**Regular Monthly Colton Town Board Meeting, April 14, 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 Dog Kevin Hawley

Others present: Lorraine Gowing, Kirke Perry, Bob Ball, Jennifer Cole

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

A moment of silence was held in memory of long time Town Board member Katheryn Hayes.

Zoom attendees: Mary Jane Watson, Dennis Eickhoff, Casey Dickinson, Shelly Raynor, Jeff Rousell, Ellie Menz, Jeff Tubolino, Peggy Hayes

Motion # 1

**APPROVE March 2021 MINUTES**

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Ms. Fisher to approve the March 10, 2021 minutes.

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Hawley, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

Motion # 2

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

Motion made by Mr. Robert, 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 $ 74,645.80

Highway Fund 30,127.35

Library Fund 1,477.24

Sewer Fund #1 7,808.70

Water Fund #1 10,326.08

Colton Light District 763.08

South Colton Light District 718.11

**ASSESSOR’S REPORT:** Mr. Ball reported no new sales, 102 open sites. Mr. Ball took a tour of the 16 Mile Club.

**BTI REPORT:**

* The first round of stream treatments will be completely finished by 4/13
* The Bti crew really stepped up to meet the challenge of the warm weather, which speeds up black fly larval growth. Everyone worked very hard, and put in a lot of over overtime to do it.
* The new black fly control crew member got his ID last week so can now work independently. He's doing a great job.
* The Stone Valley portion of the river was treated 3/18. We are just starting to find larvae in the other portions of the river and I anticipate treating the river soon. The flow rates of the river will be cut back starting next week which will help.
* Mosquito treatments started on 4/5 but our primary focus has been on black flies. Now that we have the first round of streams treated, the black fly crew is doing mosquito control. The mosquito control crew member who works part-time, just completed her apprentice training so is now able to work independently. The other mosquito control apprentice will be returning May 18th, when her winter job is finished.
* So far, it has been a very dry spring. The streams are at levels we usually see in summer, and there is less standing water. It is still important for everyone to do their part in reducing mosquitoes by, reducing their breeding habitat. See check list that follows.

**LIBRARY REPORT** Ms. Menz reported: Library is open. 53 people came in in the 1st hour of being open. Library received grant monies from the State budget. Thinking on what the monies could be used for.

**1**

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**DPW REPORT** Mr. Richards reported:

**Transfer Station**

Vermin continue to undermine our compactor unloading area. Bait boxes from Jocks pest control not very effective. It will get worse during warmer weather.

**Water and Sewer**

Diffusers and pumps serviced this spring. After spring cleaning, we would like to work on a few curb stops that need repair and replacement of 3 hydrants. This sets up the need for our budgeted DPW worker that would help us become a safe dig site. 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?

**Building and Grounds**

Some spring cleaning has started on sand and plow marks prepping for the mowing season. Swift softball infield is nearly complete and ready for the season.

**Safety**

Everyone 16 years old or older is now eligible for the vaccine. New policies are coming down the pike on vaccinated folks getting more ability to do things it seems.

**Code Enforcement Office**

10 Permits so far this year, more in the hopper. Three new hunting cabin permits this week coming. The zoning use table has been updated and the wind law is done and at the lawyers.

**HIGHWAY REPORT** Mr. Hawley reported:

1. Since the last board meeting we have hopefully finished the snow and ice season.
2. We also have been stock piling crushed stone for our capital projects.
3. We have swept 76% of our Town Roads. I expect to start our hamlet cleanup in Colton and South Colton next week.  After that is completed, we will be grading dirt roads.
4. I have great news regarding Chips. We did realize a sizable increase across the board on EWR Pave NY and base chips. Last year because of Covid, the state withheld 20% of our reimbursement. This year they gave us back %15 and increased total chips by $250,000,000. Our allotment last year should have been $176,787, including all three programs. This year our total is $242,776.17. As it stands right now, asphalt is starting out in the upper 40's/ton. The actual price we pay will be based on the price index for the oil. April’s price did go out $3.00 /ton. I think it would be fair to say by the end of the summer going into the fall our prices will be a considerable amount higher. I would like to ask the board to increase my expenditure line D.A. 5112.2 and my revenue line D.A.3501 to reflect the increase in funding. This is imperative to allow me to plan the projects that we can afford to complete. Obviously, I will need to update our agreement to spend also. This will be available in the first couple of weeks of May once I have a firm number on Asphalt prices.
5. I am scheduled mid-May with Suit-Kote with the profiler for a section of Windmill Road from the top of Bicknell Hill to the intersection of French Hill Road, East Hill from Scovil Road to about the Bush driveway, where we left off in 2019. I also plan on a 1.2-mile section on Cold-Brook Drive from the town line back towards Little John Road intersection.
6. I did finally get a settlement from our insurance company for the damaged one-way plow. The plow was totaled and covered for full replacement. The plow is on order and will be picked up in the next couple of weeks. Upon receipt of the new plow, I would like permission to advertise the old damaged plow on auctions international and sell it to the highest bidder.

Motion# 3

**PLOW TOTALED BY INSURANCE**

Board decided since the insurance company totaled the plow that it would be scrapped for metal and not auctioned off. Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Ms. Fisher to scrap the plow totaled by insurance.

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Hawley, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

Motion# 4

**HIGHWAY BUDGEGT ADJUSTMENT:**

Motion made by Ms. Fisher, seconded by Mr. Robert to increase of the Highway Department expenditure line D.A. 5112.2 and revenue line D.A.3501 totaling $65,989.17.

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Hawley, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

2

**Regular Monthly Colton Town Board Meeting, April 14, 2021**

**FRIENDS OF COLTON:**

What is the balance in the Tourism and Beautification account? If unknown, may Shelley Young be contacted or how can that amount be determined.

**Foreseeable Costs:**

Mulch

Landscape Fabric

Possibly a cedar tree to replace one that is dead

Wood for sites of interest

Jeremy McNamara has designed the signs and is willing to make them. (See below)

Solar or electric lights for Pergola

Adirondack Chairs (See below)

Stain for picnic table (see below)

We (Rachelle Romoda and Lorraine Gowing) assessed what needed to be done at **South Colton Three Falls Park.**   Is the official name Three Falls Park?

**Work requested to be done by Town:**

1. Cedar trees dug up and hauled away. Those trees are marked with white spray paint.
2. Brush, garden clippings and debris hauled away after work day.
3. Pergola frame and floor, fence posts, and kiosk sign need to be stained the same color as what the pergola frame is currently-a very nice color. This would be done after clean up is completed.
4. Post work day date, time and location on Town Website, Facebook page and poster on Town Hall Door.
5. String solar or electric lights in pergola after painting is done.
6. Poster will be provided.
7. A rock at the entrance of Swift Field has a plaque on it that is sideways. The rock needs to be moved so the plaque is upright or the plaque removed and placed properly.

**Three Falls Park Clean Up:**

South Colton, Corner of Sugarbush Lane and State Highway 56. April 24, 2021 9:00 a.m.- 12 p.m. Bring any of the following if you have them: garden rakes, nippers, round pointed shovel, trowel, edger. Wear gloves. COVID Protocol will be followed

**Picnic Table and Adirondack Chairs:**

A **wooden picnic table** has been acquired that we would like to place near the **Route 56 kiosk across from the library**. We have seen people sitting in their vehicles having lunch or a snack. Having a picnic table there would make it an inviting spot to stop. A sign could be posted requesting to take any trash with them when leaving or a covered trash receptacle could be placed there.

Three Falls Park and Riverside Drive Memorial Park would be more attractive and inviting with **Adirondack chairs**. We would like to either purchase 6-8 composite wood Adirondack chairs or invite community members to purchase a chair in memory or honor of a loved one. An engraved plate would be attached to the back of the chair.

4 chairs would be placed at Riverside Drive Memorial Park

2-4 chairs would be placed at Three Falls Park

**Signage:**

Jeremy McNamara was the original designer of site signs. He will have a sample for the April Board Meeting.

We would like to commission him to make 10-12 signs directing people to various sites of interest.

Examples:

Stone Valley Trail, John Stone Trail, Bike Park, Library, Museum, Riverside Drive Memorial Park,

Raquette River Pub (if owners interested and willing to purchase), Three Falls Park, Disc Golf, Lenny Road Mountain Biking, Possible others to be determined.

**SALT BARN:** Coverall or wood –

Discussion on materials to be used for the salt barn in S. Colton. Will grant work for coverall and/or wood? Question for NYS DEC contact. Mr. Cayey requested that the bid still be put out to get an idea of cost. Town will need to publish bid in paper. Check competitive procurement policy – Potsdam, Russell, Massena. Mr. Cayey to check with Don Chambers.

Motion# 5

**BID PUBLISHING:**

Motion made by Mr. Robert, seconded by Mrs. Hawley for bid to be published in local paper

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Hawley, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

3

**Regular Monthly Colton Town Board Meeting, April 14, 2021**

**PLANNING BOARD REPORT** Mr. Perry reported

1. In the Colton and South Colton Hamlets we added the new conditional uses of Library, charitable institution, or similar; Eatery; Religious institution; Nursery school; Fire station; Cemetery
2. In the Community Center District we moved the following uses from standard uses to conditional uses; Home Occupation; Retail, personal service trade; Bank/financial institution; Business/professional office; funeral home
3. In the Residential Town District we added the new conditional uses of Library, charitable institution, or similar; Religious institution; Nursery school; Fire station; Eatery; Storage/Warehouse; Vehicle/Equipment Sales, Service; Mixed commercial/residential use Tourist accommodation; Cemetery; Multiple family dwelling.
4. We still have the districts of Residential Recreational, Residential Rural Park, Open Countryside Park, Rural Industrial, Forest Management Park, and Resource Management Town to go over. We will try and finish our review of these districts as soon as possible.
5. Wind law is set to go pending 30 day environmental bulletin. Type 1 SEQR. Ms. Buckley to post document on environmental bulletin.

Motion# 6

**POSTING IN ENVIRONMENTAL BULLETIN:**

Motin made by Mr. Robert, seconded by Mrs. Hawley

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Hawley, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

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

1. Newly appointed Deputy Town Clerk Jennifer Cole has been working a few hours a week.
2. Trey Smutz, Potsdam Recreation Director, says there will be a recreation program. I need a motion to hire the bus driver, state his wages and weeks (6 or 8) to Postwood. Plus, permission to get the insurances and acquire a bus from CPCS.

3. Felicia form CDP states there is nothing else we need to address regarding the food pantry. She recommended visiting the Pierrepont Food Pantry.

4. USPS has really put a hiccup in tax collection this year. I’ve received several calls regarding payments sent but didn’t get here. Then, I have to explain that it’s not our fault either and a penalty is applied.

5. Fielded 2 verbal complaints today regarding the property on Spring St. and the property next to “The Well” Church on Route 56.

Motion# 7

**SUMMER RECREATION BUS DRIVER:**

Motion made by Ms. Fisher, seconded by Mr. Robert. for bus driver (last paygrade plus 2%) for summer recreation program

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Hawley, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. $150,000.00 in Federal Aide to be given to Colton. Town to receive $75,000.00 in August, the remainder next year. Providing the town meets the stipulations put forth by NYS.
2. Summer Athletics at Swift Field – CPCS has JV and Varsity softball, youth soccer and lacrosse. All coaches are aware of COVID protocols and guidelines. No adult sports. Due to COVID and following guidelines for sanitizing restrooms, it was recommended to have two port-a-pots with sanitizer for each. River Septic to care for the port-a-pots. CPCS to share payments with the town.

Motion# 8

**PORT-A-POTS AT SWIFT FIELD**

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Mr. Robert for port-a-pots to be placed at Swift Field.

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Hawley, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

1. New Xerox and fax machine for Shelly and Donna. $7,800 for two Toshiba’s with a 5 year maintenance plan and toner for both.

Motion# 9

**NEW XEROX AND FAX MACHINE**

Motion made by Mr. Robert, seconded by Mrs. Hawley for new Xerox and fax machines.

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Hawley, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

1. Katheryn Hayes Food Pantry – currently monetary donations are at $4,510. Town Board agrees pantry should be in S. Colton. Adhoc committee formed. Members are Darren Richards, Grace Hawley, Donna Buckley and Jennifer Cole.

Motion# 10

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Hawley, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Town Board meeting minutes by,

Deputy Clerk Jennifer Cole