Angelica Town Board

# Meeting Minutes

# February 13, 2023

## Opening

The regular meeting of the Angelica Town Board was called to order at 7:05 p.m. on February 13, 2023 in Angelica, NY at the Grange Meeting Room at 55 Park Circle by Robert Jones.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

## Present: Robert Jones, Supervisor

 Elwyn Gordon, Councilman John "Skip" Hecker, Councilman Girard Kelly, Councilman

 Don Case, Councilman

**Recording Secretary:** Sharon Presutti, Town Clerk

**Absent:** None

**Others Present:** David Haggstrom; Robert Budinger; Donald Ash; Michael Trivisondoli:

Highway Sup’t., Rick Abbott; DCO and Gail Richardson

## Approval of Minutes of Previous Minutes:

Minutes of the 01/09/2023 meeting were distributed. There were no corrections or additions made. A motion was made by Elwyn Gordon to approve, seconded by Girard Kelly.

Elwyn Gordon Aye

Skip Hecker Aye

Robert Jones Aye

Girard Kelly Aye

Don Case Aye

**Abstract Approvals:**

General expenditures - $38316.63

A motion was made by Girard Kelly to approve payment but to wait to pay Peter J Schiller Corp., Voucher #34, until they have come down to look at the exhaust system on the new heaters at the Highway Barn seconded by Elwyn Gordon.

Elwyn Gordon Aye

Skip Hecker Aye

Robert Jones Aye

Girard Kelly Aye

Don Case Aye

There was discussion regarding the exhausts on the new heating system at the Highway Barn; there was an issue of them melting some soffit. Elwyn Gordon would like Mike T. to ask about being able to divert some of the heat that comes out and re-use it to heat the water in the boiler. Mike T. said he would get the phone number to

Elwyn G. and Elwyn G. can call them. Mike T. had looked into a contractor to fix the vents caps (need a different style), this would be $600.00, the Board would like Schiller to come and look at it first and take care of it.

Highway expenditures - $68208.07

A motion was made by Girard Kelly and seconded by Skip Hecker to approve payment.

Elwyn Gordon Aye

Skip Hecker Aye

Robert Jones Aye

Girard Kelly Aye

Don Case Aye

**Budget Sheets and Supervisor’s Reports:**

No reports given – accountants are still working on 2022 items.

**Financial Reports:**

NYCLASS Report for January was distributed by Robert Jones. He noted that the interest rate is 4.0997%, interest earned in January was $10550.02. Bob Jones added that he is looking into purchasing CD’s for no longer than 4 months. Girard K. asked how much he was thinking of doing, Bob J. said maybe $1M. Skip Hecker motioned to accept this report; seconded by Elwyn Gordon.

Elwyn Gordon Aye

Skip Hecker Aye

Robert Jones Aye

Girard Kelly Aye

Don Case Aye

**Town Business Review:**

Sharon Presutti distributed her January 2023 monthly Town Clerk’s report.

**Town Clerk’s January 2022 Report**

Dogs - $117.00

Decals - $0.00

Landfill - $0.00

Certified Copies - $10.00

Misc. Copies - $0.00

Cemetery Lot Sales - $0.00

Burials -$425.00

Memorial Base - $196.94

Marriage License - $0.00

ATV/LUV Registration Fee - $20.00

Elwyn Gordon motioned to approve the monthly report seconded by Girard Kelly.

Elwyn Gordon Aye

Skip Hecker Aye

Robert Jones Aye

Girard Kelly Aye

Donald Case Aye

**Town Justice Report**

Robert Jones distributed Justice Szucs reports for January 2023 ($11822.00). Donald Case motioned to accept these reports; seconded by Girard Kelly.

Elwyn Gordon Aye

Skip Hecker Aye

Robert Jones Aye

Girard Kelly Aye

Donald Case Aye

**Dog Control Report:** Rick Abbott reported that two weeks ago Ag & Mkts. came to do their annual inspection, it was all good. Rick A. added that they told him that NYS will now be requiring shelters to have either air conditioning or an air purification system in dog shelters. He was told that we may not have to do it because of the size of our shelter and that we have new windows in there, they may come down to collect an air sample from the shelter. Rick A. added that Sherri just handed him grant information for animal shelters through the State, if we apply for this maybe we could use the grant funds for that improvement, if it was necessary. There was some discussion regarding this new requirement coming. Rick A. also noted that he served a ticket to a resident on Route 20 and visited some residents who are past due on their license renewals.

**Asessor/Real Property:** No report given

**Code Enforcement Report:** Robert Jones distributed the 2022 Annual Summary from M.A.C.E. for the Town of Angelica. Bob J. added that they have received $6000.00 in permit fees already for the month of January 2023, they ended 2022 with an excellent fund balance of $67,122.23.

**Highway report:** Mike Trivisondoli distributed his monthly report to the Board members along with a notice to the Board declaring the 2013 Kenworth Model T880 ten-wheel snowplow truck, VIN 1NKDLPOX7DR350126, as surplus equipment effective February 13, 2023. Mike has received a verbal offer from the Town of Burns for $60,000 and written offer from the Town of West Almond for $80,000. There was some discussion regarding the sale of this piece of equipment. Skip Hecker made a motion to sell it to the Town of West Almond; seconded by Girard Kelly.

Elwyn Gordon Aye

Skip Hecker Aye

Robert Jones Aye

Girard Kelly Aye

Donald Case Aye

There was discussion regarding Jackron Road (off from High Street, County named), Mike is still working on getting the street numbers up there.

There was discussion on what was wrong with the Loader, Mike will be purchasing smaller sizes of DEF hoping to not have it crystalize as quickly and to not let it idle as much.

There was discussion on Truck #14, 2012 Ford F-250, Mike had taken it to Precision Auto Choice to have them look it over, there estimate for repairs needed was $6,616.88. Mike went through their estimate and took out what we could do ourselves and got the cost down to $4,154.26. Mike feels that with the shape this truck is in is not worth it to put this money into it, this led to discussion about replacing this truck. Mike has looked at new trucks, adding that there are no municipal trucks out there, we would have to just go and buy one. Mike said you are looking at $55,000-$60,000 for a new one not including a lift gate nor plow. Girard Kelly asked if there are any used ones out there, Mike has not looked. Skip Hecker asked Mike to get some quotes, Mike has been looking at dealer websites. Mike will do some research and bring back some prices and will do no repairs to Truck #14.

There was discussion regarding the hiring for a general laborer position, Mike feels we need to get this position filled soon, work for this position will be coming up soon. There was discussion about putting an ad in the paper for not only hiring an employee but also possibly hiring a contractor instead.

There was discussion regarding a comment in the Booster News regarding Highway crews being fatigued. Mike T. said it was just a concern that he would have if they had to do back-to-back days/nights. Mike added that he did not say they were fatigued, he was concerned that they could become fatigued, again if they were working days and nights if we had bad weather. Mike will look at the Booster News because he is not sure what exactly it said.

Robert Jones reported that he has talked with Labor Attorney Jim Rooney (Bond, Schoeneck & King) and read him the letter that we received from the Teamsters Local 264 requesting voluntary recognition, he told Bob to not do that. He added that you want a democratic process where PERB will come in and they would have to vote. Jim Rooney is more than willing to help the Board, his fees are $310.00/hour; his assistant would be $210.00/hour. There was discussion regarding this. Skip Hecker motioned to retain Bond, Schoeneck & King, Jim Rooney; seconded by Girard Kelly.

Elwyn Gordon Aye

Skip Hecker Aye

Robert Jones Aye

Girard Kelly Aye

Donald Case Aye

## Hyland: Robert Jones reported that we received the 4th quarter 2022 check for $257,430.04 from Hyland, this has been deposited and apportioned to the accounts. Robert Jones distributed the Hyland Landfill Monitoring Report for January 2023 from NYS DEC. Also distributed was the Proposal for 2023 quarterly landfill inspections from the Antea Group. Girard Kelly motioned to accept this proposal; seconded by Donald Case.

## Elwyn Gordon Aye

## Skip Hecker Aye

## Robert Jones Aye

## Girard Kelly Aye

## Donald Case Aye

## Robert Jones distributed a letter from Casella Waste Systems, Inc., Joshua Haley, General Manager, stating that the new calculated tipping fee rate (based on the previous year’s actual performance) for 2023 will be $2.55 per ton, this will be used for all tons during 2023. This is pursuant to our agreement executed February 14, 2005 where Casella is obligated to adjust our host fee rate to the higher of $1.65/ton or 7.17% of the average price per ton for time period 10/1 thru 9/30. The new rate goes into effect on the following January first (calendar year).

**Miscellaneous:**

**Town Hall Phones:** Robert Jones reported that we currently have Verizon One Talk System, we own the equipment, for whatever reason the equipment is obsolete, Sherri Presutti, Town Clerk, has been without a phone for 3-4 weeks. Robert Jones called Spectum and two guys came down and looked to see what we needed. Robert Jones distributed a quote from Spectrum Enterprise, new phones with the same type of features that we currently have, all wiring would be new. There was discussion regarding a tree out behind the Town Hall, at least the top part of that tree will have to come down. Elwyn wondered whose tree it was and added that it would be better to take the whole tree down, Robert Jones will speak with Bill Geoppner to see if it is his tree, he will let Elwyn know what he finds out and Elwyn will get it taken down. The cost from Spectrum will be $500 to do the installation per site (Town Hall and Town Barn), along with monthly fees. There was discussion regarding fax lines and whether or not we need them. Mike Trivisondoli said he has had trouble with phones, internet also. There was discussion regarding our current prices and what we are paying for internet, Robert Jones will talk to Spectrum about the price they are quoting us for internet to see if he can get that down.

Bob asked them how long it would take to get installed, they said 60-90 days, Bob told them that that was not good enough – we need a working phone, they said if we decide to do it they can put a rush on it. Girard Kelly motioned to have Spectrum do this; seconded by Skip Hecker.

Elwyn Gordon Aye

Skip Hecker Aye

Robert Jones Aye

Girard Kelly Aye

Donald Case Aye

Robert Jones will call Spectrum in the morning.

**Nextera (Solar Farm):** Robert Jones reported that the Town received a check from Nextera for $22,000, this is for one year.

**County Remittance for 2022:** Robert Jones distributed a sheet showing what Allegany County paid to the Town of Angelica for 2022. This was for 2nd Notice Fees, Mortgage Tax, Snow & Ice Contract and Traffic Diversion.

**Farmers Market:** Robert Jones distributed a letter he received from Don Ash, member of the Angelica Farmers’ Market, requesting permission to use the Park every Saturday from June 3, 2023 through October 14, 2023, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Girard Kelly asked Don Ash if there were plans to increase the traffic for the Market. Don Ash responded that they are looking to get more produce vendors, children’s activities and hoping to continue the music. Girard added that he supports the Farmer’s Market 100% but that it doesn’t seem to get the traffic that it use to, which then affects the businesses down town. Don added that they are continuing to search out produce vendors, he also noted that the Alfred Market is having trouble to. Don also said that they would like to have some type of activity every month, they are planning to coordinate a Strawberry Festival in June and a Woodcarver’s event in July. Donald Case asked about the meat vendor, if things had been ironed out there, Don Ash said they have not received an application yet from them, he would like to put that behind them. If they want to use the Grange Parking area like they did last year, they will need to ask the Board again like they did last year. Skip Hecker motioned to allow the Farmer’s Market the use of the Park; seconded by Girard Kelly.

Elwyn Gordon Aye

Skip Hecker Aye

Robert Jones Aye

Girard Kelly Aye

Donald Case Aye

**Jerry Wells Correspondence:** Robert Jones distributed a letter he received from Jerry Wells, complaining about the signage at the Town Hall. His complaint states that there are “Town Board” signs at the Town Hall but they are not there and they do not meet there, he feels this is misleading to the public. Jerry also had a question regarding the Town Hall being a historical building and wanted to make sure grant monies were used properly. Robert Jones read to the Town Board the response he was sending back to Jerry Wells. Bob asked the Board if there were any issues with this response, no one had any. Donald Case thought that “Town Board” could be scrapped off the door inside the Town Hall. Robert Jones will mail the response letter tomorrow.

**School Budget Vote:** Robert Jones reported that the School Budget Vote will be Tuesday, May 16, 2023, they request use of The Grange from 11:00 AM – 9:00 PM that day. The Board had no issues with this.

Robert Jones stated that we will be advertising for the hiring of a general laborer employee, Don Case asked if we were also asking for a contractor, Mike T. added that we need to get this done. Skip H. thought we should get a copy of another Town’s that contracts to see what their contracts say. Contractor would have to supply everything plus have insurance. Robert Jones will see if he can get a hold of Friendships contract.

Mike T. asked, regarding the purchase of a pick-up truck, if he locates something where the price is reasonable can he give them a letter of intent pending Board approval? The Board did not have an issue with that. Rick Abbott asked about buying off from State contract, Robert Jones responded that they did away with State bid. He added that Town’s can piggy back off from another Town’s bid’s for the same amount. There was discussion on the process of purchasing vehicles and how it is working these days.

**Skip Hecker:**

Skip asked what was new with the Water Project, Robert Jones responded that the engineers are working on the next phase so that they can look for grants. Skip asked when the next meeting would be to discuss the funding of this project with the Village. Bob responded that there is a meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 16, 2023. Bob then added that Mike T., Rob Claypool, himself and Amanda Joyce-Phillips met regarding the County Hazard Mitigation planning.

Skip asked for an update of the Grange foundation, Robert Jones responded that the report is back from the Engineer, Eric will be coming down to look at it and will start working on pricing.

Skip reported that he noticed, along with Girard, that the cemetery fence has a coating of salt on it, adding that Josh Ford said that the Fire Company will hose that down this Spring to get that off.

Skip was approached about possibly getting some benches in the Cemetery, possibly add one or two a year in different sections, start possibly in the new section, he could get some prices and bring those back to the Board. Robert Jones added that there is a bench in the shed at the Cemetery, like the ones in the Park, that is brought out once a year for Memorial Day and he thinks there is another bench behind the cold storage shed. Mike T. wonders why the bench brought out for Memorial Day is not permanently placed there. Mike said that if the Board wishes for that to happen, they can do it.

Skip reported that he received an email from Craig Miller that the Village has purchased a climbing wall to put in the Park playground area, they will be putting that in sometime this Spring.

Skip asked if anyone had found out about purchasing a pole cover for the little kid’s basketball hoop, like the ones currently on the big court. Skip has been trying to get a hold of Jimmy Scholla, he will continue to try to talk with him to see where the Scholla family purchased the current ones.

Skip asked Mike T. if he still has on his list to cement the area where the little kids basketball hoop is, Mike T. responded yes they will be doing that.

**Girard Kelly:** Girard reported that he finally heard back from Russ, for the spray foam for the Grange, today, he has been down with Covid.

Girard asked Mike T. how it was going with the STW computer program. Mike T. responded slow, that he has to get use to the program, he will be contacting them to see if he can meet with them for some further guidance.

**Public comments:**

Gail Richardson reported that reflectors have been put up by the I-86 entrance and exits, so that was a success.

David Haggstrom asked if there were any plans to replace the trees that were removed from the park last year.

Elwyn Gordon responded that there needs to be some planning done regarding the trees in the park. There was discussion regarding this and the need to take a general look at all of the trees in the park and the Village. Gail Richardson added that there is an Environmental Fund that the State runs that gives monies specifically for renovation and/or creation of Parks in public areas, she feels this should be looked into, a grant possibility. Gail has spoken to the woman who runs the grants, there would need to be a pretty specific plan and budget to look into this, she would be willing to help with the proposal/grant writing. There was further discussion regarding this. Gail would like to gather more technical details, writing needs to be very specific, would need an actual plan, put as much into it as possible. Girard K. asked Elwyn G. if he would be willing to work with Gail, Elwyn said he would need a couple of days’ notice and they could meet in the Park and discuss what needs to be done, maybe meet after the weather breaks. Gail could also gather other ideas for uses of the Park to include in the grant proposal, residents should be asked for ideas.

Girard Kelly asked Robert Jones about the Hazard Mitigation meeting, Robert Jones responded that every Town is required to have a plan, which is all put together in the County Hazard Mitigation plan, examples are creek erosion that will need rip rap – that would go into the Plan, every 5 years the plan is updated.

With there being no further questions or comments Robert Jones motioned to adjourn the regular meeting; seconded by Girard Kelly. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon A Presutti

Town Clerk