

**TOWN OF COLUMBIA
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 10, 2020**

The Town of Columbia Town Board held a regular monthly meeting December 10, 2020, at the town building.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Councilman Burke

OTHERS PRESENT: Pat Woytowich, Clerk; Mark Buddle, Highway Supt.;
Planning Board Members Bayzon, Kidder, Fagan,
Rubin; Ray Donley, Codes/Zoning officer.

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

PUBLIC HEARING: Public Hearing on Local Law #1-2020 was opened for comments. The legal notice was in the Times Telegram on December 2nd. Ron Bayzon explained that the Planning Board contacted several other towns that have implemented Solar Laws and many hours have been put into this law - not to discourage development but intention is to do things the right way. Board Members appreciated the hard work thanked the Planning Board. With no further discussion the hearing was closed at 7:08 P.M.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Cotton, seconded by Councilman Reed, to accept the minutes of 11/12/2020.

VOTE: All members present voted aye.

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

VOTE: All members present voted aye.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

-CODES/ZONING: Ray Donley updated the Board.

- On Building permit #26 Richfield Hill
- Following up on N. Columbia Rd. complaint
- Finished training for this year
- Met with the owner and Trailer Park has removed garage.
- Has had call from someone that is interested in buying the Park.

-HIGHWAY: Mark discussed

- Road maintenance
- CHIPS - several choices for which roads need the work
- Machinery /equipment this year
- Usual repairs/parts

- Salaries - summer/winter
- Sand/salt/fuel. Warm temperatures snow turns to ice, freezing rain - seems like dealing with a lot of ice conditions

-PLANNING BOARD: Minutes of 11/18/2020 distributed

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Card from NBT
- Comp Alliance – “safe work place” for 2019 Received \$2,051.00
- AIM–related payment of \$10,641.00 processed
- NYS Government Training Programs–Winter Webinars
- Soil & Water – distributed 2021 calendar on invasive species

NEW BUSINESS: A **motion** was made by Councilman Learned, seconded by Councilman Cotton to appoint Lee Sterling to the Board of Review (10/01/2020–09/30/2025)

VOTE: All members present voted aye.

LOCAL LAW #1-2020:

RESOLUTION DATED November 12, 2020, whereby a proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2020 referred to as “Solar Energy Facilities Local Law”, an amendment to the Town of Columbia’s Zoning Law 2015-01, said local law being proposed to adopt and amend the Town’s Zoning Law to insure any use of the Town’s solar energy resource is considered for approval in a manner compatible with the Town’s Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Law, and will not compromise the public health, safety and welfare.

Upon motion of Councilman Reed, seconded by Councilman Learned, the following **resolution #2020-10** was introduced:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Columbia, Herkimer County, New York, moves to adopt the above described local law in its entirety, with a copy of said local law attached hereto and made a part hereof as if fully set forth herein.

The questions of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

VOTE: Councilman Cotton, aye; Councilman Learned, aye; Councilman Reed, aye;
Supervisor Weiss, aye
Councilman Burke, absent

STATE OF NEW YORK)
COUNTY OF HERKIMER)

I, Patricia Woytowich, Town Clerk of the Town of Columbia, do certify that I have compared the above copy with an exact copy of the minutes of the Town Board of the Town of Columbia for November 12, 2020, meeting concerning the adoption of Local Law No. 1 of 2020, with the original thereof, now on file in this office, and that the same is a true copy thereof and of the whole of said original and endorsements thereon.

Witness my hand and seal of office, this 12th day of November, 2020.
Patricia Woytowich, Town Clerk

INPUT: The Board received input from those attending.
Planning Board working on Battery Storage
Councilman Reed plans to virtually attend Association of Towns Training School and Annual meeting. January meeting will do resolution.

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

- General Fund, #140 - #165 for \$ 35,581.63
- Trust & Agency, #12 for \$ 331.98
- Petrie Brown, #1 for 90.00
- Highway, Item 3, #133 - #140 for \$ 3,063.31
- Highway, Item 4, #73 - #79 for \$ 17,432.91

VOTE: All members present voted aye.

Organizational meeting Jan. 4, 2021
Regular meeting Jan. 14

A **motion** was made by Councilman Reed, seconded by Councilman Cotton, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Supervisor

Town Clerk

Councilman

Councilman

Councilman

Councilman