

**TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF SULLIVAN
REGULAR MEETING
October 21, 2020
5:00 PM**

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Sullivan was convened by Supervisor John Becker at 5:00 p.m. on October 21, 2020.

The meeting was held at the Town of Sullivan Office Building 7507 Lakeport Rd. Chittenango, NY and streamed live on YouTube.

Members present were: Supervisor John Becker; Councilors John Brzuszkiewicz, Jeff Martin, Kerry Ranger and Tom Kopp; Comptroller Beth Ellis; Attorney for the Town John Langey; Highway Superintendent Andy Busa; Receiver of Taxes/Records Management Officer Katherine Vanderwerken; and Assistant Comptroller Kelly Bassett.

Note: Katherine Vanderwerken filmed the meeting as it was streamed live on YouTube for any questions from the public at:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCr9O9yfy128B6AwR4nu6_Ql

The meeting opened at 5:08 pm.

Pledge to the flag was led by Supervisor Becker.

SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

Supervisor Becker gave an update on the Local Control Board which consists of Cayuga County, Cortland County, Madison County, Onondaga County, Oswego County. At their last meeting with the Attorneys for NYS Health Department, it was requested that local governments remain vigilant on gatherings that includes more than 50 people. The Supervisor stated that Madison County has done a stellar job in handling COVID and continues to do their best for the residents.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 7, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

A motion was duly made by Councilor Brzuszkiewicz, seconded by Councilor Martin and unanimously approved by the Board to approve the minutes from the October 7, 2020 Town Board meeting, with no further discussion.

The following Roll Call vote was taken to approve the minutes of October 7, 2020:

John E. Brzuszkiewicz	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Thomas J. Kopp Jr.	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Kerry Ranger	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jeffrey Martin	Councilor	Voted	Yes
John M. Becker	Supervisor	Voted	Yes

DALE AND JEAN STEVENS - 8429 BLACK CREEK ROAD
REVOCABLE PERMIT/LICENSE AGREEMENT RENEWAL

A motion was duly made by Councilor Martin, seconded by Councilor Kopp and unanimously passed by the Board to approve the renewal of the Revocable Permit/License Agreement for a trailer owned by Dale and Jean Stevens at 8429 Black Creek Road for an additional one (1) year period, subject to the original conditions in the Revocable Permit/License Agreement.

The following Roll Call vote was taken to approve the one-year renewal:

John E. Brzuszkiewicz	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Thomas J. Kopp Jr.	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Kerry Ranger	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jeffrey Martin	Councilor	Voted	Yes
John M. Becker	Supervisor	Voted	Yes

DISCUSSION ON SHARED SERVICES CONCERNING HIGHWAY

At a recent Highway Luncheon, the request from NYS on shared services were discussed. The Town would like to have a certificate of insurance indemnifying the Town. We may not be able to receive one from NYS but will request one from NYS. Discussion ensued with the Board, as to the specifics of signing the agreement or not.

A motion was made by Councilor Kopp seconded by Councilor Martin to approve the Highway Superintendent to sign the Shared Services Agreement with NYS for Highway purposes. A copy will be on file at the Town Office.

The following Roll Call vote was taken to approve signing the Shared Services Agreement with NYS:

John E. Brzuszkiewicz	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Thomas J. Kopp Jr.	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Kerry Ranger	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jeffrey Martin	Councilor	Voted	Yes
John M. Becker	Supervisor	Voted	No

SOLAR MORATORIUM DISCUSSION

Supervisor Becker informed the Board there is an informational report that was generated by Frank Park and Phil Costanzo concerning the Solar Moratorium from the Planning and Zoning viewpoints in their monthly packets. It was suggested to have a special meeting for the Solar Moratorium concerns *i.e.*, protect properties, property values, water runoff and other concerns.

A date for November 18, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. was set to have a special meeting concerning Solar Farms. Any concerns or questions from the public can be emailed ahead of time to the Supervisor at: jbecker@townofsullivan.org.

BUDGET DISCUSSION FOR 2021

Supervisor Becker stated the Town is doing their best to ensure the high level of service from our staff, continue for the residents of Sullivan. The Justice Court's and Parks Department revenue line are anticipated to fall short of their 2020 budgeted figures. The Parks Department programs have been down considerably since COVID-19.

There have been cuts within the General Fund and Highway Fund for the 2021 budget. There is a 1% raise included for the Town employees.

The Supervisor encouraged the public to update themselves on their tax bills and see how much the Town tax is on their Town and County bill. The County tax is billed on the same Property tax bill.

As per the Comptroller's Newsletter, direct aid from the Federal Government to State and Local governments are needed, as businesses have been decimated due to COVID-19. The short fall is so significant that NYS cannot make up for the losses.

Locally the Town has been able to weather the storm in 2020, largely due to how the Town's finances are managed. All Town Departments are 100% dependent on the financial condition of the Town of Sullivan to operate.

A motion was made by Councilor Brzuszkiewicz and seconded by Councilor Martin to set the public hearing to adopt the 2021 budget on November 4, 2020.

The following Roll Call vote was taken to approve the public hearing on the budget November 4, 2020, with no further discussion:

John E. Brzuszkiewicz	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Thomas J. Kopp Jr.	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Kerry Ranger	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jeffrey Martin	Councilor	Voted	Yes
John M. Becker	Supervisor	Voted	Yes

FIREFIGHTER APPLICATIONS FOR APPROVAL

There are two firefighter applications for North Chittenango Fire Department (Jonathan Guignard and Joan Monica) to join the Department.

A motion was made by Councilor Kopp and seconded by Councilor Martin. Both applications were approved with no further discussion.

The Board thanked the residents for the support they show to the Fire Departments and volunteering their time to each Department. They complimented the three Fire Chiefs and recognized their dedication to the Community. The Fire Departments are all busy with a lot of calls coming in on a daily basis. Their work, time and effort are much appreciated and this was acknowledged by the Board.

The following Roll Call vote was taken to approve the two firefighter applications, with no further discussion:

John E. Brzuszkiewicz	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Thomas J. Kopp Jr.	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Kerry Ranger	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jeffrey Martin	Councilor	Voted	Yes
John M. Becker	Supervisor	Voted	Yes

Katie Vanderwerken stated that comments were received from two members of the public via the YouTube streaming. Both residents complimented the Board on their work with the Budgets and how the Board has kept the tax rates low for years. The comments were much appreciated by the Board.

BUDGET MODIFICATIONS

Supervisor Becker asked Councilor Ranger for a report on the Bridgeport Streetscapes Project NYS GIGP #1383. Councilor Ranger said the project improved the area and improved the drainage within the area.

- 1) Transferring \$86,700.47 from A3097 St. Aid Capital Projects into A8510.401 Community Beautification. This is to transfer the funds from revenue line into the expense line to pay application #4 for the GIGP Project.

A motion was made by Councilor Ranger seconded by Councilor Martin to approve budget modification #1, with no further discussion.

The following Roll Call vote was taken to approve Budget Modification #1 :

John E. Brzuszkiewicz	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Thomas J. Kopp Jr.	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Kerry Ranger	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jeffrey Martin	Councilor	Voted	Yes
John M. Becker	Supervisor	Voted	Yes

- 2) Transferring \$11,066.14 from Contingent A1990.4 to A8510.461 (Community Beautification). This is to pay the bill for Bridgeport Streetscapes GIGP #1383 to Davis Wallbridge for \$69,111.55, Barton and Loguidice \$22,790.45 and reimburse the DB5110.4 in the amount of \$5,864.61. NYS EFC has paid the Town \$86,700.47, leaving the Town to fund the balance of \$11,066.14.

A motion was by Councilor Martin seconded by Councilor Brzuszkiewicz to approve Budget Modification #2, with no further discussion.

The following Roll Call vote was taken to approve Budget Modification #2:

John E. Brzuszkiewicz	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Thomas J. Kopp Jr.	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Kerry Ranger	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jeffrey Martin	Councilor	Voted	Yes
John M. Becker	Supervisor	Voted	Yes

- 3) Transferring \$20,000.00 from Contingent A1990.4 to Outside Attorney A1420.418.

A motion was made by Councilor Martin seconded by Councilor Kopp to approve Budget Modification #3, with no further discussion.

The following Roll Call vote was taken to approve Budget Modification #3:

John E. Brzuszkiewicz	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Thomas J. Kopp Jr.	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Kerry Ranger	Councilor	Voted	Yes
Jeffrey Martin	Councilor	Voted	Yes
John M. Becker	Supervisor	Voted	Yes

Supervisor Becker asked if there were any questions/comments from YouTube. Katie Vanderwerken stated that there is a 30 second delay in seeing and questions/comments. There were no further questions/comments from the public via YouTube.

Councilor Martin asked if we were ready for the public hearing on the Planned Development District Local Law on November 4, 2020 with the streaming. Residents are encouraged to send in their questions ahead of time. Attorney Langey stated as per the Public Hearing Notice, questions can be sent in ahead to: abettinger@townofsullivan.org.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Councilor Kopp, seconded by Councilor Ranger and unanimously approved by the Board to go into Executive Session at 6:34 pm to obtain advice of Council.

A motion was made by Councilor Brzuszkiewicz, seconded by Councilor Martin and unanimously approved by the Board to end executive session at 6:55 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was duly made by Councilor Martin, seconded by Councilor Kerry Ranger and unanimously approved by the Board to adjourn the Town Board Meeting at 6:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Beth Ellis
Comptroller