

Unadilla Town Board Meeting

Date: July 12, 2022

6:30 PM Audit of Bills

7:00 PM Open Meeting

Pledge of Allegiance

Call to Order

Supervisor George DeNys called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

George DeNys, Supervisor
Terry Yoder, Town Clerk
Rodney Renwick, Superintendent
Ronald Reed, Councilman
Donald Cole, Councilman
Jessica Grow, Councilwoman
Allen Anderson, Councilman
Beth Westfall, Attorney
Andrew Barber, WB Fire District
Jeff Barber, WB Fire District
Steven Higbie, WB Fire District
Sheila Bell, Historian
Mary Fazio, Historian
Kirk McLaughlin, BOR
Renwick, Observer

June 13th Minutes

Councilman Ronald Reed made the motion to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jessica Grow and unanimously carried. Roll Call; 5 Ayes, 0 Noes.

Audit of Bills

General Total	\$ 9,982.54
General Fund B	\$ 140.00
Highway Outside Village	\$ 189,282.62
Highway Town wide	\$ 6,830.00
Riverside Lighting	\$ 104.15
Rockdale Lighting	\$ 18.38
Wells Bridge Lighting	\$ 133.30
Riverside Sewer District	\$ 4,610.50

Councilman Ronald Reed made the motion to accept and pay the bills. The motion was seconded by Supervisor George DeNys and unanimously carried. Roll Call; 5 Ayes, 0 Noes.

Committee Reports

Highway

Rodney reported that the last of the chip sealing is scheduled for tomorrow, July 13th. The Lockwood Hill culvert project went well and he will be filing for payment. The River Road, Lockwood Hill Road and County Route 2 intersection is still under review for a possible 4 way stop sign. The new mid-size dump truck expected delivery has been pushed back again. No idea on delivery time at this point. Kelsey is 95% done with the road assessment project that she has been working on.

Finance

June Financial report was submitted with no questions from the Board.

Building

Boiler was inspected with no issues.

Councilman Ronald Reed made the motion to accept the committee reports. The motion was seconded by Councilman Don Cole and unanimously carried. Roll Call; 5 Ayes, 0 Noes.

Monthly Reports

Town Clerk's report was submitted with a check totaling \$939.55

Supervisor's Report was submitted

Assessor's Report was submitted

Dog Control Officer's Report was submitted

Historian's Report was submitted

Supervisor George DeNys made the motion to accept the monthly reports. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jessica Grow and unanimously carried. Roll Call; 5 Ayes, 0 Noes.

New Business

Standard Workday Resolution

Supervisor George DeNys made the motion to accept the Standard Workday Resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ronald Reed and unanimously carried. Roll Call; 5 Ayes, 0 Noes.

ARPA Funds for CDBG Grant

Supervisor George DeNys asked Attorney Beth Westfall if we could use ARPA Funds to apply for another CDBG Grant. After researching the matter, Beth advised against it due to clause stating ARPA money can't be used as matching funds for other federal programs.

Applying for another CDBG Grant

George asked the board members if they would like to apply again anyway for the grant and all were in agreement.

Supervisor George DeNys made a motion to apply for the CDBG Grant. The motion was seconded by Councilman Allen Anderson and unanimously carried. Roll Call; 5 Ayes, 0 Noes.

Wells Bridge Water Association

President Andrew Barber, Jeff Barber and Steven Higbie of the Wells Bridge Water Association came in to discuss the future of the current water system.

Transcript of Mr. Barber's concerns

Our purpose in coming to the Board meeting today is to advise the Board members of what we believe to be a Public Health concern within the WBWA. Our system currently services 50 properties which consists of Family Residences, Elderly retired people on fixed incomes, 5 apartment houses, a Church, a U.S. Post Office and the Wells Bridge FD. All of these properties are in the Hamlet of Wells Bridge and the T/O Unadilla.

The water system operates from an approximate 24,000 gallon water reservoir that is above the Hamlet. This reservoir is supplied by 2 water wells. And emergency spring water source is also available, but we have been advised to not use it by the NYS Dept of Health based on current NYS guidelines. From the reservoir, the water is supplied to the residences by a water main system.

The WBWA is currently operating with a President and 8 Commissioners. Some commissioners have been assigned and are functioning in specific roles such as Secretary, Treasurer and Operator. The WBWA meets on a regular basis as needed. All owners of properties serviced by the WBWA are billed on a yearly basis for water usage.

Our Public Health concern is:

The WBWA is currently functioning properly, but it is on day-to-day basis. Due to mismanagement by position holders, lack of resources, little community involvement, a lack of forward thinking and the continued added requirements by the NYS DOH, the WBWA is in very vulnerable state. Our Water Mains system (piping) was bought used from Bainbridge in the 1940's or 50's. Our 2 well pumps have been replaced recently but the dates of when the actual wells were drilled and the reservoir house itself was built are unknown and must be prior to the 1950's.

The current state of the WBWA, it is only maintaining. For numerous reasons, the WBWA has been unable to build reserves. These reasons mainly consist of continued costly repairs to the system, as well as, constant added requirements and testing by the NYS DOH. In addition, approximately 10 years ago the people who were acting in the roll of President and Vice President abruptly left town, essentially vacating their positions. In doing so they destroyed almost all business and history documents, while leaving the WBWA with very little monetary reserves.

In the last 10 years my fellow Commissioners and I have worked very diligently to try to restore the Water System. Our work has been documented and is available. What we have learned in those 10 years is that while we are able to maintain the system, we are struggling to continue to meet the requirements of the NYS DOH and we are very susceptible to a catastrophic failure in the system. In the event of a catastrophic failure such as, a Water Main Break, problem and/or Leak at the reservoir building or if a water well fails, the WBWA does not have resources to rectify the situation. Due to a lack of resources, any of the instances listed above would result in a disruption to some, or, no water at all being provided to the hundreds of Wells Bridge residents for an unknown

extended period of time. Possibly weeks, if not months. With the current age and condition of the WBWA system, the event of a catastrophic failure is no longer 'if', but 'when'.

The goal of the WBWA is to provide clean, useable water to the residents of Wells Bridge. With the National News reporting Water Issues like in Flint, Michigan and other locations in the US, the WBWA's reason today in coming before the Town Board is to formally request to start an open dialog and build a relationship through Networking with Town Officials to assist us in advisement, guidance and the potential of added resources. We believe that a successful professional relationship with the Town of Unadilla will help us in avoiding any catastrophic failures in the system, and, little or no interruption in water service if a problem does arise.

The Board agreed to have another meeting once Attorney Beth Westfall had time to research the Town's obligation and cost if they were willing to take the Association over.

Old Business

ARPA Funds

The Board decided to use ARPA funds to change out other pump and make repairs to the Riverside Sewer District Pump House.

Supervisor George DeNys made the motion to authorize funds not to exceed \$30,000 to make these repairs to the Riverside Sewer District. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ronald Reed and unanimously carried. Roll Call; 5 Ayes, 0 Noes.

Open Fuel Bids

The following companies submitted bids for fuel for the term of August 1, 2022 until July 31, 2023

Mirabito

Diesel Fuel	\$4.7149
Kerosene	\$5.2149
Propane	\$2.2500

Boulder Oil

\$1.669

Councilman Don Cole made a motion to award the bid for Diesel Fuel and Kerosene to Mirabito Energy Products and Propane to Boulder Oil. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jessica Grow and unanimously carried. Roll Call; 5 Ayes, 0 Noes.

Correspondence

NYS-Second payment for ARPA Funds

Thank you note from Lynn Heim

Privilege of the Floor

Mary Fazio of Edwin Carr Lane wanted to know if there was anything the Town could do to her road as far as maintenance or paving. Highway superintendent said that it was one of many dirt roads that were the responsibility of the homeowners that lived on them.

Board of Review Chairman, Kirk McLaughlin would like the Board to be aware of the changes of assessment in the past few years. He said a re-evaluation has not been done since 1989. He would like to meet at the next board meeting to further discuss this matter.

Adjournment

With no further discussion, Supervisor George DeNys made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jessica Grow and unanimously carried. Roll Call; 5 Ayes, 0 Noes.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry L Yoder, Town Clerk

Time of Adjournment: 7:29 PM