

Town of Middlefield
June 8, 2021
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The regular meeting of the Middlefield Town Board was opened by Deputy Town Supervisor Bud Tabor at 7:00pm. A moment of silence was taken for the sudden passing of Town Supervisor Joseph Harris, who passed away on May 25, 2021. The board expressed gratitude for his dedicated service to the Town of Middlefield.

The minutes of the May 11, 2021 have been available for review. A Motion to approve was made by Branigan, second Leon. Ayes-5 Nays-0. Motion carried.

Present: Deputy Town Supervisor Bud Tabor, Council members Jeff Woeppel, Peg Leon, Kelly Branigan. Assessor Kassie Cade-Laymon, Town Attorney David Clinton, and Zoning Officer Neal Newman.

Assessor's Report- Grievance Day has been held. Kassie Cade-Laymon discussed the issue with OEC's grievance with the town's fiber optic cable, and their wish to be exempt from tax. A reduce assessed value was reached.

Highway Superintendent's Report- Brendan was not present, but left a report. An amended 284 agreement to pave the entire 2.96 miles of Rezen Rd was included. Paving will begin July 6, 2021 weather permitting. Dubben's Cross Rd. bridge is completed, but has not been inspected by NYSDOT. A Motion to approve the amended 284 agreement. \$286,437.50 shall be set aside to expended for primary work and general repairs upon 75 miles of town highways, including sluices, culverts and bridges having a span of less than five feet and boardwalks or renewals. On Rezen Rd commencing at Roseboom town line and leading to Co. Rt. 35, a distance of 2.96 miles, there shall be expended not over the sum of \$135,234.28. On Rezen Rd. commencing at Roseboom town line and leading to Co. Hwy. 35, a distance of 2.96 miles there shall be expended not over the sum of \$30,922.30. A Motion to approve was made by Leon, second Branigan. Ayes-4 Nay-0. Motion carried. The completion of the gravel mine was discussed. A copy of the contract will be reviewed, so that the project can be completed. The seasonal portion of Black's Road is temporarily closed due to a beaver dam break.

Planning Board Report- A report was given. The planning board would like two town board members to join a committee to make the framework for the revisions to the master plan.

Zoning Officer's Report- A report was submitted.

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Attorney's Report- Phoenix Mills Bridge. Documentation found in town board minutes, as well as files searched, found that in March 1998, the Town was notified by the Superintendent of Highways of Otsego County pursuant to Section 231 of the highway law and Resolution No. 98 of the February 18, 1998 proceedings of the Board of Representatives of Otsego County, hereby order that the bridge over the Susquehanna River BIN No. 2227660, on the Town Highway in the Town of Middlefield, known as Phoenix Road and in the Town of Otsego, know as Phoenix Mills Cross Road, be abandoned.

The Financial report was distributed via email.

Old Business- Councilman Woepfel sought approval for the third member of the Climate Smart work group. Jim Hill is a resident of Middlefield , treasurer of OCCA board of trustees, retired teacher, currently serves a President of the Cooperstown Concert Series. The board approved. A written complaint was received regarding parking at Carefree Gardens on Beaver Meadow Road. Bud Tabor, and Joe Harris went and spoke with the owners regarding this on going issue.

New Business- A conversation regarding the Deputy Town Supervisor filling out the remaining term of the Town Supervisor was discussed. Bud Tabor will assume the Supervisor's duties as the Deputy Town Supervisor, without any additional compensation. The Middlefield Bluebird project was awarded a \$1,777 grant from the Delaware Otsego Audubon Society to try to attract and protect bluebirds in Middlefield. The Hazard Mitigation Plan resolution is required to be adopted locally by resolution. The resolution is attached to these minutes. A Motion to approve was made by Leon, second Branigan. Ayes-4 Nays-0. Motion carried. A temporary special permit was submitted by Carefree Gardens for music concerts. A Motion to approve only the June 26, 2021 concert, with the condition that they reapply for any future dates was made by Woepfel, second Branigan. Ayes-4 Nays-0. Motion carried. The new building of the Susquehanna Animal Shelter will have an opening on July 17, 2021 opening 10:45 am, and the Supervisor was invited. Guidance will be sought regarding opening the town

board meetings to the public.

Bills

General Bills- Abstract 6, Vouchers 98-123 in the amount of \$8,993.75. A Motion to approve payment was made by Branigan, second Leon Ayes-4 Nays-0. Motion carried.

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Highway Bills- Abstract 6, Vouchers 73-89 in the amount of \$117,554.27. A Motion to approve payment was made by Woeppel, second Branigan Ayes-4 Nays-0. Motion carried.

A Motion to adjourn at 9:10pm was made by Woeppel, second Branigan. Ayes-4 Nays-0. Motion carried.

Beth Moakler
Town Clerk