

Town Of Independence
Regular Meeting
July 13, 2017

The Independence Town Board met in the Town Hall on July 13th, 2017 at 7:00 pm for the regular monthly meeting.

Present: Supervisor Reichman ,Council Acomb, Meunier, Howe ,Waters; Town Clerk, Cindy Welch; Deputy Town Clerk, Jasmine Bledsoe; Highway Superintendent, Dennis Graves.

Visitors: none

Supervisor Reichman called the regular meeting to order.

A motion to approve the June 8th, 2017 minutes was made by Council Acomb, seconded by Council Waters, approved by all.

Superintendent Graves gave the Highway report:

Work report: repaired damaged sections of Harris Rd. with the towns of Willing, Wellsville, West Union, Alfred and Allegany County assisting with the graveling of 1 mile; assisted towns of Bolivar and Willing; mowed roadsides.

Superintendent Graves also reported: that all deficiencies from the OSHA inspection have been corrected and accepted by NYS; that there is a problem of overweight trucks travelling on the town roads causing damage, further stating he would like Patrolman Sherman to patrol for this.

Equipment report: none given

Fuel Report:

Gas:	Usage: 170.1 gallons	Purchased: 179.3 gallons	Tank Measurement: : 2'8 1/2"
Diesel	Usage: 1215.9	Purchased: 1022.1 gallons	2' 1/2"

Superintendent Graves stated he would like to discuss hiring a full time worker. Supervisor Reichman stated that at the union negotiation meeting the union stated that no part time employment is allowed until the three full time positions are filled.

At this time the Clerk stated that the Board should clarify and state in Open Meeting the situation of former employee Ron Knox. The board stated that Superintendent Graves had terminated Knox on April 18, 2017, a grievance was filed by the union, the board recommended settling the grievance by accepting Knox's resignation with sick leave credits being paid in full. Grievance settled in this manner.

Discussion was held concerning hiring with a motion by Council Waters seconded by Council Meunier to hire a full time highway employee. Motion carried by all.

Supervisor Reichman reported:

- nothing from the union regarding negotiations
- received the building repairs specifications from Bill Eckenrode, board reviewed and Supervisor Reichman stated she felt the Justice bench should be "backed into" the current supervisor office. Board members looked at the area with the matter being tabled until the areas could be measured and taped off. Also discussed was moving the assessor office out of the back of the building

A motion was made by Supervisor Reichman seconded by Council Howe to advertise for bid the roof replacement. Clerk will advertise, bids to be due August 9th.

July 13th, 2017
continued

A letter from an area resident was read regarding a safety issue. Children are removing rocks from a retaining wall on Hill St. Supervisor Reichman will ask CEO Cagle to send a letter to the residents regarding the safety issue.

The Clerk reported that Lynette and Leon Coleman had purchased and hung a new flag on the Town Hall flag pole and that a letter of appreciation had been sent to them.

Discussion was held concerning improvements made in the town by area residents, the Clerk will send thank you letters to:

Melvin Stebbins for improvements made to the area of the East end Welcome sign and Buzz Kailbourne and Evelyn Morris for the demolition and removal cleanup of the building at the corner of Main and Putnam.

Supervisor Reichman reported on the Allegany County Shared Services meeting, board members stated that they felt that towns could easily lose their identities if local services are removed.

Council Howe reported that Job Trac accepted the Town of Independence request for workers and will send some to clean up the Hillside Cemetery.

At this time it was stated that the attorney for the town had drawn up Hold Harmless papers that would allow Mr. Densmore to mow the Fulmer Valley Cemetery as requested. (see June 8 minutes)

The Clerk read an invitation from the Whitesville Public Library for the ice cream social on August 9th.

The Clerk, Justice, Police and Financial reports were reviewed by all. The Clerk reported the second quarter quarterly reports have been submitted.

Bills were reviewed with a motion made by Council Acomb seconded by Council Meunier and approved by all to pay abstracts #7-2017 in the following amounts:

General	Voucher #'s	95-112	\$5719.34
Water		47-54	\$4685.37
Highway		97-112	\$82151.32
St. Light		7	\$561.90

At this time Supervisor Reichman made a motion to enter executive session for the purpose of reviewing work histories of the Highway Dept. job applicants. Motion seconded by Council Meunier. The Town Clerk, Deputy Clerk and Council Acomb were excused at this time.

Town Clerk, Cindy Welch

