

Minutes
JUNE 15, 2021 MEETING 6:30pm
TOWN BOARD LAST DIGITAL MEETING

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

	PRESENT	ABSENT	ZOOM
Supervisor John C. Reilly	X		
Council-member Nichole Martini	X		
Council-member Pat Odell	X		
Council-member Michael Moran	X		
Council-member John Fraser Paterson	X		

MONTHLY THOUGHTS:

If you don't know where you are going, any road will get you there.

Lewis Carroll

Summer is not obligatory. We can start an infernally hard jigsaw puzzle in June with the knowledge that, if there are enough rainy days, we may just finish it by Labor Day, but if not, there's no harm, no penalty. We may have better things to do.

Nancy Gibbs-Author

I am not some intellectual hoping to be understood a century from now. I'm a political leader. I have to stand in front of my community. If I am a meter too far out in front of the people, I'll lose them.

Ayman Odeh-Isreali Politician

NEW BUSINESS SECTION 2021

Passing Noted:

- Tom Garrick (1974-1976 and 2010-2012 Town Supervisor as well as the current ZBA)
We honor his dedication to the town.

Town Meeting Going Forward:

- Meetings will go back to in-person
- We will have the digital Zoom link for the meeting for participants.
- Ask Zoom attendees to email and use the chat box.
- Attendees on Zoom will be muted and will be addressed two times if logistically possible, at the meetings starting July and going forward
- Hybrid allows for more participation which we encourage.

Pandemic Funds:

- The funds have started to be released
- Gallatin will receive the first payment this month and we will receive the second half later this year.
- We can attribute these resources for lost court revenue which will allow us to use it for infrastructure or capital improvements.

ZBA Appointments:

- **Resolution 2021-29: Motion to make Ann Simmons a permanent member to the ZBA- Motion by Paterson, second by Martini – no opposition**
- There will be a public call for the remaining 1 spot and 1 alternate for the ZBA
- Will proceed afterwards to fill the role(s) with a new procedure set in place back in January.

Comprehensive Plan Committee:

- Michael Moran recuses himself from serving on this committee
- Putting out a public call for the roles
 - Larry has spelled out what the role is, time commitment, and the timeline
 - People will reply with interest
 - Larry and the town board will interview the interested members
- The Town Board will approve the 2-3 appointments at the July meeting or at a special meeting scheduled between June and July.
- Comp Plan is created as a vision
- The zoning law may change based on these recommendations
- It will take a year to complete the process, 2-3 meetings a month, up to four hours a week.
- Goal for the committee to represent a full range of the community of Gallatin.
- Appointed: Larry Brody - chairman, Terry Porter, Carol Smilie, Peter Wheelwright

Liaison Role explained by Supervisor :

- Not an active member of the committee- need not attend every meeting- look for major projects/issues to report back on
- They bring info to the Town Board - They do not vote at the committee level
- An observer and supporter

CAC:

- Proposal from the Town Board to the CAC for them to address concerns expressed to the GCA.
- Goals and timing to address what is important to the Conservation Area
- Celia and Michael present the proposal formally to the board.
- The proposal to the CAC: review a list of line items and break down a timeline, budget, and plan to present to the town board.
- CAC – Call for Ecological recommendation at the GCA-With timing Discussion
- Town Board proposes to task Gallatin’s CAC to create a series of ecologically directed proposals regarding projects at the GCA, in line with their roll as an advisory council, to be delivered to the Town Board.

We would suggest a review of the GCA, in full (including the adjacent land at 119 Gallatinville), taking an ecological perspective and to include:

a methodology proposal—and related timings and cost—for data collection regarding the site’s plant and animal life, in an effort to protect and promote healthy habitats on this land; tangentially, as previously discussed, research the DEC’s “rare plants & animals designation” which covers the GCA and much of the neighboring properties; and, ultimately, a detailed recommendation to the Board regarding:

- A. trails and their locations as they are currently imagined with several wood walkways over wet areas to connect trail segments together
- B. invasive species management
- C. a list of details regarding ecological matters to include on the GCA sign and trail map
- D. existing and potential parking areas for the public’s use at the GCA
- E. the potential ecological benefits, or detriments, of Gallatin control over ‘the cap’, including how those relate to the cost issues for annual testing at a former waste site
- F. develop a plan to execute public interest models, to be approved by the Board, for a potential pavilion or other amenities at the GCA
- G. trail management long term

- **Omar:** Quick thanks to the GCA
 - Clarify background info about lines E and F
 - What are the costs?
 - **Celia reply:** the CAC might advocate for Gallatin to gain oversight over the site; county pays for it now, do we take it on to the town
 - **Omar:** jurisdictional issue; ecological issue; cost implication
 - **John:** Sending the CAC the costs from the County and DEC for their review; liability another question
 - **Omar:** Clarification of F: public interest model
 - **Michael:** The public interest assessment addresses what does the public want
 - **Omar:** The CAC proceeds with what is best ecologically and then what does the public want.
 - **Omar** proposes that the proposal should allow the public interest portion to go to the comprehensive plan.

- **Fraser:** We always want the residents to have access to the GCA. Can't infringe on access. Also a mandate to have the stocking done by the DEC. Maybe look at other caps that have solar arrays on it. This might be a good way forward.
- **John:** The site was studied for a solar array. The reason it stopped at the time was because there were not enough three phase power lines near enough to the site. That requirement has changed. CLC convos stopped as well because we wanted to focus on access for Gallatin residents specifically.
- EMC Carol Report:
 - Goodearthkeeping awards were awarded: Kite's Nest,
 - They like to give as many awards as possible
 - Climate Smart Community started at the county level
 - Meatless Mondays had 110 people attend at the Kinderhook Library
 - First month with 0 COVID cases
 - CLC did a training on how to use the maps for the county level NRI
 - Individual towns can adopt the Columbia County NRI (needs a motion from the town to adopt)

Formation of the Town Hall Renovation Committee:

- David Hess provided the initial proposals
- Pat and David took measurements for the wish list
- David requests the original survey, the original plans, benchmarking data from NYSERDA for the Climate Smart Community, notes on the last community center committee.
- Pat will give him this information.
- John cannot find a current survey; he put a request to our town engineer. We are not sure one exists. There also was not an original plan.
- **Board made a motion 2021-30 and it was approved to engage a surveyor- Motion by Fraser, second by Moran- no opposition.**
- We will put a call out for more volunteers to sit on the Town Hall Renovation Committee

Business Directory/CRP Progress

- Volunteers for the Committee in addition to Michael Moran and Pat Odelle: Tara Silverberg and Jacob Rieper
- Proposal is to have an email drafted by Michael and a survey developed by Tara and the data gathering by Jacob.
- Will distribute through the Town Hub and other local email lists and in paper format to reach out to all people who want to be in the directory.
- Directory will be on the website and a paper version at town hall and will be sent with the CRP
- What does the CRP stand for? Community Resource Packet
- It lists all the amenities that are here in Gallatin
- Will send to the new people living here to help them get plugged into the resources of the community.

5. Business Directory/CRP progress

Report:

Mike and Pat met with Town volunteers to discuss the mission statement of the directory and how best to gather and disperse the needed information.

The mission is to compile the businesses and services that residents of our town offer, and to make that available on both the town website as well as in physical form at Town Hall- reserving the possibility to add it to a mailing depending on timing and overall length of the document.

We intend to first reach out using various email lists with surveying technology that allows us to collect and organize the information we receive. Our hope is this first step will start a word of mouth interest and help to reach folks that are not on email lists. We'll also reach out to various members of the community individually who have extensive knowledge of our community and may help to spread the word.

We plan to direct everything through a separate email address created specifically for this task-and to use this point of contact to keep the list as current as possible.

We have an initial draft of the form/survey, and are working on both email creation as well as the language to send via email list.

CRP:

Committee has created a working outline that we have been discussing and working to hone. We will discuss the Town amenities that should be included with the Town Clerk and have identified other members of the community to reach out to who may have extensive experience with some of the information we'd like to include. Committee hopes to have a draft to present to the Board in the coming 1-2 months

6. Formation of Town Hall Renovation committee- call for volunteers- Process-budget-timing. David Hess work to date.

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

MONTHLY BUSINESS SECTION

1. Review of Board and Committee Minutes for Errors/Clarifications Resolution 2021-__
Approve May 2021 Meeting Minutes and posting of any completed Committee minutes.
2. Bill Review of Non-Recurring items- Resolution 2021-31 to approve May 2021 bills
(done by digital abstract review) for payment.
3. Financial Statement Monthly Review- Resolution 2021-32 to approve May 2021
Financial Reports (done by digital review)
4. Highway Superintendent Comments/Report
5. Comments of Code Enforcement Officer
6. Clerk Reports
7. Assessor Comments

Monthly Business Notes:

- **Highway Report**
 - Paving on East Pond Lily Road and Hull Road
 - First round of road side mowing
 - Sigler Road: held up by the phone company to finish the bottom part that is being returned to nature; will complete after they finish
 - **Louisa:** Can we add space for the turn?
 - **John:** Said we would look at it.
 - Outside pavers will help us hit our goals before the winter
 - **Fraser:** Says the two roads (East Pond Lily Road and Hull Road) are great!
 - **Pat** asked about County Route 7 and 11 what the plan was; **Jack** said he would check
 - Elsohn Bridge will be closed over the summer
 - Harry asked Jack to look at the Taconic/Benton Road connection; Jack said he would check it out. Washed out gullies and culverts to look at too.
- **Planning Board:** No meeting
- **CEO Report:** Very Busy Month
- **Clerks Report:** \$1300 from licenses and permits
- **Financial Reports:** Patterson asked about Consolidated Communications; Odell motioned, Patterson Second; all approved
- **Minutes Motion:** Moran Motioned, Martini 2nd; all approved
- **Assessor Comments:** Defer to July meeting.
- **Agenda Process:** John wants to update; 7-10 days ahead of the meeting? Is that the right process? What is best for a small town.
- **Public Comment:** Jung Min: Meetings online still? Yes.
- **Meeting Adjourned:** Moran Motion ; Reilly 2nd ; all approved

REVIEW OF PUBLIC COMMENT ON OLD BUSINESS

(Email/Zoom/Live Comment)

MEETING ADJOURNED BY RESOLUTION OF THE GALLATIN TOWN BOARD