

Date: 10/11/2022

Supervisor Smith called meeting to order at: 7:10 pm

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Ritz: Here

Supervisor Smith: Here

Councilman Taylor: Here

Councilman Bango: Here

Councilman Malbeuf: Here

Motion to review minutes from previous meeting on September 13, 2022 and accept Split Property Tax discussed in the meeting on September 13, 2022

Motion by: Councilman Taylor **Seconded by:** Councilman Bango

All in favor. Aye

None opposed

Supervisor's report and motion to accept:

Motion by: Councilman Taylor Seconded by: Councilman Malbeuf

All in favor. Aye

None opposed

Town Clerk's report and motion to accept:

Motion by: Councilman Taylor Seconded by: Councilman Bango

All in favor. Aye

None Opposed

Water Report & Motion to accept:

Motion by: Councilman Taylor Seconded by: Councilman Malbeuf

All in Favor. Aye

None Opposed

Audit Bills & motion to accept:

General Fund Vouchers:

Councilman Taylor makes a motion to add the Verizon Wireless Bill and to accept and pay the General Fund Bills for September

Motion by: Councilman Taylor Seconded by: Councilman Bango

All in favor. Aye

None Opposed

Highway Fund Vouchers:

Councilman Taylor asks about the John Deer Bill that was resubmitted with the warranty.

Superintendent Langs stated it was sent in and he is waiting to see if they rebill or call him back.

Motion By: Councilman Taylor Seconded by: Councilman Malbeuf

All in Favor: Aye

None Opposed

Executive Session: Fire Department contract negotiations:

Supervisor Smith called for a motion to go into executive session at 7:24 pm

Motion by: Councilman Malbeuf Seconded by: Councilman Bango

All in Favor: Aye

None opposed

Supervisor Smith and the board members return from executive session at 7:36 pm. Supervisor Smith calls for a motion to exit executive session:

Motion by: Councilman Bango Seconded by: Councilman Malbeuf

All in favor: Aye

None opposed

Supervisor Smith calls for a motion allowing him to sign the current contract with the Harrisville Volunteer Fire Department and Harrisville Rescue Squad:

Motion by: Councilman Malbeuf Seconded by: Councilwoman Ritz

Roll Call:

Supervisor Smith: Aye

Councilwoman Ritz: Aye

Councilman Taylor: Aye

Councilman Bango: Aye

Councilman Malbeuf: Aye

The privilege of the floor to the public: (A motion to limit debate could be in order):

Supervisor Smith asked if anyone had any questions. No questions from the gallery.

Medical Center Updates:

Doors are in but not stained yet. Superintendent Langs stated they will try to get up to do this next week. Councilman Taylor asked if they had a key to get in.

Supervisor Smith stated he has made another round of phone calls, many hospitals are struggling to find doctors for their hospitals, let alone a provider for the Harrisville Medical Center. He stated that Clifton Fine Hospital has expressed interest in supplying a provider for our medical center. Supervisor Smith stated he would like to get back to the Town just being a landlord for the building, and get it rented out, and not have to deal with picking a provider.

A resident asked has there been any face-to-face meetings with prospective providers. Supervisor Smith answered that hospitals are saying they are having trouble recruiting someone. Another resident asked if this could be because of the town's reputation after what happened when the last provider was lost, and felt that a face-to-face meeting would be better so Supervisor Smith could read them better to know if they are even interested etc. Stated it is hard to get a read on someone over the phone.

Carl Pierce asked if we are getting any feedback or interest from Lewis County, and Supervisor Smith answered no, but Carthage Hospital seemed interested and then backed out. Lowville Hospital thought they had a possible provider and then backed out at the last minute.

Councilman Taylor stated if we can get someone to come in there, this would be best, as we are getting no rent or use of the building and townspeople are having to travel out of town for medical appointments.

Councilwoman Ritz agreed to face-to-face meetings with prospective providers, to show them we have a different board and that they would be working with different people, and this would be much better than just sending out letters.

Another resident stated that they feel Clifton Fine Hospital doesn't have a lot to offer our town and we should try another Hospital and do the face-to-face meetings rather than sending out letters.

Supervisor Smith stated the Doctor that was interested is now retiring, and said thank you for the offer, but no I am retiring. The resident asked would the retiring Doctor be willing to even just come in three days a week. Supervisor Smith stated no, and he doesn't want to get into a fight with this provider. The same resident asked if the town was offering the Doctors any incentives to come to Harrisville Medical Center. Supervisor Smith stated no. He stated again he would like to just have the town be the landlord, and not public relations with choosing a doctor. Supervisor Smith stated he is calling hospitals. Councilman Bango asks if Supervisor Smith was reaching out to the committee that was set up to help with this, so he isn't doing this alone. Councilman Malbeuf stated that Hospitals are having trouble getting doctors in local hospitals, let alone in our little medical center. A resident stated he feels that the committee should be more active with this and be reaching out to try to get the Doctor or Physician's Assistant into our medical center. They should be setting up face-to-face meetings rather than sending just letters etc. He feels we should try again and see if we can convince them to give Harrisville Medical Center a try, talk to the higher ups in management to answer questions and smooth over the damage done from the loss of the previous Doctor at our medical center.

Old Business:

New Business:

Supervisor Smith stated the regular board meeting for November is 09Nov22 and election day is the 8th and asked the board if they wanted November's board meeting to be on the 7th or 9th of November or do the meeting on a different day.

Councilman Taylor stated 9NOV22 at 6:00 on that Wednesday, should be moved to 6:30 pm.

Supervisor Smith called for a motion to move the November board meeting to November 9, 2022, at 6:30 pm.

Motioned by: Councilman Taylor

Seconded by: Councilman Bango

All in favor: Aye

None opposed

Councilman Taylor made a motion to have the budget meeting at 6:00 pm on November 9th before the regular board meeting at 6:00 pm.

Motioned by: Councilman Taylor

Seconded by: Councilman Bango

All in favor: Aye

None Opposed

Supervisor Smith asked the Town Clerk to please run ads for the budget meeting for 9Nov22 at 6:00pm with the November Regular Board meeting to follow directly after, with all of the normal Advertisers we use.

Supervisor Smith asked to move onto the water Software purchase, and recommended we purchase the new software from Williamson Law Book. He stated he has called around to other municipalities and this is the software they are all recommending because it is compatible with the new water meters.

Councilman Malbeuf stated that we need to know for sure what one to get and be very sure we have the right one. Supervisor Smith stated he is getting two more quotes and wants the board to start thinking about upgrading the water software. He stated that the Williamson Law book software would not require one dedicated computer to run it.

Supervisor Smith reminded everyone that the tentative budget is at the clerk's office. And that there will be a budget hearing on November 9th at 6:00 pm. He also let the public know there was a small accident with the Highway staff hitting a Verizon line while digging, it is on the website if anyone wants to look at it. Supervisor Smith let everyone know that the new plow truck was delivered and Superintendent Langs stated they can come have a look at it.

Supervisor Smith asked the Town Clerk to please type a nice thank you letter to Viking and Mike Jackson for taking our old plow blade that used to sit out by the road next to the turn into our offices, sandblasting and repainting it for us.

Superintendent Langs gave loader quote updates, stating that the Hitachi bid was thrown out. It didn't have a differential lock etc., and they did not put the differential lock on the Hitachi. The other quotes are still there. John Deer, CAT, and Honda. Councilman Taylor asked Superintendent Langs if he had a recommendation for which one he prefers. Superintendent Langs said no not really, anyone would be ok, they are all close in price, and would all do the work. The CAT 930 is one size bigger than what we have now. Councilman Malbeuf and Superintendent Langs discussed a few more aspects of the three loaders in the running. The board members also discussed a few things about the different loaders. Carl Pierce said the 930 CAT you would have to wait for them to come from Syracuse for service, but with United being right in Gouverneur, they would be more convenient for servicing the John Deer. Councilman Taylor stated that the 5-year warranty with John Deer is good, and they were giving the town more of a trade in value on the old loader. The John Deere 624 is a size bigger than the one we have now. The bucket on the John Deer is a 3 and 1/2. Once ordered the John Deer would be 8 months out and the first payment wouldn't be due till delivery.

Councilman Malbeuf made a motion to purchase the John Deer 624

Motioned by: Councilman Malbeuf

Seconded by: Councilman Taylor

Roll Call:

Supervisor Smith: Aye

Councilwoman Ritz: Aye

Councilman Taylor: Aye

Councilman Bango: Aye

Councilman Malbeuf: Aye

Reports from Committees:

Councilman/Town Clerk/Bookkeeper time:

Councilwoman Ritz stated she wanted to take the opportunity to let the residents at the meeting know that the new Town Clerk, Andrea Paterson is in the office, open to the public three days a week now and is doing an amazing job. She also stated that Karie Fitzgerald is doing a fantastic job on the Town's website. The board members also thanked Assessor's Assistant Missy and our Bookkeeper Cheryl for the great job they are doing as well. The town residents present at the meeting thanked them all.

Supervisor Smith asked if there were any other questions. There were none and he called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Taylor, seconded by Councilwoman Ritz at 8:10 pm

All in favor: Aye

None opposed

Submitted By:

Andrea M. Paterson
Diana Town Clerk