

J. Schmitt: (silence)

J. Schmitt: I hope you can hear us now.

P. DeRosa: Yeah, I can hear you now, it's Phil DeRosa. Can you hear me?

J. McCarthy: Yeah, we can hear you Phil.

J. Schmitt: We can hear you Phil. Cathy, are things okay on your end? You can tell if it's recording.

Speaker 4: Okay, you hear us now?

P. DeRosa: I can hear you now, it's Phil DeRosa. Can you hear me?

J. Schmitt: Okay, no problem. Thank you. I think we should be good now. I know we had a few comments about no sound. If everyone can hear us now, just let us know in the comments. We are open. We are currently open to public comment for agenda items [inaudible 00:04:05]. So if anyone has any comments regarding the agenda, state your name and address, and we'll try to answer those questions for you.

J. McCarthy: It's working.

J. Schmitt: Yeah. I don't see any comments coming through though for agenda items. Okay. To moving along, we're going to do approval of minutes. I'll make a motion to approve the minutes of December, 2nd?

J. McCarthy: Second.

J. Schmitt: All in favor.

Collectively: Aye.

P. DeRosa: Aye.

J. Schmitt: I'll make a motion to approve the minutes from December 9th.

J. McCarthy: Second.

J. Schmitt: All in favor?

Collectively: Aye.

P. DeRosa: Aye.

J. Schmitt: Thank you Council Member DeRosa. Okay, consent agenda.

J. McCarthy: I'll make a motion to move the consent agenda.

J. Schmitt: I will second that. Any discussion?

J. McCarthy: Do you want to just ... It's payment of bills and billing for polling water, District 2.

J. Schmitt: Yeah, resolution 42, payment of bills, and resolution 43, billing for ... [inaudible 00:05:17] number two. All in favor.

J. McCarthy: Aye.

J. Schmitt: Aye.

P. DeRosa: Already.

J. Schmitt: All right, now consent agenda. Resolution 48, authorizing town assessor to require renewal applications for certain exemptions by post to mail or electronic mail. Resolution 49, budget amendments for fiscal year 2020. And resolution 50, authorizing partial refund of building department fees, and resolution 51 is the appointment of the [inaudible 00:05:53], is there any discussion regarding those four resolutions.

C. Snow: Just maybe, James, resolutions ending in 51 just about the constables, it says appointing a constable, just did we add a constable, is it ... just so people know what we did.

J. Schmitt: Right, so it was ...

J. McCarthy: He's already a constable.

J. Schmitt: Right, and I would just say, yeah, a clerical error on [inaudible 00:06:22] agenda for last week.

C. Snow: Just I wanted to make that clear-

J. Schmitt: [crosstalk 00:06:26] Sure.

C. Snow: ... that we were adding another ... Okay. Thank you.

J. Schmitt: [crosstalk 00:06:29] I run through them all really quick actually too, just so [inaudible 00:06:31] can explain briefly. Resolution 50, the partial refund for building apartment fee, that was a application that came in for, I believe it was a large edition and renovation, partial renovation to the house and to build an apartment, click in the application process paperwork reviewed plans and it with missing some stuff that they thought was required before they could grant the permit. And since then, the applicant has decided to not move forward with

the project. So the total fee that was originally charged is not going to be [inaudible 00:06:58] so we work with the Building Department to come with a number of refunding. Afterward [inaudible 00:07:04] administrative work total. So that's what the refund is based upon, that amount.

J. Schmitt: Usually when the fee is required for a project, it covers inspections throughout the entire project. The time the building inspector being out there, and the cleric entered office processing the paperwork. Well, since the project is not moving forward, we don't need the total fee that we originally charged. So that's what the refund is going to be on that.

J. Schmitt: The budget amendments. As usually, we're already working resolution 49, there's amendments all the time. Christine, thanks for being here. Do you want to speak just briefly on the budget amendment for 2020, Christine?

C. Giordano: [inaudible 00:07:53] last year, but he has got [inaudible 00:07:58]. He has those funds [inaudible 00:08:02].

J. Schmitt: Perfect. And this truck actually came in ... like the amount \$4000 less than the previous one.

C. Giordano: They did.

J. Schmitt: Excellent. More good news. And resolution 48 was authorized and the town assessor required renewed application for certain exemptions by post to mail or electronic mail. [inaudible 00:08:20] is also here this evening. [inaudible 00:08:23], is there anything you'd like to add to this resolution here. No? Okay.

Bernadette: [inaudible 00:08:30]

P. DeRosa: James?

J. Schmitt: Yeah, Councilman DeRosa?

P. DeRosa: Yeah, so on number of 50, I just like to make the comment about that. I checked into that. This was an applicant guy was coming to the building apartment before our new building inspect the gallery was hired. And by New York State Building Code, it's up to the building inspector [inaudible 00:09:04] to 1500 square feet of addition or a new house, can be ... as long as it's drawn with the perspective [inaudible 00:09:16] in the Building Code, it can be approved without an architectural stand. But it's up to the individual building inspector.

P. DeRosa: Once this application ... and that's the information he got from you, for the old [inaudible 00:09:32] inspector Joe, and then once the application was processed, and Gary looked at it, he felt [inaudible 00:09:40] said it in the architectural drawings, because there were some other connections, it was an addition to the house, even though it was under 1500 square feet [inaudible

00:09:53] architectural drawings. And that's why we're in this situation here now. So I agree with the conclusion of we're giving the applicant a partial rebate. But I just wanted to explain that part. I hope I was clear.

J. Schmitt: Thank you Councilman DeRosa, yeah, we can hear you loud and clear.

C. Snow: James, it did seem that they couldn't hear Christine, and they didn't know who else was talking, so I wonder [crosstalk 00:10:21] was going to speaker to, if you could have them on the mic.

J. Schmitt: Hey Bernadette, would you mind just making the announcement for the seniors into the microphone there, so we can have [inaudible 00:10:29].

C. Snow: Thank you.

J. Schmitt: Thank you so much.

Bernadette: So just to be clear, the resolution is based on or comes from the law that the Governor passed saying that anyone that had the senior exemption on the 2020 tax roll, or anyone that had the exemption for disability with limited income, do not have to file a renewal this year. It's going to go anything they had last year is going to be for this year. The resolution makes it so that if there was anyone that moved or wouldn't qualify for anything other than income, I have the ability to remove it or to require renewal.

J. Schmitt: Excellent. Thank you Bernadette.

Bernadette: So just a remainder to the seniors, you do not have to complete your renewal this year, it's going to be exactly what it was last year, if you feel that your income has decreased, and your exemption would be greater, you can still send it in to me. But otherwise, you just stay the same as last year.

J. Schmitt: Excellent. Thank you Bernadette. So I'll make a motion to move resolution 48, 49, 50 and 51 to [inaudible 00:11:50] discussion, all in favor?

Collectively: Aye.

P. DeRosa: Aye.

J. Schmitt: Thank you Councilman DeRosa. Discussion amongst the board, we'll start with Councilman DeRosa so I don't forget him, because we have him on the screen here tonight, and I always forget when I get to see him. Councilman DeRosa, do you have any discussion for the board?

P. DeRosa: Yeah. I'd just say I know of a council woman, [inaudible 00:12:25] who's talk about [inaudible 00:12:28] fiduciary. Is this what we're talking about?

J. Schmitt: Yeah, I have a list of the board goals for 2020, and a board liaison list which I'm going to read [inaudible 00:12:39] tonight as well. But yeah, you can feel free to touch on anything you feel you're going to be working on this year and goals for you personally as a board member and [inaudible 00:12:49] have something.

P. DeRosa: Yeah, because I guess your list is your goal, at the board, [inaudible 00:12:55]. But yeah, my goals are pretty simple; one is get the million dollar grant we're supposed to get for the [inaudible 00:13:07]. And I know the paperwork has been filed, and we're just waiting on them and everything, but I would love to see that million dollars come in so we can finalize all that.

P. DeRosa: Also [inaudible 00:13:21] dam is a complete consensus on the water level for the residents over here once we get a history and the experience of working with the dam in [inaudible 00:13:34]. Which I think we're now [inaudible 00:13:37] now. Then three for the dam is that to get a storage [inaudible 00:13:41] over there, a pretty strong, so inside the fenced area, a small storage check so we can store all this stuff that is spread all over the town that should be stored there at the dam. That's the dam for me.

P. DeRosa: The second one is now that we got in a town hall made the specialist test fit for the whole basement [inaudible 00:14:10] and we located everything, let's get the RFP so that we can get that specialist removed this year. That's my goal there.

P. DeRosa: Two, [inaudible 00:14:25] farming is working with Gary and a Fire Marshal Ron Gallagher to get him [inaudible 00:14:38] the short-term rental laws that we passed last year, because this summer I think it'll be really busy again with the people [inaudible 00:14:51] up in the city for this virus stuff.

P. DeRosa: And then my final goal was continue working on the golf course with Sean and Ben to improve the golf course. Those guys were doing a great job, they need all the assistance they can to complete it. So that's basically what I have.

J. Schmitt: Thank you Councilman DeRosa. Councilwoman Snow?

C. Snow: I will add some more things when we go through reading the goals after we do that. I think my hope is I had mentioned ... I don't know if it was a few weeks ago, but especially after the consolidation vote, I think that there's certainly is the community wanting the village and the town work closely together because we do work together.

C. Snow: And I did want to bring up again the idea of having some joint meetings with them. Again, I think it's helpful to get together and to have some meetings that if we're working on a particular project, that we can kind of plan those meetings and just have the community listen to us together and also if it's a bigger project that we're working with the village, maybe even considering having communities and then even a resident from the town and the village as part of

the committee. So I think I would like to see some additional community input depending on the project and whatever it is that they have an opportunity to voice their opinions and be a part of that process.

C. Snow: And I think that's it for now because I thought I probably have more after.

J. Schmitt: Yeah, sure.

C. Snow: Thank you.

J. Schmitt: Not a problem at all. Councilman McCarthy.

J. McCarthy: I'd like to make sure we get the public hearing closed for the [inaudible 00:16:49] law and adopt the [inaudible 00:16:49] law. It just been long enough, so [crosstalk 00:16:54].

J. Schmitt: To get done.

J. McCarthy: And I think we need to re-look at [inaudible 00:16:58] 22 south sewer line. Excuse me. I did talk to Ben today a little bit, and he was going to give me an outline of what we need to do next. So we'll move that. [inaudible 00:17:11] board members hopefully next week or so. And that's it for right now.

J. Schmitt: Thank you Councilman McCarthy. Councilman Johnson.

B. Johnson: Yes, probably number one on my list is to get that well going at Water District II, I just signed vouchers for two more loads of water, which just rubs me the wrong way. So certainly going to be doing that, hopefully sooner than later. I echoed Jimbo's thoughts with the sewer, it's a no-brainer for us, protects the environment, spurs commercial development, and it just can bring some much needed other types of enterprises into the community.

B. Johnson: I want to continue on the community garden. James, I'll have to bug you a little bit about what needs to get done in order to have that moving forward, because a lot of big machines very close to that house [inaudible 00:18:02] right at the moment.

B. Johnson: The community resource center, the Ramp project got put on hold with COVID. I've been talking to Vinny, we've got some anxious volunteers and people. I really would like to hope that after three/four months here, we can be a little more open about being able to get projects like that up and going. It's important. I mean is that organization serves our community as we've seen proof of, much more even this year than in years past.

B. Johnson: I look forward to working extremely closely with REC, not that Jess needs any pushing, but they want to hit the ground running literally. And I want to help them to do whatever we can. I'm hoping in March, beginning of April, we can

get her her full time employee that she's asked for. So there's some pretty lofty goals.

B. Johnson: I want the way [inaudible 00:19:03] behind us, that's one less thing that I need to be on literally a daily basis. And to that end, James, I don't know if we're doing other discussion now that I can get into with that or-

J. Schmitt: Yeah, sure, yeah-

B. Johnson: [crosstalk 00:19:17] or would you want to ...

J. Schmitt: Now, you can ...

B. Johnson: Okay, so-

J. Schmitt: [crosstalk 00:19:18] If you want to-

B. Johnson: [crosstalk 00:19:21] Do you want to me address the letter we received about the dam?

J. Schmitt: Yeah, that'd be great, if you want to touch on that, then I'll roll through these things I want to read into-

B. Johnson: [crosstalk 00:19:28] All right, so we received a email letter from Bill Hewett, who's a resident over the lake, he's actually helped us do some clearing at the old dam at one point in time and the snakes and all the other things were living in there. The residents are concerned. He went down to the dam, I would say I'm much surprised he paddled a kayak down the half ice laden lake, so I'm surprised at his abilities.

B. Johnson: His questions are as of 1-10-21, the lake level had already dropped below the cement's spillway level. And yet the drawdown drain was still flowing at a high rate as opposed to [inaudible 00:20:09] Lake's Facebook page. The question is twofold; what is the plan for setting the [inaudible 00:20:15] Lake water level throughout the rest of the winter, and then into the spring and summer. It would be nice if this answer could be eventually defined by actual spillway and drawdown chamber weir board elevation settings. Two, can there be a section on the town of Polling website, Polling.org, where the current weir board height setting for both the spillway and drawdown chamber can be displayed, and any planned weir board height changes announced?

B. Johnson: This is is important for many of us, as we need to know the lake level and its planned changes in order to properly adjust our eye seaters, bubblers, dock anchoring setups, to help prevent ice damage or doxy walls or waterfronts.

B. Johnson: Also, it is important to note that too low of a lake level in the winter can cause damage to sea walls and footing due to frost, heaving, and erosion. Additionally,

having the lake level change too dramatically while the ice is already in place can also be very damaging to our doxy walls and waterfronts. Thank you in advance for any information you can provide here, and hopefully you can help to eventually create an online communication mechanism to keep us all informed of the status [inaudible 00:21:14] dam spillway and drawdown chamber weir board height setting in the future. Sincerely Bill Hewett, 1045 Road 292, Homes.

B. Johnson: So to answer your question, Bill, as well as many other people's, the level that you observed at the spillway, the concrete spillway is 704.8. when you looked at it, it was probably an inch below that. That's the height that we told residents we were going to maintain for the winter months. Without a weir board and drawdown chamber, we're having to do it strictly with the valve. It's a weekly adjustment process, it's very tedious.

B. Johnson: As you know, in December we had the big snow storm, then we had the giant rains, that might be the biggest movement of water elevation that I've witnessed in the several years that we've been working on this.

B. Johnson: So to answer your question going forward, there is right now a temporary eight inch weir board in the drawdown chamber. The additional weir boards had been installed on the spillway itself because as the lake continues to rise, putting them in and removing them is really not an option. The plan for setting the [inaudible 00:22:25] Lake water level throughout the rest of the winter should hopefully be no lower than 704.8 as we watch it over the next three to four weeks, we'll know what effect that eight inch weir board has. My guess is it could come up another two to three inches.

B. Johnson: The lake currently is two inches, almost 2.5 inches than it was a year ago in January. So it's actually very consistent outside of the big increase we had in the water which was also caused by a blockage of the spillway by a big tree which we were able to get removed.

B. Johnson: So that is the plan for the winter. 704.80 as a minimum, give or take three to possibly five inches. DEC regulates when the lake can be brought down and when it can be refilled. The drawdown of the impalement is prohibited between October 15th and July 15th. The refill of the impalement to normal elevation of the 705.80 is prohibited between March 1st and July 15. The lake is able to change as we've experienced roughly an inch a day. So what we need to do is on February 18th, close the valve. That will allow the lake to refill and begin to flow over the weir boards. If we have heavy icings, can we push it off four or five days? Probably, but we must be probably 80-90% done with the refill by March 1st.

B. Johnson: In the fall, we're going to need to drawdown the lake again with the new eight inch proper weir board installed, which has been ordered but it's probably eight to nine weeks out. And that'll be in there, the valve will be opened, and there should be no adjustments necessary. The dam should be able to regulate itself,

as you're asking us to do, set it by weir boards. So that will happen October 5th at the latest, which is 10 days before we're allowed to drawdown the lake any further.

B. Johnson: Believe me, it's the town's goal to have this be streamlined. We're going to set up a maintenance schedule with our maintenance department, with [inaudible 00:24:42], for mowing observation. I would also like to discuss with Phil DeRosa, and Phil hopefully you can hear me, and some of the residents over there, kind of a neighborhood watch, if we can. There needs to be people that, "Hey, Jeez, there's a dock headed down towards the dam." Well, you know what, we need to get it out of there, or we're going to have overflow, and people will experience damage.

B. Johnson: I saw someone posted pictures of another doc that had flooded loose, it's over on the shoreline now. So it's a community effort. It's been a trying one. I know a lot of people have not been happy, some people have, some people haven't. But I think now we've come to an end of this, and please reach out to me with other questions. Feel free to email the board. And the board I need to get board authorization to close that valve per DEC instructions on the 18th of February. So I'll make a motion that the refilling of the lake is to begin on February 18th, and the drawdown of the lake is to begin October 5th. Barring any unforeseen environmental issues.

J. Schmitt: So I'll second that for discussion, so just to clarify that on the February 18th, when the valve gets closed, so just so people understand, the valve was only open right now just because of the surge of water that we had-

B. Johnson: Well, that's actually how you're allowing water to leave the lake. There's still ... If the water is not flowing over the dam, there's still water coming in to the lake that you need to let out or-

J. Schmitt: To maintain that level, sure.

B. Johnson: Correct.

J. Schmitt: And then February 18th when the valve is closed, that's when we start the process of bringing the lake from the 704.80 up to the 705.80 which is where we want to maintain it for the summer, which is the foot higher than the original-

B. Johnson: [crosstalk 00:26:31] Correct, which will also install the two-foot weir board that has been removed for the winter.

J. Schmitt: Correct. So I just wanted to clarify that. If anyone else from the board has anything else to add-

P. DeRosa: [crosstalk 00:26:42] Yeah, I have something, yes. I agree. I agree basically with what Bill was saying, except for I'm not sure about the October 5th date,

because depending on the weather [inaudible 00:27:00] if we get rain, where it's really getting close to that October 15th date that the DEC doesn't want us draining down anymore. I would be more comfortable myself with October 1st, because people could still operate their boats and everything, like they did this year when we lowered it down. So that's my only objection to what Bill's suggestion.

J. Schmitt: Councilman DeRosa, the reason we have this date, right, is the 10 day window with the DEC obviously. And you're very familiar with that, with mitigating the water level. We feel now that this dam has been there about year and we've went through a couple of season ... a winter with it, and a second season with it that operating that valve we can manipulate that level about an inch of water a day safely. That's kind of how we're working-

B. Johnson: Well, we're also going to have the weir board installed. So the valve's going to get opened, we don't have to keep going back there and checking [crosstalk 00:27:58] hit that level, and it's going to stay there.

J. Schmitt: Sure, sure, and [crosstalk 00:28:04] we-

P. DeRosa: I understand all that. All I'm saying I will feel more comfortable with the October 1st date, in case we have ... because we still haven't had a history yet of the weather, and it changes every year. I know when we did the study for the New York State Federation of Lakes back in the late 1990s early 2000s, they took [inaudible 00:28:28] for five years first before they gave every port that sits in our office now from the New York State Federation Lakes on the health of this lake. So that's all my point is, is that I don't want to be cut short for having to open the valve too much because we are also on the DC rules on how much water we can let out every day to that date. That's all. But it doesn't really affect anything else. It's just moving it up five days, what's the big deal?

J. Schmitt: Thank you Councilman DeRosa.

B. Johnson: I can also if it might add, we received many, many complaints when the lake's started to go down while you still have nice weather.

J. Schmitt: Right, nice weather [crosstalk 00:29:16] still want to be on the water.

B. Johnson: I also know that the DEC that if it takes five days past the 15th if the lake is already 80% [crosstalk 00:29:24] it's not a problem. You can have rainstorms that the lake goes up seven to nine inches, that water is going to go up on its own without us touching anything, and back down on its own. So that elevation will change.

B. Johnson: The final elevation, if you have no rain at all, is now going to be set by that weir board drawdown.

J. Schmitt: Absolutely.

B. Johnson: Listen, if October 1st comes and we've had three weeks of hurricane rains, and the lake is two-foot height, you're obviously going to need to-

J. Schmitt: [crosstalk 00:29:54] Right, we'll address in that time, right, weather-pending, we'll make adjustments. And before we make adjustments-

B. Johnson: [crosstalk 00:29:59] I think in normal circumstances, 10 days is-

J. Schmitt: Not sufficient.

P. DeRosa: [crosstalk 00:30:03] Well, I don't agree.

C. Snow: Hey Phil, it's Coleen, I'm just answering something first. So I just wonder because this wasn't a resolution that was written, if we've really tried to have the community see a resolution and then have their discussion before we vote on it, can we put it to the next meeting?

B. Johnson: This is DEC regulations.

J. McCarthy: Well, the dates work with the DEC, that's what came up today. This one came up when we were talking about [inaudible 00:30:34] today trying to figure this out, because when the concern came in from ... what was ... I forget the resident's name.

B. Johnson: Bill Hewett.

J. McCarthy: Bill Hewett.

B. Johnson: Among a couple other people who voiced some-

J. McCarthy: [crosstalk 00:30:44] And the pending window as far as raising and lowering, but this-

C. Giordano: [crosstalk 00:30:49] just so I understand, because I haven't been working on this as long as you guys have. So these are the date of the DEC, so-

J. McCarthy: [crosstalk 00:30:55] So DEC has this-

B. Johnson: [crosstalk 00:30:56] I circulated that in the email to you today.

C. Giordano: [crosstalk 00:30:58] I know, I just wanted to be clear, because again, I'm just trying to be sensitive New Year that when we have a resolution that if we talk about it, it's great, I'd rather start having it on paper if we can, so if we do have the community that wants to make a comment before we vote, that's all I'm ... [inaudible 00:31:16].

J. McCarthy: And normally we try to get everything on the agenda-

C. Giordano: [crosstalk 00:31:18] Yeah, understood.

J. McCarthy: ... this kind of came through to the point where we-

C. Giordano: [crosstalk 00:31:20] Okay, so if you're saying that's a DEC law, and those are the dates based on the DEC?

J. McCarthy: Based on the 10 days windows that we have for raising and lowering [crosstalk 00:31:29].

B. Johnson: But you could start a month ahead of time, but [crosstalk 00:31:34] if you can't, you have to stock by the 15th.

J. McCarthy: Right. That's what-

P. DeRosa: [crosstalk 00:31:38] That's exactly my point. That's why I would like to have five days extra to give us that leeway for ... Who knows the abnormal year? We don't know what a normal year is yet, we have no history yet. So-

J. Schmitt: It is something that we can monitor through the year, though? Right? We can monitor weather and-

P. DeRosa: [crosstalk 00:31:59] I know but that's what [inaudible 00:32:01] the whole key is to set a date so that the residents can depend on every year that it ... and any time after that date, October 1st, that the lake could be drawn down to that concrete elevation. Like I said before, they can also use their boats, they can also get their boats in and out of the lake with that elevation. They did it this last year. So all I'm saying is it gives us five more extra days of leeway so we don't have to ask for a permission from the DEC to go all the way to 15th.

J. Schmitt: Right, but I still think that's a judgment call we can make even in September we could talk about this, we could see how the summer has been, if we were in a drought, if we had a rainy season, we could see what the height of the lake is, we could revisit this-

P. DeRosa: [crosstalk 00:32:51] But that's why the residents have questions. That's why the residents have question. They don't know what date is going to be drawn down. This way if they know it's after the first of October, sometime after that, we don't have to discuss and change it every year.

J. McCarthy: We don't have to discuss, James.

J. Schmitt: Keep it at October 5th.

J. McCarthy: Correct.

J. Schmitt: We could just keep it to 5th, which gives us the 10 days and it'll be ... We feel that 10 days is ample for lowering the lake-

P. DeRosa: [crosstalk 00:33:24] Well, I definitely don't feel that, and I've been a pretty good witness of what's going on here with this lake. So I definitely don't feel that, and I don't agree with it.

J. Schmitt: Well, [crosstalk 00:33:37] and all in favor for that resolution?

Collectively: Aye.

C. Giordano: Aye.

P. DeRosa: No.

J. Schmitt: Councilman DeRosa is no. Okay, thank you very much Councilman. So we got a little bit off topic there with the dam, I just want to get back to what the town board some of the board goals and liaisons at the appointments, as a group this year, that we're going to be doing. And then we'll go back into discussing for any additional things with the board.

J. Schmitt: So before we ... Three of the goals that I have this year, and it's three projects that I've been working on since I came in, and they're finally getting to a point where we're going to see some real action on them. One is the Hertz Corner Road paving project, paving and drainage, two is the [inaudible 00:34:26] Bridge, covert rehabilitation, and three is the West Main Street covert. These are three projects that we took on just over three years ago, and we were able to get grant funding for all three of these. And it's going to be really wonderful when they're completed. And I know Hertz Corner has been in ... that road's needing a lot of attention for a long time now. The [inaudible 00:34:49] Bridge obviously is closed. I believe that road was closed probably even two years prior to become [inaudible 00:34:54]. Do you remember Councilman Johnson?

B. Johnson: Yeah.

J. Schmitt: It's been a lot of years now where it's been closed, and the West Main Street covert is another issue that needs to be replaced. So I did speak with our engineers today, and just to get a quick timeline on the projects, and just so everyone know, the West Main Street covert project, we're looking at February, next month 2021 to be preparing plans, specifications, and estimates and submitting to New York State DOT for final reviews, and then putting it out to bid in April. So with that project would be going out to bid in April 2021, and we're hoping to start that project sometime May or June. So that would be the projects that would be ongoing this year if everything continues going the way it's going right now.

J. Schmitt: The second project is [inaudible 00:35:40] bridge. We're going to be working on request for qualifications in January 2021. Some conduct negotiations, and working with consultants for the town to award a consultant to oversee the project. And the March to December 2021, we're going to be selecting a consultant, and start the initial project proposal and final design reports, and start of this project is projected date now is January 2022. And that'll be a project that they're estimating would be January through December. So that'll be really great when that one gets going.

J. Schmitt: And then the Hertz Corner road project, that one as of right now is again February 2021, so next month, preparing plan, specifications and estimates, and putting out to bid in April of 2021 is what we're targeting for right now.

J. Schmitt: The start date for that project as well is May or June of 2021, and we're looking for a completion sometime around October. So we're hoping that all three of those stay on track, and we'll continue to update the community as they come through. I know I'm going to be really happy to see them started, we put a lot of work into getting the grant money for those three projects, and once they get going, they'll be a great addition and update to the community and it'll be wonderful to see them come to fruition.

J. Schmitt: We have some town board goals as a whole, and I'll read through them quickly for everyone so we have ... So the first one is fiscal management. And at the town of Polling, we develop short and long-term policies that increase revenue from services other than property taxes and minimize annual budget growth.

J. Schmitt: Two is public safety. The town of Polling will create an atmosphere of residential and commercial safety and comfort about our town. Three is infrastructure, the town of Polling will develop a road replacement and upgrade plan. That's something we've already started working on.

J. Schmitt: Community sustainability. The town of Polling will foster sustainable and appropriate economic growth while protecting and restoring the environment. Community engagement and governance. The town of Polling will have an open and transparent government that proactively engages town residents, and we'll work on a five-year plan. And Christine is here tonight, so I'm going to ask her to speak briefly on that as well. We have a five-year plan, comprehensive financial plan that addresses long-term projects, road maintenance, infrastructure, debt maturity, the equipment purchases and other goals for improvement and growth in the town of Polling.

J. Schmitt: Christine, I'm going to run around to the board quick, and then I'm going to come to you at the end just to touch on the five year plan as well. So I'll start with Councilwoman Snow, do you have anything to add to the town of Polling goals for 2020?

C. Snow: So the only thing that I would like to add under community engagement and governance, I think in the light of what's going on in our world, in our country right now, I know the schools have added this just with some of their goals is that ... so proactively engages the town's residents with a strong emphasis on anti-racism, anti-bias and anti-bullying. I just think those are important, and with that being said, I think it's really helpful that we as a town board continue to just be role models of that. So just for the new year, I do want to add those to that goal.

C. Snow: And if I can, I'm just going off for one, but if this is still discussion. I didn't have it written down when you asked for me to discuss, but I did bring it up last year, I think it was last February about considering some kind of ethics committee. I know that I was told at that time that people could go to Dutch's Country, but I have researched more of the other towns that still do have that, and I do understand we had one years ago, and maybe just coming up with in a different way. But I think it's really important. We're small town, and I think it's important that things are just clear. So I would like to just bring that back up maybe for more discussion in our February meeting.

J. Schmitt: Sure, certainly.

C. Snow: Thank you.

J. Schmitt: Thank you very much. Councilman McCarthy, anything else to add to the Polling Town goals for-

J. McCarthy: No, just like you say, with the world that we all live in, I think we could all just try to respect each other a little bit more. That's all. Just-

J. Schmitt: Thank you.

J. McCarthy: ... it's a small town, I remember I used to know most of the people who lived in Polling. It's a little different now, but I think we could all just respect each other, it'd be a lot easier.

J. Schmitt: Still small enough to know everybody.

J. McCarthy: Correct. Correct.

J. Schmitt: Councilman Johnson.

B. Johnson: Yeah, I don't want to sit next to Jimbo. I could tell you, it is small enough to know a lot of people, but 20 years ago when I got on this board, you'd ride in the fireman's parade and you knew 95% of the people. And I could tell you it's definitely ... it's changed quite a bit. Coming to echo your comments, my wife, myself, my family, we live our lives every day, not vocally condemning racism, but certainly not looking at one person any different than any other person. And

the shame is that too many people assume that people do. And they're right, everybody needs to be a little more aware of their surroundings, maybe something they say, so I agree with all those things, and absolutely, if you want to talk about the ethics committee again, it was myself and Dave Watson, Councilman Watson, that worked on stuff, and we formed the ethics committee.

B. Johnson: I know where the flaws were, and I know what we could probably do to make it better. But it's certainly something that it was going to require a lot of conversation and a lot of thought. So happy to help.

C. Giordano: Okay, great, thank you.

J. Schmitt: Councilman DeRosa, do you have anything else to-

P. DeRosa: [crosstalk 00:41:34] I had a pretty good list before, and I just want to echo all kind of everybody else's comments, and let's get over this virus thing and have a good year.

J. Schmitt: Thank you. I'm also going to lead our 2020 board liaison position. So every department has multiple liaisons from our town board now, and that's to help the department heads and get more communication, and ultimately get more communication back to the supervisor's office, and just we've really pushed hard improving a lot of the departments the last few years, and I think they're all working really really well, and that's from everyone's hard work, and it's from the department heads, and liaisons, and the communication that goes on. So it's been really helpful. And this year, I hope will be even better.

J. Schmitt: So I'll run through the list quickly so everyone has these, and then we'll make sure we get them posted to the website for everyone to see as well.

J. Schmitt: So the 2020 town board liaisons are going to be ... for the ambulance, it's going to be Councilman McCarthy and Supervisor Schmitt. The Assessors office, liaisons will be Councilman Johnson and Supervisor Schmitt. The Bookkeeping Department will be Councilman Johnson and Councilman DeRosa. The Building Department will be Councilman DeRosa and Supervisor Schmitt. Buildings and [inaudible 00:42:53] will be Councilman McCarthy and Supervisor Schmitt. Constables will be Councilman Johnson and Supervisor Schmitt. Dog Warden will be Councilman Johnson. Golf Course will be Councilman DeRosa and Councilman Johnson.

J. Schmitt: Highway Department is Councilman McCarthy and Councilman DeRosa. Human resources will be Supervisor Schmitt and Councilman Johnson. Planning Department is Councilwoman Snow and Councilman McCarthy. Polling Community Foundation is Councilwoman Snow and Councilman Johnson. Polling Library is Supervisor Schmitt and Councilman Snow. Polling Resource Center is Councilman Snow all by herself. That's only because you're so involved

there and we feel you do a great job. So that's the only department that has the one, but you're so involved, and that's why we figured we'll let you keep running with it. You did a great job last year, especially during the pandemic and everything, so thank you it's been really great, you've done a great job there working with those folks.

J. Schmitt: The Polling School District will be Supervisor Schmitt and Councilwoman Snow. Recreation will be Councilman Snow and Councilman Johnson. Town Clerk will be Councilman DeRosa and Councilman Snow. Transfer Station is Councilman McCarthy and Councilman DeRosa. And the [inaudible 00:44:04] Dam liaisons will be Councilman Johnson and Councilman DeRosa. So that's our team setup moving forward, everyone will continue to work with these departments and get information back. And if residents have questions, they can obviously speak to department heads, the liaison [inaudible 00:44:21] they could reach out to those department heads as well. And it ultimately ends up back at the Supervisor's office.

J. Schmitt: Hopefully through that chain of working together, we'll be able to get information out to you quickly and get questions answered quickly. So that's how we're going to attack that this year.

J. Schmitt: Before we get into any more discussion, I do want to just ask Christine, thanks for being here just to comment quickly on our five year plan, something I know last year we really had high hopes to work on it, and then of course we got all sidetracked with the-

C. Giordano: [crosstalk 00:44:48] We've been working on it.

J. Schmitt: ... [crosstalk 00:44:50] And we've been working very hard. So Christine, if you'd like to take a few minutes just to talk to the community about the five year plan and what it is we're looking to do for the town of Polling.

C. Giordano: Sure. We've accomplished quite a bit so far. I shared with the board. What we've done is ... It's a very large document, and ideally I'm trying to simplify it so that once it's put together, we can manipulate it. And it's all in Excel spreadsheets and formulas. But the idea is to make it simple enough so that we can say, "Oh, well, what if we move this vehicle to this year, and how will this change the financing income down the tax rates and trying to keep everything minimum tax impact and best possible combination of getting the town what it needs, trying to take care of some of this deferred maintenance." A lot of our buildings we've been holding off on work, a lot of our vehicles are in need of repair, they're past their useful lives.

C. Giordano: So far what we've done, I've worked with [inaudible 00:46:01], the Supervisor [inaudible 00:46:03]. I've been working with Jay Dickinson, the Highway Superintendent. We put together a list, and we've updated. Some of these were lists that were existing that just needed to be updated and we moved some

vehicles around, and I've sent out to the board so far, I've tried to do it in batches, because of this, there is so much information.

C. Giordano: So far, I've sent you the orders and the heavy equipment list for five years, all the capital projects, and we've also done building some [inaudible 00:46:37]. And then what we've done is we've taken QBS is our accounting software, so we've done a major download of 2018-19-20 actuals and then we've projected out through 2025 and 26, and actually I've been working on that, the better part of today is just trying to go through and it's interesting when you start ...

C. Giordano: As you can tell, I like playing with numbers, so ... You start looking at your historical revenue and expenditures, and I've been grouping it so that you have your salaries and your benefits related to salaries all in one area so you can see the impact there. And then the other contractual items for the different departments.

C. Giordano: And then what I want to do is combine the ... Every year you see a budget, and you see your revenues, expenditures, things grouped together and come down to your tax rate for one year. Well, what I want to show you is that over five years, and I want to calculate the tax cap. And that's my main concern is trying to standardize that tax cap. So we're trying to spread when you buy a piece of heavy equipment, when you do a major improvement.

C. Giordano: And we all know, we're trying to get through that 2023 date when the lake's [inaudible 00:48:03] debt comes off. Because I was even looking at today, going, "Oh, bingo! Okay." We'll get there. And not using too much fund balance, because I know a couple of the board members have major concern about that, and I'm looking at it like that, make sure that's okay.

C. Giordano: And I have a meeting scheduled with Beth Ferguson tomorrow, who is with Fiscal Advisors, just to talk about how to structure the financing, bans, bonds, [inaudible 00:48:38] Lake, I would love to see that million dollars come in so I can say, "Okay, we have it in hand, this is the hard number, let's go out and get our financing."

C. Giordano: So yeah, I would say percentage-wise, we're probably 80 to 85% to a point where I can almost ... I'm thinking the next rollout would be you sending a full document to the board and saying, "Okay, here, let's start maybe having a meeting, talk about this a little bit, and see if there are other ideas, things that I want to pull into this document before we present it to the public."

C. Giordano: I know Jay's been working very hard on the road inventory. We've got some preliminary numbers for that, and I asked ... and he's working on trying to figure out the best use of funds over the next five years. But with these storms and everything else going on, he's been incredibly busy. So we're working harder, we're hoping we'll have more out to you in the next few weeks.

J. Schmitt: Thanks Christine. Thank you. So if there's no more discussion from the board, I'm going to move along to [inaudible 00:50:00] the floors with respects to agenda and non-agenda items only from anyone in the public, and please keep them around three minutes if you can. State your name and address for the record, if there's anyone on Facebook or on Zoom that would like to comment on anything, the floor is yours. And Jess, do we have anyone on Facebook asking any questions right now?

Jess: [inaudible 00:50:25]

J. Schmitt: Let me pull this one up. That was from Bill Hewett. Okay. Thank you very much for taking the time to discuss the [inaudible 00:50:37] Lake Dam water levels in such detail. What I think I heard from the discussion is that the target weir board setting for the lake elevation during the winter is 704.80 through weir board adjustments made in the beginning of October each year, and the target elevation for the summer is 705.80 through weir board adjustments made in February of each year. Is that correct?

J. Schmitt: Yes, Bill, that is correct. Those are the two elevations that we are hoping to continue to be able to-

B. Johnson: Pulling levels.

J. Schmitt: Pulling levels of the water. Yeah, the pulling levels of the lake, the 704.80 is what you're targeting for the winter, and the 705.8 is what pulling level should be in the summer months. And of course it's been an ongoing ... it seems to be an ongoing project though. We're still getting the dam is brand new, the old dam was there for 200 years or whatever it was. So we hope that it works out perfectly.

J. Schmitt: I can't say that I know it will. I know that we'll be constantly monitoring it, and speaking with all the residents over there in [inaudible 00:51:31] Lake, and as Councilman Johnson said, moving forward, we'll get together and get some community action group there involved that'll be able to get ahold of us or building some grounds and [inaudible 00:51:44] to make sure there's nothing blocking the dam, and obstructing water going over the spillway and that kind of stuff.

J. Schmitt: But it is a work in progress, but you are correct, those are the two elevations that we're targeting for both those times of year. Jess, that was the only one that through so far, right? Right? We have nothing else? I'm going to make a motion for adjournment.

B. Johnson: Second.

J. Schmitt: All in favor?

B. Johnson: Aye.

Collectively: Aye.

J. Schmitt: Thank you, have a great-

P. DeRosa: Aye.

J. Schmitt: ... evening.