

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Hawley, Hayes, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

Mr. Hawley said there was a plow truck at Auctions International the same as the one we have and it sold for $75,000. He added he will look into taking our truck to auction in September or October.

**LIBRARY REPORT** Trustees Pam Dumas and Jean Fallon started by thanking the Town for purchasing the new book drop. Ms. Fallon reported the old box will be going to the book nook. The Trustees decided the Library would be closed the same holidays as the rest of the Town employees. They also said the well is completed and Mark Fisher will be back in the spring to repair the damage he caused to the ground getting equipment to the well.

Mrs. McWilliams added the students have been working on barn quilts and there are 3 specially designed for the book nook.

**TOWN CLERK’S REPORT** Ms. Buckley reported:

1. All is well and busy in the Clerk’s Office. End of month reports have been set back until the DEC reporting issue is resolved.
2. Taxes have been rolling in, only 4 checks written wrong in the 5 days we’ve been collecting. There is still quite a stack of unopened payments on my desk yet!
3. At some time it will slow down enough for me to update the website. Andrea has info she needs put on.
4. The Google calendar we use for the website has disappeared from my Google calendars. I have no idea what happened. As soon as I get that taken care of I’ll add the Library meeting dates as they requested.

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**ENGINEERS REPORT** Mr. Cayey reported Mr. Tubillino says new drawings for the salt barn and of course the bill will be coming soon.

**NEW BUSINESS**

NYCLAS – Made $2,770.92 on investment for December

No quotes yet from sidewalk contractors

Planning Board Computers – Chromebooks have arrived

New video surveillance software/hardware has been ordered

Audit dates set - January 22 & 23

February Board meeting – moved to February 19 because the Supervisor and the Clerk will be away.

County Plowing Agreement – agreed, motion made

Ice rink closure – Town Board decided to close the ice rink on holidays, motion made

Motion # 4

**SLC 3 YR PLOWING AGREEMENT**

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Ms. Hayes to approve the 3 year plowing agreement with St. Lawrence County Highway department.

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Hawley, Hayes, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

Motion # 5

**CLOSE ICE RINK ON HOLIDAYS**

Motion made by Mrs. Fisher-Davis, seconded by Mrs. Hawley to close the ice rink on holidays.

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Hawley, Hayes, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

Mrs. McWilliams proposed the dissolution of the Tourism and Beautification Committee. She reported there are thirteen main activities which the committee would like to see continued with these recommendations:

1. Communications such as website and facebook page – Town Clerk
2. Fundraising $5,000 to $10,000 – Colton Historical Association
3. Raquette River Blue Way Trail – Mary Jane Watson
4. Raquette River Property Owners with Brookfield – Mary Jane Watson
5. Town Parks and Trails – Kirke Perry with tend John Stone Trail, Thomas Family will tend Sunday Rock the other small parks to be contracted out
6. Barn Quilts – would like to have remain under Town and Mrs. Hewer at CPCS will continue too
7. Historic Scenic Tour – A virtual tour will be on the Town website going live @ Country Days
8. Legacy Project – Historical Society
9. Info center – South Colton is an informational rack in the Foyer
10. Colton Info Center – Recommend hiring, Andy Edwards would be great
11. Town-wide Garage Sales – Town Clerk
12. Remembrance Trees – Donna Buckley
13. Winterfest – only 4 remain on the committee, other organizations aren’t interested in helping since they do their own thing

Mr. Cayey asked if anyone had any questions, if not, asked to adjourn.

Motion # 6

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Mrs. Fisher-Davis to adjourn.

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Hawley, Hayes, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried, 7:01 p.m.

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Donna Buckley, Town Clerk

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