

Supervisor James Schmitt opened the Regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Pawling at 7:00 PM June 12, 2019 at Pawling Town Hall, 160 Charles Colman Blvd., Pawling, New York. Present were Councilmen Johnson, McCarthy, DeRosa, McGrath and approximately 25 interested citizens.

MINUTES

Councilman Johnson made a motion to accept the minutes of May 1, 2019 and May 8, 2019, seconded by Supervisor Schmitt and passed unanimously.

LAUREN HOLLANDER

Supervisor Schmitt said Lauren Hollander, who is a senior at Pawling High School, wrote an essay and was in a competition in the ninth judicial district, which included five counties. Ms. Hollander's essay finished second in this competition, which was an amazing achievement.

Ms. Hollander explained that she was asked in February by her AP government teacher to participate in this contest. They were asking how the "Me Too Movement" has influenced their school environment and how it has impacted their peers and environment as a whole. Her essay is about that topic and how it has affected her. Ms. Hollander read her essay to the Board. She won second in the junior/senior category.

Councilman/Deputy Supervisor Johnson read the following accommodation, which he then presented to Ms. Hollander:

COMMENDATION

Lauren Hollander

Whereas, Lauren Hollander was honored for her excellence in writing by the Ninth Judicial District of New York State, and

Whereas, Lauren Hollander powerfully and articulately examined the impact the #MeToo movement on her Pawling peers, and

Whereas, Lauren Hollander has made a lasting and valuable impression in promoting gender awareness through her writing, and

Whereas, Lauren Hollander, through hard work, dedication and keen awareness of her community has proven herself to be an exemplary member and future leader of Pawling, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Town of Pawling, by its elected Town Board, commends Lauren Hollander for eloquently promoting awareness about an important issue of our time.

Presented this 12 day of June, 2019, by Town Supervisor James Schmitt and the members of the Pawling Town Board:

Supervisor James Schmitt

Councilman Bill Johnson

Councilman Phil DeRosa

Councilman James McCarthy

Councilman Reid McGrath

The Board thanked Ms. Hollander for attending the meeting and sharing her essay with them.

PAWLING ROTARY

The Board entertained a presentation by Dick Harshbarger, board member of the Pawling Rotary. Members of the Pawling Rotary were also present. Mr. Harshbarger gave a history of what was happening in 1940. He said 1940 is when the Rotary Club was founded. It was the end of the depression. The fact that the Harlem Valley Hospital employed about 5,000 people and Greenhaven was going through construction helped Pawling to come out of that recession basically unscathed. The community of Pawling grew to be very caring and understanding to all of their neighbors, and there were a lot of organizations that existed for the betterment of Pawling. There were business people all serving organizations for the betterment of the

community. Some of them were the Masons, the Knights of Columbus, the Fire Department, the Grange, the Fish & Game Club, church functions and the Town Board of Pawling, who also worked for the betterment of Pawling. It is the goal of Rotary to support the youth of the community. The Rotary was formed in 1940 and throughout the years met at many venues, and since March of 2003 they have met at the Johnson Room at Lakeside Park, and this helped the relationship between the Town and Rotary to become closer. The Rotary is very grateful that the Town of Pawling has provided them with that facility. He thanked Wendel Weber, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds for always accommodating them. The Rotary partnered with the Pawling Recreation Department in 2012 to form the Interact Club, which is for youth. This has been one of the most successful partnerships and the Town and Rotary have worked together for whatever is needed to support the youth of the community. The Rotary's goal is to support the youth of the community and without the support of the Town of Pawling to help them, they would not have been able to achieve that goal and they are deeply grateful to the Town of Pawling. Mr. Harshbarger presented the Town with a plaque in appreciation for dedicated support since the founding of the Rotary Club in 1940. He said that Rotary would be gifting a large screen smart TV to be installed in the recreation center at Lakeside Park.

Supervisor Schmitt and the Board members thanked Mr. Harshbarger and the Rotary Board members for their presentation and gift.

INGERSOLL AUTOMOTIVE OF PAWLING

Councilman Johnson said Ingersoll Automotive, who has become a great member of the community, has donated a vehicle to the Constables. This is much needed and has helped the Town a great deal. Councilman/Deputy Supervisor Johnson read the following accommodation, which he then presented to Mr. Zehring:

COMMENDATION Ingersoll Automotive

and

Steve Zehring

Whereas, Ingersoll Automotive has made a generous contribution to the Town of Pawling through their donation of a 2012 Chevrolet Equinox, and

Whereas, Ingersoll Automotive, through this substantial gift, has provided our Constables with a resource they need to better protect the Pawling community, and

Whereas, Ingersoll Automotive's Director of Operations Steve Zehring was instrumental in facilitating this generous gift, therefore be it,

Resolved, that the Town of Pawling, by its elected town board, thanks Ingersoll Automotive and Steve Zehring for their generous donation that will have a lasting impact on Pawling and the safety of our residents.

Presented this 12 day of June, 2019, by Town Supervisor James Schmitt and the members of the Pawling Town Board:

Supervisor James Schmitt

Councilman Bill Johnson

Councilman Phil DeRosa

Councilman James McCarthy

Councilman Reid McGrath

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution 2019077 Payment of Bills for the Town of Pawling

Whereas, the Town of Pawling Bookkeeper has reviewed and prepared the vouchers and has offered them for review, and

Whereas, the vouchers have been approved in accordance with the Town of Pawling policy, and

Whereas, the vouchers have been numbered 20190629 through 20190803, now therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Pawling Town Board hereby accepts the vouchers as prepared and on the recommendation of the Bookkeeper and hereby authorizes payment of said vouchers for the Town of Pawling on this date in the amount of \$624,507.27.

MOTION: Councilman Johnson

SECOND: Councilman DeRosa

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Johnson – “AYE”

Councilman DeRosa – “AYE”

Councilman McCarthy – “AYE”

Councilman McGrath “AYE”

Supervisor Schmitt – “AYE”

NON CONSENT AGENDA

**Resolution 2019080
Expenditures by the Highway Department without Prior Approval**

WHEREAS, §142 (1)(a) of the Highway Law authorizes a town board to adopt a resolution permitting the Town Superintendent of Highways to purchase equipment, materials, tools and implements without prior approval of the town board in an amount to be fixed by it from time to time; and

WHEREAS, prior Town Board approval is not required by the Superintendent of Highways for (i) the purchases of materials for highway repair and improvements made in accordance with the written agreement required by Highway Law §284; or (ii) materials for the repair and maintenance of bridges and for the control of snow and ice; and

WHEREAS, it is determined by this Board to be reasonable and proper and in the best interests of the efficient functioning of the Highway Department that the Town Superintendent of Highways of the Town be granted permission to purchase other necessary items without its prior approval in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00,

NOW, therefore, be it RESOLVED, that the Town Superintendent of Highways be and is hereby authorized to spend an amount not in excess of \$5,000.00 for the purchase of equipment, materials, tools and implements without prior approval of the Town Board.

MOTION: Councilman Johnson

SECOND: Councilman DeRosa

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Johnson – “AYE”

Councilman DeRosa – “AYE”

Councilman McCarthy – “AYE”

Councilman McGrath “AYE”

Supervisor Schmitt – “AYE”

Resolution 2019081
Expenditures without Prior Approval

WHEREAS, it is determined by this Board to be reasonable and proper and in the best interests of the efficient functioning of the Town that the following Department heads be authorized to make expenditures without prior Town Board approval, subject to the limits set forth herein, as may be amended from time to time:

Recreation	\$5,000.00
Facilities Maintenance	\$5,000.00
Town Clerk	\$3,000.00

NOW, therefore, be it RESOLVED, that Department Heads of the foregoing Departments are hereby authorized to make purchases within the limits set forth above without prior approval of the Town Board.

MOTION: Councilman Johnson

SECOND: Councilman DeRosa

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Johnson – “AYE”

Councilman DeRosa – “AYE”

Councilman McCarthy – “AYE”

Councilman McGrath “AYE”

Supervisor Schmitt – “AYE”

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION

SUMMER CAMP

Supervisor Schmitt said he met with the Recreation Director this morning and camp is up 65% over last year, and the Recreation Director may need to hire more staff.

WHALEY LAKE DAM

Councilman Johnson said he received a final statement from Winn Construction and from Fuss & O’Neill. He will review it and if he has questions, he will get them answered. He may want to have a special meeting so payment for this could be authorized.

DUTCHESS COUNTY PLANNING FEDERATION CLASSES

Councilman DeRosa said he attended a Dutchess County Planning Federation meeting, where the Federation is planning their fall classes. The courses will be “understanding site lighting”, “affordable housing” and “well head and aquifer protection”. They are putting together courses for the spring of 2020, and one is improving participation by Planning and Zoning Board members. The other one is Airbnb’s and these will be important to Pawling. He said there is a need for a planning department head or zoning administrator and a building inspector. He got some information on people to contact and he will be doing that soon. Regarding the building inspector, five have been interviewed and one more will be interviewed this week. Finding someone for this position has been tough but we need to get someone in house soon. There will be a meeting for the rail trail at the high school June 19th. Councilman DeRosa said he met with Wendel Weber, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds got information on buoys for the spillway at the Whaley Lake Dam. He said the buoys would cost \$369.00 each and shipping is free. The buoys can have words written on them and would keep the area open so debris could pass.

Councilman Johnson made a motion to allow Councilman DeRosa to order up to three (3) buoys for the Whaley Lake Dam, seconded by Councilman McGrath, motion passed unanimously.

Councilman DeRosa said there needs to be larger signage at the spillway. He would work on that with Councilman Johnson.

LIFE TIME HEALTH BENEFITS

Councilman McGrath said regarding the life time health benefits, it is something the Board has talked about and he didn't see any reason why the Board couldn't vote on it.

Councilman McGrath made a motion to end the life time benefits for elected officials, excluding the Clerk and Highway Superintendent who have not yet qualified in their current or in a prior term, seconded by Councilman Johnson.

Councilman Johnson said the Board has had a very active email chain about this issue. The Board is certainly not at the point where they are prepared to vote on this. There are legal implications and he thought there was agreement that when the Board came to a consensus, they would bring it up. For that reason, he would have to vote against. The Board does not have the legal background to be able to do it.

Councilman McGrath said he did not see why that was the case.

Supervisor Schmitt said he liked that this is being worked on and being discussed publicly. He felt this is something the Board has all spoken about and moving away from it is something the community has expressed to the Board. He has spoken to other healthcare providers about this. He had a lengthy meeting with another healthcare provider last week discussing a lot of great things and how money could be saved within the community with the benefits from elected officials and retirees and different options. That is the second provider that he has met with at length.

Councilman McGrath said legally, the Board wouldn't be taking it away from anyone who has it already.

Councilman Johnson said he wanted to get facts and that is what he is in the process of gathering. He is not prepared to vote on something that might not withstand the muster of the courts.

Councilman McGrath said he felt it would.

Supervisor Schmitt said he circulated an email today of a breakdown given to him by the provider he met with. He and Councilman McCarthy met with that individual and the email sent today includes what was discussed and what the potential savings was. He felt there could be savings of \$75,000.00 to \$80,000.00 per year. One of the things being worked on as well is eliminating the life time health benefit.

Councilman McGrath felt this should be addressed first.

Councilman Johnson said he didn't feel there was a member of the Board that expects life time benefits to be in place come January 1, 2020. There are certain steps that have to be followed and you have to do things to withstand legal muster.

Supervisor Schmitt said the Board has the summary of the most recent healthcare provider he met with and all of the information from the first healthcare provider he met with. He suggested the Board work on this and make a point of bringing this up at the next meeting and absolutely vote on this at the next meeting.

Councilman Johnson felt the Board was at that point.

Councilman McGrath withdrew his motion and Councilman Johnson withdrew his second.

RECREATION

Supervisor Schmitt said regarding the recreation department, the gaga pit was finished today. He said the waterfront looks great and the slide is getting a lot of use. There are a lot of great things going on at the park. There is a volleyball court going in for a volleyball league. It is an 80x50 regulation court and for that, volleyball beach sand is needed which comes only from Long Island. The cost was approximately \$6,000.00. Supervisor Schmitt said he reached out to the Teamsters Union 456 and they are sending five trucks to Long Island to pick up the sand and donating it to the Town for the volleyball courts.

Councilman DeRosa said the Board had discussed Park Rangers in the past but never acted upon it. He felt that since there is more participation now at the park, he suggested the Board discuss this again. He felt this would complement the constable's work at the park to have a constant presence at the park.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Kelly, Chief Constable thanked Ingersoll Automotive for the car. He said Joe Olenik was very instrumental in getting the vehicle. Also, Mr. Olenik would be checking into the light bar and emblem for the vehicle. The constables will be patrolling the Whaley Lake Dam. He asked for a sign for the Constable Office at Lakeside Park, and also suggested a door in the Constable Office that went outside from inside the office.

Following discussion, the Board agreed they would look into Chief Kelly's requests.

Betsy Montgomery said this weekend is opening day of the Pawling Farmer's Market, which has been extended until October 12th. It will run for eighteen weeks. She said there would be many vendors and entertainment throughout the season. She commented that the new Town website was spectacular and congratulated Cathy Giordano, Town Clerk for her work on the new website. She said the Pawling Farmer's Market sends out a weekly email blast during the season.

The motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Johnson at 8:55 PM, seconded by Councilman DeRosa, motion passed unanimously.

Town Clerk