**Minutes**

**August 25, 2020 DIGITAL MEETING 6pm**

**TOWN BOARD MEETING**

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE TO FLAG- Stated by each Town Board Member
2. ROLL CALL

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | REVIEW  | COMMENT |  |
| Supervisor John C. Reilly | √ |  |  |
| Council-member Nichole Martini | √ |  |  |
| Council-member Pat Odell  | √ |  |  |
| Council-member Eric Mortenson | √ |  |  |
| Council-member John Fraser Paterson | √ |  |  |

**MONTHLY THOUGHT:**

**August rain: the best of the summer gone, and the new fall not yet born. The odd uneven time.”**

**― Sylvia Plath, The Unabridged Journals of Sylvia Plath**

**NEW BUSINESS SECTION 2020**

1. Digital Meeting plans. The September meeting will be a hybrid meeting of zoom participants and a limited number seats for the public to maintain social distancing.

2. Census 2020 update and planned mobile unit events- Town Hall September 19 and Gallatin Transfer Station September 12.

3. Speed limit issues and resolutions –A resolution for the September Meeting will request the speed limit review on the Gallatin Roads that have no posted speed limit. This request goes to Columbia County Engineering and then to the State DOT. Highway Superintendent Gomm will give the board a list of roads that have no posted speed limit.

4. Broadband review and updates-Supervisor reported on the progress on hook ups and pointed out that all three companies; Consolidated, G-Tel and Mid-Hudson Data were providing hot spots at area Town Halls, libraries and schools and providing reduced cost hookups for families that could demonstrate need

5. Update Town Solstice initiative direct mailing and discuss Copake proposed zoning changes as a preemptive action to large scale Solar projects, understanding State presumptive powers.

The Town has received the first check from Solstice for $1,200. The goal is to have 100 residents sign up. These funds will go towards solar lighting in the Town Hall Parking lot.

The Solar installation at the Highway Garage should be complete be the end of September.

Regulations and guidelines for large scale solar projects will be addressed in the comp plan review. The Town will watch how Copake addresses the large solar project and see if Gallatin could benefit by the Copake Solar Laws.

6. Gallatin Budget Update and 2021 budget schedule. Chips update-County Budget reduction levels. Court revenue and update. Chips 20% behind with an expected decrease of $30,000, sales tax not as bad as expected, 12% reduction. Large decrease in court revenue expected $30,000 decrease.

Draft budget will be at the September zoom meeting.

7. State of repairs- Town Hall - decisions 2021-2022- repair, addition and finance concerns. Repairs vs redo. Thoughts on budgeting for 2021. Bonding interest rates are in 1-2% range.

Building reserve could be used for repairs instead of bonding. Address future needs and growth. Explore what the costs would be to improve town hall.

8. Removal of Sigler Road access spur from CHIPS measurements –

Further improvement will be made on the Sigler Road/Gallatinville Road intersection. The roadway will be better defined by lines.

9. Executive Session - To discuss a HR personnel issue and Pending Litigation and counsel assignment issues (litigation correspondence, assessment, ROW road use).

Motion to enter into Executive Session

CM Mortenson second CW Odell

Motion to close Executive Session

CM Mortenson second CW Odell

Motion to return to public meeting

CM Paterson second CW Martini

**REVIEW OF PUBLIC COMMENT ON NEW BUSINESS (Email/Zoom Comment)**

**MONTHLY BUSINESS SECTION**

1. Review of July 2020 Minutes for Errors/Clarifications **Resolution 2020-31- Approve July 2020 Meeting Minutes and posting of any completed Committee minutes.**

**Motion CM Mortenteson Second CW Odell**

1. Bill Review of Non-Recurring items- Resolution **2020-32\_ to approve July 2020 bills (done by digital abstract review) for payment.**

**Motion CW Martini second CM Mortenson**

1. Highway Superintendent Comments/Report: Read and Filed.
2. Comments of Code Enforcement Officer Read and Filed.
3. Clerk Reports- Read and Filed
4. Assessor Comments
5. Supervisors report - update on County matters as applicable.

**REVIEW OF PUBLIC COMMENT ON OLD BUSINESS (Email/Zoom Comment)**

**MEETING ADJOURNED BY RESOLUTION OF THE GALLATIN TOWN BOARD**

**Motion CM Mortenson second CW Martini**