

**REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 10, 2019**

The Town of Columbia Town Board held a regular monthly meeting October 10, 2019, 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.;
Dist.#1 & #2 County Legislatures; Ray Donley Codes/Zoning
Officer; 3 Planning Board members (Kidder, Bayzon, Rubin); Gene
Doremus, West Winfield Star; and several residents

Supervisor Weiss called the meeting to order at 6:00P.M.
Pledge of Allegiance

Guest Speaker - Jennifer Manierre from NYSERDA was introduced.
Jennifer explained that NYSERDA is available to assist and give
information. Many questions and much discussion followed

- Model Solar Law
- Solar Pilot
- Real Property Tax Law §487
- Solar installations in Agriculture Districts, Assessments
- EDF is asking for funding from NYSERDA. Town needs to register
with EDF and be involved with Article 10
- type of panels to be used

Supervisor Weiss thanked Jennifer for coming.

Regular meeting opened 7:15 p.m.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Learned, seconded by Councilman
Cotton, to accept the minutes of 9/12/2019

VOTE: All members voted aye.

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

VOTE: All members voted aye.

Supervisor Weiss introduced David Diaz, Land Protection Manager with
Otsego Land Trust. David explained that the primary mission Of
Otsego Land Trust is to protect our region's productive lands, clean
water and rural landscapes. He explained that a conservation easement
will prohibit industrial and large scale

commercial activities and prevent excessive subdivision. The Town Board reviewed materials submitted by the Land Trust for the protection of Woodlawn Dairy Farm, owned by Tim and Sue Cantwell of Woodlawn Dairy Farm Project Information.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Burke, seconded by Councilman Reed authorizing the Supervisor to sign a letter to David Behm NYS Dept. of Ag. & Markets, stating that The Town Board agrees with the Land Trust's choice of Woodlawn Dairy Farm for submission to State's FPIG Program.

VOTE: All members voted aye.

CODES/ZONING: Codes/Zoning Officer reported that there were 4 building permits. Making commercial and apartment inspections. Will be going with Dept. of Health for an inspection of trailer park.

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

General Fund, #125 - #139 for \$ 9,989.56
Trust & Agency, #10 for \$ 300.20
Highway, Item #1, #23 - #26 for \$ 28,291.48
Highway, Item 3, #117 - #123 for \$ 2,506.96
Highway, Item 4, #57 - #62 for \$ 10,597.74

VOTE: All members voted aye.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

-HIGHWAY: Mark reported

- 105 trash permits. Spring, 135; Fall, 2018, 91. Thank you to Bill Keeler and Jim Cotton for helping.
- Road sealing done. Thank you to Stark & Warren.
- '03 IHC still waiting on Parts -Rockwell front end
- Sexual harassment training is going to be included with our annual April Labor Dept. training
- Certified excavator refresher coming here Tuesday 15th.
- Salt building - seal blocks plus pavement next week will finish
- Lawnmower for next year discussed

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Dept. of Public Service Life Line Program link: www.AskPSC.com
- Speed limit request on North Columbia Road was approved. Signs up for 35 MPH
- Workshop 10/24/19 "Minimum Maintenance Roads"

- Herkimer-Oneida Comprehensive Planning Program hosting energy training Oct. 19, 2019
- Herkimer County News letter
- Task Force on Water Quality 6-8 pm Oct. 24th @HCCC

OLD BUSINESS: Tentative 2020 Budget was discussed.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Burke, seconded by Councilman Reed, to adopt the Tentative Budget as the 2020 Preliminary Budget.

VOTE: All members present voted aye.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Cotton, seconded by Councilman Learned, to hold a public hearing on the 2020 Preliminary Budget November 14, 2019, and authorize the Clerk to place a legal notice in the Times Telegram.

VOTE: All members present voted aye.

NEW BUSINESS:

A **motion** was made by Councilman Cotton, seconded by Councilman Learned, authorizing the Supervisor to sign the Snow Contract with Herkimer County (five years commencing January 1, 2020 and expiring on December 31, 2024).

VOTE: All members voted aye.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Burke, seconded by Councilman Reed, authorizing the Supervisor to sign the Assessing contract with Herkimer County (Agreement extended from December 31st, 2019 to December 31, 2020).

VOTE: All members voted aye.

BOARD DISCUSSION: Discussed benches outside the hall and computer security. Councilman Reed stated that he continues to work on web-site.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Reed, seconded by Councilman Cotton, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Woytowich

Town Clerk