

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR NUNDA TOWN BOARD MEETING

Tuesday October 10, 2023, at 7:00 PM

Draft

PERSONS PRESENT

TOWN BOARD

Supervisor: Merilee Walker

Councilperson: Martha Blair

Councilperson: James Forrester

Councilperson: Michael Hillier

Councilperson: Randall Morris

RECORDING CLERK

Tamara McCallum

PERSONNEL

Assessor: Brian Knapp - *absent*

CEO/ZEO: Mark Mullikin

Police Chief: Ryan Dale – *absent*

Historian: Valerie Griffing

Hwy Superintendent: Rick Moran

Planning Board Chairman: Alex Pierce

Highway Employee: Dana Wood

VISITORS

Bob Cox, Brett Murray, Bradley Hansen, Elmer Bird

CALL TO ORDER

Supervisor Walker called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Roll call was made with all Councilmembers present.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

All stood as Councilperson Forrester led the pledge.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

A motion was made to adopt the minutes of the following meeting:

- Regular Town Board Minutes of 9/12/23.

The motion was made by Councilperson Morris, seconded by Councilperson Hillier, and carried 5-0.

Open Public Hearing on Tentative Budget for 2024

Supervisor Walker opened the public hearing on the Tentative Budget for 2024 at 7:02 PM. She mentioned that there were two matters that had been brought to her attention that would affect the Budget since it was first submitted. The Town has just been notified that the New York State Local Retirement System has increased its Employer Contribution rates from 13.1% to 15.2%. Our Accountants have already adjusted the Budget to provide for this increase. The Board had also just recently received the Youth Recreation program budget from the Village Clerk/Treasurer. The Town and Village both pay 41 percent of the cost with the Town of Portage paying the remaining 18 percent. The town's portion will be \$9,984.00. The budget will be modified to reflect this increase.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR NUNDA TOWN BOARD MEETING

Tuesday October 10, 2023, at 7:00 PM

Draft

The Supervisor called for any questions or comments on the Budget from the visitors; there were none.

HISTORIAN REPORT

Valerie Griffing went over her written report. The Board thanked Val for her work.

CEO/ZEO REPORT

The Board reviewed Mark Mullikin's written report. Mark mentioned that the prints for Family Dollar have been received but are on hold due to the application being incomplete and a problem with the prints received. A certified letter has been sent to the applicant requiring more information. Councilperson Morris asked whether Mark had ever contacted Access Lifts about the Handicapped lift. Mark said that he had not been able to reach anyone. The Clerk told the board that she had contacted Access Lifts, and they required a pre-paid fee of \$560.00 to evaluate the problem with the lift. There was a bill in the General Abstract for that fee. Mark proposed that we build a handicap ramp to the porch instead of fixing the lift. The Board agreed that he should get quotes for a ramp. Mark spoke about attending the County's Solar Tour. Mark was asked if he was able to get any more quotes about replacing the gutters on the Government Center. He replied that he had not heard from anyone he contacted.

PLANNING BOARD REPORT

The Planning Board minutes of the meeting held on 10/3/23 were distributed for review only. Planning Board Chairperson Alex Pierce made his remarks after the Public Hearing on the revisions to the Joint Town/Village Zoning Law was opened. Alex mentioned that the Zoning law was being revised to close some of the gaps in the code that could possibly be exploited if we didn't provide additional guidance. There were very few changes made to the code; with exceptions being modifications of our "junk" regulations, additions to definitions, esthetics changes which help our local businesses align with the vision that the Planning Board has for signs and facades, as well as general cleanup of bulk tables to make sure the code matches the tables. Alex mentioned that this local law change had been referred to the County Planning Board and was on the agenda for the Thursday October 12 meeting.

POLICE REPORT

The Joint Town/Village Police Commissioners Meeting minutes were distributed for review only. Councilperson Hillier reviewed Chief Dale's written report. Staffing is down and we have had to call the County for additional resources to cover shifts. The Police Department replaced the batteries in their present AEDs which are approximately 9 years old. They went without AEDs for a couple months. The Department is looking into purchasing new AEDs. Councilperson Blair stated that there was a one-year waiting list for new AEDs.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT

None

HIGHWAY REPORT

The Department has started picking up leaves. There will be an ad placed in the Mt. Morris Shopper that leaves will be picked up on Tuesdays and Thursdays and brush will be picked up October 23 through 26 in the Dalton area. One of the trucks has an antifreeze leak and will require \$3500.00 worth of repairs. There is a credit account set up for Quicklee's in Dalton to buy gasoline for chain saws and/or the leaf truck. Employees will have to sign for purchases.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR NUNDA TOWN BOARD MEETING

Tuesday October 10, 2023, at 7:00 PM

Draft

Main Street Dalton D.I.s have been ordered. CHIPS meeting will be at BBS on Thursday, October 12. There are several items at the Highway Facility that need to be surplus and sold. Councilperson Forrester reported on the meeting held between himself, the Supervisor and Bob Gelser of Once Again Nut Butter. The Board of Directors at OANB has requested an inquiry on the Environmental Impact after the finding of petroleum on the grounds of the old Highway Building on Watercure Road. It will take time for this to be researched, and OANB does not want to take possession of the property until the matter is resolved.

Open Public Hearing on changes to the Joint Nunda Town/Village Zoning Law

Supervisor Walker opened the Public Hearing on the Zoning Law at 7:35 PM. Planning Board Chairperson, Alex Pierce, made his statement on the Zoning Law. Supervisor Walker asked Alex whether we could act on the law tonight or we should wait until we have input from the County Planning Board. Alex stated that it was up to the Board. Chairperson Forrester said he would feel better if we waited until after hearing from the County Planning Board. It was agreed to wait to act on the Law until the Tri-Board (Town/Village/School) meeting to be held at Keshequa High School on October 23, 2023.

SUPERVISOR'S STATEMENT & MONTHLY BUDGET REPORT

The Monthly Budget Report and Supervisor's Statement were presented and discussed. Supervisor Walker mentioned that the \$5,000.00 NYSEDA grant was received. She also mentioned that the State revenue sharing belonged in the B fund line, not the A fund line.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Assessor's Office received all their equipment and software. Spectrum will be setting up a time to replace the phone lines and install the new telephones.

CLERK REPORT

The monthly Town Clerk Report was presented and discussed. There was over \$7,000.00 in Hunting License sales in September.

JUSTICE REPORT

The September reports for Judge Stoufer and Judge Love were presented and discussed. The Jury trial scheduled for 10/27/23 has been cancelled.

ALL REPORTS/ONE MOTION

A motion was made by Councilperson Hillier to accept all reports, seconded by Councilperson Blair, and carried 5-0.

AUDIT BILLS

The Audited and signed abstracts for the month of August were:

- ❖ General Fund Vouchers numbered 250 - 280, in the amount of \$38,183.97 as set forth in abstract number G-10, dated 10/10/23.
- ❖ Highway Fund Vouchers numbered 174-195, in the amount of \$55,326.16 as set forth in abstract number H-10, dated 10/10/23.
- ❖ Police Fund Vouchers numbered 53 - 59, in the amount of \$2,327.72 as set forth in abstract number P-10, dated 10/10/23.

A motion was made to approve the audited abstracts by Councilperson Blair, seconded by Councilperson Hillier and carried 5-0.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR NUNDA TOWN BOARD MEETING

Tuesday October 10, 2023, at 7:00 PM

Draft

OLD BUSINESS

The discussion continued about plans to use the County ARPA funds (\$20,000.00 for specific one-time need for projects in parks, recreation and/or tourist category). Supervisor Walker mentioned that Kiwanis had the agreement but requested changes. Kiwanis leadership has changed hands and they have not indicated the changes they wish to see in the agreement yet. All costs to date needed to be given to Supervisor Walker so she can create a tally for the County.

NEW BUSINESS

There was a quote distributed from Pro-Form Gutters LLC to provide gutters for the ground floor of the Government Center. Since there were no other quotes received, **there was a motion** to accept this quote in the amount of \$4,758.50 made by Councilperson Hillier, seconded by Councilperson Forrester, and carried 5-0. Supervisor Walker will let Pro-Form Gutters LLC know that their quote was accepted.

PUBLIC HEARINGS CLOSED

The Public Hearings on the changes to the Zoning Law and on the Budget were closed at 8:12 PM.

There was a motion to make the 2024 Tentative Budget the 2024 Preliminary Budget. **The motion was made** by Councilperson Blair, seconded by Councilperson Hiller, and carried 5-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made to enter Executive Session to discuss particular Police Personnel matters by Councilperson Hillier, seconded by Councilperson Forrester, and carried 5-0. The clerk was approved to stay.

A motion was made to exit Executive Session, with no action taken, made by Councilperson Morris, seconded by Councilperson Hillier, and carried 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, **there was a motion** to adjourn the meeting made by Councilperson Blair, seconded by Councilperson Forrester, and carried 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tamara McCallum
Nunda Town Clerk