**Colton Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting, July 13, 2022**

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

Present: Ronald Robert, Town Supervisor Councilpersons: Lisa Fisher

Kevin Hawley, Highway Supt. Jacob Poste

Darren Richards, Code/Safety/DPW Supt. Randi-Lee Cook-Planty

Jennifer Cole, Town Clerk Kevin Beary

Meeting attendees: Randi-Lee Planty, Jacob Poste, Ronald Robert, Kirke Perry, Kevin Hawley, Lisa Fisher, Jeff Tubolino, Darren Richards, Jeff Rousell, Kevin Beary, Shelley Rayner, Ed Fuhr, Ron Gilmore, Bill Lemieux, Joanne Lincoln, Andrea Malik, Becky Allen

Zoom attendees: Dennis Eickoff, MaryJane Watson, Casey Dickenson, Kate Mazdzer, Cynthia Hennessy, Judy Fuhr

Supervisor R. Robert lead the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Meeting opened at 6:01 pm as scheduled.

Motion #1

**Approve June 2022 Minutes**

Motion made by Ms. Fisher, seconded by Mrs. Planty to approve the minutes from the June 2022 regular monthly meeting.

Ayes 5

Nays 0

Motion carried

Motion #2

**Authorize Bank Recon, Transfers & Bills in Warrant #7, 2022**

Motion made by Mrs. Planty, seconded by Ms. Fisher to authorize payment of bills labeled Warrant #7, do a budget amendment and a transfer as indicated below.

Ayes 5

Nays 0

Motion carried

General Fund……………………………………………..$ 93,117.81

Highway Fund…………………………………………… 103,945.31

Library Fund……………………………………………….. 1,549.56

Sewer Fund #1……………………………………………. 16,111.87

Water Fund #1………………………………………………2,853.38

Colton Light Dist…………………………………………….. 813.78

S. Colton Light Dist………………………………………….. 760.79

Transfer from A1990.40 Contingency……………………………………………$15,300.00

to A1420.40 Attny Contractual………………………………………...8,000.00

A1420.410 Attny Roemer…………………………………………...6,500.00

A4020.40 Registrar Vital Statistics………………………………….. 300.00

A5010.40 Supt of Highways………………………………………….500.00

**COURTESY OF THE FLOOR:**

Ron Gilmore requested an update on the West Higley Rd and the possibility of the Town taking over the road. Supervisor Robert stated that he has been in contact with the Town attorney in regards to this matter and he is waiting to hear back from him.

Becky Allen brought to the board’s attention concerns with opening the trails to ATVs, snowmobiles and UTVs. Stating that a majority of the ATV and UTV riders she sees are not being safe. Not wearing helmets and speeding. Also, she states there is substantially more garage/trash on the roads and trails due to the ATVs and UTVs. Ms. Allen stated that she was almost hit by an ATV not too long ago and that people are unable to ride bikes on the trails due to all this.

Ed Fuhr, representing the Higley Assoc. informed the board that there will be a canoe race August 26th. Registration starts at 9am at Big Rock. There is a registration fee. Awards will be given out. Also, there will be a bike tour September 10th. A 50k and 100k at the Higley Flow State Park. There will be a mushroom walk scheduled for this upcoming fall. This will be fun for all and educational. The start of the new storage building for grooming equipment at Higley Flow State Park will begin on Monday.

Jennifer Cole brought her concern with the location of her driveway and the corner/curve by her neighbors Bulger and Perry on State Route 56 near the intersection of Kunoco. Stating that for years it has been a concern of hers and her husbands but never did anything about it. On July 6th Mrs. Coles daughter narrowly missed being T boned by a vehicle coming around the curve on Route 56 heading towards Kunoco. Mrs. Cole presented the board with a photo of how close the oncoming vehicle and the vehicle her daughter was driving came. Mrs. Cole requested a mirror to be put on a power pole near a neighbor’s house so that anyone leaving her driveway could possibly see if another vehicle was coming from the CPCS end of town. After some discussion it was decided that Mrs. Cole would have to approach the NYSDOT since the driveway and corner are on a State Route.

Motion #3

Ms. Fisher granted permission to Mrs. Cole to write a letter to the NYSDOT stating concern of her driveway at 4785 State Hwy 56 in Colton and a nearby curve in the road, seconded by Mrs. Planty.

Ayes 5

Noes 0

Motion carried

Town Historian Dennis Eickoff requested that the veterans memorials by the library be moved to Memorial Park on the corner of Main St. and Riverside Dr.

Motion #4

Mrs. Planty made the motion to move the veterans memorials from the library yard to the Town Memorial Park, seconded by Mr. Beary.

Ayes 5

Nays 0

Motion carried

**1**

**Colton Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting, July 13, 2022**

**County Legislators Report:**

At the July 11th 2022 Full Board Meeting:

We had 27 resolutions.

We had 8 modifications to the budget Highway miles 10 miles additional 2.1 million.

We had 9 Agreements/Contracts to be signed.

We had a resolution for a FY 2022 Emergency Management Performance grant.

We had a grant amendment for early voting expansion extension.

We had a resolution accepting donations to St Law County Community Services Addiction services program.

We had a resolution authorizing the filling of 14 vacancies positions.

We had a resolution proclaiming July 17-23 2022 as Probation, Parole, and Community Supervision week.

We had a public hearing setting the Salary of the County Historian.

We had a resolution setting the Salary of the County Historian.

We had a resolution authorizing the continuation of Agricultural District 2 and accepting modifications to the district.

We had a resolution opposing the recently Enacted NYS gun Package consisting of ten bills.

We had a resolution reappointing the Conflict Defender for St Lawrence County.

**Town Engineer – Jeff Tubolino**

* Pedestrian Improvements/Sidewalks– DOT – maintenance permit. Permission from the Town Board to put out to bid.

Motion #5

Mrs. Fisher made the motion to put out the bid for maintenance permit for sidewalks, seconded by Mr. Poste.

Ayes 5

Nays 0

Motion carried

* Transfer Station – Darren, DPW and Committee to set up another meeting soon. SEQR for the transfer station was given to Town Attorney Norfolk, waiting for his reply. Law assistant to check with Attorney Norfolk.
* Morgan Road Beach – Mr. Tubolino had a meeting with the NYSDEC. They would like to visit the site where we are proposing to put the beach in. Mr. Tubolino would like to get the NYSDOH involved for a site water visit. Water quality sampling is required. This should be started asap to see if this project is even a possibility. CEO and DPW Supervisor Darren Richards stated that the water sampling process will be six months of extensive samples. Possible results in the spring of 2023. Board member Kevin Beary stated he opposes this project and requested it be put on record.

Motion #6

Ms. Fisher made the motion to start getting water samples at the Morgan Rd Beach site asap, seconded by Mr. Poste.

Ayes 4

Nays 1 Beary

Motion carried

* Salt Barn – Casey Dickenson reported that there was a preconstruction meeting the 30th of June. This project is moving along well. Construction started July 5th. Construction completion can be as early as 4-5 weeks. Mr. Dickenson stated that the electrical and construction contractors would ask for one payment at the end of the job. Bookkeeper recommended a $400,000.00 budget amendment to allocate those funds. Any invoices that come in for the salt barn please save a copy for Mr. Dickenson.

Motion #7

Ms. Fisher made the motion to transfer $400,000.00 from the Fund balance line to the Salt Barn line, seconded by Mrs. Planty.

Ayes 5

Nays 0

Motion carried

Budget Amendment from A599 Fund Balance…………………………………$400,000.00

to A5132.22 Salt Barn……………………………………..400,000.00

**Dog Warden Report:**

Five dogs at large. Two went to the shelter, three returned home. Still an issue on Lenny Rd with stray cats.

**Library Report:**

Waiting for a few more items needed to finish the Story Walk.

**Assessor Report:**

Mrs. Rayner will be gone all next week for assessor training. She needs all timesheets by 8am Friday.

**Planning Board Report:**

The Colton Planning Board met Tuesday, May 17 at 6:00. We approved Subdivision SD-21-2022 for Hugh Newton, who is transferring a small parcel to Ryan Sharlow on the French Hill Road.

We went through several of the Town’s land use application forms on the towns website and revised them to be more clear and to ask for more information. This will make things easier for both the CEO and the Planning Board.

We discussed a comprehensive plan for the town and the upcoming slideshow for the Town Board. Jeff Rousell will be available to present the slide show in July. The slideshow for the town board consists of 10 slides. They go over what a comprehensive plan is, why it is important to have a one, who should be involved in creating one, and how to create one. It will take approximately 30 minutes with time for questions.

**2**

**Colton Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting, July 13, 2022**

**Highway Report:**

* Since the last Board meeting, we have finished up grading dirt roads. We also finished up our part of the site work at the salt storage building in preparation for the contractor to begin.
* We have done a small amount of paving on the Raquette River Road. We did 700 ton to stabilize the hill as it was impossible to keep it graded with all of the campers being hauled up there. I have been awaiting delivery of a large diameter pipe that needs to be installed in the section that have not yet paved. This pipe came in Monday so I am getting geared up to begin this job on Monday. The Road will be closed from Monday morning at 630AM until late in the day Wednesday. I have reached out to the State DOT in attempt to secure two message boards one on each end of the road notifying the traveling public of the closure. I will also have it announced on 99 hits radio station as well as the towns facebook page.
* We have also been working with Pierrepont on their paving. I’m hopeful next week they will finish up with their paving ending at our Town line Cold Brook Drive. Then we will continue on from there with our paving.
* Our New large plow truck chassis was on the production floor last week so it has been built. Viking in Harrisville is extremely slow as they are not getting chassis as fast as in the past. This means that when our chassis shows up there it will be outfitted and delivered to us very quickly. The previous board approved this order but did not budget for it as it was not expected to be delivered until next year. My thoughts are to list our current tractor that’s being replaced along with our dump trailer and the pickup (that the engine went in) on Auctions International to hopefully come up with the lion’s share of the down payment. I would like to ask the boards permission to list these items and sell them to the highest bidder.

Motion #8

Mrs. Fisher made the motion to allow Hwy Superintendent Kevin Hawley to list the above-mentioned items on Auctions International, seconded by Mrs. Planty.

Ayes 5

Noes 0

Motion carried

* The smaller truck that this board approved order of has been pushed back for one reason or another and that is not expected until after the first of the year.

**Code Enforcement Report:**

**Transfer Station**

Transfer Station re-design is ready for review. We have the new prints for the increased traffic flow and to put the attendant on the flow control side of the station. Blue Line has those prints available for anyone to review. Still waiting on the town lawyer to indicate any comments on the SEQR.

**Water/Sewer**

Second sludge haul occurred without incident and great efficiency. The DPW and Casella loaded the tractor trailer tank in about 30 minutes in silence with submersible pumping verses the loud vac truck sound. This allows a 6am start without disruption of the neighborhood in order to get two loads to Watertown in one day. The curb stop was fixed across from the library preparing for the new owner and their endeavors. Routine maintenance has occurred at the sewer plant and lift stations with the new disconnect electrical box replaced after the control panel was replaced last month on 56.

**Building and Grounds**

The story walk is nearing completion at the library and our role on shipping and storage is complete. Still waiting on grant notification on the library roof. We completed an inquiry on our library roof bidding which I assume was an audit to ensure the process was proper procurement before administering the grant. We are waiting for the asbestos test to return on the museum roof materials. That sample was extracted with the aid of the DPW on July 8th. The grounds looked great for the Fourth of July as all lawns, grounds and buildings were high and tight in maintenance, ie. lawns mowed, building entrances pressure washed, flags replaced and grounds taken care of. Swift has hosted a couple graduation parties as well.

**Safety**

Sidewalk safety committee met and determined priority sidewalks that need replacing. We need to meet again to discuss the replacement options for the corner by the library wall. We found grant money for a portion of these sidewalk renovations. Blue Line just got the go ahead to repair the 56 sidewalks without permitting a third party as long as insurances are good. We will put together a bid package and get it sent out to bid. We are continuing to work on getting the fire panels operational again at the sewer plant, MSB and Community Center for analogue signal since we moved to digital phones.

**Code Enforcement Office**

33 permits this year with a few pending. Seven permits this past month. Two subdivisions are being processed as well. One late filing fee imposed and several sanctions on a remedy on Bay Road were asked by a home owner. The offending homeowner is complying with all the remedies as we speak.

**BTI Report:**

* We are finishing up most treatments by the end of this week. I still plan to treat sections of the river until the end of the month when our permit expires.
* After treatments are finished, we will clean and organize the gear, so we’ll be ready for the next season.
* DEC Commercial Pesticide reports, due February 1, 2023, will be finished by the end of this month and submitted to DEC in the fall when I send the Invasive species treatment reports.
* I’m happy to report that we had no injuries on the crew this year. The exospikes for our boots that I discovered and tried last year, are amazing at preventing slips and falls and the constant little slips which constantly tweak and stress the knees and ankles. Also, I have everyone using hiking poles which also prevent falls. In addition, everyone has been using the balance pads I have in the office at least a few times a week. It’s what I used for rehab when I’ve had PT for knee injuries. I’m having the crew use it as pre-hab

to help prevent injuries.

* So, overall, it was a successful season. The crew did a great job. Everyone wants to come back next season but as is always the issue, they need to find work that will take them to March.

**3**

**Colton Regular Monthly Town Board Meeting, July 13, 2022**

**Town Clerk Report:**

* Fireworks and ice cream social are all set for July 16th. Rain date for the social and fireworks is the 17th. The town wide garage sales are July 14th – 17th. Maps and list of residences having a sale are ready and at the Town Hall.
* Shared services agreement for NYSDOT and Town of Colton. This agreement shares materials, services and equipment to help assist in the maintenance of roads and highways.

Motion #9

Mr. Beary made the motion to have Supervisor Robert sign this agreement putting into effect, seconded by Mr. Poste.

Ayes 5

Noes 0

Motion carried

* Parking at Swift Field for snowmobiles, UTVs and ATVs for access to trail heads resolution. This resolution would allow parking in the Swift Field parking lot for snowmobile owners, their trucks and trailers, as well as ATVs and UTVs. Hwy Superintendent Kevin Hawley brought up concern over being able to plow the parking lot during the snow season. Also, concern for parking for people who like to utilize the ice rink.

Motion #10

Ms. Fisher made the motion to get signage for ATV and UTV parking, then work on a plan for the winter months, seconded by Mrs. Planty.

Ayes 5

Noes 0

Motion carried

* Authorization on Parishville Vol Fire Dept Certificate of Need for their ambulance certificate. Parishville Vol. Fire Dept is updating their CON by adding Pierrepont, Potsdam, Brasher Falls, Stockholm and Lawrence to it. They are not changing their daily operations. This is part of an attempt to become more compliant with NYS.

Motion #11

Mrs. Planty made the motion to have Supervisor Roberts sign the letter for the Parishville Vol. Fire Dept Certificate of Need, seconded by Mr. Poste.

Ayes 5

Noes 0

Motion carried

* Museum Roof – after last month’s meeting it was brought to our attention that there was more substantial damage to the roof. The ceiling inside is being held up by plywood and a beam. Ronnie looked at the damage, stated something needs to be done. Clerk Jennifer and Deputy Clerk Donna contacted the board members, explained the situation. Three of the four board members agreed to start the roof work asap.

Motion #12

Ms. Fisher made the motion to accept the bid from RSI Roofing Co. in its entirety totaling $52,750.00 to test for asbestos and to repair the roof as soon as possible, seconded by Mrs. Planty.

Ayes 4

Nays 1 Beary

Motion carried

Mr. Beary made the proposal to sell the museum to the Colton Historical Society for $1. No second was made. Motion not considered.

* Standard workday resolution for Town Clerk retirement reporting.

Motion #13

Mrs. Planty made the motion to accept the Resolution for Colton Town Clerk Jennifer Cole for NYS Retirement reporting, seconded by Mr. Poste.

Ayes 5

Nays 0

Motion carried

* Flower bed out front of the Town Hall needs some TLC. The clerk would like to make it simpler for weeding and mowing. Wanted to bring it the boards attention so that perhaps next spring some of the bushes could be removed/rearranged and flowers we currently have could be transplanted.

**Correspondence:**

New plow truck has been built – discussion on financing. No decisions made.

**Unfinished Business:**

Previously discussed in this meeting.

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**New Business:**

* American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) last half of funds coming - $72,307.47
* Opinion on installing electric car plug ins

Motion #14

After much discussion, Mrs. Planty made the motion to install electric car charging stations. One station where Vern’s Garage used to be and another station located at Swift Field. Seconded by Ms. Fisher.

Ayes 4

Nays 1 Beary

Motion carried

* Insurance on contents of museum
* Joanne Lincoln – Murals and Town signs
* Cynthia Hennessy – Museum chair lift needed. General Service Agreement for the Colton Raqueteers.

Motion #15

Mrs. Planty made the motion to have Supervisor Ronald Robert sign the contract of General Service for the Colton Raqueteers, seconded by Ms. Fisher.

Ayes 4

Nays 1 Beary

Motion carried

* Federal mileage reimbursement is up to .625 per mile.

Motion #16

Ms. Fisher made the motion to increase the Town of Colton reimbursement mileage for employees to .625 per mile, seconded by Mrs. Planty.

Ayes 5

Noes 0

Motion carried

**Adjournment:**

Motion #17

With no further business to discuss Mrs. Planty made a motion to close the regular monthly meeting at 9:20pm, seconded by Mr. Poste.

Ayes 5

Noes 0

Motion carried

Meeting minutes by Colton Town Clerk Jennifer Cole

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