

October 12, 2017

The Town Board of the Town of Corinth held a meeting on October 12, 2017 at 7:00PM at the Town Hall.

Present: Richard B. Lucia-Supervisor  
Charles Brown-Councilman  
Edward Byrnes-Councilman  
Jeffrey Collura, Councilman  
Joshua Halliday-Councilman  
Shawn Eggleston-Highway Superintendent  
Robert Hafner, Town Counsel  
Rose E. Farr, Town Clerk

Public C. Eric Butler and Justin Gonyo.

After roll call, the pledge of allegiance, and prayer, the following business was conducted:

Justin Gonyo gave the board an update on the railroad. He told the board that they had secured a car storage contract for more than 100 empty, cleaned tank cars. He told the board that the tank cars would go over the Town rail lines and would end up stored north of North Creek in Essex County. All board members said they had no problem with this.

Councilman Halliday asked about the cancelation of the Polar Express and Justin told the board that they were still having a Holiday Train but it was not called the Polar Express due to certain expenses that went with using the name Polar Express. Justin told the board that the Holiday Train would go from Stoney Creek to Corinth and back.

#### Approval of Minutes

Town Clerk Farr explained to the board that they needed to rescind Resolution #262 from the minutes for October 5<sup>th</sup> due to the fact that according to our Procurement Policy the Town needs to obtain three written bids for anything over \$5,000.00. Town Attorney Hafner explained to the board that there were only two ways to not to follow the Procurement Policy. He said that the first one was if the equipment, etc. was on state contract and the second one was if the company that the Town was purchasing was the only company that sold the items. Attorney Hafner also said that if any of the board members were employed by the place where the items were being purchased from the record should reflect that the board member would not receive any compensation for the purchase.

Councilman Halliday put it on record that if the items were purchased from Best Buy it would be from the Saratoga Store not the Albany store where he works; that if they were purchased from Best Buy it would be from another part of the company and not the one he works for; and that he would not receive any compensation from the purchase.

Attorney Hafner told the board that they already decided that these items should be purchase together and they could not change this now. He said that at any time the board could revise their Procurement Policy if they so wished.

Supervisor Lucia asked if this could be split into three separate purchase. Town Attorney Hafner told the board that it could not be split now.

**RESOLUTION #264**

**RESOLUTION TO RESCIND RESOLUTION #262 AND SEEK TWO MORE QUOTES**

A motion was made by Councilman Byrnes and seconded by Councilman Collura and the following resolution was

ADOPTED      5 AYES            Lucia, Brown, Byrnes, Collura and Halliday  
                  0 NAYS

RESOLVED that Resolution #262 for October 5, 2017 be rescinded, and be it further

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk seek at least two additional quotes for the items requested to be received by her no later than Thursday, October 26, 2017 at 3:00PM.

**RESOLUTION #265**

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

A motion was made by Councilman Halliday and seconded by Councilman Brown and the following resolution was

ADOPTED      5 AYES            Lucia, Brown, Byrnes, Collura and Halliday  
                  0 NAYS

RESOLVED that the meeting minutes for October 5, 2017 be approved with the changes as stated in the above resolution.

**Intermunicipal Agreement**

Attorney Hafner told the board that the Village Board has agreed to the Intermunicipal Agreement with the two changes that the Town Board asked for and he will be meeting with the Village Attorney to finalize the agreement for the Supervisor's and Mayor's signature.

Town Attorney said the next step will be a meeting regarding what needs to be turned over to the Town for the new district.

Councilman Byrnes asked the Town Attorney about the cost of repairs that the Village would be charging if they had to repair the pipes, etc in our Water Districts. He said he wanted to be sure that the Town was charged the same as they charged Village residents. Councilman Collura said he thought that this was left open-ended and should be addressed. Attorney Hafner said he would discuss this with the Village Attorney and get back to the board.

Supervisor read portions of the following into the record:

## **About 1,300 STAR checks unclaimed, possibly tossed out as junk mail, state says**

ALBANY, N.Y. -- New York tax department officials say about 1,300 STAR checks -- or 1 percent of the total mailed out in 2016 -- have not been cashed.

Last year was the first year the state switched from up-front exemptions on tax bills to mailing out checks to more than 130,000 homeowners.

The checks -- which are for about \$750 for most households -- could have been mistaken for junk mail, thrown in the trash or just lost. The checks for those aged 65 or older - who get a bigger tax break - average about \$1,500.

Those who missed their checks in the mail during last year's mailing were sent a follow-up letter in July. If there was still no response -- or if the information provided was not complete -- the New York Department of Taxation and Finance plans in March 2018 to forward information on the uncashed checks to the state Comptroller Office's unclaimed funds division.

The state comptroller's office maintains a database where you can check to see if the state is holding any unclaimed money for you. If homeowners think they might be among the 1,300 or so who missed their checks in the mail, they can call (518) 457-2036 for more information.

"Our reps should be able to answer any questions they may have," spokesman James Gazzale said.

The state last year began cutting the checks to more than 130,000 homeowners who bought their homes after August 2015. The STAR credit program is aimed at easing homeowners' school tax bills, which come due in September in most of New York. Only homeowners who bought their homes after August 2015 are getting the school tax relief -- or STAR -- credit checks. Taxpayers who bought their homes before that date get an up-front exemption on their school tax bills and don't have to worry about getting the check in their mailbox.

STAR checks are also only mailed to homeowners who make less than \$500,000 a year between themselves and their spouses.

Gazzale said that it is often the case that there's a mixup within a household, and calling the department can clear up any confusion. Sometimes a property owner calls

about a missing check only to learn it was already cashed, he said, or other times they received the tax exemption and weren't owed a check at all.

"We hear of cases like that all the time," Gazzale said. "It might have been a case that they were ineligible and weren't sure whether they got their check."

For nearly two decades, all homeowners got the exemption on their tax bills up-front instead of waiting for a check. But the law changed last year, and thousands of checks arrived long after school tax bills were due.

As a result, taxpayers swamped state legislators and their local assessors with calls about where their checks were. And a flurry of legislative changes were introduced during this year's legislative session in Albany, including some that aimed to return the program to the way it was.

This year, the state says the program has gone more smoothly. And if the state is late in delivering checks this year, it will have to give taxpayers their checks in addition to 3 to 4 percent interest. Taxpayers are eligible for interest if the checks don't come within 30 days after the school tax bills are filed.

Supervisor Lucia gave the board members a proposal for engineering work on the Depot from Shows Leary. The board and Town Attorney will review this document and speak about it in the future.

Supervisor Lucia told the board that he only received one quote for the Sr. Center door replacement. Councilman Collura said that he spoke with Carl Dearborn and they are still working on his bid. He asked that the matter be tabled for another week and the board agreed.

The following items are on file in the Supervisor's Office:

- Rural Future Booklet
- Rethinking Streets

The following Reports are on file in the Supervisor's Office:

- Town Clerk
- Highway
- Dog Control
- Justices
- Fire Department
- Senior Center
- Custodial Report
- Landfill Report

Public

None

**RESOLUTION #266**

**MOTION TO APPROVE TO PAY BILLS WITH ANY EXCEPTIONS:**

A motion was made by Councilman Brown and seconded by Councilman Byrnes the following resolution was

ADOPTED	AYES	5	Lucia, Brown, Collura, Halliday and Byrnes
NAYS		0	

RESOLVED to approve to pay bills with any exceptions:

**2017 ABSTRACT**

**Abstracts For 10/12/2017**

Voucher A - #170592- #170624; B - #172312- #172336; DB #173283-#173306; EF #177241 - #177260 z;  
SL So Corinth - #174015; SL Eastern Ave - #174045; SL Eggleston - #174062: Home Improvement #1724-  
#1725 and CDBG - #1 - #13

<u>General Fund A</u>	\$ 25,552.24
<u>General Fund/Outside Village - B</u>	\$ 4,485.89
<u>Community Development Grant - CD</u>	\$
<u>Highway/Part Town - DB</u>	\$ 16,723.91
<u>Medical – EF</u>	\$ 12,678.76
<u>Home Improvement</u>	% 5,500.00
<u>CDBG</u>	\$ 9,600.00
<u>Fire - SF</u>	\$
<u>Sewer/Water</u>	
Eastern Avenue	\$
Tranquility	\$
Passarelli	\$
Dorset	\$
<u>Lighting</u>	
Eastern Avenue	\$ 200.98
Eggleston Street	\$ 104.42
South Corinth	\$ 173.22

Town Board

Councilman Byrnes

Councilman Byrnes spoke about a new security system for EMS. He said he thought that the Town should purchase a good quality system so that the pictures were easily recognized. Supervisor Lucia told him that the time to purchase the cameras from the County had passed but he said he asked that the Town be allowed to purchase them for the same price in the near future.

Councilman Byrnes thanked Town Clerk Farr for picking up on the Procurement Policy.

Councilman Halliday

Councilman Halliday also said he wanted to thank Town Clerk Farr for bringing the matter to the board's attention. He said he didn't know how all the board members forgot about this.

Councilman Brown

Nothing

Councilman Collura

Councilman Collura also thanked Town Clerk Farr.

Councilman Collura told the board that this son wanted the board to know that the Cell Phone towers do not work in Corinth.

Councilman Collura spoke to Highway Superintendent Eggleston about one spot on County Route 10 that is very bad. Highway Superintendent Eggleston told him that he spoke to the County today regarding that matter.

Town Clerk

Town Clerk Farr told the board that she was contacted by Overhead Doors of Glens Falls and was told that since the Town owns the EMS they must charge prevailing wage for labor performed. Highway Superintendent Eggleston told the board that they also use Overhead Doors and the highway was once under a maintenance contract which covered periodic inspections, etc. He said that the Town has not been under this plan since before he took office. The Town Board asked the Town Clerk to contact Overhead Doors and get a price on a maintenance plan and also compile a list of the amount spent so far in 2017 to Overhead doors.

Supervisor Lucia thanked Highway Superintendent for the great job done in the parking lot out back of the Town Hall.

Highway Superintendent

Highway Superintendent Eggleston told the Town Board that he wanted to remain on four ten hour days until the end of the month to finish up some things he had going. The board was in agreement.

**RESOLUTION #267**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION ON LITIGATION AND A PARTICULAR PERSON**

On a motion by Councilman Halliday and seconded by Councilman Collura the following resolution was

ADOPTED      5 AYES            Lucia, Brown, Byrnes, Halliday and Collura  
                  0 NAYS

RESOLVED that at 8:00PM the Town Board adjourned to Executive Session on litigation and a particular person with no decisions made.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose E. Farr, RMC  
Town Clerk