

TOWN OF POMPEY TOWN BOARD MINUTES

The Town Board of the Town of Pompey held its Regular Meeting on Monday, June 7, 2021. This was the first in-person meeting since March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The meeting was also livestreaming on the Town of Pompey's Facebook page via Zoom platform. In attendance were: Supervisor Renee Rotondo, Councilors Ann Christmas, Sheila Larkin, Judy McElhannon, Carl Dennis; County Legislator David Knapp; Accountant 1 Tom Chartrand; Town Attorney Tim Frateschi; Codes Officer Bob Rodriguez; Highway Superintendent Tom Purcell; Town Clerk Nikki Reid; Zoom Host Veronica Hotaling; along with 4 residents. The following remotely attended: Solar Committee Chairman John Shaheen; Energy Programmer at Central New York Regional Planning and Developmental Board Chris Carrick.

Supervisor Rotondo called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was had for the passing of Dave Cooke, Mark Wasmund, and Helen McDermott. A moment of silence was had in remembrance of Memorial Day; to honor all who have served this Country.

Special Guest County Legislator David Knapp updated that he will be meeting with his County Attorney tomorrow to obtain a draft of the Intermunicipal Agreement for the digital speed signs. He also had great news to share about the mortgage tax money that the County distributes amongst Towns and Villages; Pompey will be receiving \$153,387.76.

Local Law 2021-2 – Solar Overlay District

Continuation of Local Law 2021-2 Solar Overlay District public hearing. Onondaga County Planning Board sent back their comments and found that the local law would not have any county-wide impact.

R-111-21 Motion by Christmas, seconded by Larkin to reopen the public hearing for Local Law 2021-2 Solar Overlay District. All in favor. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Florence Saleh, Pompey Pines: We are impressed with your initiative so that those with agricultural land are informed to use their land for Solar Farms if they so choose.

County Legislator David Knapp asked Town Attorney Tim Frateschi if Pompey has taken any action to opt-out of the State tax exempt program. Frateschi responded that the Town has not opted out of the State tax exemption. He also explained that if a Solar Farm is constructed, under the Town Code the developer would be required to enter into a PILOT either through the Town or the County IDA. Solar Committee Chairman John Shaheen commented that if the

Town decides to opt-out of the Pilot Program, it will affect Tier 1 and Tier 2 Solar Farms as well. Accountant Tom Chartrand remarked that the underlying property is still taxable at its previous level; just the improvements of the property would be exempt.

R-112-21 Motion by McElhannon, seconded by Dennis to close the public hearing on Local Law 2021-2 Solar Overlay District. All in favor. Motion carried.

R-113-21 Motion by Rotondo, seconded by McElhannon to approve Local Law 2021-2 Solar Overlay District as presented to the Town Board.

Roll call vote taken:

Supervisor Rotondo	Yes
Councilor Christmas	Yes
Councilor Larkin	Yes
Councilor McElhannon	Yes
Councilor Dennis	Yes

All in favor. Motion carried.

SWIM PROGRAM

Accountant Tom Chartrand and Swim Program Director Meghan Campbell deserve so much credit for establishing a 2021 Swim Program, which has been a difficult and time-consuming process. Meghan worked especially hard to ensure that the program will have all six levels. 56 participants are registered in the Town of Pompey, 9 participants in the Town of LaFayette, 15 participants in the Town of Fabius, and 15 participants in the outskirts of Cazenovia and Manlius, for a total of 95 registered participants: one-third of usual participants. There will only be one session which starts July 19th and will run for three weeks. Accountant Tom Chartrand reported that the Swim Program will cost the Town \$14,500.00. Supervisor Rotondo told the Board Members that there is a strong possibility that the Town could recover loss revenue from this program through the American Rescue Plan.

R-114-21 Motion by Dennis, seconded by McElhannon to set the 2021 Swim Program Fees as follows: Residents: \$40 for the first child, \$30 for the second child, \$20 for the third child, \$100 cap per family. Non-Residents: \$75 per child. All in favor. Motion carried.

TOWN FINANCES

Accountant Tom Chartrand gave an update on Town Finances:

Town Clerk Fees: Almost \$3,731.00

NYCLASS Interest: .042%

Scrap Metal Fund: Almost \$2,500

General Fund: Spending at 40%; Revenue at 85%.
 Highway Fund: Spending at 24%; Revenue at 88%.

R-115-21 Motion by Christmas, seconded by McElhannon to accept the April 2021 bank reconciliation reports and monthly reports for the Supervisor and Town Clerk. All in favor. Motion carried.

R-116-21 Motion by Christmas, seconded by Larkin to approve the payment of General Fund Abstract Nos. 177-210, totaling \$33,874.64; Highway Fund Abstract Nos. 90-109, totaling \$117,415.10; Special District Abstract Nos. 16-20, totaling \$3,493.00. All in favor. Motion carried.

R-117-21 Motion by Dennis, seconded by Rotondo to approve the following transfer:

GENDERAL FUND

From: A599	Fund Balance	J-Cap Grant	\$6,400.00
A599	Fund Balance	Perma Refund	\$7,200.00
A599	Fund Balance	Comm. Foundation Grant	<u>\$5,000.00</u>
		TOTAL:	\$18,600.00
To: A1110.4	Justices	Equipment	\$6,400.00
A1680.4	Central Comm. System	Contractual	\$2,400.00
A7520.2	Historical Properties	Equipment	\$4,800.00
A7520.2	Historical Properties	Equipment	<u>\$5,000.00</u>
		TOTAL:	\$18,600.00

All in favor. Motion carried.

TOWN CLERK

R-118-21 Motion by Dennis, seconded by Christmas to accept the May 3, 2021 Regular Meeting minutes. All in favor. Motion carried.

Nikki Reid has adjusted the Town Clerk’s Office Hours: Monday – Thursday from 8:30am – 4:00 pm, closed daily from 12pm – 1pm.

TOWN HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

The Town Hall Septic Line plugged up last month due to tree roots, Highway Superintendent Tom Purcell had the system pumped. While investigating the issue; he also discovered that the Highway Department tank had collapsed, which needed to be replaced. The Highway Crew has been busy patching and sealing the Town Roads, which gets done every Spring. They are also sweeping up the excess stone. Roadside mowing began last week

and will be done daily going forward. He also updated that the new Ram has arrived. Paving projects are in process; Spruce Ridge Subdivision will be paved this season. Every year the Highway Crew does approximately 10 miles of resurfacing. There are also a couple of uncertain paving projects due to cost of stone and asphalt.

TOWN ATTORNEY

Town Attorney Tim Frateschi gave an overview of the Cannabis Legislation. If the Town does not pass any legislation, as of January 1, 2022, the State will be able to license dispensaries and onsite consumption facilities in the Town of Pompey. He stated that the Town does not have the right to control consumption or the allowance to grow cannabis but the Town does have the right to say that they do not want dispensaries or onsite consumption facilities. If the Town of Pompey decides to opt-out, the Local Law to do this would have to be passed by the end of 2021. If a Local Law to opt-out is enacted; it would be subject to Permissive Referendum. If the Town does decide to opt-out, they can always opt-in in the future. If the Town does decide to opt-out; there will be no tax revenue for dispensaries or onsite consumption facilities.

Councilor Larkin stated that this information needs to be on the Town's website and available to the public. Councilor Christmas feels that the Board needs to go in to the hamlets and talk to the people and hear their thoughts. Supervisor Rotondo agreed and said that Delphi Falls, Pompey Hill, Pompey Town Hall, and the Church in Oran would be great locations to hold an informational session. Councilor Larkin questioned if all four locations are necessary; she feels that one session would suffice. She also remarked how important it is for the people to have the information and to be able to vote on it. Town Attorney Tim Frateschi said there is no legal requirement to have any public hearing. He believes that holding a meeting at the Town Hall which livestreams through Zoom and Facebook attracts a large audience that can participate virtually. Supervisor Rotondo stated that they will hold one meeting at the Town Hall and see if there is any interest before deciding if additional sessions should be held. The Town Board Members agreed to discuss Cannabis Legislation at the next Regular Town Board Meeting; Wednesday, July 7, 2021.

R-119-21 Motion by Larkin, seconded by Dennis to adopt the MS-4 Report prepared by the Town Engineer. All in favor. Motion carried.

R-120-21 Motion by Christmas, seconded by Dennis to designate the Codes Enforcement Officer to be the Stormwater Treatment Officer. All in favor. Motion carried.

CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Bob Rodriguez gave an update on the Route 20 barn near Pompey Town Hall. The applicant is in the process of applying for a demo permit. Once that is completed, the

demolition will begin. He is also working on the property on Cherry Street; he is giving the owner one more month to get it cleaned up otherwise it will be condemned as an unsafe building. There is also a vacant house on Cazenovia Road that is causing problems with the neighbors, which is also a work-in-progress. He also updated that the tenants that are living at the Pompey Center Road property are in the process of being evicted and will be back in Court on June 15, 2021.

COUNCILORS

Town Councilor Christmas stated that she and Supervisor Rotondo met to audit Judge Amond and Judge Cagnetti's Court Records and found no issues.

R-121-21 Motion by Christmas, seconded by McElhannon to accept the Town Board's conducted audit of Town Justice Cagnetti and Town Justice Amond's Court Records. All in favor. Motion carried.

Town Councilor Christmas reported that she has been working with Stan Gorman, ECC Board Member, regarding the Cell Tower on Sevier Road. She used the list of owners that Town Attorney Tim Frateschi provided her with to make phone calls and emails and has heard from one company so far. She will continue to work on this issue.

Town Councilor Dennis gave an update on the School House repairs. He thanked Supervisor Rotondo for applying for a grant that the Town was awarded so that this project can be submitted and work can begin.

Town Councilor Larkin updated that she is working on the Social Media Policy. She also offered to help Supervisor Rotondo with the Town Newsletter.

SUPERVISOR

Supervisor Rotondo reported on old business. She shared a proposal from Arcadis with the Town Board Members regarding the Preserve Drainage Project. The Preserve is ready to move forward with this project. A survey needs to be done in order to determine the right grade level. The Homeowners Association wants the more expensive option, which is to bury the pipe underground. Because they are a Special District, they will have to pay for this option.

R-122-21 Motion by Christmas, seconded by McElhannon to authorize Supervisor Rotondo to sign the Letter of Proposal as written by Arcadis. All in favor. Motion carried.

Tom Chartrand remarked that the American Rescue Plan may be able to aid with the drainage and ground water for the Pompey Preserve Drainage Project.

Supervisor Rotondo updated that she continues to work on the SAM funding; \$400,000 Grant through Senator May's Office. It has been awarded but Supervisor Rotondo has several documents she needs to fill out. This continues to be a work-in-progress. Eventually she is hopeful that this will go toward the Gradall.

Supervisor Rotondo had new business to share. Codes Officer Bob Rodriguez and Codes Clerk Leslie Rodriguez have submitted their letter of resignation effective July 31, 2021. She is very saddened about this not only because the Town is losing such a great Codes Officer and Clerk, but also because they have done a spectacular job in turning the Code's Office around from the previous administration. She remarked to both Bob and Leslie that their loss is tremendous and replacing them will not be easy. Supervisor Rotondo, along with the Board Members, are committed to ensuring that the replacement of the Codes Officer will be equally experienced and qualified.

R-123-21 Motion by Christmas, seconded by McElhannon to accept the resignation for Codes Enforcement Officer and Codes Clerk 1. All in favor. Motion carried.

Supervisor Rotondo remarked that the beautification of the Town Hall would be a wonderful community project. The outside of the Town Hall needs attention, the ox needs to be repaired. It is very bare where the Christmas Tree used to be, which had to be taken down due to expanding tree roots over the septic tank. She is more than happy to head a Committee and is putting word out to the public who are interested in being involved.

Councilor Dennis said that John Kennedy is willing to fix the ox. He will work with getting an estimate on the cost to repair them.

Supervisor Rotondo reminded residents to take the Broadband survey as it will only benefit the Town in the long run. She also shared that the Town of Pompey is one of the towns with lowest vaccination rates.

A resident on Route 91 near the Pompey Club has requested a speed reduction request. Supervisor Rotondo told the resident that before the Town can apply for the request, it would be helpful if there was a neighborhood petition showing their support.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Debbie Grenier: I am wondering if the Solar Overlay District Local Law 2021-2 was passed? Supervisor Rotondo replied yes and that she can watch the recording on Facebook.

Jim & Joanne Schoonmaker: The audio and video of the new AV System are great. It really improves the virtual experience. Thanks to the Board for this much needed and timely improvement.

James Loomis: Very happy to hear the Swim Program is a go for all levels. Thanks for all the work to make this happen. I still firmly believe that the amount of money this Town pays in taxes that kids learning a life saving skill of swimming should be enough of a priority to cover the fee for Pompey Residents. Families with kids always get fees passed on to them every time money gets tight. That is sad in my opinion. Still grateful there is a program.

Nancy Furdock: Regarding the speed reduction request on Route 91, are there any statistics available on accidents or injuries which would suggest that the current speed limit is appropriate? Supervisor Rotondo said that she can make a request to the 911 Center for accident reports in that area.

Richard Moseson: Where on the Town of Pompey website can I find the Broadband Survey? Veronica Hotaling responded that she will post it on the Town Website.

R-124-21 Motion by Dennis, seconded by Larkin to go into Executive Session at 8:18 p.m. to discuss matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. All in favor. Motion carried.

The Town Board returned from Executive Session and went into Regular Session at 8:26 p.m. Town Attorney Tim Frateschi stated that because Codes Officer Bob Rodriguez took the Oath of Office and is thus considered a Town Officer, his letter of resignation can not be accepted because his resignation date is scheduled more than thirty days after the date of the letter. Mr. Rodriguez withdrew the letter of resignation, which withdrawal of the resignation was accepted by the Town Clerk, and will re-submit it at the July meeting, to be effective July 31, 2021.

R-125-21 Motion by Dennis, seconded by Larkin to adjourn at 8:27 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nikki Reid
Pompey Town Clerk