

TOWN OF COLUMBIA
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
JUNE 10, 2021

The Town of Columbia Town Board held a regular monthly meeting June 10, 2021, 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.; Ray Donley, Codes/Zoning Officer/Cty. Legislator Dist.#2; Paul Kidder, Planning Board Secretary; 3 residents; EDF Representatives Jack Honor and Josh Bennett.

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

Correction to minutes of 5/13/2021: accept monthly bills was made by Councilman Learned, seconded by Councilman Cotton. A **motion** was made by Councilman Reed, seconded by Councilman Cotton, to accept the minutes of 5/13/2021 with correction.

VOTE: All members present voted aye.

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

VOTE: All members present voted aye.

EDF Columbia Solar Update: Josh Bennett and Jack Honor

- Grid-Scale Power - Bigger projects. Bigger impacts
- Project map distributed
- 2021 activities will be Wildlife Site Characterization, Breeding Bird Surveys, Winter Bird Surveys, Phase 1A Archaeological Survey and Desktop-Based Wetland and Water Resource Delineation
- EDF has applied to transition into new 94C permitting process which replaced Article 10.
- NYS Renewable Energy Goals. The Columbia Solar Project will be submitted to the 2021 NYSERDA Tier one RFP.
- Electricity without emissions & pollution
- Solar Energy and Agriculture
- Decommissioning and Restoration
- Many Layers of Economic Impacts
- New Revenues for the Community

Mr. Bennett and Mr. Honor discussed/answered questions

Supervisor Weiss thanked Mr. Bennett and Mr. Honor for presentation. Supervisor Weiss stated that the Town of Columbia would like to be involved with any future meetings and have them held here in the Town of Columbia.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

-CODES/ZONING: Ray Donley reported no new building permits. Slow time. County Legislator Dist. #2 news: At the County Legislatures monthly meeting it was discussed that there appears to be issues with the County Clerk. The DMV is still not open - only taking appointments which go into the Fall.

Ray stated that the new Jail is open but there are severe sewer system problems. Early voting will be held in Mohawk.

-HIGHWAY: Mark reported/discussed the following-

- Sand pile deed. The Town has the deed and survey.
- Gradall
- Stimulis money given to NYS to distribute???
- Sand building grant. Lawyer and Grant Writer have been working together. Need boundries - building will fit. George and Mark met with Grant Writer.
- Paving Sarafin Rd. today. Thanks to German Flatts, Warren, Stark - working with them.
- Sealing scheduled date is 8/17. Sarafin chips. Town will pay for Beebe, Seckner, Dropp, Hugick - 4.7 miles total.

-PLANNING BOARD: Minutes from May 19th meeting were distributed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funding update.
- OSC Webinar June 23rd 10-11:30. Legalities of Competitive Bidding
- Supervisor Weiss stated that Jeff Shaw, Chr. of Board of Review recently passed away. Board of review did meet and David Weiss is now Chairman. They received word that Otsego Electric and OEConnect will be filing a grievance regarding the assessments on recent fiber construction.

INPUT: The Board received input from those attending. Resident Gene Doremus stated that Millers Mills Lumber Yard has pre-covid prices.

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, #64 - #73 for \$ 1,679.28
Trust & Agency, #6 for \$ 331.98
Highway, Item #1, #9 - #11 for \$ 22,014.79
Highway, Item 3, #60 - #74 for \$ 19,784.07
Highway, Item 4, #35 - #39 for \$ 3,615.07

VOTE: All members present voted aye.

Next meeting is July 8th.

Councilman Reed stated that he thinks the hall should be opened- it is for the use of the people. Supervisor stated that we would need a monitor. Councilman Reed stated he and or Jennifer would.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Reed, seconded by Councilman Cotton, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Supervisor

Town Clerk

Councilman

Councilman

Councilman

Councilman

