Town of New Albion

7151 Route 353

Cattaraugus, NY 14719

 **Regular Board Meeting**

January 16, 2023 7:00 p.m.

**PRESIDING:** Patrick Murphy, Supervisor

**PRESENT:** Councilmen: Cynthia Eaton; Michael Weishan; Norman Kazmark; Daniel Goss ; David Rupp, Highway Superintendent; Frank Watson, Code Enforcer; and Sherry Rupp, Town Clerk.

**ABSENT:**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Supervisor Murphy called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Followed by the Pledge to the American Flag. Regular Minutes for December 19, 2022 and Organizational Minutes for January 4, 2023. Town Clerk Monthly Report, and the Register’s Report were all approved as presented by the Clerk.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

* Notice To Request Inclusion of Agricultural Land within an Existing Agricultural District
* Cattaraugus County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board
* Cattaraugus County Statement of Payments made to the Town of New Albion
* DEC-Launching the Green Purchasing Communities Program
* Cattaraugus County Health Department Annual Animal Control/Rabies Questionnaire
* USDA Rural Development Funding Opportunities

**REPORTS:**

**Code Enforcer:** **Frank Watson,** End of year report, Permits are up by 10 in New Albion while all other municipalities are down. I’m working on 1 permit; the owner needs to separate the parcel. I will look into the growing Scott Hollow Junk Yard. Leon property is getting out of control again.

**Yearly Report 2022**

Building Permits – 24

Demolition Permits – 7

Pool Permits – 0

Wood Stove/Chimney/Solar Power Permits – 0

Special Use Permits – 2

Variances – 0

**Permit Totals = 33**

Certificate of Occupancy – 0

Stop Work Orders – 4

Violation Notices – 5

Appearance Tickets – 0

Accomplishments:

* Continued to implement Town of New Albion Zoning
* Established code enforcement presence with various citizen via violation/request letters and personal visits.
* Various approved Demolition permits will help Town appeal.
* Inspected and documented all (24) Local Amish School buildings (8th year in a row).
* Completed 24hrs of required code enforcement training.

Goals 2021:

* Increase use Town of New Albion Zoning Law for Special Use Permits and Variances.
* Increase code enforcement towards poorly maintained/unsafe properties.
* Increase code enforcement towards junk and disrepair automobiles.
* Accomplished code enforcement for Telecommunications Tower at New Albion/Sweeney Hill Road Area.

I have enjoyed my 11th year with the Town of New Albion. I am still learning a lot about this town and its citizens. I am hoping for a more productive year in code enforcement for this town in 2023. As Zoning Law is enforced, there will be increased resistance and defiance. I am hoping to get the easier, less hostile, cases through the zoning process first. We will take the more difficult cases as they increase in size and non-compliance. I am also hoping that all governing boards and members are able to cooperate and move forward with the town Zoning Law improvements and enforcement.

**Highway Dept.:** **David Rupp,** The Town of New Albion highway department has kept busy the past month and over the holiday season with routine snow removal operations. Unusually warm temperatures and lack of snow fall has allowed the dept. to be able to address filling pot holes as they developed. The dept. has had to address numerous fallen trees as a result of high wind storms. The warmer temperatures have allowed a few rain storms, that also have produced ice storms that have been safely handled. The highway dept. would like to remind everyone to use caution and common sense when approaching plow vehicles or unknown hazards. The highway dept. received a Notice of Denial for the Jefferson Street Culvert TER on 1/6/2023. The Town will have 60 days to appeal to NYSDHSES and FEMA decision. The search for a Law Firm to move forward with Waverly Street is ongoing. The Engineers assessment of the project is complete, with sufficient justification to warrant pursuing the contractors warranty cause.

**Treasurer:** **Eugene Doucette,** Expenditure Report

**Assessor: Kate Harrington,** the December report is as follows:

* Renewal applications for Agricultural Assessment and Senior Citizen Exemption are being submitted and processed. So far, 50% of Agricultural Assessment and 18% of Senior Citizen renewal applications have been returned.

These applications are due March 1, 2023. Applicants are encouraged to contact the Assessor’s Office

Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM with any questions. Our extended town hall hours are available at

<https://maps.cattco.org/taxes/assessors.php>

* The Assessing Office has corresponded with several property owners about their assessments, tax bills, and exemptions.
* There were two property transfers in November. You can find more information about these sales here:

<https://www.cattco.org/real-property-and-gis/sales>

**Board:**

Councilman **Patrick Murphy** – None

Councilman **Norman Kazmark** – None

Councilman **Daniel Goss** – None

Councilman **Cynthia Eaton** – None

Councilman **Michael Weishan** –None

**CLERKS REPORT:**

**Clerk Report:** December 2022, Amount Collected $ 321.00

Animal Population Control: Check # 2702 - $ 50.00

Town of New Albion: Check # 2704 - $223.86

NYS Environmental Conservation: EFT - $28.34

Cattaraugus County: Check# 2703 - $18.80

Amount Paid Out $ 321.00

* As of 1/13/2023, $355,177.75 was collected in taxes. I was able to deposit Tax Levy funds into the following accounts: General B - $12,620.00, HDA - $150,750.00, HDB - $171,350.00.

**Resolution # 9- 2023 – Board Audit of Court and Town Clerk Books**

On a motion by Councilman Kazmark, seconded by Councilman Goss, the following resolution was

 **ADOPTED** Aye 5 Weishan, Eaton, Kazmark, Goss and Murphy

 Nay 0

**RESOLVED**, the Town Board has completed the Audit and approved the 2022 books for both the Town Clerk and the Town Court of New Albion as of January 16, 2023.

**Resolution # 10- 2023– Transfer of Funds**

On a motion by Councilman Goss, seconded by Councilman Eaton, the following resolution was

 **ADOPTED** Aye 5 Weishan, Eaton, Kazmark, Goss and Murphy

 Nay 0

**RESOLVED**, approved to transfer$482.19 from the General A Contingent Account #1990.4 to the General A Real Property Tax Account #1950.4 to cover the Town & County Taxes for Lovers Lane Properties.

**Resolution # 11- 2023 – Transfer Funds**

On a motion by Councilman Weishan, seconded by Councilman Kazmark, the following resolution was

 **ADOPTED** Aye 5 Weishan, Eaton, Kazmark, Goss and Murphy

 Nay 0

**RESOLVED**, approved to transfer $30,000 from Townwide Savings to Townwide Checking.

**Resolution # 12- 2023– Transfer Funds / Increase Revenues and Increase Expenditures**

On a motion by Councilman Weishan, seconded by Councilman Kazmark, the following resolution was

 **ADOPTED** Aye 5 Weishan, Eaton, Kazmark, Goss and Murphy

 Nay 0

**RESOLVED**, The Town Board approves the recommended transfers, Increased Revenues and Increased Expenditures the Treasurer deems necessary and will be signed by Town Supervisor.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

* Hazard Mitigation Project

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Abstract #1– January 16, 2023 / Pay the Bills

**APPROVAL OF ABSTRACT:**

**Resolution # 13- 2023– Abstract # 1- 2023– January 16, 2023**

On a motion by Councilman Kazmark, seconded by Councilman Eaton, the following resolution was

 **ADOPTED** Aye 5 Weishan, Eaton, Kazmark, Goss and Murphy

 Nay 0

**RESOLVED**, that Abstract # 1 -2023 in the following amounts is to be paid.

 **ACCOUNT VOUCHER # TOTAL EXPENDITURES**

 General A 12565-12596 $ 46,916.10

 General B 954-957 $ 3,212.32

 Highway DA 9554-9559 $ 7,882.79

 Highway DB 3730-3736 $ 25,664.98

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Rupp

Recording Secretary

Town of New Albion Town Council

Next Meeting: Regular Board Meeting February 20, 2023