**Regular Monthly Meeting, Colton Town Board, August 12, 2020**

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

Present: George Cayey, Supervisor Councilpersons: Katheryn Hayes

Donna Buckley, Clerk Ronald Robert

Darren Richards, DPW Supt. Grace Hawley

Lisa Fisher-Davis

Absent: Kevin Hawley, Hwy. Supt.

Others present: Jim McConkey, Kevin Beary and Dan Stec

Via Zoom: Dennis Eickhoff, Mary Jane Watson, Eleanor Menz, Cynthia Hennessy and Les Baker

Everyone in attendance was seated social distancing and each wore facemasks.

Supervisor Cayey opened the meeting at 6:10 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Cayey asked if the Board Members had reviewed the minutes, bills and reports.

Motion # 1

**APPROVE MINUTES**

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Mrs. Fisher-Davis to approve the minutes of the July 15 meeting.

Ayes 5 Hawley, Fisher-Davis, Hayes, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

Mr. Cayey explained the reason for the transfers and asked for a motion to approve them.

Motion # 2

**APPROVE WARRANT # 8, BANK RECONCILIATION and TRANSFERS**

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Mrs. Fisher-Davis to approve the bills on Warrant # 8 and the bank reconciliation.

Ayes 5 Hawley, Fisher-Davis, Hayes, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

General Fund $ 140,974.00

Highway Fund $ 179,411.76

Hepburn Library Fund $ 1,472.92

Colton Light District $ 737.60

South Colton Light District $ 688.71

Sewer District #1 $ 1,896.61

Water District #1 $ 1,809.53

The following accounts are or will be over budget as of July 31, 2020.

General Fund:

A4068.12 Blackfly Salary $ 73.47 (100)

A5132.2 Garage Equip. 22,413 (22,500)

Recommendation for transfer:

A4068.13 Mosquito Salary $ 100.00

A7140.21 Rec. Equip. 14,000.00

A1620.11 Summer Temp P.S. 6,500.00

A1440.4 Engineer Contr. 2,000.00

Highway Fund: DA5112.2 CHIPS Improvements $ 4,353.22

Recommended Transfer: DA5110.4 Road Maint. 4,355.00

Library Fund:

L7410.429 Library Misc. $136.40 (300)

L7410.454 Covid 410.78 (1700)

Recommended for transfer L7410.122 Staff P.S. $2,000.00

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**LEGISLATORS REPORT** Ms. Buckley read the report aloud.

We had 21 resolutions

We had 4 modifications to the budget

We had 5 Agreements/ Contracts to be signed

We had a resolution reauthorizing the North Country Home Consortium with the Counties of Jefferson and Lewis for the purpose of obtaining Home Investment Partnership Programs funds from the U.S, Department of Housing and Urban Development.

We had a failed resolution authorizing the forgiveness of Interest, Penalties and fees on a certain parcel of land to be obtained by the town of Louisville

We had a resolution accepting the Workers Compensation Self- Insurance Apportionment for the Year 2021

We had two resolutions opposing the NYS senate and assembly bills requiring police officers to obtain private liability insurance and also of defunding or abolishing police departments

We had a resolution proclaiming August as national immunization awareness month

We had a resolution extending the additional one percent Sales and Compensating Use Taxes

We had a resolution Appointing Nancy Lafavre as Interim St Law County Historian

We had a resolution Appointing Cynthia Ackerman as the Commissioner of Social Services for St. Law. Cty.

We had a resolution Setting a Date for a public Hearing on Proposed Local Law B for the year 2020 Setting Policy on Acquisition and sale of Tax Delinquent property in St Lawrence County

We had one resolution tabled regarding the NYPA Smart Path project regarding a culvert installation

If anyone has any questions please feel free to reach out to me.

Stay healthy, Rick

**DOG WARDEN** Mr. McConkey reported he had calls regarding loose cows, 5 dogs at large were all “chipped” so were returned home, 2 requests to check the welfare of animals in the heat and picked up a pair of kittens because the mother had been hit by a vehicle.

**BTI REPORT** Ms. Malik texted they were done with the mosquito and blackfly program. She will start on invasive species the end of August or first week of September.

**ASSESSOR’S REPORT** Mr. Ball is on vacation.

**DPW REPORT** Mr. Richards reported:

*Transfer Station* - We are attempting to starve out the vermin at the transfer station by eliminating the compactor with the food in it after each Transfer Station opening day. Casella takes the compactor after 5 on every Wednesday and Saturday. We will see how it helps. Going smoothly otherwise.

*Water and Sewer* - We had and an environmental spill at our well house on County Route 58. A flow meter calibration device which had quite a bit of mercury spilled out of a broken seal. The spill was contained by NRC from Massena on the same day as it was discovered with follow up cleaning on August 11th. There was zero percent chance of water contamination as water and mercury repel each other. DEC and DOH were both notified and a report is being generated for our spill response follow up. No fines were issued as our response was sufficient to DEC and DOH with no one to blame but a mechanical failure. New calibration equipment is being ordered as it is a regulated necessity as per DOH regulations. We put a new VFD drive in the plant for blower number one.

*Building and Grounds -* Museum renovations and insulation project is coming along nicely. Grounds and

buildings are being kept up with mowed lawns, pressure washing buildings etc.

Mr. Richards requested to have Bonno Builders insulate the DPW building as long as they are here with the equipment doing the Museum. He stated it would cost approximately $3500 and the money would be recouped within 5 years.

Motion # 3

**HIRE BONNO BUILDERS TO INSULATE DPW BLDG**

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Mr. Robert to hire Bonno Builders to insulate the DPW (old fire station) building at the cost of $3500.

Ayes 5 Hawley, Fisher-Davis, Hayes, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

**SAFETY REPORT** Mr. Richards reported:

Our PPE supplies are holding up for COVID-19 challenges. Sneeze guards are in at the Library and Town Hall, Courthouse opted out of installing sneeze guards. Masks for every department can be obtained through the town hall’s clerk’s office or the Safety office if the clerk is out. Mr. Cayey stated he ordered 400 more masks.

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

43 permits this year so far. Another home build permit came in for Cottage Rd. One subdivision for this month’s

planning board meeting.

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**HIGHWAY REPORT** Ms. Buckley read Mr. Hawley’s report in his absence.

• Since the last board meeting we have pretty much finished up our Chips funded paving for the year. As you know the state has threatened to withhold up to 20% of all funding in the chips program due to the effects financially on the state from the Corona Virus. Our lobbyist in Albany has told us several times that the program is fully funded through bonds this year and that at least the early reimbursement requests would be paid in full. We also were told that if any cuts in the program were expected, that we would be notified of the cuts prior to any expenditures. This tells me that the first run with the cut off of August 2nd will be paid in full. This year I charged everything I possibly could to our Chips line early on and was able to get the full $176,000 and change reimbursement request in the early run. This left more than enough funds in my General Repairs line to cover any shortfalls in funding. That being said the chips date for releasing payments is September 31st. I do have another small project in my sights that I would like to do this fall if the funding does come through as I expect. Windmill road from Wildwood intersection to the top of Bicknell hill is falling apart. I would like to ask the boards permission to spend up to $25,000 out of General Repairs, on this section of Road after we receive the full chips reimbursement.

• I also am just about out of culvert pipe. I normally order a load of pipe every spring, but this year with the spending freeze and the fact that the projects we were doing did not require much pipe, I haven’t ordered any yet. We have had two emergency replacements on French hill and yesterday we had an old concrete box culvert collapse on Windmill Road. This had totally exhausted my on hand supply. I would like to ask permission to order 400 feet of 12 inch 600 feet of 15 inch and 200 feet of 18 inch. For $7000.

• In regards to the new plow truck, I did talk with Orin from Stadium International a few days ago he said that the truck should be on the assembly line this week. Sometime in the next 4 to 6 weeks it should be delivered to Viking in Harrisville for the equipment install. I do know that Viking was hit extra hard during the Corona onset. I don’t think they went back full staff until june sometime. This has put them behind on all truck orders. Our initial delivery was scheduled for October, I personally do not expect to see the truck until after the first of the year. We did have a plan of listing the 2012 truck that we are replacing on Auctions international, under normal circumstances September or October would be the best months to list a plow truck as that is when the contractors are looking to build their plow truck fleets for the winter. My fear is if we wait until January or February to list it that we will take a loss on it. However I don’t feel it a wise decision to list it until we have the new truck either. I’m thinking we list it after the new truck is in-service and put a minimum bid on it. If it does not sell then we wait until the following September to list it.

If I was a gambling man we could list it this fall with the idea of using our spare for the first part of winter until the new one arrives. Personally I am not a fan of not having a spare in the barn. Something for you all to think about.

Mr. Cayey noted the spending freeze. After a short discussion, it was decided to wait until CHIPS funding is received before proceeding with anymore paving and until the new truck arrives. The culvert pipe can be ordered.

Motion # 4

**AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF CULVERT PIPE**

Motion made by Mrs. Fisher-Davis, seconded by Mr. Robert to authorize Mr. Hawley to purchase culvert pipe as listed in his report for $7,000.

Ayes 5 Hawley, Fisher-Davis, Hayes, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

**LIBRARY REPORT** Ms. Buckley reported the Town Board had been given copies of the Library Annual

Report. Both Mrs. Menz and Mr. Eickhoff were trying to report but an issue with Zoom prevented it. Ms.

Buckley stated it probably happened when she was turning over the host position to Mr. Richards.

**PLANNING/ZONING REPORT** Again an issue with the transfer of host prevented Mrs. Hennessy from

offering a report for the Zoning Board.

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

1. Please wear a mask when you come to the Town Offices. It is in your best interest to call for an

appointment. 315-262-2810 x 1

1. Hunting license sales started this week.
2. The free food distribution lasted 4 hours. With it being our first, we learned a lot. There is a possibility of another in September.
3. Garage Sale Weekend went well as far as I know.
4. Can we pay the ricoh and lowes bill with the early bills to avoid late fees. We get them later than the rest.
5. As an FYI I plan on taking some time off, adding Thursdays and Fridays to my weekend verses a whole week since there’s no really safe place to go.
6. There is a new records retention schedule and a resolution is necessary to adopt.
7. The Local Law needs to be adopted.

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Motion # 5

**AUTHORIZE TO PAY INVOICES WITH EARLY BILLS**

Motion made by Ms. Hayes, seconded y Mr. Robert to pay the invoices from Ricoh and Lowes with the early bills to avoid late fees.

Ayes 5 Hawley, Fisher-Davis, Hayes, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

Motion # 6

**ADOPT LOCAL LAW # 2 – 2020 ANIMAL CONTROL**

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Mr. Robert to adopt Local Law # 2 – 2020 Animal Control as presented at last months meeting. Due to the length of the local law it is available for review in the Town Clerk’s office, and will eventually be on the website after State notification.

Ayes 5 Hawley, Fisher-Davis, Hayes, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

Motion # 7

**ADOPT RESOLUTION # 8 – 2020**

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Mrs. Fisher-Davis to adopt Resolution # 8 – 2020 LGS -1

Records Retention Schedule as written.

Ayes 5 Hawley, Fisher-Davis, Hayes, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

**ADOPT THE LGS-1 RECORDS RETENTION SCHEDULE**

Resolution # 8 - 2020

**BE IT RESOLVED**, by the COLTON TOWN BOARD of the TOWN OF COLTON that Retention and

Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-1), issued pursuant to Article 57-A

of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Law, and containing legal minimum retention periods for local government

records, is hereby adopted for use by all officers in legally disposing of valueless records listed therein.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that in accordance with Article 57-A:

1. only those records will be disposed of that are described in Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-1), after they have met the minimum retention periods described therein;
2. only those records will be disposed of that do not have sufficient administrative, fiscal, legal, or historical value to merit retention beyond established legal minimum periods.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. NYCLASS – Made $603.58 on investment in June.
2. Bonno Builders have started the Museum.
3. SLIC – Grace states that SLIC was to call Mr. Hawley, he hasn’t heard from them yet.
4. Brookfield – Has served notice to CPCS, SLC and the Town over assessment.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Used Supervisor’s equipment account for laptops for the Bookkeeper and Town Clerk.
2. Mr. Cayey told the Senior Raqueteers he would ask the Board what they wanted to do about them earning funds to work the play at the AmVets. They will submit an invoice with names, dates and hours worked, if the Board approves it.

Motion # 8

**APPROVE PAYMENT TO RAQUETEERS**

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Mr. Robert to approve payment to the Senior Raqueteers upon

their invoicing the Town for their services as indicated.

Ayes 5 Hawley, Fisher-Davis, Hayes, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried

**COURTESY OF THE FLOOR**

*Kevin Beary*, Colton resident shared his concern over the impending lawsuit with Brookfield. He said a

couple of State Senators are part of the law firm working for Brookfield. We need to reach out to our own

Senators and find an attorney more knowledgeable along with an appraiser that is familiar with appraising

dams. Mr. Beary asked the Board to have the attorney write a statement to issue to the public.

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**COURTESY OF THE FLOOR CONTINUED**

*Dan Stec*, NYS Assemblyman, is hoping to be Senator Little’s successor upon her retirement this year. Mr. Stec said he’s not here to discuss politics but to observe. Mr. Stec stated he has served on the Town Board of Queensbury and also as the Supervisor so he’s familiar with the jobs. He commented on the David vs. Goliath referenced by Mr. Beary saying there is a lot at risk and would stay after the meeting to visit with those who want to.

Mr. Cayey reported a statement was put on the Town of Colton website and facebook page. Mr. Beary

mentioned that at one time things were emailed to individuals. Ms. Buckley said that became difficult when

folks changed email addresses and wouldn’t remember to notify us.

Ms. Hayes asked who was responsible for running the health center, she has gotten complaints. Mr. Cayey

replied it is run by St. Lawrence Health System aka Potsdam Hospital. That’s where they should be making

their complaints. It’s believed doctors have either left or are laid off due to Covid-19.

With nothing more to address, a motion was offered to adjourn.

Motion # 9

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Mrs. Hawley, seconded by Mrs. Fisher-Davis to adjourn.

Ayes 5 Hawley, Fisher-Davis, Hayes, Robert, Cayey

Noes 0

Motion carried, 7:00 p. m.

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Donna Buckley, Town Clerk

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