TOWN OF WESTERN
TOWN BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 10, 2018

Present
Town Supervisor    Diane Butler          Town Clerk    Mary Centro
Councilman         Lawrence Mierek        Councilman    Peter Donahue Sr.
Councilman         Leonard Charney        Councilman    Ryan Tebo
Highway Superintendent Thomas Smith, Jr. Town Attorney Charles Engelbrecht, Esq.

Visitors
Harlan Moonan (NOCCOG), Steve Hunter, Hunter VanDresar, Janet Suleski, Jason Kerr, Deb Tebo, Noah Palczynski

Supervisor Butler called the Monday September 10, 2018 Board meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. It was determined that a quorum was present.

MINUTES:

18-106 Motion a motion is in order and on file that the reading of the minutes of the August 2018 Board Meeting be dispensed with. Supervisor Butler asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes.

8-107 Motion: to accept the minutes of the August 2018 Board Meeting.
Made by:        Peter Donahue, Sr.    Second   Ryan Tebo
Motion carried: 5 Ayes                  0 Nays
Ayes: Diane Butler, Leonard Charney, Peter Donahue, Sr., Lawrence Mierek, Ryan Tebo

WARRANT:

18-108 Motion: a motion is in order and on file that the reading of the itemized Warrant be dispensed with and the totals read only. Supervisor Butler asked if there were any corrections to the Warrant.

The Warrant (bills) for the month of September 2018 were presented by the Town Clerk:
General Fund         Vouchers 359 -- 381 $ 7,591.46
Highway Fund         Vouchers 382 -- 404 $ 102,857.02
Total                $110,448.48

18-109 Motion: to approve the September 10, 2018 Warrant, subject to audit.
Made by:        Leonard Charney    Second   Lawrence Mierek
Motion carried: 5 Ayes                  0 Nays
Ayes: Diane Butler, Leonard Charney, Peter Donahue, Sr., Lawrence Mierek, Ryan Tebo
SUPERVISOR’S REPORT:

Supervisor Butler read the Supervisor’s report for the period ending August 31, 2018 the balance for all accounts is $1,346,507.65. The report was filed with the Town Clerk.

18-110 Motion: to approve the August 31, 2018 Supervisor’s Report, subject to audit.
Made by: Lawrence Mierek Second Leonard Charney
Motion carried: 4 Ayes 0 Nays
Ayes: Leonard Charney, Peter Donahue, Sr., Lawrence Mierek, Ryan Tebo

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

1. Winter Sand: The department has finished putting up the sand for winter use. H/S Smith reported that Mr. Hoke advised him that he will be increasing the price of sand for next year to $2.50 per yard. T/A Engelbrecht stated that the Town will need an agreement with Mr. Hoke for the sand, he will draft a contract for next year.

2. Dean’s Creek Repair: Any work on the creek will be done in the spring, but for this winter the snowmobile bridge should be removed to prevent problems with springtime water run-off.

18-111 Motion: to accept the Highway Superintendents report.
Made by: Peter Donahue, Sr. Second Leonard Charney
Motion carried: 5 Ayes 0 Nays
Ayes: Diane Butler, Leonard Charney, Peter Donahue, Sr., Lawrence Mierek, Ryan Tebo

OLD BUSINESS:

3. Rome Water to Town Residents: T/A Engelbrecht submitted to the Board a draft of the inter-municipal agreement between the Town and the City of Rome for any corrections or comments. A draft of the agreement was sent to the City of Rome for their comments. The matter was tabled to the October meeting, pending input from the Board and the City of Rome.

4. De-humidifiers Town Hall: C/M Charney stated that the dehumidifier has been delivered and needs installation into a drain. There is a floor drain in the basement of the Hall, and he will check it out to see if the drain is adequate. A unit called the ‘Blaster’ was installed in the basement for a week to help eliminate any mold/mildew.

5. Library Grant: The Library has submitted the (directors) FY2019 Construction Grant for $45,000 to cover the proposed renovations at the Library. The Library Board should know by November if any funds are allocated for the proposed project.
6. **Tennis Court:** The tennis court has fallen into dis-repair with the court surface needing re-surfacing, striping and new nets. The Board is considering removing the courts and converting the area into a parking area for the Library. H/S Smith has obtained the following quotes for any work on the courts:
   Tennis Courts – Ocuto Paving – to clean, seal and re-stripe the court $3,500 to $5,000
   re-stripe the basketball areas in a different color.
   Brown’s Tents – repair tennis court nets $500.00

   **Proposed Parking Lot** – Ocuto Paving – remove the fence, dig out remove courts, replace the blacktop and match to existing parking lot black top, create drive way $16,500.
   Stripe new parking lot $3,500.
   Expense of moving the basketball hoops to the Town Park are not known at this time.

   A discussion followed and the Board felt they needed a hands on inspection of the area.
   The matter was tabled for more information.

7. **Repairs Town Playground:** At the Library playground all the 6x6 timbers surrounding the area of the play equipment need replacing, due to deterioration. C/M Charney reported that he has purchased the needed timbers and hardware. A Board work party will meet at the Library at 7:30 am on September 17th to help install the timbers.

8. **Repair Library Front Steps:** It has been reported that the front concrete steps at the Library need to be repaired, due to deterioration of the concrete. C/M Charney stated in the spring the steps need to be removed and rebuilt, but for now they can be patched to prevent any problems through the winter. During the work party the steps will be repaired.

9. **Survey Town Hall:** H/S Smith has obtained a quote from LaFave-White & McGovern Engineering for $2,400.00 to survey the Town Hall property. The matter was tabled for future consideration due to another pending issue.

10. **F.O.I.L Request:** Ms. Christina Henry (significant other of Noah Palczynski) has filed a ‘Freedom of Information’ request with T/C Centro concerning the survey of the Cady Road/Dunn Brook Road including all records and full size maps. The T/C advised her that any cost incurred by the Town, is charged back to her. She was advised full size copies of the maps are expensive and she can obtain copies from the Oneida County Clerk’s Office in Utica. Ms. Henry was advised by certified mail of the costs involved with her request.

11. **Town Hall Carpets:** The cleaning service (Donna Winn Cleaning) has scheduled the cleaning of the carpets on Friday September 14 or Monday September 17.

   Note.... Due to the pickup of the Primary Day voting machines on either Friday or Monday the carpet cleaning was re-scheduled.
NEW BUSINESS:

12. **Kenneth Clark Property:** It has been suggested that since the adjoining Clark property is up for sale, the Town might consider purchasing it, in order to increase the Town Hall property. The opportunity has come up that the Town could purchase the property, since the current purchase offer has been withdrawn. A discussion followed:

*C/M Charney* stated that this is a once in a lifetime opportunity for the Town to expand the Town Hall property for the future. It would give more land for any proposed expansion of the Hall in the future. The land behind the barns could be converted into additional parking. During any renovations of the Hall, the current town offices could temporary be re-located to the existing house. The barns could be used as storage for the Highway Department. After a few years an evaluation could be made whether to sell the house or sell off part of the remaining 5 acres that were not used by the Town.

*C/M Tebo* expressed his opposition to the proposal of purchasing the property, due to the costs involved with seasonal road upgrades and the purchase of new highway equipment. The purchase would be a huge undertaking with taxpayer money. At this point where would the money come from, what budget line. Just too much money to invest at this time. 

*Peter Donahue, Sr.* stated that purchasing the property would be a cushion for expansion of the Hall and solve future parking concerns.

**18-112 Motion:** to authorize Supervisor Butler to make a purchase offer on the former Kenneth Clark property located at 9217 Main Street, Westernville, for an amount to be determined by the Board.

Made by: Leonard Charney Second Peter Donahue, Sr.
Motion carried 3 Ayes 1 Opposed 1 Abstained
Ayes: Leonard Charney, Peter Donahue, Sr., Lawrence Mierck
Opposed: Ryan Tebo Abstained: Diane Butler

13. **Assessor’s Budget:** Assessor Hunter is reviewing the vouchers charged to his budget this year to make sure all expenses were properly charged. He will let the Board knows what he finds out.

14. **Enhanced Star Program:** Assessor Steve Hunter reported that New York State is changing the way the seniors apply for the enhanced star program, by verifying income based on state income tax returns using an individual’s social security number. Seniors will have to sign a form agreeing to the use of their social security number. He stated he will be sending out letters about the change to impacted seniors.
15. **Executive Session:** Supervisor Butler stated that the Board needs to go into Executive Session to discuss the purchase price to be offered for the Kenneth Clark property and contract negotiations with the Western Fire Company. To invite T/A Engelbrecht to attend the session.

**18-113 Motion:** For the Board and T/A Engelbrecht, to go into Executive Session at 9:00 pm to discuss the purchase offer for the Kenneth Clark property and contract negotiations with the Western Fire Company.

Made by: Lawrence Mierek  
Second Peter Donahue, Sr.  
Motion carried: 5 Ayes 0 Nays  
Ayes: Diane Butler, Leonard Charney, Peter Donahue Sr., Lawrence Mierek, Ryan Tebo

**18-114 Motion:** To resume the September 10, 2018 Board Meeting at 9:40 pm.

Made by: Lawrence Mierek  
Second Leonard Charney.  
Motion carried: 5 Ayes 0 Nays  
Ayes: Diane Butler, Leonard Charney, Peter Donahue Sr., Lawrence Mierek, Ryan Tebo

**18-115 Motion:** At 9:45 the Board meeting was recessed to Sunday September 17, 2018 at 7:30 am at the Western Town Library.

Made by: Peter Donahue, Sr.  
Second Lawrence Mierek  
Motion carried: 5 Ayes 0 Nays  
Ayes: Diane Butler, Leonard Charney, Peter Donahue Sr., Lawrence Mierek, Ryan Tebo

Mary J. Centro  
Town Clerk