

Town of Independence
Regular Meeting
December 10, 2020

The Independence Town Board met in the Town Hall on December 10, 2020 at 7pm for the regular monthly meeting.

Present: Supervisor Reichman; Council: Howe, Meunier, Ellison; Town Clerk, Bledsoe; Highway Superintendent, Acomb; Patrolman, Sherman
Absent: Council Brubaker
Visitors: 1 area resident

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor called the meeting to order.

A motion to accept the November 12, 2020 Preliminary Budget Hearing/ Regular meeting minutes was made by Council Howe, seconded by Council Meunier and carried by all.
A motion to accept the November 12, 2020 Special Meeting minutes was made by Council Meunier, seconded by Council Howe and carried by all.

Superintendent Acomb gave the highway report, which included repairs to equipment, ditching, sanding, grading Heselton, and fixing pot holes on Casey Rd.
Acomb also brought to the attention of the Town Board on how bad the tin was on the back of the Town barns. He would like to replace that tin, insulate and take out one wall in the shop to give more room for washing/parking trucks and equipment. A motion was made by Council Howe, seconded by Council Meunier and carried by all for Acomb to get quotes on these repairs.

Fuel Report:

	Used	Purchased	IES	Police Dept.	Measure
Diesel	773	629.2	17.7	0	2'9"
Gas	86.4	316.1	0	20.4	3'7"

Board and Officer Sherman discussed the parking of the police car since the Ambulance bay is currently in need of their whole building and parking is limited with winter in the town barns. A motion was made by Council Meunier, seconded by Council Howe and carried by all to have Officer Sherman park the Police Car at his own home at this time.

Supervisor gave the water report. There is a leak on Old Cryder Rd., they are working on flushing hydrants with the Fire Dept, and marking water lines.
Board discussed with a motion made by Council Meunier, seconded by Council Howe and carried by all to hire Austin Waite as an assistant to Dick Waters at minimum wage.
Bathroom install at the Water Building is expected to start by the end of the year.

Supervisor gave update on generators with F&F Electric. Still waiting on parts.

Supervisor gave update on Judges bench. Due to social distancing and COVID-19 health guidelines, the judge's bench in the front room at Town Hall will now need to be utilized. Armstrong and Bill Lynch will be working on getting the proper phone lines and set up of the Judge's area.
Per NY State, all court systems are closed to foot traffic until further notice effective 12/9/20. They are able to receive mail.

Update on ReneSola Power. The town has received their permit fee and a binder of information on the project. Upon discussing, **Resolution #17-2020 - Allowing Law Firm Richardson, Pullen & Buck to complete a thorough review of the application submitted by ReneSola and provide**

a **written report of review** was offered by Supervisor Reichman, seconded by Council Meunier. Clerk called a roll vote with all present voting "yes."

Clerk read letter from resident regarding stray cats in town. Board discussed and Supervisor informed that she had been in contact with him.

Clerk read resignation letter from Pat Gay, DCO. A motion was made by Supervisor Reichman, seconded by Council Meunier and carried by all to accept this resignation with regret.

After Board discussion a motion was made by Supervisor Reichman, seconded by Council Meunier and carried by all to Close Town Hall to the public effective 12/11/20 due to COVID-19. All contact and regular information for Town officials will be posted on the door at Town hall and on the town website.

2021 Organizational meeting has been set for January 4, 2021 at 6pm.

Clerk, police, and financial reports were reviewed by board.

Bills were reviewed with a motion made by Supervisor Reichman, seconded by Council Howe and carried by all to pay abstracts #12-2020 in the following amounts:

Water:	Voucher: 89-95	\$757.15
General:	175-185	\$10,309.75
Highway:	173-190	\$48,165.14

A motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor Reichman, seconded by Council Meunier and carried by all at 8:30 pm.

Jasmine Bledsoe, Town Clerk