

TOWN BOARD MEETING

September 11, 2023

6:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Councilpersons: Kevin Armstrong, Patty Wood, Leonard Govern, Luis Rodriguez-Betancourt, Supervisor Joseph Cetta, Attorney Carly Walas, Highway Superintendent, Jeff Offnick and Town Clerk Ronda Williams

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jacqueline Vreeland & Mr. Vreeland, Steven Dutcher, Mark Pierce, Phoebe Schreiber and Lillian Browne – The Reporter

Supervisor Cetta asked for a moment of silence in honor of the ones who lost their lives during the attack on the Twin Towers and flight 77.

FLOOR TIME:

Jacqueline Vreeland approached the Board to express her concern and objection of changing the name of Marvin Hollow Road. She presented a petition signed by residents that object as well.

Supervisor Cetta mentioned that when the request first party came forward, the Board told them that they would consider changing the name if they had support from the other residents. He stated, this now coming forward and being presented; speaks volumes.

Steve Dutcher and Mark Pierce approached the Board and expressed their concern that if ATV were granted permission to ride on town roads that they could potentially ruin the snowmobile trails and jeopardize the relationships the snowmobile club and landowners have.

They suggested that ATVs develop their own trail system.

Supervisor Cetta stated the hope is that a group would pick this up like the Town of Stamford and he would expect that they would police their own and keep them on the ATV trails.

Councilman Armstrong stated he has received tons of pressure to approve ATVs to access town roads. He felt if they trespass on property that they do not have permission to ride on then that is on them.

**RESOLUTION #91**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt approving the minutes of August 7, 2023 as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

ASSESSOR REPORT:

No report

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

No report

DOG CONTROL REPORT:

Martin J. Way, Jr.  
Dog Control Officer, Town of Walton  
129 North Street Walton,  
New York 13856  
August 2023  
Dog Control Activity Summary

|                       |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Complaints            | 10        |
| Dogs Seized           | 3         |
| Returned to Owner     | 0         |
| Humane Society        | 3         |
| Dangerous Dogs        | 0         |
| Tickets Issued        | 6         |
| Total Redemption Fees | 0         |
| Assistance            | 1         |
| <br>                  |           |
| Mileage               | 114 Miles |

FEMA COORDINATOR:

No report – projects have been closed out.

SUPERINTENDENT OF HWY. REPORT:

**TOWN OF WALTON HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**  
25091 STATE HIGHWAY 10  
WALTON, NY 13856  
607-865-5120

**TO:** WALTON TOWN BOARD  
**FROM:** JEFF OFFNICK, HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT  
**DATE:** 9/11/2023  
**RE:** REPORT

- ✓ We have taken delivery of the Broce Broom recently purchased.
- ✓ We have completed the sealing of our roads.
- ✓ Both mowers are up and running.
- ✓ We have received quotes for plow and sander for the new Ram 5500.

Reported that the new broom works well and is way above what they have been using.

Reported that they have completed the sealing and are now helping other towns.

Superintendent Offnick reviewed the quotes received for a 10.5' Fisher Plow:

|                              |            |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Trux Outfitter               | \$9,103.00 |
| Palmer's Truck & Accessories | \$9,855.00 |
| 3-D Welding                  | \$9,227    |

**RESOLUTION #92**

**APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF 9' FISHER PLOW**

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Armstrong to approve the purchase of a 10.5' Fisher Plow from Trux Outfitter in the amount of \$9,103.00. All in favor, motion carried.

Superintendent Offnick reviewed the quotes received on a 4-yard electric sander for the 5500 Ram truck

|                              |            |
|------------------------------|------------|
| 3-D Welding                  | \$7,695.00 |
| Palmer's Truck & Accessories | \$8,900.00 |
| Trux Outfitters              | \$7,822.00 |

**RESOLUTION #93**

**APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF A SALT SPREADER**

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Govern to approve the purchase of a 4-yard electric sander from 3-D Welding in the amount of \$7,695.00. All in favor, motion carried.

Superintendent Offnick reported to the Board that Ron Hulse has retired after 22 years and thanked him for his years of service.

Councilman Govern informed Superintendent Offnick of a tree on Marvin Hollow that needs to be trimmed from the roadway.

**TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:**

Provided Financial Reports

I informed the Board of the balance of the ARPA funds and the amount needed to be transfer to cover the expenses since the last transfer.

| Transfer from ARPA Account |        | Reduce accounts  | Transfer         |
|----------------------------|--------|------------------|------------------|
| ARPA Funds                 |        |                  | 65,276.77        |
| Buildings, CE              | 1620.4 | 56,144.42        |                  |
| Garage CE                  | 5132.4 | 9,132.35         |                  |
|                            |        | <u>65,276.77</u> | <u>65,276.77</u> |

| DATE          | CHECK # | COMPANY              | RIVER WALK         | COLD STORAGE        | GENERATOR          | VETERANS PLAZA    |
|---------------|---------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| ARPA          |         | 3/3/21-12/31/2024    |                    |                     |                    |                   |
| <b>BUDGET</b> |         | <b>\$233,640.31</b>  | <b>\$70,640.31</b> | <b>\$120,000.00</b> | <b>\$40,000.00</b> | <b>\$3,000.00</b> |
| 6/14/2022     | 9579    | MY CUSTOM CASTING    |                    |                     |                    | \$1,446.95        |
| 8/2/2022      | 9632    | KEN REYNOLDS CONSTR  |                    | \$48,070.00         |                    |                   |
| 8/8/2022      | 9641    | REN REST             | \$483.56           |                     |                    |                   |
| 9/12/2022     | 9648    | ALPINE               | \$458.53           |                     |                    |                   |
| 9/12/2022     | 9668    | OTSEGO READY MIX     | \$520.00           |                     |                    |                   |
| 9/12/2022     | 9674    | REN REST             | \$536.99           | \$250.39            |                    |                   |
| 9/12/2022     | 9669    | OVERKILL EQUIP       | \$3,500.00         |                     |                    |                   |
| 9/12/2022     | 9659    | JESS F. HOWES        |                    | \$539.38            |                    |                   |
| 10/5/2022     | 9699    | UPSTATE SPRAY FOAM   |                    | \$13,310.00         |                    |                   |
| 10/19/2022    | 9700    | MCQUADE & BANNIGAN   |                    | \$725.00            |                    |                   |
| 11/15/2022    | 9722    | JESS F. HOWES        |                    | \$911.76            |                    |                   |
| 12/13/2022    | 9762    | UPSTATE SPRAY FOAM   |                    | \$7,925.00          |                    |                   |
| 2/13/2023     | 9813    | STEEL SALES INC.     |                    | \$8,870.92          |                    |                   |
| 3/13/2023     | 9826    | REN REST             |                    | \$261.43            |                    |                   |
| 6/13/2023     | 9872    | WESTLAKE HARDWARE    |                    |                     |                    | \$72.93           |
| 7/11/2023     | 9898    | REN-REST             |                    |                     |                    | \$90.17           |
| 8/7/2023      | 9911    | LAFEVER EXC.         | \$55,402.50        |                     |                    |                   |
| 8/7/2023      | 9910    | LOWES/MYPARKINGSIGNS |                    |                     |                    | 578.82            |
| TOTALS        |         |                      | \$60,901.58        | \$80,863.88         | \$0.00             | \$2,188.87        |
| BALANCE       |         |                      | \$9,738.73         | \$39,136.12         | \$40,000.00        | \$811.13          |

**RESOLUTION #94**

**TRANSFER OF ARPA FUNDS TO GENERAL FUND**

A motion was made by Councilwoman Wood, seconded by Govern authorizing a transfer of funds from the ARPA Account to the General Fund to cover project expenditures of \$65,276.77. All in favor, motion carried.

Reported that I am working on the preliminary budget and should have it ready to be presented to the Board at the October 2, 2023 meeting. At that time a workshop can be set up to discuss.

Reported that the Town has received \$990.00 in late penalties for dogs that were licensed late. I remind everyone that all dogs in New York State must be licensed and the purpose of this is to verify that your dog has been vaccinated against rabies. The State has pushed this duty onto towns and therefore, it is a duty of the town to enforce. So, as stated, we have received \$990.00 in late fees, but the more important message is that if you own a dog, you must license it within the township that you live.

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:**

**RESOLUTION #95**

**APPROVAL OF EMERGENCY SHELTER GENERATOR TO BE INSTALLED AT THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

A motion was made by Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt, seconded by Armstrong to approve the successful low bidder Trimbell Electric LLC in the amount of \$49,575.00 for the installation of a generator at the First Baptist Church, 61 Townsend Street, Walton, NY 13856. The funds will come from the ARPA funds awarded to the Town of Walton. All in favor, motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #96**

**HUMANE SOCIETY AGREEMENT**

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Wood approving the Annual Humane Society Agreement with the Town of Walton as presented. All in favor, motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #97**

**VERIZON FIRST AMENDMENT TO SHORT FORM TOWER LICENSE AGREEMENT**

A motion was made by Councilman Govern, seconded by Wood to approve the Verizon First Amendment to Short Form Tower License Agreement as presented that will result in swapping (6) antennas and adding (3) antennas, swapping (6) RRUs, swapping (2) OVP for (1) OVP12 and will increase the recurring fee by \$40.00. All in favor, motion carried.

**COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Councilwoman Wood questioned if the sign for the Veterans Plaza kiosk has been ordered. I explained that the vendor at the fair had sold out but will order directly from him.

Councilman Armstrong discussed purchasing new mowers for the maintenance of the cemeteries as well as Veterans Plaza, Moore Park, the Town Hall, Highway Garage and the old Breakey Motors property once acquired. He stated the committee will continue to look for options.

Supervisor Cetta stated that the CWC completed the work at the old Breakey Motors property and the property is much smoother now. He informed the Board that the transfer of ownership should be forthcoming. Discussion took place over the transfer and the possibility of connecting the Water Street walking trail to this property in the future.

Councilwoman Wood informed the Board that the Chamber of Commerce Christmas lights have arrived.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

**RESOLUTION #98**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong seconded by Rodriguez-Betancourt approving the vouchers as presented for payment. All in favor, motion carried.

|                |          |             |
|----------------|----------|-------------|
| General Fund A | #140-156 | \$11,432.34 |
| General OV B   | #14      | \$132.51    |
| General HWY DA | #64-71   | \$82,039.59 |
| OV HWY DB      | #33-38   | \$19,248.32 |

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

**RESOLUTION #99**

**ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Councilman Armstrong, seconded by Govern to enter into executive session for a matter of consulting with legal counsel. All in favor, motion carried.

Entered 6:48 p.m.

Closed executive session at 7:10 p.m.

Councilman Rodriguez-Betancourt requested to discuss a topic he failed to bring up during the committee section. He requested to honor George Ostrowski for his years of service that he had provided to the children of Walton during the Christmas parade. The Board agreed to prepare a proclamation to present to Mrs. Ostrowski at the November meeting.

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronda Williams  
Town Clerk