Minutes of the Virtual Town Board Meeting held on April 2, 2020 at 7:30PM

Present: Frank Palermo, Supervisor
Thomas Burke, Tyler Etzel, Jacqueline Hernandez and Robert Hunter, Council
Absent: None
Also Present: Joseph McKay, Attorney for the Town

Supervisor Palermo noted this is the first meeting the Board is doing via video conferencing.

I. Administrative Business:

a. Acceptance of Minutes:

Motion was offered by Councilwoman Hernandez, seconded by Councilman Hunter, to accept receipt of the minutes of the meeting held March 19, 2020.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Palermo, Burke, Etzel, Hernandez, Hunter
NOES 0

b. Approval of Abstract:

Motion was offered by Councilwoman Hernandez, seconded by Councilman Etzel, to approve Abstract 6 containing vouchers 200500 – 200554 and totaling $172,816.81.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Palermo, Burke, Etzel, Hernandez, Hunter
NOES 0

c. Approval of Budget Modification:

Motion was offered by Councilman Etzel, seconded by Councilman Burke, to approve the following modifications to the 2020 budget:

- Central Data Processing – increasing A599 (Appropriated Fund Balance) by $3500, A1680.400 (Central Data Processing IT Consultant) by $3500;
- Animal Control – increasing A599 (Appropriated Fund Balance) by $7900, A3510.200 (Equipment) by $3000, A1620.475 (Animal Control Repairs) by $4900.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Palermo, Burke, Etzel, Hernandez, Hunter
NOES 0

II. New Business:

a. Change of Status - Kevin Phillips from "Provisionary" to "Permanent Lieutenant":

Motion was offered by Supervisor Palermo, seconded by Councilman Etzel, to change the status of Kevin Phillips from "provisionary Lieutenant" to "permanent Lieutenant" at the same compensation package.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Palermo, Burke, Etzel, Hernandez, Hunter
NOES 0

b. Settlement with DEC and Signing of Consent Order – Bulk Petroleum Tank at Earl Reservoir:

Motion was offered by Councilwoman Hernandez seconded by Councilman Burke, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on or about February 24, 2020, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation ("NYSDEC") issued a Notice of Violation against the Town, alleging a violation of Article 17 of the NYS ECL; and

WHEREAS, the Town's Engineer has investigated the alleged violation and determined that the Town is in compliance with the substance of the law, but that there was a failure to properly file certification paperwork with the NYSDEC; and

WHEREAS, the Town Engineer and the Town Attorney have conferred with counsel for the NYSDEC, and based upon the circumstances, have negotiated a fifty percent (50%) reduction in the applicable fine, to $2,250.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby approves the settlement agreement reached with the DEC, and authorizes the Supervisor to execute a consent order, and such other documents as may be required to effectuate the settlement with the NYSDEC, subject to the review of any such documents by the Town Attorney as to form and content.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Palermo, Burke, Etzel, Hernandez, Hunter
NOES 0

III. Old Business:

a. Submission of Project Suggestions – Orange County Community Development Grants:

Supervisor Palermo noted that residents are encouraged to continue to submit suggestions for projects to be applied for funding under the Orange County Community Development Grant program. The public hearing will be held on June 4, 2020

IV. Board Meeting Comments:

Councilman Burke thanked everyone for everything that they are doing and he hopes everyone stays safe.

Councilwoman Hernandez thanked all the health and first responders working on the front lines fighting this pandemic. She noted the apex of the virus is expected to come towards the end of April. The count of those being diagnosed is increasing while the available beds are decreasing. The Governor is asking hospitals to share patients and urging all residents to stay home and take this issue seriously. She noted there is a lot of information on the Town's website including important phone numbers. She also noted the Lions Club has been helping to collect donations for the Highland Mills Food Pantry and Assemblyman Schmitt is working with Falkirk Inn to have meals delivered to those that are in need. She asked if there are any seniors that need assistance, they reach out to the Friendly Visitors Program for help. She then noted all Town Departments are doing what they can to be available to the public remotely adding the senior center and libraries are each organizing virtual platforms. She stated the parks are shut down so there are reduced areas for sport but she asked that all remain patient until this issue is over – adding that we are all in this together. She has a volunteer database she is maintaining and urged anyone interested in volunteering to contact her to be added to the list. She concluded by wishing all a good week and that all be safe.

Councilman Etzel thanked all the EMS and medical persons that are on the front lines. He also urged all to stay segregated and stay safe.

Councilman Hunter thanked all department heads and employees for stepping up during this time and noted they are all doing a great job and are there to help the residents.

Supervisor Palermo thanked Home Depot for donating sanitary wipes for each department to use. He then recognized Charu Krishan who made and donated face masks for the town employees so

he wanted to thank her for her generosity. He noted on his Facebook© page there is a link to a webinar that will be held tomorrow at 2PM for individuals that own a business and need unemployment or a loan. He then stated the Town Parks will not be closed because he feels they need to be there for people. He asked that no one gather in groups and remember to keep distance from one another. Security will be there patrolling and cameras have been installed as well. The dog park will be watched and if it gets to crowded people will be asked to disperse. He plans to keep the parks open for as long as he can. He then urged everyone to stay safe and well.

V. Adjournment:

With no further comments received or business to discuss, a motion was offered by Councilman Hunter, seconded by Councilwoman Hernandez, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55PM.

ADOPTED	AYES	5	Palermo, Burke, Etzel, Hernandez, Hunter
	NOES	0	

Desiree Potvin, Town Clerk