

**TOWN OF COLUMBIA  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING  
AUGUST 12, 2021**

The Town of Columbia Town Board held a regular monthly meeting August 12, 2021, 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.;  
Ray Donley, Codes/Zoning officer and Dist.#2  
County Legislator, 1 town resident

Supervisor Weiss called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.  
Pledge of Allegiance and prayer

A **motion** was made by Councilman Learned, seconded by Councilman Cotton, to accept the minutes of 7/08/2021.

**VOTE:** All members voted aye.

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

**VOTE:** All members voted aye.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**-CODES/ZONING:** Ray discussed the following:

- Building permit applications are picking up.
- Will be doing annual Commercial inspections next month
- 1 more training class to complete
- County meeting next week to discuss stimulus money Aug. 19<sup>th</sup> at HCCC

**-HIGHWAY:** Mark discussed/reported on the following:

- Shoulders on Sarafin Road Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Thanks to Herkimer County Highway shoulder machine + operator. Millings were used from Ilion Gorge - also a truck from Stark and Warren.
- Most of sealing done today - couple hours tomorrow to finish. Thanks to Stark, German Flatts, Danube, Warren - CHIPS and Town of Columbia Program.
- Stimulus money possibly for road repair.
- Grant did get submitted and accepted for sand and salt shed.
- A lengthy discussion of purchasing a wing and plow hitch system.

Upon motion of Councilman Burke, seconded by Councilman Cotton, the following **resolution 2021-#11** was introduced:

**RESOLVED:** The Town of Columbia Town Board hereby approves the lease to own of New 2021 Henke 14' all Hydraulic wing and plow hitch system from 5 Star Equipment, Inc. for John Deere 620G Motor Grader at a cost of \$7,067.18 per year for 5 years plus \$1.00 to purchase.

**VOTE:** Councilmen Burke, aye; Cotton, aye;  
Learned, aye; Reed, aye;  
Supervisor Weiss, aye

-PLANNING BOARD: Minutes of 7/21/2021 distributed.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Letter of resignation from Janet Elliott, Clerk to the Justice, effective August 31, 2021.
- From Tax Collector a revised and adjusted statement with Herkimer County Treasurer as of May 4, 2020
- From Judge Skinner: Request to hire Millie A. Buck as Clerk to the Justice effective September 1, 2021.
- County Newsletter distributed

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Upon the recommendation by Judge Skinner, a motion was made by Councilman Learned, seconded by Councilman Cotton, to appoint Millie A. Buck Clerk to the Justice, effective 9/01/2021 - 12/31/2021

**VOTE:** All members voted aye.

Planning Board Alternate was discussed. A motion was made by Councilman Learned, seconded by Councilman Reed, to appoint James Hotaling as Alternate Planning Board member effective 8/12/2021-12/31/2021.

**VOTE:** All members voted aye.

The Town of Columbia was served papers from OEConnect for review of Tax Assessment. James Fresco, Town Assessor, stated that Town of Winfield also was served. Jim recommended that Our Attorney and Winfield Attorney work together with him. Supervisor Weiss asked Attorney Quinn if he would represent Town of Columbia and he stated he would.

**BOARD DISCUSSION/PUBLIC INPUT:** A resident questioned several solar companies going around the Town looking for property. The resident also questioned other areas that have TV and newspaper coverage to have public aware of what is going on - questioned why Town of Columbia does not have more info out so people are aware that a large solar farm is looking to locate in our Town.

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

- General Fund, #83 - #96 for \$ 3,700.32
- Trust & Agency, #8 for \$ 497.97
- Highway, Item #1, #17 - #19 for \$ 40,606.42
- Highway, Item 3, #85 - #95 for \$ 5,903.03
- Highway, Item 4, #44 - #50 for \$ 18,717.50

**VOTE:** All members voted aye.

Next meeting is September 9<sup>th</sup> and will introduce Local Law to override the tax levy limit established in General Municipal Law §3-c.

8:30 p.m. closed open meeting to hold Budget Workshop.

9:30 p.m. Budget workshop was closed and regular meeting was re-opened.

With no further business a motion was made by Councilman Burke, seconded by Councilman Cotton, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Supervisor

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Town Clerk

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Councilman

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Councilman

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Councilman