

# Geneseo Town Board Meeting - Thursday, September 26, 2013

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A Regular Meeting of the Geneseo Town Board was held on Thursday, September 26, 2013 in the conference room of the Geneseo Town Office Facility.

PRESENT:        Roberta Irwin, Deputy Supervisor  
                  Felicitimo Manapol, Councilman  
                  Richard Taylor, Councilman  
                  Jerry Wrubel, Councilman

ABSENT:        William Wadsworth, Supervisor

ALSO PRESENT: Larry Levey, Highway Superintendent  
                  Carol LaVigne, Assessor  
                  June Little, Clerk to the Assessor  
                  Linda LeMoyne, Clerk to the Supervisor  
                  Patti LaVigne, Planning Board Member  
                  Gary Drake, NYS Real Property Tax Services  
                  Jean Bennett, Town Clerk, Recording Secretary

## **MEETING OPENING, APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Deputy Supervisor Irwin called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Councilman Taylor and a moment of silence was held for those service men and women serving our country throughout the world.

The Board reviewed the minutes from the Special Budget Workshop Meeting of September 12<sup>th</sup> and the minutes from the Regular Meeting of September 12<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Taylor moved and Mr. Wrubel seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the Special Meeting of September 12, 2013 and the Regular Meeting of September 12, 2013, both as presented. Motion passed with voting as follows: Irwin-aye; Taylor-aye; Wrubel-aye; Manapol-aye. Nays: None.

The Board reviewed the minutes from the Special Meeting of September 17<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Taylor moved and Mr. Wrubel seconded the motion to approve the minutes of September 17, 2013 as presented. Motion passed with voting as follows: Irwin-aye; Taylor-aye; Wrubel-aye. Nays: None. Mr. Manapol abstained from voting since he was absent from that meeting.

## **2014 BUDGET DISCUSSION:**

The following items on the 2014 budget were discussed:

- 1) A1110.210 – Justices' computers/ software – \$1500 budgeted in 2013 perhaps to purchase a new computer, \$1500 is also budgeted for 2014 – do they need another new town computer for court?
- 2) A1380.490 – Fiscal Agent fee – this is to pay Fiscal Advisors for annual Continuing Disclosure Filing, as required by law.

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- 3) A8810.490 – Cemetery Miscellaneous – \$0.00 budgeted since neither cemetery has requested money for 2014 and \$30,000 has been “set aside” and the \$25,000 budgeted in 2013 has not been used.
- 4) SW5-9730.600- Booher Hill Road Water District BAN Principal - \$4,000 was budgeted to pay on Water Dist #5’s BAN principal in 2013 and \$34,000 is budgeted in 2014. \$34,000 is being paid because the waterline project came in cheaper than expected and the money that was borrowed was not used/needed for the project and will go to pay on the BAN principal.
- 5) SS1-8120.490 – Sanitary Sewers Miscellaneous/Contractual – increased from \$97,000 in 2013 to \$120,000 in 2014. This is due to the expected opening of the Hammocks. The revenue for sewer will also increase due to the Hammocks.
- 6) A1355.490 and A1355.110 – Assessor Miscellaneous and Assessor Clerk - The Assessor requested \$1700 be budgeted (in the .490 line item) and it has been decreased to \$1530. Since it is an update year, as well as the Assessor being new, there will probably be more expenses rather than less. Also, no funds have been budgeted for a Clerk to the Assessor (in the .110 line item) and the new Assessor was promised a Clerk for the update. Deputy Irwin indicated that the Secretary to the Supervisor will be able to be the Clerk and answer the phone to schedule informal hearings, etc. Deputy Irwin will bring these concerns up to the Supervisor and Ms. LeMoyné offered to talk with Tammy Baker on Monday.
- 7) DA5142.470 – Snow Removal/Salt/sand - Highway Superintendent Levey is concerned that this line item has been cut by 25% and feels this is a safety issue. He reviewed the history of the salt use. Mr. Levey understands that a “reserve” exists but he would like to have it in the budget under this line item.
- 8) DB5140.100 – Brush & Weed Removal Personal Services – Highway Superintendent Levey expressed concern that this line item for roadside mowing was reduced from the \$10,000 he requested to \$3,500 and again feels this is a safety issue. If the roadside mowing is cut from twice/year to once/year, in addition to line-of site issues, the weeds will grow on the shoulder and act like a snow fence, keeping the snow on the road when plowed. Mr. Levey pointed out that the Town gets money from Livingston County for mowing county roads and if the mowing is cut down, the revenue will also be reduced.

### **STAR EXEMPTION CHANGES:**

Gary Drake from the New York State Division of Real Property Tax Services addressed the Board regarding changes in the Basic STAR exemption. This past spring, legislation was passed in Albany which requires anyone with a Basic STAR exemption to register with New York State. The intent of the legislation is to eliminate fraud, since residents are allowed only one STAR exemption on their primary residence. Letters from the state containing specific directions on registering with NYS either on-line or by phone are being mailed to residents with current basic STAR exemptions, and another reminder letter will be mailed to those residents who have not yet registered on or about December 1st. The deadline for registering is December 31<sup>st</sup>. New Basic STAR applicants should still submit an application with their local Assessor and will have to register with the state the following year. Residents with Enhanced STAR will *not* be affected by this legislation and will continue to apply annually with their local

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Assessor. Residents who are going from Basic STAR to Enhanced STAR should register on-line or by phone with NYS *and* apply for Enhanced STAR through their Assessor.

Mr. Drake acknowledged Carol LaVigne for her professionalism and thoroughness. The Board thanked Mr. Drake for updating them on the STAR exemption changes.

## **ASSESSOR & ASSESSOR CLERK RETIREMENT RESOLUTIONS:**

In recognition of the upcoming retirement of Carol LaVigne as Assessor and June Little as Clerk to the Assessor, Mr. Wrubel moved and Mr. Taylor seconded the motion to adopt the following resolutions:

### **RESOLUTION COMMENDING EMPLOYEE FOR 33 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE TOWN UPON HER RETIREMENT**

**WHEREAS, CAROL LAVIGNE** began her career with the Town of Geneseo in 1980 as Clerk to the Assessors. In 1989, Carol was appointed Sole Assessor and has held that position for the past 24 years. Carol announced her retirement from the Town of Geneseo effective 10/01/13, after 33 years of service.

#### **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

The Town Board commends Carol LaVigne for her 33 years of service with the Town.

And

### **RESOLUTION COMMENDING EMPLOYEE FOR 24 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE TOWN UPON HER RETIREMENT**

**WHEREAS, JUNE LITTLE** began her career with the Town of Geneseo on October 3, 1989 as Clerk to the Assessors. June announced her retirement from the Town of Geneseo effective 10/01/13, after 24 years of service.

#### **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

The Town Board commends June Little for her 24 years of service with the Town.

The resolutions were adopted by the Town Board with voting as follows: Irwin-aye; Taylor-aye; Wrubel-aye; Manapol-aye. Nays: None.

Deputy Supervisor Irwin presented employees Carol LaVigne and June Little with a plaque containing a signed copy of the resolution acknowledging their 33 and 24 years of service, respectively, and the Board thanked them for the care and attention they have given to the Geneseo Taxpayers through the years.

## **PROGRAMS TO REDUCE ENERGY USE:**

The Board reviewed a flyer from Larsen Engineers about energy savings grants and programs. Deputy Supervisor Irwin asked if Board Members are interested in meeting with Larsen Engineers to learn more

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about these programs. It was the consensus of the Board that a meeting will be set up and the programs investigated.

### **HIGHWAY:**

The Board reviewed a list of items Highway Superintendent Levey requested to be declared surplus and to be taken to the Teitsworth auction. He would also like two additional items, a seaweed conveyor and the seaweed chopper, to be declared surplus if possible. These two items were left at Long Point Park, the owner of the items is now deceased and it is believed the family does not want these items. It was suggested the Town should have the family sign off on these items and the Board agreed that the Town Attorney will be consulted on this issue. Mr. Wrubel moved and Mr. Taylor seconded the motion to declare the following items as surplus:

- 2004 Volvo Dump Truck with Plow Equipment;
- 6 Hanging Overhead Shop Lights;
- Honda Motor;
- Truck Light Bar;
- Gas Chop Saw;
- Chain Saw;
- 3" Diaphragm Pump;
- One-way Snow Plow;
- Snow Plow Wing;

And to also declare the Seaweed Conveyor and Seaweed Chopper as surplus equipment, if so advised by the Town Attorney. Motion passed with voting as follows: Irwin-aye; Wrubel-aye; Taylor-aye; Manapol-aye. Nays: None.

### **WATER:**

Highway Superintendent Levey discussed the ***water salesman at Burbank Drive*** with the Town Board. The charge for 1000 gallons has been \$5.00 for many years and Mr. Levey recommends that the charge be increased to \$10/1000 gallons. This is due to the fact that there are "hidden costs" to the water salesman, including labor, lost water and replacement parts. Mr. Levey reported that just last weekend the salesman shorted out and dumped many gallons of water until it was reported. Mr. Levey has also looked into changing the salesman from a quarter-fed machine to a dollar-fed machine but the cost to do that would be more than \$6,000. Mr. Taylor moved and Mr. Wrubel seconded the motion to set the price of the water at the water salesman at \$10/1000 gallons. Motion passed with voting as follows: Irwin-aye; Taylor-aye; Wrubel-aye; Manapol-aye. Nays: None.

### **MISCELLANEOUS:**

The Supervisor's reports for December 2012 through August 2013 were in Board packets.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

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At 7:55 pm Mr. Wrubel moved and Mr. Taylor seconded the motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. Motion passed with voting as follows: Irwin-aye; Wrubel-aye; Taylor-aye; Manapol-aye. Nays: None.

At 8:00 PM Mr. Wrubel moved and Mr. Taylor seconded the motion to come out of Executive Session and go back into Regular Session. It was reported that no action was taken. Motion passed with voting as follows: Irwin-aye; Wrubel-aye; Taylor-aye; Manapol-aye. Nays: None.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 8:00 pm Mr. Manapol moved and Mr. Taylor seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Jean Bennett, Town Clerk