**Minutes**

Town of Persia Board Meeting

Reorganizational Meeting

8 West Main Street, Gowanda, NY 14070

January 13, 2022

**Workshop 6:00pm on Reorganization for 2022**

**Board meeting 7:00pm**

**All stand for the Pledge of Allegiance**

**\*\* Today is the first meeting of the New Year, the Honorable Mark A Schindler will officiate the swearing in ceremony for our newly elected officials:**

**Supervisor John T. Walgus**

**Councilperson Robert O. Dingman**

**Councilperson Gloria J. Tomaszewski**

Roll Call:

 Supervisor: John T. Walgus: present

Councilperson: Theresa A. Girome: present

Councilperson: Gloria J. Tomaszewski: present

Councilperson: Robert O. Dingman: present

Councilperson: Seth H. Howard: present

 Others present:

Town Clerk: Denise M. Trumpore

Hon. Mark A. Schindler

Jack Broyles

Tenley Howard

 **Supervisor John T.** **Walgus:**  \* I hope everyone enjoyed the New Year’s celebrations for 2022 and wishing everyone a happy and healthy New Year \* Due to the increased occurrences, deaths, and infections of COVID-19 in our area and because of the Governor’s mandate, we are going back to a partial lockdown and mandatory wearing of masks in the town hall. \* Today is our annual reorganizational meeting, you have the information before you tonight and the updates that were recommended at our workshop tonight. There are a few changes, especially concerning COVID-19. \* This year we will be continuation of our projects. First and foremost, will be a planning grant application to NYS Empire State Development for the renovation of the town hall, more specifically the second floor and the pointing up of the outside masonry work. \* Next will be the purchasing of a new pick-up truck for the highway department. It has been put on hold because of the shortage of computer chips by both Ford and Dodge. Chevrolet has never offered a municipal discount and I was made aware that Ford and Dodge no longer offer a discount either. \* And next is the possible siting of a 27-acre 5MW solar array on Broadway Road to be located on property owned by Gernatt Asphalt Products inc. Hopefully the site plan application will be forth coming next month, and we can begin the process. \* Because of the COVID-19 pandemic the installation of the Verizon cell antenna has been on hold. Verizon now has contacted me and is ready to resume the plans for the installation of the “Thatcher Brook Micro Cell Site” antenna, I was not able to meet with Verizon on Wednesday, January 12th, so Judge Schindler let them in to begin the process. This will increase cell service greatly in the Village of Gowanda section of the town. \* I have processed payroll and paid the prepays. \* I ask for a resolution to accept the financial report for December. \* I also need a resolution for the Supervisor report. \* The highway superintendent has submitted his wish list to the Cattaraugus County Hazardous Mitigation Plan to remedy possible town road damages caused by floods and excess water problems, if we are selected funds could be forth coming from FEMA for a more permanent solution to future problems. \* I have not heard from the NYS DEC about the expansion of walkways and the parking lot at the end of the Valentines Flats Road. I contacted the DEC thru their Michigan Avenue office, and they indicated that these plans are on hold. \* As authorized in past meetings, I have ordered a new copy machine for the clerk’s office, a new computer and monitor for the supervisor and an updated secure router for our internet access as required by the NYS Shield Act. \* We have received new KN-95 masks from Cattaraugus County Emergency Services for our employees. I will also be purchasing with APRA funds, regular masks for the public, gloves and for use by town employees rapid COVID-19 test kits, which are on back order. \* I received word from Southern Tier West informing me that the annual training (the 28th Annual Local Government Conference) will be taking place at Houghton College on June 9, 2022, my guess is that this could possibly be postponed because of COVID-19 also. \* The highway superintendent is considering an alarm system for the highway garages and is seeking quotes. \* We will need a resolution stating the Gowanda Ambulance Service Corporation is our designated 911 service, this is done every year. \* Lastly, we will need resolutions for end of the year budget transfers and a budget modification.

**Highway Superintendent Daniel H. Ackley:** \*absent

**Councilperson Theresa A. Girome:** \* Last month, in December, I attended the Village Board public hearing on Adult Use Cannabis Retail Dispensaries and On-Site Consumption Sites. The Village Boards’ decision was to opt-out currently. \* Concerning the Thatcher Brook Diversion update, additional funding is in place, and the project will start in the spring of 2024. \* A new retail store will be opening up at 18 Jamestown Street very soon. This store will have t-shirts and glassware for sale. \* Also, on January 12th, Gloria and I did audit Judge Mark Schindler’s books. \* I would like to set up a time with Bob to audit the Town Clerk’s books.

**Councilperson Robert O. Dingman:**  \*I attended the public hearing at the Village and was pleased to see the village will opt-out.

**Councilperson Seth H. Howard:** \* Read highway bills. \* I would like a resolution to have a workshop on February 10th at 6:30pm to discuss COVID. \* I tried to attend an ambulance meeting via ZOOM on December 21st but was unable to connect. \* I would like a resolution to put out for bids on a fire security system for the highway garages.

**Councilperson Gloria J. Tomaszewski:** \* Read general bills. \* On January 12th, Theresa and I audited the court books, everything was in good order. I would like a resolution to accept the court audit.

**Assessor Kate Harrington:** (by email) \* Renewal applications for Agricultural Assessment and Senior Citizen Exemption are being submitted as processed. So far, 62% of Agricultural Assessment and 42% of Senior Citizen Renewal applications have been returned. \* The Assessing Office has corresponded with several property owners about their assessments, tax bills, and exemptions. \* Added 7 sales for November. More information about November sales can be found here:

<https://maps2.cattco.org/MonthlySales/Nov2021.htm>.

**Town Clerk Denise M. Trumpore**: \*

Total transactions for December - 90

Total Collected: $ 1511.00

Towns Portion: $**440.77**

**\***I ask for a resolution to accept the minutes fromDecember 9th.

**RESOLUTION # 1 Audit of Claims**

On a motion of Councilperson Howard

Seconded by Councilperson Dingman

The following was

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Howard, Dingman, Tomaszewski, Girome, Walgus

 NAYS – 0

**RESOLVED that the bills contained on Abstract #13 and Abstract #1 for General and Highway have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts:**

**Abstract 13– General Vouchers # 188 to # 200 Total: $9,105.83**

**Abstract 13- Highway Vouchers # 86 to # 87 Total: $ 1,714.61**

**Abstract 1 – General Vouchers #1 to # 23 Total: $ 24,744.84**

**Abstract 1 – Highway Vouchers #1 to# 5 Total: $ 531.41**

**RESOLUTION #2 Approval of Minutes**

On a motion of Councilperson Dingman

Seconded by Councilperson Girome

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Dingman, Girome, Tomaszewski, Howard, Walgus

 NAYS - 0

 **RESOLVED to approve the minutes from December 9, 2021.**

 **RESOLUTION # 3 Financial Report**

On a motion of Councilperson Tomaszewski

Seconded by Councilperson Dingman

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Tomaszewski, Dingman, Girome, Howard, Walgus

 NAYS - 0

**RESOLVED to accept the financial report for December 2021.**

**RESOLUTION # 4 911 Designated Service**

ON a motion of Councilperson Howard

Seconded by Councilperson Girome

ADOPTED AYES –5 Howard, Girome, Tomaszewski, Dingman, Walgus

 NAYS –0

**RESOLVED to designate Gowanda Ambulance Service Corporation as the Town of Persia’s 911 service.**

**RESOLUTION # 5 Budget Modification**

On a motion of Councilperson Howard

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Howard, Tomaszewski, Girome, Dingman, Walgus

 NAYS – 0

**RESOLVED** **to increase the 2021 General Fund Wide expenditure budget by $32 due to the use of APRA funds for services provided by Bahgat & Laurito Bahgat, CPA’s. This will increase budget lines A4039 – ARPA Revenue and A1320.4 – Independent Accounting – ARPA.**

**RESOLUTION # 6 Budget Transfers**

On a motion of Councilperson Dingman

Seconded by Councilperson Girome

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Dingman, Girome, Tomaszewski, Howard, Walgus

 NAYS – 0

**RESOLV****ED** **to transfer $1,342 from A1990.4- Contingent to A1220.4 – Supervisor – Contractual, $120 from A1990.4 – Contingent to A1355. 12 – Assessor – Personal Services – Board of Assessment Review, $672 from A1990.4 – Contingent to A1410.11 – Town Clerk – Personal Services – Deputy Clerk, $1,487 from A1990.4 – Contingent to A1410.4 – Town Clerk – Contractual, $2,372 from A1990.4 – Contingent to A1620.4 – Building – Contractual, $285 from A1990.4 – Contingent to A7550.4 – Celebrations – Contractual, $330 from B8020.4- Planning – Contractual to B88020.1 – Planning – Personal Services.**

**RESOLUTION # 7 Fire Security System**

On a motion of Councilperson Howard

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Howard, Tomaszewski, Girome, Dingman, Walgus

 NAYS –0

**RESOLVED to put out to bid for a fire security system for the highway garages.**

**RESOLUTION #8 Court Audit**

On a motion of Councilperson Tomaszewski

Seconded by Councilperson Girome

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Tomaszewski, Girome, Howard, Dingman, Walgus

 NAYS – 0

**RESOLVED to accept the court audit that was done on January 12, 2022, the books were in good order.**

**RESOLUTION #9 2022 Reorganizational Meeting**

On a motion of Councilperson Girome

Seconded by Councilperson Howard

ADOPTED AYES –5 Girome, Howard, Tomaszewski, Dingman, Walgus

 NAYS – 0

**RESOLVED to accept the 2022 Reorganizational Meeting.**

**RESOLUTION # 10 Supervisors Report**

On a motion of Councilperson Girome

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Girome, Tomaszewski, Howard, Dingman, Walgus

 NAYS – 0

**RESOLVED** **to accept the Supervisors report for December 2021.**

**RESOLUTION #11 Workshop**

On a motion of Councilperson Howard

Seconded by Councilperson Tomaszewski

ADOPTED AYES – 5 Howard, Tomaszewski, Girome, Dingman, Walgus

NAYS – 0

**RESOLVED to have a workshop on February 10th at 6:30pm to discuss COVID.**

* **Everyone at the meeting sang a heartfelt “Happy Birthday” to Supervisor John Walgus, who turned 66 on January 6th.**

 Hearing no objection, Supervisor Walgus adjourned the meeting in memory of town residents Harold Harvey and Dale Koch at 7:50 pm.

 Respectfully submitted,

 Denise M. Trumpore

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Town Clerk