

**Regular Meeting**

The regular meeting of the Middlefield Town Board was opened at 7:00 pm by Town Supervisor Dave Karl. The minutes of the last town board meeting held January 9, 2024 have been available for review. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Kelly Branigan, second by Jenn Pindar. Ayes – 4 Abstention – 1. Motion carried

Present: Town Supervisor Dave Karl, Council members Jeff Woeppel, Kelly Branigan, Peg Leon, and Jenn Pindar. Town Attorney David Clinton, Zoning/IT Officer Neal Newman, Highway Superintendent Brendan Kraham, Planning Board Chair Sydney Waller, Planning Board Member Bill Ralston, Watershed Supervisory Committee representative Doug Willies, Patricia Slater, Sandi DeRosa, Dick DeRosa, and 5 community members.

**Bid Opening – Town Hall Septic System Replacement**

Bids were opened as follows:

A&M Excavating, 1156 Dick Mason Rd., Delhi, NY 13753	\$77,287.00
Chip Kronau, PO Box 216 Poestenkill, NY 12140	\$60,615.00
Double M Industries, 464 Shaver Hill Rd, East Meredith, NY 13757	\$36,870.30
JAT Construction Co., PO Box 247 Selkirk, NY 12158	\$68,500.00

No Action by the Board due to the high pricing.

**Privilege of the floor**

No public comments

**Highway Superintendent’s Report**

Estimate of Pole Barn is on hold due to cost. Brendan is looking at options

**Financial Report**

**Deposits and Receipts report** -Nothing to discuss

**Financial Report from Bookkeeper** – No report

**Planning Board Report**

Patricia Slater presented an application for simple Subdivision of Tax Map 148.00-1-25. Ayes – 5 Nays – 0. Sydney Waller gave a report to the board. Planning Board continues to review ADUs. Planning Board review the Comprehensive Plan.

**Zoning Officer’s Report** – Neal Newman provided a report of his activities to the Board.

**IT Officer’s Report** – Neal Newman provided a report of possible Fiberoptic service coming soon.

**Attorney’s Report** – David Clinton continues to investigate Otsego County meddling in Town Hiring practice He has contacted the Association of Towns for more legal background. Meeting of Watershed Committee has been canceled.

## **Committee Reports**

**Planning** – no report

**Highway** – no report

**Finance** – beginning to look at reserve.

**Bldg./Grounds** – Jeff Woepfel continues to work on the Schoolhouse regarding historic Register structures.

**Union** – no report

**Climate Smart Community** – progress to Bronze Status. Process to get to the status is extensive. Motion to add Amy Wyant, Executive Director of OCCA to join the CSC task force made by Peg Leon, second by Jenn Pindar. Ayes – 4 Nays -0.

**ARPA Report** – financial report sent out by Peg Leon.

**Watershed Supervisory** – Doug Willies provided a verbal report of the work that has been occurring.

## **Old Business**

**Septic System** - Dave Karl to talk with engineer due to high prices.

**ZBA or Planning Board Candidates** – Carol Kennedy joins Planning Board No confirmed ZBA Candidate.

**Clerk and Supervisor annual audits** - Audits will be scheduled in the next few weeks.

## **New Business**

**Watershed Supervisory Committee Law Revision** – no additional information at this time

Bookkeeper relocation - Karen Kropp is relocating to Colorado. All Board Members agree to Continue to work with her. Karen will travel here for budget season. Town Supervisor will assist with duties as needed.

**Temporary Special Permits** – Sydney Waller has submitted a temporary Special Permit for events March 1-March 31. The Board acknowledged the authority of the ZBA and its recent Determination regarding the status of Art Garage events and home sales. A motion to approve The special Permit with condition of no sales was made by Kelly Branigan, second Peg Leon. Ayes – 4 Nays – 0 Motion carried.

**Monthly Bills Review –**

General Bills, Abstract 2, Vouchers 5-38 in amount of \$129,857.01 A motion to approve was made by Kelly Branigan, second Jen Pindar. Ayes -4 Nays – 0 Motion Carried.

Highway Bills, Abstract 2, Vouchers 6-26 in amount of \$49,272,36. A motion to approve was made by Jeff Woeppel, second Peg Leon. Ayes – 4 Nays – 0 Motion carried.

**Comments, announcements and Other Business - None**

**Adjournment and Next Meeting Date –** A Motion to adjourn at 7:57 PM was made by Peg Leon, second Kelly Branigan. Ayes – 4 Nays – 0. Motion carried.

The next meeting of the Middlefield Town Board will be held March 12, 2024 at 7:00 PM.