

Town of Amboy
TOWN BOARD MINUTES- May 16, 2022
Amboy Town Hall-7:00 pm

Present: Kathleen Wilkinson-Supervisor
Holly Humphries, Larry Rayder, Bruce Stone &
Dick Bryant-Town Board Members
Mary Ann Clark-Town Clerk
Tim Kelley-Planning Board Chair/Historian
John Perkins III-Highway Superintendent
Paul Baxter-Tug Hill Circuit Rider
Sue Halbritter-Camden News reporter

Call to Order-The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm, with the Pledge of Allegiance. After the Pledge, Mrs. Wilkinson asked for another moment of silence for Ukraine.

Approval of the Minutes-Mr. Bryant made a motion to accept the April, 2022 minutes, and dispense with the reading of them, seconded by Mr. Stone, and carried.

Before the department head reports, Myrna Stone asked if she could offer a proposal to the town board. She had attended a presentation at the Tug Hill local government conference, on employee handbooks. Mrs. Stone said it is a government requirement that the town have such a handbook, and she proposed that it could be the next project for the planning board to work on, if the town board approves. The board gave their approval, and Mrs. Wilkinson asked for Mrs. Stone to obtain job descriptions from the county, to be included in the hand book, as she said that job descriptions were attempted to be created, a few years back, but nothing really came from it. The book would include appointed and elected officials. Mr. Bryant asked if it would include W. Amboy fire department members? He was told they would not be included, as they contract with the town, but are not town employees. Mrs. Wilkinson then made the motion that Mrs. Stone proceed with the handbook. her motion was seconded by Mr. Bryant, and carried.

Dept Head Reports:

Fire Dept- Bradner Whaley passed out the chief's report to the supervisor, board members, and clerk. He said the fire department hadn't had their monthly meeting yet, as they started to have one, and got called out to a fire. He said he hopes they can have one on Wednesday, the 18th.

Legislator-Dave Holst was not present at the meeting, no report was given.

Highway Dept-The town board passed a **Resolution**, approving a budget modification to the original 2022 adopted budget, for both Consolidated Highway Aid (CHIPS), DA3501, and Permanent Improvements, DA5112.2 (CHIPS). Each listing was increased by \$92,416.94, added to the amount

originally budgeted of \$82,879.00, brought the total amount to \$175,295.94. On motion by Mr. Bryant, seconded by Mrs. Humphries, the resolution was adopted. Also Mrs. Wilkinson asked for all board members to sign the agreement to repair highways, which this year would be a section of Tanner Road, and a section of N. Hillsboro Road. All board members signed, as well as Mrs. Wilkinson, and Mr. Perkins. Mr. Perkins said he hopes to do the paving in June, and has oil for spray patching. Mr. Stone asked about the mowing contract, and Mr. Perkins said he doesn't feel they should do it, as the county isn't offering any extra money over last year's contract, and fuel costs are so high. Mrs. Wilkinson mentioned that the fuel costs for the highway have already doubled over last year. Mr. Perkins said he had a question over culvert pipe, which has gone up in price to \$150 each, and the town is still charging \$100, which was fine before fuel prices increased, but now the town is losing money. So, he wanted to know if he should increase the price? A discussion ensued, with a suggestion that from now on Mr. Perkins can state the pipe is being sold at market price. Mr. Bryant then suggested that market price be changed to town cost. And on motion by Mr. Stone, and a second by Mr. Rayder, it was agreed that the cost of the pipe should be increased. Mrs. Wilkinson said that if people complain about the cost, to let them know they are not being charged for fuel, or the gravel. Mrs. Wilkinson also said that there is now a phone, and high speed internet at the town garage, through Spectrum.

Code Enforcement-Mr. Marsden was not at the meeting, but had given a report to Mrs. Wilkinson. He has issued 4 new building permits, still has open permits, and issued 4 violations, 1 was for someone building, without a proper permit, and 3 were for unlicensed vehicles, and junk.

Town Historian-Mr. Kelley reported he had attended a district meeting in Watertown, and had sent out an e-mail on possible grants to Barb Ceterski, who is part of the historical society. He is waiting to hear more.

Planning Board- Mr. Kelley reported he had received an attorney advertisement wondering if the town is covered by 5G, and are cell towers covered in the zoning laws? Mr. Kelley said he would make sure of the coverage, in the zoning law, and Mrs. Wilkinson said he could disregard the advertisement. The employee handbook was discussed again, and what a big help that would be. Mr. Kelley stated the ZBA is all caught up. Mr. Kelley also mentioned that he is on the Board of Assessment Review, and the members would be together on June 1st, at the Town Hall, for Grievance Day.

Dog Control- Both of the dogs mentioned at last month's meeting have gone to a shelter, and have been adopted. Mr. Conover had a hard time placing them, as so many shelters are full to capacity. He normally keeps a dog for 5 days, he had these dogs for 21 days. Mr. Conover is trying to find out if Williamstown will be moving the shelter, as he would like to make some proposals for improving the building.

Town Justice-The Justice was not at the meeting, but will have her books audited by the board, before next month's meeting.

Tax Collector- Done for the year.

Town Clerk-A total of \$974.00, was taken in, \$967.00 being paid to the Supervisor, and \$7.00 to Animal Population Control in Albany.

Tug Hill-Mr. Baxter passed out a report to the supervisor, board members, and clerk. He reported that he had posted the 2022 tentative tax roll to the town website. He also reported that the 2022 Local Government Conference was a success, and the Commission is already planning for next year's conference. Mr. Baxter also noted he has additional COVID test kits, if anyone needs them. Mr. Baxter also said that a meeting date for the next Salmon Rivers Council of Governments is trying to be set, possibly late May, early June? Also mentioned was an amendment to Open Meetings Law. The town must pass a local law to be able to allow remote participation by local officials, after June 9, 2022. Mr. Baxter stated he would be glad to help, if the town decides to pass a local law. Mr. Baxter also brought printed copies of **Headwaters**, the Tug Hill Commission's annual report, to the meeting.

New Business- Mrs. Wilkinson thanked Mr. Rayder for donating for Ukrainian flags. One is flying at the town hall, and one is at the town park. Mrs. Wilkinson also stated that we have a new town attorney. Her name is Lesley Schmidt, and she is a town justice for Granby, and also used to work for Allison Nelson, who was also our town attorney, before she became a Family Court judge.

Open to the Public- There were no questions or comments.

Approval of the Bills-Mrs. Humphries made the motion to approve General Fund bills #88-109, in the amount of \$8,650.22, seconded by Mr. Rayder, and carried.

Mr. Bryant made the motion to approve Highway Fund vouchers #71-90, in the amount of \$28,063.01, seconded by Mr. Stone, and carried.

Supervisor's Report-Balance sheets and reconciliation summaries are provided, and a copy of the full monthly financial statement is provided. A copy of all financial reports are available from either Ms. Butler, town accounting officer, or from the supervisor.

Adjournment-At 8:12 pm, Mr. Bryant made the motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Mr. Stone, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Clark
Amboy Town Clerk

Town of Amboy
RESOLUTION

Be it RESOLVED, that on May 16, 2022, at their monthly board meeting, the Amboy Town Board does approve budget modifications to the original 2022 adopted budget, for the following Highway Department listings. The modifications are due to an increase in Revenue from the Department of Transportation. (CHIPS), and these listings shall be increased by **\$92,416.94**, each.

REVENUE, CONSOLIDATED HIGHWAY AID, DA3501 (CHIPS) CE-\$175,295.94

EXPENSE, PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS, DA5112.2 (CHIPS) CE-\$175,295.94

The original budgeted amount for each listing was **\$82,879.00 & \$92,416.94 = \$175,295.94**

- Yea or Nay Kathleen Wilkinson, Supervisor
- Yea or Nay Holly Humphries, Board Member
- Yea or Nay Richard Bryan, Board Member
- Yea or Nay Bruce Stone, Board Member
- Yea or Nay Lawrence Rayder, Board Member

On Motion by: Richard Bryant

Seconded by: Holly Humphries

This Resolution is hereby adopted.

Attest: Mary Ann Clark
Mary Ann Clark, Amboy Town Clerk