

**TOWN OF COLUMBIA
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 12, 2020**

The Town of Columbia Town Board held a regular monthly meeting November 12, 2020, 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 1 resident.

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

BUDGET HEARING: The 2021 budget hearing was opened at 7:03 P.M. with Supervisor Weiss asking if there were any questions or comments. The legal notice was in the Times Telegram on Oct.29, 2020. With no questions the hearing was closed.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Cotton, seconded by Councilman Reed, to accept the minutes of 10/08/2020.

VOTE: All members voted aye.

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

VOTE: All members voted aye.

Correspondence: A written complaint was received prior to the start of the meeting regarding possible codes/zoning violations on N. Columbia Rd.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

-CODES/ZONING: Ray Donley, Codes/Zoning Officer reported.

- North Columbia Road complaint letter issues may go to court. Ray will document issues.
- Garage at Golden Horseshoe Trailer Park has been taken down.
- Ray has sent letters and form for Commercial property owners to fill out for inspection.
- Rt. 28 (S. Columbia) property has some progress. Ray stated that he has been working with attorney.
- The N. Columbia Rd. complaint that was received was discussed. Some issues are neighborly and not town codes violations.. possible court issues. If a permit, etc. is required Ray will be discussing with the property owner.
- As Legislator, Ray stated Herkimer County will be totally virtual this week.

- Ray has one more class to complete his training this year.

-PLANNING BOARD: Minutes of 10/21/2020 were distributed.

-HIGHWAY: Lengthy discussion of equipment and roads.

NEW BUSINESS:

Upon motion of Councilman Burke, seconded by Councilman Cotton, the following *resolution* #2020-08 was introduced:

RESOLVED: The Town of Columbia Town Board hereby adopts the preliminary budget as the final budget for the year 2021.

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

Supervisor George Weiss introduced 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. After discussion on said proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2020, a motion was made to pass a resolution to hold a public meeting to potentially adopt the above described local law, and to authorize the Columbia Town Clerk to post legal notice of said public meeting in the local newspaper, with said public meeting to be held on December 10, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

Upon motion by Councilman Reed, seconded by Councilman Cotton, the following resolution #2020-09 was introduced:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Columbia, Herkimer County, New York, moves to hold a public hearing to potentially adopt the above described local law, and to authorize the Columbia Town Clerk to post legal notice of said public meeting in the local newspaper, with said public meeting to be held on December 10, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.,

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

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

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

General Fund, #125 - #139 for \$ 2,810.74
Trust & Agency, #11 for \$ 320.10
Highway, Item #1, #38 - #39 for \$ 3,755.86

Highway, Item 3, #116 - #132 for \$ 3,595.47

Highway, Item 4, #64 - #72 for \$ 64,072.52

VOTE: All members voted aye.

Next meeting will be Dec. 10, 2020, at 7:00 P.M. beginning with Public Hearing on Local Law #2020-01

A **motion** was made by Councilman Cotton, seconded by Councilman Reed, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Supervisor

Town Clerk

Councilman

Councilman

Councilman

Councilman