July 20, 2020

The Town Board of the Town of Onondaga met at a regular meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, July 20, 2020 at Town Hall, 5020 Ball Road, Syracuse, New York.

Present: Supervisor Thomas P. Andino, Jr.
Councillor Suzanne Belle
Councillor Kathy Fedrizzi
Councillor John Mahar
Councillor Mary K. Ryan
Town Clerk Lisa M. Goodwin
Town Attorney Nadine Bell

Excused: Town Engineer Bill Perrine

1. Highway Superintendent's Report

Highway Superintendent, Mr. John Wheatley was present. Mr. Wheatley provided the Board with an update. The flyer for the annual Fall Cleanup has gone to the printer. It should be back and mailed out to the residents by the end of the month. Mr. Wheatley also informed the Board of a new purchasing tool he will be using called mini-bid. This is a bid process thru NYS Office of General Services for pickup trucks and things of that nature. The municipality goes to the website and puts the specs on for the truck they'd like to purchase, and the dealerships bid on it. Hopefully, this is a way to get better pricing. Mr. Wheatley also reported that the paving on Hill Top Road was completed today.

2. Parks & Recreation Director's Report

Ms. Chary Lawson, Director of Parks and Recreation, was present. Ms. Lawson reported that the PEACE, Inc. Lunch Program for seniors is going well. Each week the number of pick-ups has increased so it appears it’s catching on. The children’s activity kits are going well too. They are averaging about 35 each week. Ms. Lawson also reported that she has provided each of the board members with a memo requesting an additional park laborer for the remainder of the season.

3. Codes Officer's Report

Codes Officer, Mr. Ben Vincent was present. Mr. Vincent reported that he has received an email with an overdue “thank you” from the resident at 4887 Royal Crab Avenue. This was a situation where the drainage swale was overflowing. The issue was resolved by changing the grates and redefined the swale. Now, everything is working great. An additional “thank you” was received from 4647 Natures Circle for drainage improvements in their back yard with the basin.

4. Attorney's Report

Town Attorney, Ms. Nadine Bell was present. Ms. Bell had nothing additional to report.

5. Committee Reports

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

The following resolution was offered by Councillor Mahar, who moved its adoption, and was seconded by Councillor Ryan, to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board approve the addition of Alana Loraine to the membership of the Taunton Fire Department; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board approve the addition of Paul Driscoll to the membership of the Onondaga Hill Fire Department; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board approve the addition of Jonathan Hart to the membership of the Howlett Hill Fire Department.

The question of adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote, and the vote was as follows:

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The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.
Councillor Ryan distributed the Onondaga Free Library Weekly Newsletter to everyone. She reminded them that they can receive it themselves via email. To sign up, just visit their website. Councillor Ryan reported that the library has a new Digital Services and Technology Librarian, Scott Lipkowitz. Councillor Fedrizzi reported that the library has reopened by appointment only. Each appointment is 30 minutes or up to an hour for computer and Wi-Fi use. She also reported that the Wi-Fi can be used from the library’s parking lot.

Supervisor Andino reported that he and Councillor Mahar met with the chiefs and presidents from all eight (8) fire departments at Town Hall on Thursday, July 12, 2020. The Supervisor requested the meeting to find out how the departments are doing logistically on both the firefighting and financial aspects since the pandemic and things were shut down. The fire department’s overall calls were reduced because the ambulances are responding to the medical calls without sending firefighters. The departments stopped training and meetings from mid-March until mid-June. Most of the departments have started training again with social distancing in place. Their ability to hold fundraisers has impacted some of the departments. Howlett Hill and Taunton will have a $15,000 to $20,000 loss because they can’t hold their King’s Feast or Reno Night. Other departments are cancelling their chicken barbecues and pancake breakfasts. The only plus side is that they may have saved money on gas and wear and tear to the vehicles.

Supervisor Andino also reported that he, Councillor Fedrizzi and Mr. Vincent have met with a couple of residents regarding the interest for residents to have chickens as pets. Currently, the town law does not permit chickens as pets unless they are on seven (7) or more acres of land. A presentation was given at the meeting demonstrating the advantages to owning chickens. Mr. Vincent contacted several other towns and villages in Onondaga County. Some allow chickens; while others do not. Some depend upon acreage; while others do not. The list was distributed to the Town Board members. The Supervisor asked the Board to take a look at the list and report to Mr. Vincent or him if they are inclined to consider a local law.

The following accounts were audited and approved for payment on this date, July 20, 2020:
- All Highway Fund Accounts on Abstract No. 14, numbers 250 through 272 inclusive, totaling $18,740.38.
- All Parks Accounts on Abstract No. 14, numbers 96 through 100 inclusive, totaling $703.95.
- All Sewer Accounts on Abstract No. 14, numbers 92 through 94 inclusive, totaling $200.59.
- All Consolidated Drainage Accounts, Abstract 13, numbers 80 through 83 inclusive, totaling $1,912.54.

6. Meeting Minutes – July 6, 2020

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

The following resolution was offered by Supervisor Andino, who moved its adoption, and was seconded by Councillor Belle, to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board accept the meeting minutes from the July 6, 2020 Town Board meeting as prepared by the Town Clerk.

The question of adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote, and the vote was as follows:

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The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION

The following resolution was offered by Supervisor Andino, who moved its adoption, and was seconded by Councillor Fedrizzi, to wit:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board move into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter in the Parks and Recreation Office as well as the Receiver of Taxes Office.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote, and the vote was as follows:

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The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.
The Town Board of the Town of Onondaga adjourned to meet in Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter in both the Parks and Recreation Department as well as the Office of the Receiver of Taxes at 5:27 p.m. on Monday, July 20, 2020. The Town Board returned from Executive Session at 6:12 p.m. No action was taken as a result of the Executive Session.

**TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION**

The following resolution was offered by Councilor Belle, who moved its adoption, and was seconded by Councilor Fedrizzi, to wit:

**BE IT RESOLVED,** that there being no further business to come before the Town Board, the Executive Session and Town Board Meeting be adjourned.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote, and the vote was as follows:

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The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

Executive Session and Town Board Meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Lisa M. Goodwin, Town Clerk