

Town Board Minutes  
December 12, 2023

The monthly town board meeting held on December 12, 2023 at 56 Geneva St. Dresden New York was called to order by Supervisor Peter Martini at 7:30PM.

Present: Supervisor Pete Martini, Councilmen; Colby Petersen Lawrence Martin, Grant Downs, Bruce Henderson

Others present: George & Rosa Thompson, Gary McIntee, George Dowse, Tim Chambers, Bob Miller, Kathy McGrath, Rick Willson- District Legislator, John Ghidiu, David Goff, Nancy Sarver

Mr. Martini led the pledge of allegiance.

**Abstract of vouchers** - Mr. Martini presented the abstracts.

Motion by Mr. Petersen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Martin, the bills on the General A & B Accounts in the amount of \$ 10,528.78 be paid, carried by all.

Motion by Mr. Martin 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Henderson, the bills on the Highway DA & DB Accounts in the amount of \$ 16,912.68 be paid, carried by all.

Motion by Mr. Petersen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Martin, the bills on Water District 1 Administration account in the amount of \$ 2,517.25 be paid, carried by all.

Supervisor presented Water District 1 contractor (Nardoizzi) payment # 6 in the amount of \$ 147,334.59

Motion by Mr. Petersen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Martin to approve payment #6 in the amount of \$ 117,023.96 carried by all.

**November minutes:** Discussion on minutes for Budget hearing

Motion Mr. Downs 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Petersen to approve the minutes of November 1, 2023 Budget hearing, carried by all.

Mr. Martin made a motion to approve November 14 minutes with corrections, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Downs, carried by all.

**NYSEG Excavation Permit:** Mr. Chambers was in agreement with this permit. Motion by Mr. Petersen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Downs, to authorizing supervisor to sign a NYSEG 2024 Excavation Permit to work in Town ROW carried by all.

**Justice Financial Audit:** Mr. Downs gave a report on the Justice Audit on Judge Thompson's October 2022- September 2023 reports and financial records. Supervisor Martini offered the following resolution, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Petersen,

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Torrey Town Board on November 14, 2023 did request that the Torrey Justice Financial Records for the Year October 2022 - September 2023 be audited by Supervisor and Councilman Downs and,

**WHEREAS**, an audit was performed on December 4, 2023 on the Town of Torrey Justice Financial Records for the year October 2022 - September 2023, this audit took place in the Town Offices at 56 Geneva Street, Dresden, NY, and

**THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED**, on December 12, 2023 the Town of Torrey Town Board did receive and approve the audit report on the Town of Torrey Justice Financial Records for the year October 2022-September 2023 as presented by Supervisor Martini and Councilmen Downs, who's findings were that to the best of their knowledge, the Torrey Justice Financial Records for the year 2022-2023 to be true and correct.

Roll Call Vote: Supervisor Martini- Aye Councilmen: Downs Aye, Martin - Aye Petersen - Aye Henderson - Aye (5 Ayes 0 Nays) carried

**Appointments:** Supervisor presented re-appointments:

Robert Miller to Planning Board term to 2027

Floyd Hoover to Planning Board term to 2028

Robert Constantine to Zoning Board of Appeal term to 2028

Motion by Mr. Downs 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Petersen to approve appointments

Carried.

Motion by Mr. Downs 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Petersen appointing Supervisor Martini as Torrey Dresden Consolidate Health District Officer, carried by all.

Motion by Mr. Petersen 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Martin to reappoint Betty Daggett as Torrey Registrar of Vital Statistics, carried.

**Personnel Policy:** Mr. Hendersen presented the final draft of the personnel policy updated in its entirety.

Motion by Mr. Downs 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Martin to adopt the personnel policy draft as presented, carried by all.

Supervisor thanked Mr. Hendersen, Mr. Martin and Mr. Chambers for their dedication to this time-consuming project updating a 1998 policy.

**Short term Rental Draft-** A copy was sent to Town Attorney for review. Table to January meeting.

**Assessor Contract-**Supervisor presented Assessor appointment term to September 2025. Assessor contract with Town of Benton expires 12/31/2023. As of January 1, 2024 Town of Torrey will contract with Assessor directly.

Assessor will work in meeting room during her office hours.

Salary 2024 \$28,000. Health Insurance- \$5,000, Equip. \$3,000,

Training/ Office Supplies \$1,000.

Total for Assessor Budget \$ 37,000.

Motion by Mr. Downs, seconded Mr. Petersen; the following resolution

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Torrey presently has an Assessor contract with the Town of Benton, and Town of Benton desires to dissolve the Assessor sharing contract on 12/31/2023, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Torrey wishes to continue the services of Stephanie Holtz as town Assessor,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Town Board of the Town of Torrey, Yates County, New York, that the Town of Torrey hereby alone, will contract the services of Stephanie Holts as Town of Torrey Assessor.

This by roll call vote,

Mr. Martini - Aye, Mr. Petersen- Aye, Mr. Martin - Aye, Mr. Downs- Aye

Mr. Henderson- Aye Adopted 5-Ayes 0 Nays

**Highway report-** Mr. Chambers stated two false fire alarms in shop. Twice the same piece of machinery with arm raised driven into shop, caused an interruption with fire detector beam. Coverts came and gave operation overview of fire alarm system.

2017 Volvo had a hole in fuel tank repaired by CM Fabricators.

Torrey 3 had steering cylinder replaced.

Last culvert on Serenity Rd replaced.

Confirmation from Zeiset for new Septic tank and grease traps. Will begin work replacing septic next week.

Seeking award for Bridge NY grants. Monies awarded would defray cost of culverts replacements on Perry Point Rd and/or Long Point Rd. Sent out emails to list of engineers/consultants for the application. Cost may run \$1000. - \$5,000 for engineer.

**Code Report-** Mr. James did 4 permits, 3 C of C, 2 Sub Division Applications, 3 site visits, 2 complaint inspections, 9 building progress inspections 1 short term rental, 1 plan under review, traveled 126 miles.

Presently 5 active new homes under construction and 3 pending permits.

On December 8, 2023 he, Grant Downs, George Dowse all were at the Greenidge "Bitcoin building" sound testing performed by Aurora Acoustical Company.

Contacted Williamson Law Book Company for clarification on fees and charges with their code software. Fee for training but not for technical questions.

New home to be built on Carlson Rd. Owners would like a curb stop. Mr. Martini will inform engineer.

Motion by Mr. Downs 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Henderson authorizing Code Officer to contract with Williamson Law Book for Code Enforcement Software at \$ 6,000. (installation, training & support) with annual fee of \$1,450. Carried.

**Water District 1-** The project is moving at a good pace. Meter pits were delivered today. Railroad will be ready for the drilling on their sites starting after Christmas.

Mr. Martin asked if an action list for the Town Highway to perform has been received from Nardoizzi. Only verbal of install meter pits and roadside restoration so far.

Mr. Martin inquired what the bill from CPL was for.

Supervisor stated, CPL is completing a new Map Plan Report (MPR) for Perry Pt. water district, as the last report was from 2016.

George Dowse, Chairman of Planning Board reported on the Sound Testing required of Greenidge on their building permit for Bitcoin miners' structure. The testing began at 1 PM and ran to 1AM on December 8, 2023. Grant Downs and Dwight were present also. Testing at 5 sites on Greenidge property lines and 3 offsites, Charles St, Gazebo and Legutko property on Arrowhead Beach. The sound was recorded for 10 minutes. The bitcoin miners were shut off, tested at sites then then turned back on and retested.

Many outside noises were noted such as truck jake brakes, dogs barking, planes and jets, along with vehicle noises.

He noted nighttime noise level at the end of Arrowhead Beach Rd were at 58-60db. Testing protocol was explained to Grant, Dwight and George along with equipment function.

John Ghidui asked if the treehouse's being built on Long Point Cove year-round dwellings.

Mr. James stated the treehouses must be built to NYS Code and will be year-round. The property owners have more plans for expanding the use of the remaining lots but presently he has no permits applications for that project.

Rick Willson District II legislator gave a brief report on Yates County Legislator action. Mr. Chambers thanked him for his support defending the Town for the sales tax sharing discussions.

Presently, NYS Ag & Markets 8-year Agricultural District Review

is in process. Town of Jerusalem has a group of @ 20 property owners wanting to be removed from district are challenging for a 6-month review, the cutoff for removing a parcel was August 2023. Property owners may apply to be added to district at any time but removing a property can only happen during 8-year Ag District review time. The purpose of the Ag District is to protect viable agricultural land.

Mr. Martini stated the town would send a letter of support for Farmland protection.

**Oaths** Town Clerk gave the 2024 Oath of Office to Supervisor Peter Martini, Council people Bruce Henderson, Kathleen McGrath, Highway Superintendent Tim Chambers.

Newly elected Justice James Smith is in Albany at school and will take his oath of office next week with clerk and at County.

Mr. Downs reported attending Yates County Sheriff Ronald Spikes retirement party December 9, 2023. Mr. Spike was honored for his 53 years' service to Yates County Sheriff's Department. Representatives from other state Sheriff Departments were in attendance presenting Sheriff Spike with awards for his service. Over 300 attendees honored him and his family. There was a table set up with his awards from throughout his career. Mr. Downs noted the Wooden proclamation the Town of Torrey presented Sheriff Spike in May was proudly displayed.

Mr. Petersen reported the LULA (Land Use Leadership Alliance) event will be held May 9 & 10 and June 6 & 7<sup>th</sup>, 9-3pm at the county building. Torrey may send 2 representatives.

Mr. Downs made a motion to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Petersen carried at 9:15PM

Respectfully Submitted,