

July 13, 2023

The regular meeting of the Town of Hartland, County of Niagara, State of New York, was held on the above date at the Town Hall, 8942 Ridge Road, Gasport convening at 7:00 p.m.

Members present:

Supervisor: W. Ross Annable

Town Clerk: Rachel Kushner

Councilman: Joseph Reed

David Huntington

David Hill

Cliff Grant

Attended by: Sign in sheet attached.

Supervisor Annable called the meeting to order with all present standing for the pledge to the flag as well as a moment of silence for Larry Fuller and Dorothy Winters who passed this month.

RESOLUTION 77-2023

MOTION by Councilman Huntington, seconded by Councilman Grant to adopt the minutes of the June 16, 2023 and June 28, 2023 board meeting as presented.

Ayes: Annable, Huntington, Hill, Grant, Reed Nays: 0 ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 78-2023

MOTION by Councilman Reed, seconded by Councilman Grant resolved that the following bills, as prepared by the Town Clerk and having been reviewed by the Town Board, be authorized for payment in the following amounts:

Voucher #'s: 2023000519-2023000619

General: \$28,712.25
Part Town: \$5,998.45
Highway: \$306,871.85
Fire: \$3,880.29

Refuse: \$26,301.25
Water: \$89,550.40
Total: \$461,314.49

Ayes: Annable, Hill, Huntington, Grant, Reed Nays: 0 CARRIED

ASSESSOR / CEO REPORTS: None

HIGHWAY/WATER REPORT: Read and filed.

PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION 79-2023

MOTION by Councilman Huntington, seconded by Councilman Hill to accept the following:

Water Meter SEQR Determination

WHEREAS, the Town of Hartland (Town) is considering various water meter replacements throughout the Town to replace water meters that have reached the end of their useful life, and

WHEREAS, an Engineering Report dated July 2023 has been prepared to discuss the scope of work to replace water meters at various locations throughout the Town, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Hartland is submitting a grant application under the Green infrastructure Grant Program to pay for up to 75% of the costs to install the water meters, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to sections 617.5(c)(1), 617.5(c)(2), and 617.5(c)(6) under SEQR, this project is consistent with a Type 2 Action as it involves the maintenance, repair, and replacement in kind of existing water meters with no substantial change to the existing Town’s water distribution system.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that as a Type 2 action under SEQR, the project has been found categorically to not have significant adverse impacts on the environment and no further review under SEQR is required.

Ayes: Annable, Huntington, Hill, Grant, Reed

Nays: 0 ADOPTED

RESOLUTION 80-2023

MOTION by Councilman Hill, seconded by Councilman Huntington to accept the following:

WHEREAS, the Town of Hartland owns a 1984 Barber Green 220B Paver, VIN Number SN/BGZZ0X115 with automation and spare parts (the equipment), and

WHEREAS, the Town Highway Superintendent has advised that this equipment has been replaced, and is surplus equipment, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Ridgeway has offered to purchase said equipment for the amount of \$8,000.00, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that this Board finds the equipment to be surplus equipment, and that the fair market value of said equipment is \$8,000.00 in as is condition, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town of Hartland sell the equipment to the Town of Ridgeway in “as-is” condition for the amount of \$8,000.00 and take necessary steps to transfer title.

Ayes: Annable, Huntington, Hill, Grant, Reed

Nays: 0 ADOPTED

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mrs. Margaret Zaepfel discussed Lockport’s solar law and proposed amendments to that law. She urged the Town Board of Hartland to take a close look at their solar law with the Planning Board and amend it as soon as possible. She cited the recent primary election as evidence that residents are in favor of increasing setbacks.

Mr. Leo Shannon discussed the solar project in the Town of Ridgeway. He states that the Sweat Road project has not been functioning for 15 months because the solar company went bankrupt and sold the project. Mr. Shannon discussed a survey that took place in the Town of Ridgeway for electrical lines and said that the solar company tried to get the Town of Ridgeway to pay the \$24,000 bill to do so even though it was not their responsibility. He also questioned why the Town Board changed the allowable time to speak to three minutes and mentions his first amendment rights to free speech.

Supervisor Ross Annable advised that the time to speak was changed because the meeting is to conduct town business. He states that if anyone would like to have further conversation above and beyond the three minutes, they may set up an appointment or call him.

Barbara Outten stepped forward to ask whether meetings are recorded and if so, how long those recordings are kept.

Town Clerk Rachel Kushner advised her that meeting audio is recorded and kept in accordance with the retention schedule of three years.

Mrs. Karen Walp mentioned that France is involved in a civil war and being that EDF is owned by the French government, questioned the Town Board what they would do about that. She also discussed a proposed bill in New York State regarding the banning of property purchases inside the U.S.A. by foreign countries. She states that because EDF is owned by the French government, they should not be allowed to buy property in Hartland for solar panels or battery storage. She urges the Town Board to listen to the people of Hartland.

RESOLUTION 81-2023

MOTION by Councilman Huntington, seconded by Councilman Reed that since there is no further business to come before the board, the meeting be adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Ayes: Annable, Huntington, Hill, Grant, Reed

Nays: 0

ADOPTED

Respectfully submitted:



Rachel M Kushner

Town Clerk

Next scheduled regular meeting will be August 10, 2023 at 7:00 p. m.