**Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting, April 10 2019**

**State of New York, County of St. Lawrence, 94 Main St., Colton 13625**

Present: George Cayey, Super. Councilpersons: Katheryn Hayes

Darren Richards, DPW Supt. Lisa Fisher-Davis

Donna Arquiett, Clerk Ronald Robert

Grace Hawley

Absent Kevin Hawley, Hwy. Supt.

Others present: Jeff Tubolino, Tina Miller, Ed Fuhr, Joanne Fisher, Mary Jane Watson, Ruth McWilliams,

Joe McWilliams, Kirke Perry and John Bartholomew.

Supervisor Cayey opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:07.

Mr. Cayey requested a motion be put forth to accept or deny the minutes of the March 13th Regular Monthly meeting.

Motion # 1

**ACCEPT MINUTES**

Motion made by Mr. Robert, seconded by Mrs. Fisher-Davis to accept the minutes of March 13, 2019.

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Robert, Hayes, Hawley

Noes 0

Motion carried

Mr. Cayey asked Board Members if they reviewed bills on Warrant # 3, any comments or questions. Notice

there are NO transfers this month.

Motion # 2

**PAY BILLS ON WARRANT # 3, BANK STATEMENT & RECONCILIATION**

Motion made by Mr. Robert, seconded by Mrs. Fisher-Davis to pay bills on Warrant # 2 as listed below along with the bank statement and reconciliation.

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Robert, Hayes, Hawley

Noes 0

Motion carried

General Fund $ 44,763.92

Highway Fund $ 30,958.31

Library Fund $ 1,401.40

Colton Light District $ 754.61

South Colton Light District $ 710.05

Sewer District #1 $ 5,110.60

Water District #1 $ 1,319.06 Total $85,017.95

**LEGISLATOR’S REPORT** Mr. Cayey read County Legislator Perkins’ report he emailed in his absence.

At the April 1stFull Board Meeting;

\* We had 41 resolutions \*We had 12 modifications to the budget \*We had seven vacancy positions that we filled \*We had 11 Agreements/ Contracts to be signed \*We had 2 grant resolutions, 1 to apply and one to accept

\* We had a resolution proclaiming Earth day \*We had resolutions approving the Amicus Brief in joining the legal suit against The NY city law restricting the carry of Pistols within and outside of the city. \*We had a resolution designating April as Fair Housing month \*We had 2 resolutions approving new bridge selection criteria

\*We had a 1 resolution approving the write off of old bad debt in the Probation dept. \*We had a resolution proclaiming April1-7 as national Public Health week \*We had a resolution declaring April asexual Assault Awareness month \*We had a resolution supporting the Bass master’s Tournament with a contribution of $30,000

**DOG WARDEN REPORT:** Mr. McConkey sent an email but it didn’t come in time for the meeting,

He captured a dog at large which he returned it the owner. He did a welfare check then continued to do 2 ½ hours on license compliance. Mr. McConkey said he would be in town the next day to finish the list of delinquent licenses, plus follow up on two complaints.

**Bti REPORT** Mr. Cayey read aloud Ms. Malik’s report:

* All the major brooks have been treated first round. We just have a few small streams left to treat and need to treat a few sections of streams that were totally frozen when the stream was initially treated.
* All the streams should be treated for the first round by the middle of next week.
* We haven't found many larvae in the river yet and are continually monitoring it for black fly larvae.
* We received the mosquito permits. We will start monitoring for mosquito larvae next week and anticipate beginning mosquito treatments by the middle of next week, if we find mosquito larvae present. Unlike black flies, mosquitoes don't overwinter as larvae so we have to wait until eggs hatch.
* So far the program is going very well.

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**ASSESSOR’S REPORT** Ms. Miller reported:

* Currently my roll books are with the County for keying and creation of the tentative roll. This means things are quiet around the office. This year was quite a challenge preparing the rolls as we did receive a brand new telecommunication ceiling assessment which was very complicating to create and key. My goal is to file the tentative roll on May 1st but this depends upon when the roll is completed at the County side and then printed.
* During this time, while the rolls are being finalized, there are no sales to be reported. They are held at the county level until all rolls are submitted and next year’s roll (2020) is produced. Once this is done I will report on the months that are held.
* It should be noted that this time no value changes can be made unless it is through the stipulation/grievance process.

**PLANNING/ZBA BOARD** Mr. Fuhr reported:

The Planning Board meeting was held on March 12, 2019, 7:00 P.M. at the Colton Town Hall. The legal notice of this meeting was posted in the local newspapers as usual. The issues brought up for discussion were:

\* Discussion and training for Google data exchange and storage for the Colton planning board.

\* CEO Report

\* Update on the crosswalk in S. Colton on or near the corner of Sugar Bush Lane.

\* There were only 2 applicants for the Secretary position, I recommend Stacey Cole.

Motion # 3

**HIRE MRS. COLE AS SECRETARY TO PLANNING/B.A.R./ AND ZBA**

Motion made by Mrs. Fisher-Davis, seconded by Mr. Robert to hire Stacey Cole as Secretary to the three boards of Planning, Zoning Board of Appeals and Board of Assessment Review as they occur at $12.00 per hour.

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Robert, Hayes, Hawley

Noes 0

Motion carried

**CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT** Mr. Richards reported:

The Town’s three year commercial inspections have started. The mercantile buildings are first then we will move onto the assemblies (churches) and then small businesses and multiple residences. 18 permits this year so far. One new subdivision coming down the pike, and one new business being renewed from the Red Pine Pub days. Permission from the board to attend a National Flood Insurance Program-Community Rating System seminar. This is a two day seminar near Albany, FEMA provides the hotel and conference fee for Municipal Code Officers.

**DEP’T. OF PUBLIC WORKS** Mr. Richards reported:

*Transfer Station* - The DPW would like permission to apply for two grants to upgrade our transfer station and replace our recycling facility with a new building to include housing of the back hoe, compactors, recycling, and a possible addition of two new compactors, and control room for attendant. There is a DEC recycling grant for 50% match and a USDA for up to 15% grant which can be combined. Another words we could upgrade our infrastructure for a possible 35 cents on the dollar. If the facility would cost $400,000 our town cost would be $140,000 and a new transfer station could last another 30 years with better efficiency in energy and lower O&M costs. Reduction or energy, and less trucking with better compaction percentage, could pay for the facility over the life of the new facility. Our first step would be to commission Blue Line Engineering to produce a floor plan of the new facility for grant and board perusal.

*Water and Sewer* - The DPW would like permission to apply for a belt or screw press to dewater our sludge at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Casella is getting out of the sludge land injection program due to Potsdam getting a new screw press. We are attempting to see if the Town of Potsdam could process our sludge at their plant. If it can be processed gpm directly from the vac truck without going into their digester tank, and the Village of Potsdam approves, then we may forgo the grant. Right now we have to explore these options concurrently to find the cheapest solution and best solution. Our digester is currently close to empty due to a recent sludge haul, and now we must have a plan in place prior to our next haul which might be processed as far away as Watertown.

*Building and Grounds* - RSI is getting us a quote package on reroofing the highway barns as an option due to the pitched roof bids were considered high quotes. The board still need to approve the bid rejections if that is their direction at this time. Work is moving forward on the Community Center flooring for the foyer and back hallway. This is being completed by a court grant. The lift has been ordered and will be here in approximate 2 week time to be installed. This too is paid for by the court grant. Recreation building is being prepped to be handed over to the school for the softball season. The extended backstop in front of both dugouts were ordered by the school to be installed when possible. We have a state contract quote on the new budgeted Model 738 commercial mower that will replace the model 475. The 475 is over 16 years old and will be used permanently for broom work at the transfer and spring clean-up once replaced. The JD 738 is $17,767.64. This is $3,700 over our intended budget, but will also serve as our main snow blower in the winter time around our building and grounds. We will stay on budget and take the remainder out of our equipment .2 budget lines equally out of water, sewer, transfer and recreation as it will serve these areas as well. Permission to purchase an asphalt and field sprayer for striping for $2,679.00. This was budgeted at $4,000.00 and came in approximately $1,200.00 under budget.

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Motion #4

**ALLOW DPW SUPT. TO ATTEND FEMA TRAINING**

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Mr. Robert to allow Mr. Richards to attend the National Flood Insurance Program training seminar May 6 & 7.

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Robert, Hayes, Hawley

Noes 0

Motion carried

Motion # 5

**AUTHORIZE MR. RICHARDS TO APPLY FOR 2 GRANTS FOR THE TRANSER STATION**

Motion made by Mr. Robert, seconded by Mrs. Fisher-Davis to authorize Darren Richards to apply for the 2 grants for the Transfer Station.

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Robert, Hayes, Hawley

Noes 0

Motion carried

Motion # 6

**PERMISSION TO PERSUE GRANT FOR SEWER PLANT**

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Mr. Robert to permit Mr. Richards to persue the grant for the sewer plant.

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Robert, Hayes, Hawley

Noes 0

Motion carried

Mr. Richards added the crew has been putting flooring down in the front foyer and the rear door. This was covered under the Court Grant. The lift should be here in 2 weeks, also covered by the grant.

Mr. Cayey spoke about purchasing a striper with the school. CPCS and the Town will do this as a shared service. The total cost of the striper is $2679, the school will pay half.

Motion # 7

**GIVE APPROVAL TO PURCHASE STRIPER**

Motion made by Mr. Robert, seconded by Mrs. Hawley to approve of Mr. Richards to purchase the striper, sharing the expense 50/50 with Colton-Pierrepont Central School.

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Robert, Hayes, Hawley

Noes 0

Motion carried

Motion # 8

**AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF MOWER**

Motion made by Mrs. Fisher –Davis, seconded by Ms, Hayes to authorize Mr. Richards to purchase the mower under state contract as long as he can find the extra funds.

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Robert, Hayes, Hawley

Noes 0

Abstain 1 Cayey

Motion carried

**SAFETY REPORT** Mr. Richards reported;

Building fire and security panels are currently being tested and inspected by NCC. Half of the buildings are done and the rest are scheduled for this Friday. New eye wash stations were installed in the water plant, WWTP and the MSB for safety purposes around chemicals and pathogens. The grab rails are installed in the new handicap bathrooms in the Community Center. I am attempting to get into a safety seminar for PERMA, but need to be signed up as a PERMA coordinator first. I am submitting a sun protection policy for the Town and is included in my report. Permission to adopt a sun protection policy for our town and employees, allow us to train our employees on sun damage prevention and I have obtained a 100% grant on sun protection equipment of nearly $3,000.00. This includes a Gazebo type roof by our Swift Field playground, sunscreen dispenser and two 12 x 12 easy up canopies for our town uses.

Mr. Cayey questioned when to expect to hear about the Bti grant ? We are supposed to hear mid April.

**LIBRARY REPORT** Joanne Fisher Library Trustee, reported: their hasn’t been much change since the last meeting. We are still working on the Meet Minimum Standard for Libraries in NYS. We have a book signing April 17 from 4:00 to 7:00, come and meet Terry Fisher and have him sign your book he wrote “Depth Finder”.

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**HIGHWAY REPORT** Mr. Cayey read aloud Mr. Hawley’s report since he was absent.

* Since the last board meeting we have been working on snow and ice, vehicle maintenance and cold patching.
* An interesting note, about a dozen years ago we would normally go through a dump truck load or two of cold patch this time of year. This year so far we are on our second pallet of patch or 2 tons versus 20 plus. This is credited to the last several years of extra road work, ie paving and ditching and culvert replacements. This has been possible from record high chips funding and record low asphalt prices. Combined we have been completing between 4 and 5 miles annually versus one or two miles previously.
* As I am looking at and planning this summers capital work I am sad to report that the states budget eliminated the Extreme Winter Recovery money that has been allocated for the last several years. I also am expecting an increase of a few dollars per ton on asphalt from last year. I will have exact numbers next month as the oil index that is used to calculate asphalt prices will be available once asphalt begins production. I also expect the official letter from chips sometime around the 15th of this month. The EWR money amounts to about a $24,000 shortfall to our town. Over the last several years our asphalt has been virtually totally funded by Chips.
* I would like to ask the members of the board to do some thinking between now and the next meeting and maybe investigate your contingency accounts to cover this short fall. Short of snow and ice, paving and road construction is our most important task.
* The pickup that I bought from Wappinger Falls is working out well, it needed nothing except a two way radio.
* And I was successful in obtaining the second pickup from St. Lawrence County for $7400. The bill for this truck is in this months bills.

The Board discussed sidewalk winter maintenance and agreeing they should be replaced.

Motion # 9

**ADD $30,000 TO BUDGET ANNUALY TO REPLACE SIDEWALKS**

Motion made by Mr. Robert, seconded by Mrs. Hawley to agree to budget $30,000 for sidewalks each year and alternate years with South Colton.

Ayes 4 Fisher-Davis, Robert, Hayes, Hawley

Noes 0

Motion carried

Mrs. Fisher-Davis remarked she was sorry but she had over booked herself and had another meeting to attend and left at 7:00.

Highway Garage Roof Project bids were too high so were rejected and we are now looking into a rubber roof since that is what has been on it.

Motion # 10

**REJECT BIDS**

Motion made by Mr. Robert, seconded by Ms. Hayes to reject the 2 bid received for the Highway Garage Roof,and rebid the project.

Ayes 4 Hawley, Robert, Hayes, Cayey

Noes 1 Fisher-Davis

Motion carried

Motion # 11

**BLUE LINE ENGINEERS TO REBID** ‘

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Mr. Robert to rebid the Highway Garage Roof as a rubber roof and to install the siding.

Ayes 4 Robert, Hayes, Hawley, Cayey

Noes

Motion carried

**CLERK’S REPORT** Ms. Arquiett reported:

* The second tax payments are done, now taxpayers are making the 3rd and last payment due May 31.
* I have been working on cleaning out computer files.
* Updating minutes on our website.
* We go live April 18 for EDRS (Electronic Death Registry System). The State gives you several dates to choose from for your online training. It was ½ hour long. I have signed up for another one.
* And the daily routine of answering the phone, direct folks where they need to go if we don’t have info their looking for, frequently looking for something in old records for genealogy requests, doing minutes, answering emails, licensing dogs, scanning records to put into the laserficshe program to index records, etc.

Mr. Cayey asked about the boxes in the vault, since they are marked to be discarded to make room. Ms. Arquiett stated she would go though them next week.

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**TOURISM / BEAUTIFICATION** Mrs. McWilliams reported:

**Spring Work / Volunteers Needed**

The committee will focus time and energy in May on some spring cleaning, both inside and outside at various town sites. All those wishing to help should contact Ruth McWilliams (ruth@catamountlodge.com).

* **Colton Museum**—Every spring the committee helps the Colton Historical Society (CHS) prepare the Museum and the Stone Valley Information Center for opening by summer. On May 14-16 a combination of forces will assist Cyndy Hennessy and other CHS members with general cleaning and with updating displays and information.
* **Caring for Colton Days**—Annually the committee hosts Caring for Colton Days in May to encourage people to help clean up town sites and pick up trash and other debris around town that is left from winter. On May 18-19 the committee plans to work on parks and other outdoor sites; and welcomes volunteers including Colton-Pierrepont Central School (CPCS) students interested in completing community service hours. Work will be scheduled during the committee’s next meeting after volunteers are identified and site leaders are confirmed.

**Summer Help / Applications at CPCS**

Once again the committee welcomes assistance by CPCS students with a variety of activities during the summer. Last year nine students applied for and accepted summer work, assisting with festivals and events, outdoor activities, and various performances as well as staffing the Stone Valley Information Center in the Museum. The committee expects to have job descriptions and application forms available via Heather Rousell, CPCS School Counselor, by the end of this week. Applications will be due by Friday, May 3rd so interviews can be done and decisions made on May 6th for reporting to the Town Board at its May 8th meeting. Applicants should know that summer helpers, like other committee participants, are required to read and comply with the town’s new sexual harassment prevention policy and take the required training during the summer.

**Colton Country Days / Planning Underway**

Cyndy Hennessy, as CHS President, has kicked off planning for the week-long Colton Country Days celebration from July 14-21. The committee will help with publicity, host a number of events during the week, and assist with traditional Country Day activities on July 20 including a performance by Blue Mystics to complement the 50th reunion being planned by CPCS alumni. Also during the week the committee will assist the CHS and others involved in the Sunday Rock Legacy Project with the Grasse River Players’ production of George M. Cohan’s “The Tavern” in the school auditorium. Updates about Colton Country Days are being posted on Facebook and other related publicity will begin soon.

**Next Meeting / May 6**The committee’s next monthly meeting will be held on May 6 to continue working on spring and summer activities.

**TOWN ENGINEERS REPORT** Jeff Tubolino of Blue Line Engineering, reported:

We got the grant for $421,500 and the total cost of the Salt Barn project is $843,000. This project won’t start until next year. Mr. Tubolino stated he has teamed up with Bernier & Carr and need a motion authorizing him to do so.

Motion # 12

**AUTHORIZE BLUE LINE ENGINEERING TO TEAM UP WITH ANOTHER FIRM**

Motion made by Mr. Robert, seconded by Ms. Hayes to authorize Blue Line Engineering to team up with Bernier & Carr as necessary.

Ayes 4 Robert, Hayes, Hawley, Cayey

Noes

Motion carried

The Board quickly read over the unfinished business since it had already been talked about in the meeting.

1. NYCLASS investment made over $6,800 in March
2. Highway Garage roof to be rebid
3. Still waiting on funding from the State for the Library
4. $50,000 grant for old fire station will be used for a new furnace
5. Should know soon whether or not we got the $76,000 Bti grant.
6. The chair lift at the J R Community Center will be coming and installed soon
7. Bti truck production is starting April 15.

Mr. Richards asked to hire Blake Scovil back for the summer.

Motion # 13

**HIRE SUMMER HELP**

Motion made by Mr. Robert, seconded by Mrs. Hawley to hire Blake Scovil from May 15 to August 31 at $12.50 per hour.

Ayes 4 Robert, Hayes, Hawley, Cayey

Noes

Motion carried

Motion # 14

**ADJOURNMENT**

Ayes 4 Robert, Hayes, Hawley, Cayey

Noes

Motion carried \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Donna Arquiett, Town Clerk

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