

THIS IS A COMBINED TOWN BOARD AND WORKSHOP MEETING. THE ORIGINAL TOWN BOARD MEETING SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 7, 2022 WAS CANCELED DUE TO THE TOWN BEING IN STATE OF EMERGENCY DUE TO AN ICESTORM.

The meeting that was called to order by Supervisor Landi at 7 PM with the pledge to the flag and a moment of silence.

Present were Councilman Hoffman, Councilman Wells, and Councilman Queipo. Councilman Nelson was absent. Also present were Highway Superintendent Ed Moore, Code Enforcement Officer Bob Cologero, Town Historian Linda Queipo, Zoning Board of Appeals Chairman Blake Jackson and Town Attorney Ashley Torres. One resident was also present.

Supervisor Landi announced that any questions regarding 850 Route 28 will be referred to our Town Attorney. He also announced that any emails or regular mail comments regarding the Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting regarding storage are at 850 Route 28 must be received by the Town Clerk by 5PM on February 24th. No verbal comments will be accepted.

A motion by Supervisor Landi and seconded by Councilman Queipo to approve all the January minutes that were reviewed by the Town Board prior to the meeting be accepted. All approved.

Supervisor Landi read the Supervisors Report and Town Clerk Weiss read the Town Clerk's report.

The general bills, highway bills and intrafund transfers were reviewed by the Town Board.

Interfund Transfers

None

General and Highway Bills

A motion was made by Councilman Wells and seconded by Councilman Hoffman to pay the following general bills Claim #26 thru #61 totaling \$44,575.63 and highway bills Claim #62 thru #85, totaling \$12,577.30. All approved. (See Minute Book for a breakdown of the actual bills).

Communications

None

Committee Reports

Councilman Wells reported that Code Enforcement Officer Cologero collected \$550 (building permits \$200 and abstracts \$350). Mr. Cologero is also busy answering complaints from residents and doing the paperwork for an appearance ticket for the owner of the property by the town line.

Town Historian Queipo gave the Historian report. Supervisor Landi read a letter that Town Historian Queipo wrote Town of Kingston residents. Councilman Wells made the motion, seconded by Councilman Hoffman to have the letter reprinted on all the Town's Facebook pages. All Approved.

Supervisor Landi declared a State of Emergency February 4th at 9AM due to the ice storm and roads being blocked, no power and no cell phone working throughout the Town. The emergency ended on February 7th at 5PM. He has also talked to Town Historian Queipo about the ice storm emergency. He also thanked Dave Hoffman, Ed Moore, the Town Highway Department, and the Sawkill Volunteer Fire Company for all their hard work during the State of Emergency.

Councilman Hoffman received 1 dog complaint. Highway Superintendent Moore reported that there was no problem about cars parking on Morey Hill Road (right now). If people start parking and the road starts being blocked – then DEC should be called to ticket the cars.

Councilman Queipo reports that the PA system has been ordered and they are waiting for parts. The installation should take 1 day. Hopefully the sheriff will be meeting with us in the future about setting up a substation in our Town. Councilman Queipo would like to use the Town Hall meeting room for the radio class and tests that Harry Sleight and him had run last year. The date would be March 26th. Councilman Wells stated that no outside groups can use the Town Hall until after March 31st because of the Town's Covid policy. Councilman Hoffman suggested to use the Fire House. Councilman Queipo agreed to that idea.

Old Business – With the ice storm postponing the scheduled public hearings on February 7th – Councilman Wells made the motion, seconded by Councilman Queipo to reschedule the public hearing for the Spectrum contract extension to March 7th starting at 6:30PM. All Approved.

Councilman Wells made the motion, seconded by Councilman Hoffman to reschedule the public hearing for the removal of a Planning Board member to March 7th starting at 6:45PM. All Approved.

New Business – Supervisor Landi introduced Local Law #1 of 2022 – short term rental. Supervisor Landi made the motion, seconded by Councilman Queipo to hold a public hearing on March 16th starting at 6:45PM. All Approved.

Supervisor Landi introduced Local Law #2 of 2022 – allowing members of the Town Board to participate in town board meetings via videoconference from locations outside the Town of Kingston's boundary lines. Supervisor Landi made the motion, seconded by Councilman Hoffman to hold a public hearing on March 16th starting at 6:30PM. All Approved.

Highway Superintendent Ed Moore gave a report on the State of Emergency. Our current radios and cell phones did not work. Mr. Moore would like to switch and lease NYCOMCO radios for communications. There was a long discussion on making sure that the radios would work throughout the Town, how many base stations, and radios were needed, cost and which line item will be used to pay for a 5 year lease. Councilman Wells made the motions, seconded by Councilman Queipo to have Highway Superintendent Moore contact NYCOMCO to run tests to Mr. Moore's satisfaction before the Town Board agrees to the lease. Town bookkeeper Haubrich and budget officer Weiss to recommend which line items to use to pay the lease. All Approved.

The mask policy for the Town Buildings and properties will stay the same (mandatory while in Town Buildings).

Councilman Queipo made the motion, seconded by Councilman Wells to table the resolution of the Town taking over Gray Lane. The Town is waiting for the maintenance bond amount that the Town engineer will recommend. All Approved.

Councilman Wells that the Women's Grand Prix bike race will not be going through our Town as originally planned during their race at the end of April.

Councilman Wells will be calling the County in the AM to find out which bridges the County will be working on in our Town. Even though the construction zones signs are up – no work has started on the bridge by the Town Hall.

Councilman Wells would like to see the Town Hall be used more than just a warming/cooling center. He will be working with Councilman Hoffman to store non-perishable food in the basement. Councilman Hoffman will be working on securing crates in case people with animals have to be evacuated from their homes.

Questions and Comments – A question was asked why the mail can be delivered on Gray Lane, but UPS will not deliver there. Code Enforcement Officer suggested that since Gray Lane is still a private road, that can be why UPS won't deliver there.

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Wells, seconded by Councilman Hoffman. All approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Weiss

Town Clerk

HISTORIAN'S REPORT

FEBRUARY 7, 2022

- Tom and Cathy Riley of South Carolina are looking for pictures of St. Ann's Church. Tom is writing his autobiography titled *"More Light, an Artist's Life"*. I have sent pictures of both the inside and outside of St. Ann's.
- Hannah Bagshaw is looking for information about her ancestors. She gave me a list of names and though I couldn't find anything in our records, I directed her to the Ulster County historian, the city historian and the Department of Records & Management as well as the Ulster County Clerk's office.
- I will be attending two lecture series which are to be held virtually. These are both sponsored by the Hudson River Maritime Museum. The first lecture will be held on February 23rd titled *"The World of Elizabeth Jennings"*. This is a little known story about one of the first "Freedom Fighters". Few people realize that the rights of African Americans to even ride in streetcars was earned 100 years before the landmark civil rights case here in New York. In 1854 Elizabeth Jennings was told by the conductor to wait for the next car because it had "her people" in it. When she refused to leave the bus, she was assaulted by the conductor aided by a NYC policeman. Elizabeth Jennings fought for her right to ride the NYC horse trolley, with future president, Chester A. Arthur as her defense attorney. This lecture explores Elizabeth's life during this time in history.
- The second lecture I will be attending will be held on March 16th and is titled *"Espionage and Enslavement"*. Authors, Claire Bellerjeau and Tiffany Yecke Brooks will be introducing their new book. The lecture covers the story of a young enslaved woman from Oyster Bay, New York named Elizabeth who is sold to the south. Robert Townsend, son of the family she was enslaved by, would locate her, safeguard her young child and return her to New York. Her story would help turn one of America's first spies into a member of an early anti-slavery group. Robert Townsend is best known as one of George Washington's most trusted spies but few knew how he sought to end slavery. As the story unfolds, prominent figures from history cross paths, including John Adams, George Washington, John André, Alexander Hamilton, Benedict Arnold, John Jay, Benjamin Franklin as well as the Culper Spy Ring, the Boston Massacre, the Sons of Liberty and more.