

The Town of Fenton Town Board held its regular Work Session (via Zoom) on January 27th, 2021, at 6:00 PM, at the Fenton Town Hall, 44 Park Street, Port Crane, New York.

PRESENT: Town Board Members Gary Holcomb, Supervisor (present)
David Gunster, Councilman (present)
Michael Husar, Councilman (video conference – arrived at 6:09 PM)
Thomas Moss, Deputy Supervisor (present)
Richard Pray, Councilman (video conference)
Town Attorney Albert Millus, Jr. (video conference)
Town Clerk Melodie Bowersox (present)
Admin. Asst./Bookkeeper Theresa Staats (video conference)

ABSENT: Highway Superintendent Randy Ritter

OTHERS PRESENT: Building Inspector Matt Banks (present), Building Inspector Clerk Cheryl Mammano (video conference), Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) Member Cindy Cook (video conference), Dog Control Officer (DCO) Greg Starley (video conference)

Pledge of Allegiance

Review Abstract #1, 2021 – The Abstract was emailed to the Town Board Members around Noon today for review.

- **After a review of the Abstract, Mr. Gunster made a motion to approve Abstract #1, 2021, seconded by Mr. Gunster. Motion carried.**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Mr. Gunster aye
Councilman Mr. Husar absent
Councilman Mr. Moss aye
Councilman Mr. Pray aye
Supervisor Mr. Holcomb aye

2020 Budget Modifications – Mr. Holcomb noted that the Town did well with the Budget in 2020. The General Fund was only over by approximately \$11,000, \$5,000 which was hospital and medical insurance; the Highway Fund was over approximately \$27,000, \$13,000 which was CHIPS Capital projects; the Water District was over approximately \$12,500, \$6,000 which was hydrant repairs; Sanitary Sewer was over approximately \$2,000; Porter Hollow Sewer was over \$115. With that having been said, **Mr. Pray made a motion to approve Resolution #2021-02:**

WHEREAS, lists have been prepared detailing overdrawn appropriation accounts within Town Funds for 2020, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to modify the Budget to cover the overdrawn appropriation accounts, using accounts with excess funds in 2020,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Budget be modified to cover overdrawn appropriation accounts for the year ending 2020 as outlined in the 2020 Budget Modification Report per fund.

Seconded by Mr. Gunster. **Motion carried.**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Mr. Gunster aye
Councilman Mr. Husar absent
Councilman Mr. Moss aye
Councilman Mr. Pray aye
Supervisor Mr. Holcomb aye

Clean-Up Day – Electronics – Last year after the Clean-Up Day, Highway Superintendent Randy Ritter notified the Broome County Landfill to pick up the electronics and he was told that they do not do pickups anymore. The Landfill now requires that all electronics be separated and placed on skids then wrapped in cellophane. Randy suggested foregoing the collection of electronics this year due to it being very labor intensive. It usually takes the Highway Department three days to sort through the electronics and they would have to deliver them to the Landfill on a Saturday or June 2nd. The Town Board Members discussed this issue. It is difficult for Residents to dispose of electronics. There is one gaylord box that is delivered to Hillcrest (they will not deliver one to the Highway Department) and the Landfill will pick that up once it is filled; however, it fills up quickly.

(Mr. Husar joined the meeting at 6:09 PM.)

Maybe Residents could be limited to the number of electronics they bring to the Clean-Up Day and other delivery options could be looked into. Without providing the service, Residents might dispose of them incorrectly. Possibly Broome County Legislator Cindy O'Brien could be notified of the situation to see if anything could be done about the situation. The consensus was the Board still would like to provide the service so follow up will be done on the issue, beginning with Cindy, and then contacting the Landfill.

Solid Waste Pickup – Mr. Husar asked about the limitation of the number of cans per week for solid waste pickup. At the Work Session in December 2020, Randy Ritter had requested that Residents be limited to three cans per week. This came about because the Highway Department was hauling waste for those who owned lawn businesses. Mr. Holcomb suggested that we find out who is doing this instead of punishing the entire Town.

Paving Projects 2021 – Mr. Gunster said that the Highway Department plans to pave Center Street, Fenton Avenue, Hastings Street, Lois Avenue, Pigeon Hill Road, Port Street, and possibly Utica Avenue in 2021. Randy Ritter may use a new process with Pigeon Hill Road and Port Street that uses millings. The Town Hall parking lot may also be repaved.

Chenango Street Sidewalks Project – Mr. Moss asked if there was an update on the Chenango Street Sidewalks Project. The repairs are scheduled for 2022 but he heard rumors they may begin in 2021. Mr. Holcomb said he had not heard any different timeframe for the repairs to be done.

Local Laws/Public Hearings – Next week at the Town Board Meeting there will be two Public Hearings – one for the Mobile Food/Beverage Vending Local Law and one for the waiving of the area requirements for replacement of accessory buildings under certain circumstances Local Law. Atty. Millus has asked the Town Board for feedback on the Local Law for weight limits in Residential B. The intent of the Law is not to have tractor trailers driving and parking on streets.

Public Employer Health Emergency Plan – The final draft of this Plan should be complete by Friday or Monday and sent to the Union, then it will need to be sent to the State. Greg Starley of the Town's Safety Committee put the first draft together and Board Members commented on what a great job he did.

Town Correspondence – Mr. Husar suggested that Mr. Holcomb may want to announce at the Town Meetings the Town Correspondence that is being sent out entitled, "What's Happening in the Town." Mr. Holcomb said he may add it under Committee Reports at the Town Board Meeting each month.

Dog Control Officer (DCO) Backup – Dog Control Officer Greg Starley talked to the Towns of Colesville, Conklin/Town of Binghamton, and Vestal and they use their Highway Departments as backups for when their DCO is on vacation or sick. (Greg noted that they were not interested in being backups for other Towns.) Greg asked our Highway Department if they would be interested in being a DCO backup and a few were interested. During the discussion of a backup, Mr. Husar voiced his concern of the Town 'spreading the wealth' and looking for another DCO and possibly sharing services with another Town in the County. Currently several Towns are without DCOs. Mr. Holcomb said that if the Town wishes to pursue looking for a new DCO that can be done; however, a backup DCO using our Highway Department is a quick solution that could be solved within a week or two. Mr. Holcomb will check with NYMIR about the matter, at Atty. Millus' suggestion, prior to the training of one or two of the Highway Employees for the backup position.

Climate Smart Communities Pledge – A few years ago, the Town was not interested in participating in the Climate Smart Communities Pledge. Since that time, the County has

rewritten and taken the Pledge. The Resolution outlines the ten points to the program. It is part of the Southern Tier Clean Energy Communities Program that includes LED Street Lighting Unified Solar Permitting, Electrical Vehicle Permitting, etc. The Town has already completed some of the projects and these would qualify the Town for potential grant opportunities. Once the Town Board has approved the Pledge (at the next Town Board Meeting), Mr. Holcomb would like the CAC to take the lead on the actions that are listed within the Pledge.

At 6:48 PM, Mr. Gunster made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Moss.
Motion carried.

VOTE: Ayes 5 Gunster, Holcomb, Husar, Moss, Pray
Nays 0

Melodie A. Bowersox, Town Clerk