

## TOWN OF POMPEY TOWN BOARD MINUTES

The Town Board of the Town of Pompey held its Regular Monthly Meeting on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was held in-person and was also live-streamed via Zoom platform. In attendance were: Supervisor Renee Rotondo, Councilors Ann Christmas, Bill Lipe, James Loomis, Diana Carpenter; Town Clerk Nikki Reid; Town Attorney Tim Frateschi; Town Accountant Jim Pompo; Zoom Host Veronica Hotaling; along with 37 residents.

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was had for Mary Knapp and Jeff Leegan who recently passed away. A moment of silence was also had for the traumatic event that occurred in Pompey last week; a family whose children were stabbed, and the mother died.

### ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT:

Town Accountant Jim Pompo stated that the NYCLASS account brought in almost \$11,5000.00 in interest. ARPA funds (\$683,000.00) are still being worked out and how that money can best be spent. \$81,350.00 was brought in by mortgage tax last month.

R-113-23 Motion by Christmas, seconded by Lipe to accept the July 2023 Monthly Statement for the Supervisor's Account. All in favor. Motion carried.

R-114-23 Motion by Lipe, seconded by Christmas to accept the July 2023 Bank Reconciliation Reports for the Supervisor Account. All in favor. Motion carried.

Town Accountant Jim Pompo explained the budget modification. To account for the purchase of a new pickup truck from the Highway Fund and to replace the previous truck which was totaled. The purchase price is \$51,097.50 which exceeds the insurance proceeds by \$1,217.50. A budget transfer will be required, and that amount will be transferred from the new equipment sweeper.

R-115-23 Motion by Rotondo, seconded by Loomis to approve the following transfer:

### **Highway Fund:**

DA2680	Insurance Recoveries	(\$49,880.00)
DA5130.21	Equipment Sweeper	(\$1,217.50)
DA5130.23	Equipment Pickup	\$51,097.50

All in favor. Motion carried.

R-115-23 Motion by Rotondo, seconded by Christmas to approve the purchase of a 2024 Chevrolet Truck 3500 HD LWB 4WD in the amount of \$51,097.50 under State Contract #PC69234, which will replace Resolution #71-23 that was passed in May. All in favor. Motion carried.

The Town Board scheduled a pre-budget workshop meeting on Saturday, September 9, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. and a budget workshop meeting on September 25, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. to work on the 2024 budget.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:

R-116-23 Motion by Rotondo, seconded by Christmas to accept the July 11, 2023 Regular Meeting minutes and the July 20, 2023 Special Meeting minutes. All in favor. Motion carried.

R-117-23 Motion by Christmas, seconded by Loomis to accept the July 2023 Bank Reconciliation Reports for the Town Clerk and Tax Collector. All in favor. Motion carried.

R-118-23 Motion by Christmas, seconded by Lipe to authorize Highway Superintendent Bruce Way to attend the NYSAOTSOH Conference on September 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> as amended. All in favor. Motion carried.

R-119-23 Motion by Carpenter, seconded by Christmas to approve the following payment of bills: Abstract Nos. 317-369, minus Abstract Nos. 350 and 353 totaling \$209,541.09. All in favor. Motion carried.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

R-120-23 Motion by Rotondo, seconded by Loomis to designate Town Clerk Nikki Reid and Highway Superintendent Bruce Way to be authorized users of the town credit card. All in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisor Rotondo gave an update on the events in Pompey this past week. There were tractor pulls, a rodeo, and Empire Farm Days. She stated that she is very pleased in how they turned out. They were well organized, they were safe, and had no traffic issues. She stated that this was a great community event and people enjoyed themselves. There are many town not-for-profit organizations that use Empire Farm Days as their main fundraiser.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Martha Viglietta, Gibbs Road: She shared some information on global warming and climate change. She stated that this past month has been the hottest month that humans have ever

had to tolerate as a species. A solar farm in Pompey isn't going to change global warming, but we all have the opportunity to do our part in taking a lot of little steps to counter burning less fossil fuels.

Pete Wirth, Town of Manlius: He is in support of the solar farm application in the Town of Pompey. He talked about climate change and how it's affecting Central New York. We all have our obligations to help combat it.

Stan Hack, Pratts Falls Road: He talked about the huge differences regarding the business models for Frank Long Road Solar project versus the Sweet Road Solar project. He is in full support of the Sweet Road Solar project.

Jim Gosier, Pratts Fall Road: He talked about the noise coming from Heritage Hill. He was told by Town Officials to file an official complaint, which he did, and then was told by the Codes Officer that there is nothing he can do regarding the noise as the town does not have a noise ordinance. These complaints have been voiced by residents for the last several years. He listed several neighboring towns that have noise ordinances in place; they formed a committee and figured it out. The Town of Pompey has never had a discussion on this because it's a farming community. He stated that farming is not the issue; it's the outdoor music every weekend that is occurring at Heritage Hill. He's asking the Town Board to form a committee that can look at whether a noise ordinance is viable in the Town of Pompey.

Marina Artuso, Jack in the Pulpit Circle: She is in favor of the Sweet Road Solar Farm. Her energy comes from a community solar farm located near the Boston area. She discussed how she would much rather shop locally and get her renewable energy locally from a company that is residing here.

Debbie Grenier, Cemetery Road: She came before the Town Board to ask for a financial audit to be done. In regard to solar, she stated that there have three fires this summer on solar panels that were emitting toxic smoke.

Dan McClung, Michael Avenue: He came before the Town Board to request the consideration of a noise ordinance; he stated that many neighbors have come forward with complaints regarding the noise coming from Heritage Hill. He said that what is actually happening at the site is drastically different from what was approved by the Planning Board. He is asking the Town Board to instruct the zoning office to immediately stop all activities that fall outside the original Heritage Hill application; which includes outdoor music, and to institute a town-wide noise ordinance. He stated that if the Town Board is unwilling to act, then the next step is to seek legal remedies. Dan McClung read a statement that was prepared by a large group of neighbors that are in support of three resolutions: (1) Direct the Town Code Enforcement Officer to issue a notice of violation to Mr. Palladino and for him to immediately stop all outdoor music. (2) Call for a public hearing at the next Town Board meeting to consider adopting a six-month moratorium on the approval of any non-farming activities by the Planning Board in the Farm Business Overlay District and prohibit the issuance of any building

permits for non-traditional farming activities. (3) Create an Ag HOC Committee to review and suggest proposed amendments to the farm business overlay district and a noise limitation law. This committee should include two Town Board members, two Planning Board members, a resident whose home is contiguous to Heritage Hill and one resident whose home is contiguous to Mapstone Farm and two farm owners owning separate farms.

Don Saleh, Soloman Circle: He took a moment to thank the Town Board for their time and energy to serve this town. He stated that looking at the world right now, we know the Earth is in crisis. We need to do our part and help contribute in saving the world.

David Angello, Winding Creek Road: He talked about all the good that Dan Palladino and his family did this past weekend. He and his family enjoyed the rodeo; he saw lots of families there enjoying it. He volunteered cooking and selling chickens that helped raise funds for a lot of not-for-profits so that they can continue to serve our town. Dan and his family have done a lot to help support many different school districts. A great sense of community was had this past weekend and in a safe environment. He didn't think the music was loud at all. He's been at Heritage Hill for other events and has never thought the music was loud; in fact, they had to move closer to hear it.

Susan Marris, Brickyard Falls Road: She is in support of the solar farm project. If we do not start reducing our reliance on fossil fuels and other nonrenewable energy sources, we will not be able to reverse the ill effects of the pollutants, including climate change. We need to start using clean energy that does not harm the environment.

Dale Marris, Brickyard Falls Road: He is in support of the solar farm project. He stated that climate change is a major threat to our well-being, our economic systems as well as creating a negative economic impact around the world. The Town of Pompey has the opportunity to be a part of a growing movement to lead in the fight against climate change.

Alma Hartnett, Ridge Road: She stated that what the Palladino family has done in the past few days has really benefited the community. She stated that she agrees with David Angello, the music was not loud, it was low key and she had a ball helping people.

Dan Hoeffler: He stated that every weekend, they can hear music playing from Heritage Hill from inside their house. In addition and in support of Dan McClung's statement that was shared with the Town Board, if the three resolutions are not passed by the Town Board, their attorney will be serving lawsuits by this Friday. They strongly oppose Mr. Palladino's application to build a meat processing plant on the Heritage Hill site.

R-121-23 Motion by Christmas, seconded by Loomis to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nikki Reid, Pompey Town Clerk