

**TOWN OF COLUMBIA
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 8, 2020**

The Town of Columbia Town Board held a regular monthly meeting October 8, 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.; Ryan Fagan, Planning Board Member; 2
residents

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 Reed, to accept the minutes of 9/10/2020.

VOTE: All members voted aye.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Cotton, seconded by
Councilman Burke, to accept the Town Clerk monthly report.
Supervisor will have his report at next meeting.

VOTE: All members voted aye.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

-**CODES/ZONING:** Ray was unable to attend meeting. He sent
message that the Golden Horseshoe Trailer Park is making
progress. He met with the owner and the new manager.

-**PLANNING BOARD:** Ryan Fagan from Planning Board attended.
Minutes from 9/16/2020 meeting were distributed.

-**HIGHWAY:** Mark reported.

- "Fall" Trash Day had 108 permits. 2019 had 105 permits.
Thank you to Bill Keeler and Jim Cotton for their
assistance with permits.
- Appointment set up for CHIPS submission. Expect \$113,228.29
actual CHIPS reimbursement. Have lost \$23,033.34 at this
point.
- No railroad news.
- Have pickup and culvert bids.

OLD BUSINESS: Supervisor Weiss explained that the tax rate for 2021 budget and the amount to be raised by taxes is a few cents less than the 2020 budget. A **motion** was made by Councilman Reed, seconded by Councilman Burke, to adopt the Tentative Budget as the 2021 Preliminary Budget.

VOTE: All members voted aye.

NEW BUSINESS:

A **motion** was made by Councilman Cotton, seconded by Councilman Learned, authorizing the Supervisor to sign the Assessing Contract with Herkimer County (01/01/2021-12/30/2021)

VOTE: All members voted aye.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Learned, seconded by Councilman Burke, to hold a public hearing on the 2021 Preliminary Budget November 12, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. and to authorize the Clerk to place a legal notice in the Times Telegram.

VOTE: All members voted aye.

Draft Solar Law was discussed. Councilman Reed stated that he is in favor of having a limit on the total amount of acreage that could be solar farms in the Town of Columbia. Councilman Reed has a section from Town of Rush Solar Law that limits the total number of Solar Farm acres allowed in the Town. Discussion followed. Councilman Reed gave copy to Planning Board Member Ryan Fagan. Ryan will take to Planning Board October meeting to have it added to Town of Columbia's Draft Law. Once added Supervisor Weiss will take to Town Attorney.

Upon **motion** of Councilman Cotton, seconded by Councilman Reed, the following **resolution #2020-07** was introduced:

RESOLVED: The Town of Columbia Town Board hereby accepts the bid of \$36,600.00 for the sale of 2019 Ford F-350 pickup and \$500.00 for 4' culvert pipe per Auctions International Sale of 10/07/2020.

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

PUBLIC INPUT:

- Town resident, Ben Gottfried stated that he hasn't heard anything regarding the railroad crossing Dropp Rd. Ben also stated that he has paperwork to Codes/Zoning Officer for a park area.

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

General Fund, #116 - #124 for \$ 5,503.98
Trust & Agency, #10 for \$ 320.10
Highway, Item #1, #35 - #37 for \$ 1,534.27
Highway, Item 3, #103 - #115 for \$ 10,362.65
Highway, Item 4, #56 - #63 for \$ 6,715.72

VOTE: All members voted aye.

Next meeting will be November 12th beginning with Public Hearing on 2021 Budget.

A **motion** was made by Councilman Cotton, seconded by Councilman Reed, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Woytowich
Town Clerk