
October 24, 2019- Approved with changes

The Town of Corinth Town Board held a meeting on October 24, 2019 at 4:30 PM at the Town Hall.

Present: Richard Lucia, Town Supervisor
Edward Byrnes, Councilman
Jeffrey Collura, Councilman
Joshua Halliday, Councilman
Eric Butler, Councilman
Rose E. Farr Town Clerk -Excused
Cheri Sullivan, Deputy Town Clerk
Shawn Eggleston, Highway Superintendent
Albert Brooks, Code Enforcement Officer- Excused

Public:

There was No public present.

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

Supervisor Lucia spoke on the following:

- Resolution of Financial transfers, if needed. -None
- Minutes

RESOLUTION # 265

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM MEETING # 1 & MEETING #2 ON OCTOBER 10, 2019.

On a motion by Councilman Butler and seconded by Councilman Byrnes the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Lucia, Byrnes, Collura, and Butler
 Nays 0
 Absent 0
 Abstain 1 Halliday

RESOLVED that the minutes from meeting # 1 & meeting #2 from October 10, 2019 be approved.

- Supervisor's Report

RESOLUTION # 266

MOTION TO APPROVE SUPERVISOR'S REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2019.

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

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Lucia, Byrnes, Halliday, Collura, and Butler
 Nays 0
 Absent 0

RESOLVED to approve Supervisor's report for September 2019.

- Sexual Harassment Class-

Supervisor Lucia said that Matt Fogarty will be giving the state required class on sexual harassment to all employees on Tuesday October 29th, 2019. The classes are available @ 10:00am, 2:00pm and 5:00pm and are mandatory.

- Letter from Don Rhodes-

Supervisor Lucia said a letter was received from Don Rhodes relating to water. Mr. Rhodes stated that an incident arose today, and he wanted the board to be aware that there is only one inspection included in the cost of the water service installation fee. To resolve the issue @ 5 Bianca Mr. Rhodes recommended the following:

- To resolve 5 Bianca, the Town should either add this property to the meter program installation list, or require the customer install required meter setting equipment and pay a \$210 additional inspection fee.
- Moving forward he recommended the Town should consider requiring outdoor meter pits for new construction. -

This would eliminate the need for periodic inspections to promote code compliance as it relates to the meter. This does not eliminate the need for water service piping to be installed per Town Code (copper vs. plastic), but it will cut down on meter installation confusion. For future projects, in lieu of periodic inspections the Town Board could instead consider adopting an outdoor meter pit setter policy for new construction. This policy would allow the meter pit to be installed by the Village along with the water main tap and outside shut off valve. We estimate that this policy change will increase the new service fee by about \$800 for meter pit setter equipment. However, this increase will be partially offset by the fact that the customer will not need to install indoor meter setting equipment at an estimated cost of \$400. Once the cost of multiple inspections and schedule delays are considered, the additional \$400 cost of an outdoor meter pit policy may result in costs that are equivalent to an indoor installation. Currently, the Village DPW Superintendent is similarly evaluating the merit of a meter pit requirement for new construction.

There was discussion had amongst board members about the following:

- A. Cost of pit-Contractor/Builder
- B. Why the change- simplification of process and removes Town building inspector from the equation.

RESOLUTION # 267

TO APPROVE OUTDOOR METER PIT SETTER POLICY FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION IN LIEU OF PERIODIC INSPECTIONS.

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

ADOPTED	Ayes	4	Lucia, Byrnes, Halliday, and Collura
	Nays	0	
	Absent	0	
	Abstain	1	Butler

RESOLVED that outdoor meter pit setter policy for new construction in lieu of periodic inspections be approved.

- Charter Communication- Letter of increase of prices.
- Medical Insurance-

Supervisor Lucia said the Town’s insurance agent was in today and reviewed the current options available and it looks to him that staying with the current plan is the best option. It is the best option available in years, everything stays the same with a 1.8% increase. The insurance agent said she would come back to explain if it was necessary.

RESOLUTION # 268

MOTION TO STAY WITH CURRENT BENEFIT PLAN RENEWAL WITH USI AT 1.8% INCREASE.

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

ADOPTED	Ayes	5	Lucia, Byrnes, Collura, Halliday, and Butler
	Nays	0	
	Absent	0	

RESOLVED that the Town of Corinth stay with their current benefit plan renewal with USI @ a 1.8% increase.

- Water Budget-

Supervisor Lucia said he has been working on the water budget for many days. Supervisor Lucia said for tax purposes there are 324 parcels in the water district that are taxed, however for revenue purposes in billing there are 295. Supervisor Lucia said that the rate was not what he thought it would be and that included the interest payment of the bond. Supervisor Lucia said this also includes the 25% surcharge that Don Rhodes suggested we have in reserves for leaks. Supervisor Lucia said they would be taking the \$10 fee off the bill this year, there will be no more pool charges and the minimum value charge is lower. Councilman Collura asked why they couldn’t just go with a flat rate across the board to raise the funds in the quarterly payments instead of the tax which is based on assessment; which isn’t fair to charge for a use that is the same for all. Councilman Halliday said if we know the number we need, then we just divide that number by the 295 and increase as a flat rate so that it is fair. Supervisor Lucia said the way it currently is everyone is paying 1.35 per thousand. Councilman Butler said it is the same way that we tax for the squad and highway. The option of taxation versus a flat fee was discussed by the board in detail. They also discussed the Reserves for the water and whether this tax would have to be permanent tax.

Councilman Collura said the general fund needed to be reimbursed for the lawyer’s fees that were taken out of it for the water district. Councilman Collura said the lawyer’s fees were broken out on the bills. He wanted to know if the past legal fees could be paid out of the reserves back to the general fund. It was decided that this is a question for the Town Attorney or the State Comptroller and moving forward the legal fees would come out of the water reserves. Councilman Halliday said that money is collected on back payments all the time and it should be investigated.

The board decided that since they didn’t have any real data yet from the water system, they would focus on just the current budget and adjust as necessary in the future. Supervisor Lucia said the current tax for this year includes the bond interest and part of the surcharge amount that was recommended by Don Rhodes to increase the reserves. Deputy Sullivan said that there needed to be enough in reserves because currently we are short approximately \$35,000 in water rent that we won’t collect until the taxes are relieved and that does not include any monies needed for repairs. Supervisor Lucia said the bond

payment must be figured into next year's water budget. Deputy Sullivan said when they were figuring what the bond payment would be, they had figured it would be about \$50.00.

It was explained that there are 324 parcels in the water district, all these parcels are taxed on the Town and county bill for water (Which goes into reserves). The Town has 284 billable accounts, but there are 295 uses. The Town Bills for each use. There are not 324 bills because some parcels do not have structures and are vacant land which can not be billed quarterly for usage.

Deputy Sullivan spoke about transfers. How they needed to be recorded at meetings because the Town Clerk and Bookkeeper numbers should match. Currently they don't because the Town Clerks can't be changed without a resolution from the board. Supervisor Lucia said this is an area that needs to be worked on with the four people that are involved with monies and transfers.

RESOLUTION # 269

MOTION TO PAY BILLS AS AUDITED WITH EXCEPTIONS

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

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Lucia, Byrnes, Collura, Halliday, and Butler
 Nays 0
 Absent 0

RESOLVED that the bills be approved as audited with exceptions.

2019 ABSTRACT

Abstracts For 10/24/2019

Voucher A - #190559-190581 VOID #190578; B #192420 - #192427; DB #193372-#193379; CM #197236-#197245;

<u>General Fund A</u>	\$ 31,437.96
<u>General Fund/Outside Village - B</u>	\$ 4,305.05
<u>Community Development Grant - CDBG</u>	\$ 0
<u>Highway/Part Town - DB</u>	\$ 14,398.10
<u>Medical – CM</u>	\$ 9,420.96
<u>Home Improvement</u>	\$ 0
<u>Fire - SF</u>	\$ 0
<u>SW Consolidated Water</u>	\$ 0
<u>Sewer/Water</u>	
Eastern Avenue	\$ 0
Tranquility	\$ 0

Passarelli	\$ 0
Dorset	\$ 0
Corinth #5	\$ 0

Lighting

Eastern Avenue	\$ 0
Eggleston Street	\$ 0
South Corinth	\$ 0

Reports on File:

Fire Report
Town Clerks Report

Town Board & Town Offices:

Councilman Collura- No comment
Councilman Byrnes- No comment
Councilman Halliday-No comment

Councilman Butler -

Discussed the following:

- Smead letter and necessary upgrades- Supervisor Lucia said he submitted a price list and what computers needed to be upgraded. Supervisor Lucia said it would be reviewed later
- The change in their sexual harassment training from 5pm-6pm.
- Water-If there is anything that protects the Town if the Village changes their allowable gallons? Councilman Byrnes said that after a year of having meters they were supposed to fine tune it. Supervisor Lucia said they would have to give us a new contract.

Town Clerk Farr -Excused

Deputy Town Clerk Sullivan -

Discussed the following:

- Putting in of Meter pit -

@ home on ~~County Route 10~~ **West Mtn Road**. Only homeowner to not yet comply. Don Rhodes suggested that the Town just put in a meter pit to resolve this situation because currently there is no one living at the home and they are not sure if she is going to return. It was explained that the meter is included in the LGE grant.

RESOLUTION # 270

MOTION TO APPROVE THE INSTALLATION OF A METER PIT AT THE ONLY NON-COMPLIANT RESIDENCE ON COUNTY ROUTE 10 WEST MOUNTAIN ROAD.

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

ADOPTED	Ayes	5	Lucia, Byrnes, Halliday, Collura, and Butler
	Nays	0	
	Absent	0	

RESOLVED to approve the installation of a meter pit at the only non-compliant residence on ~~County Route 10~~ **on West Mountain Road**.

- Set notice for the preliminary budget

RESOLUTION # 271

MOTION TO SET PRELIMINARY BUDGET HEARING FOR NOVEMBER 7, 2019 @ 4:35PM.

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

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Lucia, Byrnes, Halliday, Collura, and Butler
 Nays 0
 Absent 0

RESOLVED that the preliminary public hearing for the Town budget be set for November 7, 2019 @ 4:35pm.

Highway Superintendent Eggleston –

Discussed the following:

- His crew would be at the meetings on sexual harassment.
- He has received the mini bids for the truck, and they came from Beyer Ford in New Jersey at \$33,000 for the low bid and it will take 180 days to receive the vehicle. He said he could get it from Carmody Ford for \$1600 more and get it in 90 days. Highway Superintendent Eggleston said that if the board wanted to accept the bids presented that he would call the State Comptroller and make sure that he did not have to go with the lowest bid before he accepted one.

RESOLUTION # 272

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT TO CALL STATE ON CLARIFICATION OF WHETHER LOW BID WAS REQUIRED AND AFTERWARD TO ACCEPT THE BID OF HIS CHOICE IF HE IS NOT REQUIRED BY LAW TO TAKE THE LOW BID PRESENTED.

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

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Lucia, Byrnes, Halliday, Collura, and Butler
 Nays 0
 Absent 0

RESOLVED to authorize Highway Superintendent to call the State Comptroller on clarification of whether low bid was required by law; and to accept the bid of his choice if he is not required by law to go with the low bid.

Building/Code Enforcement Officer Brooks –Excused

RESOLUTION # 273

MOTION TO ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION ON BUDGET PERSONNEL WITH NO DECISION @ 6:00pm.

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

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Lucia, Byrnes, Halliday, Collura, and Butler
 Nays 0
 Absent 0

RESOLVED to adjourn to executive session on budget personnel with no decision at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cheri Sullivan RMC". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "C" and "S".

Cheri Sullivan, RMC
Deputy Town Clerk
Town of Corinth