

**Town of Jackson Town Board Meeting  
April 7, 2021**

The Town Board of the Town of Jackson met on April 7, 2021 at 8:00 pm at the Town Hall for the regular monthly meeting.

**PRESENT:**

- Jay Skellie..... Supervisor
- Mike Nolan..... Councilman
- Travis Rea..... Councilman (arrived at 8:06)
- Carol Rich..... Councilwoman
- Edward Rouse..... Councilman
- Tammy Skellie-Gilbert..... Town Clerk
- Sean Carney..... Highway Superintendent
- Donna Nolan..... Budget Officer
- Amy Maxwell..... Planning Board Chair

**Also present:** Heather Greenwalt, Cambridge Town Clerk; Art Hempel

**BIDS:**

- West ramp roof & windows
  - Alex Cruz-Rich \$10,500 roof / \$2,000 windows; Total - \$12,500
  - Art Hempel \$8,400 roof / \$800 windows; Total - \$9,200
- Painting the Town Hall
  - Alex Cruz-Rich \$4,750
  - Art Hempel \$5,800 (includes minor repairs)

**RESOLUTION #31-21**

A motion by Councilman Nolan, seconded by Councilman Rea; Resolution passed 4-0 with Councilwoman Rich abstaining, **to accept the low bid of \$9,200 from Art Hempel to build the roof over the west ramp and replace the westside windows.**

**RESOLUTION #32-21**

A motion by Councilman Rea, seconded by Councilman Nolan; Resolution passed 4-0 with Councilwoman Rich abstaining, **to accept the low bid of \$4,750 from Alex Cruz-Rich to paint the exterior of the Town Hall.**

**Town Clerk Resignation** – In mid-March the Town Clerk notified the Town Board that she will be sending her resignation letter to the NYS Secretary of State in the month of April to conclude her tenure as Town Clerk-Tax Collector effective April 30, 2021.

**RESOLUTION #33-21**

A motion by Councilman Nolan, seconded by Councilman Rouse; Resolution passed 5-0, **to appoint Heather Greenawalt as temporary Town Clerk effective May 1, 2021 at a rate of \$14.50/hour.**

**RESOLUTION #34-21**

Following the reading of the minutes, a motion by Councilman Rea, seconded by Councilman Rouse; Resolution passed 5-0, **to accept the March 3, 2021 Town Board minutes as written.**

**RESOLUTION #35-21**

A motion by Councilman Rea, seconded by Councilwoman Rich; Resolution passed 5-0, **to approve the Town Clerk & Supervisor Reports for March 2021 as follows:**

Town Clerk Fees to Town	\$224.64
Supervisor Receipts	\$24,241.73
Supervisor Disbursements	\$83,091.40

**REPORTS**

**Highway** – Supt. Carney shared the following:

- The Highway Department will switch to four, 10-hour workdays starting April 12<sup>th</sup>.
- One staff member had been quarantined for 10 days due to COVID concerns, but has returned to work.
- A cut-off saw with built-in water tank cart was purchased for \$2,000.
- The '05 truck has been repaired.
- Supt. Carney evaluated two, used dump trucks that are for sale:
  - 2016 International with plow for \$79,000
  - 2019 International with plow for \$125,000 (includes 2 years of warranty)

Since the Town Board had already planned to obtain a bond to purchase a John Deere wheel loader, Supervisor Skellie commented that the bond could possibly be extended from five years to seven years if the board wishes to also purchase a truck and increase the amount of the bond from \$142,000 to \$166,000. This would be contingent upon approval from Glens Falls Bank & Trust Company.

**RESOLUTION #36-21**

A motion by Councilman Rouse, seconded by Councilwoman Rich; Resolution passed 5-0, **to approve, contingent upon approval from Glens National Bank & Trust Company, to increase the Town of Jackson’s proposed bond from \$142,000 for five years at 2.25% interest to \$166,000 for seven years at 2.25% interest thus permitting the Town to purchase both the 2021 John Deere 524L wheel loader for \$142,635 and the 2019 International dump truck for \$125,000.**

**Planning Board** – Chair Maxwell reported on the April 6<sup>th</sup> Planning Board meeting:

- The public hearing for the Lapoint/Borrego Solar Project closed at 6:15 pm that evening. It had been open since December 15, 2020.

- With the consultant and attorney present, the Planning Board reviewed and edited part 3 of the SEQR narrative as well as the site plan conditional approval which included the Negative Declaration. Revisions to the documents will be made and emailed to the Planning Board next week.
- Assuming the Planning Board approves all of the document revisions at the May 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, it is likely, the Board will adopt the resolution and all documents. Afterward the Town Board will receive documents to be reviewed before the June 2<sup>nd</sup> Town Board meeting.
- Chair Maxwell shared that the Planning Board received letters from one resident opposing the solar project. The letters were reviewed by the consultant to be sure all issues had already been addressed. The only unknown issue of building a community solar site is the potential impact to property values.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**2021 Tour of the Battenkill** – The Town received notice that the date of the Tour of the Battenkill has been moved from September 18<sup>th</sup> to June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Like the Town of Jackson, other neighboring municipalities expressed concern about the original date citing that the races would be running during peak crop season potentially creating unsafe conditions.

### **RESOLUTION #37-21**

A motion by Councilman Nolan, seconded by Councilman Rea; Resolution passed 5-0, **to sign the *Municipal Letter of Acknowledgment/No Objection* supporting the new date of June 19, 2021 for the 2021 Tour of the Battenkill with an accompanying letter stating the following:**

- **All emergency vehicles must be permitted to get through any location along the course routes regardless of what stage the race is in;**
- **All trash along the course routes must be collected within 24 hours after the end of the day's events; and,**
- **The race is not held on a closed course. Competitors must be alert to all farm equipment and slow-moving vehicles along the course routes and understand many of these pieces of equipment do not have turn signals. Furthermore, operators may not be able to see cyclists coming from behind their equipment.**

**Cemetery at Eagleville Road and State Route 313** – On March 31st, Ben Thomas from Department of Environmental Conservation sent an email to schedule a meeting to plan a clean-up event of the cemetery located on the state forest lands at the intersection of Eagleville Road and State Route 313. In addition, the group would discuss a name for the site. The meeting was scheduled for April 12<sup>th</sup> at 11 am at the site. A week prior to the meeting Grace Campbell contacted the Town Clerk to say she had reached out to Debi Craig about participating in the meeting. Ms. Craig is a wealth of information about local history and knew the actual name of the cemetery – *Babcock Family Cemetery*. The Town Clerk relayed the information to Mr. Thomas.

**Town Hall Septic System** – After months of concerns about the Town Hall septic system and not knowing its actual location, Snell Septic Service was contacted. They were able to determine the

location of the septic system, empty it and address any concerns. The septic is located in the parking lot 30 feet north from the Town Hall's north window.

**Emerald Way Residents** – A letter was sent to the Emerald Way residents to respond to their letter reviewed at the March Town Board meeting. With assistance from the Town Attorney, it was determined that the *Right-to-Farm* law doesn't apply to this situation because the adjacent neighbor's property doesn't fit the definition of a farm. Supervisor Skellie suggested alternatives that the complainants might consider to address their issues. The letter is on file.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION #38-21**

A motion by Councilman Rea, seconded by Councilman Rouse; Resolution passed 5-0, **to approve the audit of the Justice's 2020 accounts.**

**Town Website** - In December 2017, three and a half years after publishing the town's website, usage had increased steadily reaching over 10,500 hits per year. Today, three and a half years later, the site is receiving almost 18,000 hits per year.

**Supervisor Report** – no report

**RESOLUTION #39-21**

A motion by Councilwoman Rich, seconded by Councilman Rouse; Resolution passed 4-0, **to approve payment of the following bills as audited on April 7, 2021, Abstracts #3A & 4 and authorized the Supervisor to pay said bills from the respective funds:**

FUND	BILL #	AMOUNT
General 3A	35	\$1,000.00
General 4	36-54	\$6,656.87
Highway 4	54-76	\$24,325.42

The meeting was adjourned at 9:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Skellie-Gilbert, RMC  
Town Clerk