Regular Monthly Meeting, Colton Town Board, August 8, 2018

**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 Arquiett, Clerk Lisa Fisher-Davis

Ronald Robert

Others present: Tina Miller, Penny Cayey, Mary Jane Watson, Kevin Beary and Rick Perkins

Supervisor Cayey opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:10 p.m. having to wait for a couple

Board Members to arrive.

Mrs. Hawley joined the meeting as Pledge was ending.

Mr. Cayey took this time to read aloud a letter received regarding the good job by Jim McConkey, Dog Warden.

Mr. Cayey asked if everyone received the minutes and if so, make a motion to approve them.

Motion # 1

**ACCEPT MINUTES**

Motion made by Mr. Robert seconded by Mrs. Hawley to accept the minutes as presented.

Ayes 4 Hawley, Fisher-Davis, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

Motion # 2

**APPROVE WARRANT # 8, TRANSFER, BANK STATEMENT & RECONCILIATION**

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Mrs. Fisher-Davis to approve warrant # 8 the transfer along with the bank statement and reconciliation.

Ayes 4 Hawley, Fisher-Davis, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

General Fund $ 30,974.72

Highway Fund $ 8,231.02

Colton Light District $ 721.79

South Colton Light District $ 679.54

Sewer District #1 $ 6152.85

Water District #1 $ 6,38783

The following account is over budget as of July 31, 2018.

**General Fund:**

A4020.4 Registrar $ 90.00

**Recommendation for transfer**:

A1990.4 Contingency $ 400.00

Mr. Cayey reported the total dollar amount for the purchase of the dozer in last month’s minutes was wrong. It was $21,600 not $22,000.

Motion # 3

**AMEND MINUTES**

Motion made by Mr. Robert, seconded by Mrs. Fisher-Davis to amend the minutes showing the transfer of funds and purchase amount are $21,600.

Ayes 4 Hawley, Fisher-Davis, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

**BTI REPORT** Mr. Cayey read Ms. Malik’s report aloud.

**Invasive Species:**

**Variable Leaf Milfoil**

I have coordinated training on aquatic invasive plants and hand pulling variable leaf milfoil on **August 30, 2018, 1:00pm-4:00pm** **at the Colton Fire Station**. This is open to anyone interested in learning more about invasive species and how to prevent their spread and to learn about volunteering for the group effort to pull variable -leaf milfoil out of the Raquette River during the fall draw down in September.

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**BTI REPORT CONTINUED**

**KNOTWEED (BAMBOO)**

If you have knotweed on your property, Please leave it. Don't cut it or trim it and take it to the Transfer Station that will only help spread it. THE TOWN HAS A CONTROL PROGRAM FOR THIS INVASIVE PLANT. Call me, 315-262-2034, or email, btidirector@townofcolton.com. and I will add you to my list. Treatments are done in the early fall after the knotweed flowers.

**ASSESSOR’S REPORT**

* STAR – At my last Assessor’s Association meeting there was much discussion regarding the new procedures for the Enhanced STAR. Enhanced STAR updated STAR applications are now becoming available. I have asked to have renewal forms ready for distribution earlier than in the past. It has been during late December or very Early January that the applications have gone out in the past. I am unsure if this will be possible. I highly recommend at this time is if people are already gearing up to go south that they make copies of all income information from 2017. That means income tax returns and if you do not file income tax this means to have copies of 1099’s, social security statements, retirement statements. In general I will need all income. If you have received a green card in the past you will not get a renewal form unless the state rejected your income last year. If you normally complete the renewal application or were rejected last year, there will be three forms included in your envelope this year. You will be required to complete the renewal form, the Income Verification Program Form (IVP) and in addition, for those who do not file income tax, there will be an Income Worksheet that must be completed. As always, there will be an update at September’s meeting.

\*\*I have attached a detailed explanation of the process for Board review.

* I will soon start reviewing permits. Upon doing so I will be inspecting properties where construction was unfinished at end of season last year and new permits for this year.
* NEW ENHANCED STAR PROCEDURE WILL BE ON THE WEBSITE [www.townofcolton.com](http://www.townofcolton.com)

Katheryn Hayes joined the meeting, 6:18 p.m.

**DPW REPORT** Mr. Richards reported:

**Transfer Station**

We are in the process of buying retaining wall blocks from UpStone material for the transfer station. The state contract for the blocks is $75.00 apiece. We negotiated 30 for $65.00 apiece. Great deal and below state contract. We intend to bunker the metal bin side of the transfer station property for better customer ease and to increase our tonnage with bigger bins, less shipping.

**Water and Sewer**

Next three projects in the WWTP involve S&L Electric. We have an ATS to be swapped out, a blower motor spiking on amps or low voltage coming into the plant and 3 phase receptacles and plugs on lift station pumps which will be replaced. We are still working on the two insurance claims. Samples to labs for water wastewater have been excellent this entire year.

**Building and Grounds**

Foundation walls for community center addition were scheduled this morning but were rescheduled due to thunder lightning and final forms prepped for cement pour. Grounds at Swift were tilled, reseeded and irrigated for fall season around building.

**Recreation**

Water Slide and Bouncy house was a huge success at Colton Country Days. Thanks to Mike Schwartfigure for his help and Casella for sponsoring the inflatables.

**SAFETY REPORT** Mr. Richards reported:

We just completed street light inventory on our town owned lighting and the two lighting districts. Out of hundred and eighty six lights, ten were out and needed national grid and S& L work orders. Out of the ten lights, six were metal halide of the sixteen older lights left in town, and four were of the one hundred and seventy LED lights. The maintenance on the newer LED lights are far less than the inefficient metal halide lights. As we lose day light and head towards the school year, we want our streets to be well lit and safe for Town.

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

We are currently at 51 permits for the season. We have three new home builds speculating currently. Several builds in permitting process.

Mr. Roberts asked when the poles in South Colton were to be finished. Mr. Richards replied by the end of the month.

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**HIGHWAY REPORT** Mr. Cayey read aloud Mr. Hawley’s report:

1. Since the last board meeting, we have finished culverts and ditching on McKabe Road.
2. We have finished culverts and ditching on Stowe Bay. On Stowe Bay we also cut down the blind hill near Route 56, to enhance the sight distance, and reinforced the failed subbase with stabilization fabric and processed gravel. The road was broke up pretty good in this area, so we had to dig it up anyway, I decided to go a little further in an effort to help with visibility.
3. We started on East Hill on Tuesday, installing the first of 6 culverts that we need to get done prior to paving this road.
4. We received the dozer from J and S Logging and it’s working well, it has been on the job since delivery.
5. We installed the shared roadway signs on Gulf Road. The stencil that I had made does not fit our shoulder; it is about 8 inches too wide. I will order a new one if the board feels it is necessary.
6. Our new truck seems to be straightened out now. We have had issues with it from the second day we had it. The quality level sensor in the DEF tank failed six times. Navistar warranty would only cover towing to the nearest dealer which is in Watertown. There is a much larger and 24 hour 7 day a week shop in Syracuse, the last time it acted up, I loaded it on our trailer at noon and took it to Syracuse myself. After a week down there they were able to locate an intermittent electrical short in the Electronic Control Module (Main on board Computer). It has been almost two months with no issues, so I’m hopeful the problem is finally fixed. Now watch it brake down tomorrow!!!
7. Our summer work is going well I am expecting to be paving the second week in September. I have been in contact with the asphalt plant and this time frame looks good for us to have the plant to ourselves.

Motion # 4

**PURCHASE ANOTHER ROAD STENCIL**

Motion made by Mr. Robert, seconded by Mrs. Hawley to authorize Highway Supt. to purchase another road stencil.

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

Noes 0

Motion carried

**COUNTY LEGISLATOR’S REPORT** Mr. Perkins presented this report:

At the last Legislator’s meeting we passed 33 resolutions ,3 were contractual and 2 were grants. We filled 21 of 41 vacancies. By leaving the position vacant for 1 to 2 month’s it helps save quite a bit of money. Legislator’s made 6 budget modifications and are working on the 2019 budget. The good thing is sales tax revenues are up.

**TOURISM AND BEAUTIFICATION REPORT** Ms. Watson reported on Mrs. McWilliams behalf:

The committee is working with partnering organizations and others to carry out the following activities through Labor Day, as the unofficial end of the summer season. Helpers include Colton-Pierrepont Central School (CPCS) students who applied during the spring for summer positions to assist with tourism and beautification activities. For more information about upcoming activities check schedules posted on the town website as well as updates posted on the Town of Colton page on Facebook.

* **Beautification Activities**—Joanne Hudson will continue weeding town parks and other planted areas, including Three Falls Park in South Colton.
* **Stone Valley Information Center**— The information center in the Colton Museum will continue to be staffed from 10am to 2pm daily through Labor Day by Scott Muller and Cyndy Hennessy with assistance from CPCS students and members of the Colton-Pierrepont Senior Racqueteers, making it possible for residents and visitors to also tour the Museum and see permanent displays and temporary exhibits without having to make an appointment.
* **Community Art Show**—The biennial art show, currently on display in the Colton Hepburn Library through August 31, includes 41 works of art by area artists; and the Friends of the Library encourage visitors to vote for the "Visitor's Choice" award which they will announce at the end of the show.
* **Summer Music Series**—The committee’s project team, led by Ruth McWilliams, is preparing for the last two performances of the season to be held at the Gazebo on Main Street behind the Museum on Main Street (with St. Patrick’s Church Parish Center as the rain location): The Great South Woods String Band on August 15; and the Potsdam Brass Quintet on August 29.
* **Whitewater Kayaking at Stone Valley**—Scott Muller, along with students and others, will staff an information tent during the last three water releases by Brookfield Renewable Energy scheduled for August 18 and September 1 and 3 during the Labor Day weekend for expert-level paddlers as well as spectators.
* **Invasive Species Workshop**—Joanne Hudson is working with Andrea Malik to prepare for the next workshop being held August 30 from 1-4pm in the Fire Station to continue training people to assist them with variable-leaf milfoil as well as other aquatic and terrestrial invasives.
* **Higley 100 Bike Tour**—Committee members Ruth McWilliams and Mary Jane Watson are assisting the Friends of Higley Flow State Park prepare for and publicize the annual 100 kilometer ride being held Saturday, September 8 which also includes a half ride and shorter loops for riders, all beginning and ending at Higley Flow State Park.

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**TOURISM & BEAUTIFICATION CONTINUED**

**Remembrance Trees**

Planning for the Fifth Annual Remembrance Trees Project is getting underway by Dave Crosby who continues to serve as the project leader. The price per tree will still just be $35; and soon the updated order form will be posted on the town website. The deadline for ordering will be November 9 this year. Around October 1st prior sponsors will be contacted by Dave with Scott Muller’s help to remind them of this opportunity to remember loved ones as well as celebrate the holidays and brighten winter nights. The goal is to have at least 50 trees displayed once again through the holidays and Winterfest.

**Next Monthly Meeting – Monday, September 10 (4-5:30pm)**

The agenda will focus on autumn activities and early planning for Winterfest in January.

**LIBRARY REPORT** No one from the Trustees came to report so Mr. Cayey spoke briefly about the grant and whether they could start any of the projects yet. He also thanked Mary Jane Watson and Dennis Eickhoff for their help in completing the grant.

**PLANNNG & ZONING REPORT** Mr. Fuhr unavailable to attend meeting.

**TOWN CLERK’S REPORT** Ms. Arquiett reported the local law for “Games of Chance” is in the Board Members papers for review and will be sent to the Town Attorney for review too. Now we need approval to move forward with a public hearing, passing the local law and put it on the voting ballot in November.

Motion # 5

**MOVE FORWARD WITH PROPOSED LOCAL LAW # 2 – 2018**

Motion made by Mrs. Fisher-Davis, seconded by Mr. Robert to move forward with proposed Local Law # 2 – 2018 Games of Chance to have it put on the November voting ballot.

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

Noes 0

Motion carried

Motion # 6

**ADVERTISE PUBLIC HEARING AND SPECIAL MEETING**

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Mrs. Fisher-Davis to advertise a Public Hearing for Monday, August 20th at 6:00 p.m. followed by a Special Meeting at 6:05 for the proposed Local Law # 2 – 2018 Games of Chance.

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

Noes 0

Motion carried

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Water/Sewage rate adjustment – the ordinance had to be modified therefore the public hearing has been rescheduled for September 19th.
2. Bti Truck – after a 20 minute discussion a decision was made. Mr. Robert wants the arrangement clear. DPW will get the new truck, Bti will get the old truck, which we will buy a new seat and tonneau cover for. When Bti season is over DPW will use that truck and the new truck will be available for use by other department for trainings, conferences, etc.
3. NYCLASS Investment – YTD we have earned $7,853.35
4. The Courtroom refinishing has been completed and looks great.
5. Grant for Salt Barn – the application has been sent in, now we wait.

Motion # 7

**AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF NEW TRUCK OUT OF NEXT YEARS BUDGET**

Motion made by Mr. Robert, seconded by Mrs. Hawley to purchase a new truck out of next year’s budget. Mr. Richards is to check state bid and lease purchases. The purchase of this truck will be bought with the expectation to be used as Mr. Roberts indicated above.

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

Noes 0

Motion carried

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. New bookkeeping software is completely installed and meets all OGS requirements.
2. Speed limit on CR 58 – a resident on CR 58 requested a speed reduction in this area because it’s hard to get out of the driveway with the speeding traffic. A resolution/motion is necessary.

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Motion # 8

**REQUEST SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION ON CR 58**

Motion made by Mrs. Fisher-Davis, seconded by Mrs. Hawley to request a speed limit reduction on CR 58 from the Riehl Road to the 35 mph sign at the base of hill below Pleasant Mound Cemetery. Requesting the speed be reduced from 55 mph to 45 mph.

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

Noes 0

Motion carried

Ms. Hayes asked what the status was with West Higley Flow Road. Mr. Cayey replied it is still being investigated. He said Mr. Hawley forwarded a packet of information this morning to read regarding the “take over”. One of the things listed as necessary is letters of support from the School, EMS, Fire Dept. and 100 % of the land owners on the road.

Ms. Arquiett asked who was going to Local Govt. Day Conference. It may be early to ask but it’s necessary to have the registration bill in the September bills. Mr. Cayey, Mrs. Hawley and Mr. Richards committed to go.

Mr. Robert asked if the Town could buy the Election Worker’s lunch. After a few minutes of discussion, Ms. Arquiett stated she didn’t think it was an option because it would be a gift, spending tax payers’ money. The motion was tabled until the nest meeting. Mr. Cayey said he would contact Association of Towns and ask.

With no other business to discuss, Mr. Cayey asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion # 9

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

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

Noes 0

Motion carried, 7:30 p.m.

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Donna Arquiett, Town Clerk

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