

**TOWN OF COLUMBIA
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
MARCH 9, 2023**

The Town of Columbia Town Board held a regular monthly meeting March 9, 2023, at the town building

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Weiss, Councilmen Burke, Cotton, Learned and Reed

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Pat Woytowich, Clerk; Mark Buddle, Highway Supt.; 18 members of the public

Supervisor Weiss called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance and prayer

Correction to minutes: Under survey discussion should read "the Board discussed findings for cost of bulk mailing". A **motion** was made by Councilman Cotton, seconded by Councilman Learned, to accept with correction, the minutes of February 9, 2023.

VOTE: All members voted aye.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Reed, seconded by Councilman Doremus, to accept the Supervisor and Town Clerk monthly reports.

VOTE: All members voted aye.

Councilman Reed explained that the Public Hearing on Local Law 2023-#01 has been sent to Herkimer County and they have 30 days to respond so Town will hold open until next meeting.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

-CODES/ZONING: Ray reported that he has received two permits. He has filed his annual report with NY State.

-HIGHWAY: Mark reported:

- NYMEP/AOT projected \$1,100 over 4 years fixed rate electric
- Mack sander \$6,600 - complete refurb - heavier chain/sprockets than new - hardox floor - new galvanized grates made.
- Driveway front of doors towards Spohn Rd. will be working on.
- Smart Board: submitted early - got approved with extended warranty and support.
- Promethean 75" display, player, stand, camera, speakers, extended support - \$4,774.61.
- Otsego Electric / OE connect-fiber cabling to operate from office side to hall side \$350
- Locally constructed locking cabinet for security and storage in hall for equipment \$1,000

TOTAL PPROJECTED COST: \$6,124.61

Highway con't:

- Office boiler & chimney discussed. Chimney is not used and deteriorating - taking down
- Discussed sand supply

-PLANNING BOARD:

The clerk distributed the minutes from the 2/15/23 meeting - By-laws and regular meeting.

OLD BUSINESS, NEW BUSINESS, DISCUSSION:

New:

**RESOLUTION TO FILE
CORRECTIVE DEED**

At a regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Columbia, Herkimer County, New York held at 7:00 pm, March 9, 2023, the following resolution was moved by Councilman Cotton, seconded by Councilman Reed and unanimously carried:

WHEREAS, a 2.765A+- acre parcel of land situate at 936 Jordanville Road, in the Town of Columbia, County of Herkimer State of New York, designated as Tax Parcel 131.2-1-47, is to be used as a storage facility for Town purposes; and

WHEREAS, in order to obtain a grant for the building of the storage building on said parcel, the Town requires that said 2.765A+- parcel to have a more modern and accurate survey description, and such plan to describe said 2.765A+ parcel more commonly known as Tax Map Parcel 131.2-1-47 was approved by the Town Board at a regular meeting held on March 9, 2023;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Town of Columbia shall file a corrective deed for the purpose of having on record a more modern and accurate survey description for said 2.765A+ acre parcel of land from the Town of Columbia to the Town of Columbia for the sum of \$1.00 and the Town Supervisor of the Town of Columbia is hereby authorized to execute and deliver all documentation necessary to effect said transfer.

CERTIFICATION

I, Patricia A. Woytowich, Town Clerk of the Town of Columbia hereby certify that the above resolution was moved, seconded and carried at a regular meeting of the Town Board held on March 9, 2023, and has not been otherwise rescinded, revoked, or modified.

Councilmen Cotton,aye; Doremus,aye, Learned,aye; Reed,aye; Supv. Weiss,aye.

Town of Columbia

Dated: March 9, 2023

By: _____
George Weiss, Town Supervisor

Board Discussion:

-Letter from Attorney Benjamin Wisniewski to Attorneys for Columbia Solar LLC was read. "Notice of Recusal of Town Supervisor George W. Weiss in all matters related to Columbia Solar and Designation of Points of Contact Moving Forward". Deputy Supervisor Ed Reed will be primary contact for Town of Columbia and any primary point of contact for legal matters will be handled by Me (Attorney Wisniewski.)

-As Delegate to Assoc. of Towns, Councilman Reed spoke to the group and let them know what we have as a small rural farming community. He stated to the group that he will stand with the group and will contact legislatures. Ed stated that regardless of views we must stand together to protect Home Rule.

BILLS: The Board audited the monthly bills. A **motion** was made by Councilman Doremus, seconded by Councilman Learned, to accept the following bills:

General Fund, #34 - #54 for \$113,077.15
Trust & Agency, #3 for \$342.80
Highway, Item 3, #24 - #34 for \$63,291.48
Highway, Item 4, #18 - #25 for \$28,626.04

VOTE: All members voted aye.

Discussion: Thank you to Ryan Fagan and the Planning Board group for good job done putting together solar project survey.

INPUT: The Board received input from those attending. Several questions/suggestions discussed.

-Donations to neighboring community for using their facilities? Councilman Reed stated that we can't donate tax payers money.

-Discussed road maintenance and where to report road problems (town building)

-Which roads are chosen to be worked on? Mark stated that this year it was going to be Huxtable Rd.

-Solar survey further discussion

EDF will be holding a public meeting at Francesca's Banquets, 144 E. Main St., Ilion, NY on

May 9th

Open House 5-6

Presentation and Q&A 6-7

Open House or Questions 7-8

Next meeting will be April 13th

A **motion** was made by Councilman Reed, seconded by Councilman Cotton, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Supervisor

Councilman

Councilman

Town Clerk

Councilman

Councilman