

The town board meeting for the Town of Addison was held on Tuesday, February 21, 2023, 7:00pm at the Town Hall. The following people were present:

Supervisor	Jack Thompson	
Council Member	Alice Weale - absent	
Council Member	Brandon Conklin	
Council Member	John Lyons	
Council Member	David Miller	
Attorney	Craig Patrick - absent	
Town Clerk	Robin Carr	
Assessor	Teresa Lyons	
Hwy Superintendent	Jeff BeGell - absent	
Bookkeeper	Betty Machuga	
Hope Trappler	Joseph D Trappler	Arnold Champlain
Laura Souders	Don Souders	Stephen Fabian
Stacie Miller	Jeff Allington	Ed Soporowski
Drew Rogerson	David Hatch	Alex Jackson

Supervisor Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:00pm asking all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: Joseph Trappler asked why are we going to spend so much money on the Town Barn when it's far outlived the expected use. How far do we want to go? Drew Rogerson from S.W.E.B. Development, LLC introduced himself and informed the Board that they were developing a Solar Project, renewable energy, capable of producing 120 Mega Watts, on private land in Addison, Erwin and Campbell. Impact studies have been positive to date. Currently have 150 acres under lease and working on surveys. Life expectancy of the solar panels is 30+ years. Information paper on the Solar Project is available at the Town Clerk's Office. Stephen Fabian informed the board that recently he had traveled on Lodge Road, less than 1/8 of a mile, the road was terrible, mud, ice, water, and potholes. His opinion is the road in it's current condition is dangerous. Teresa Lyons stated that she had spoken to residents on Rouse Road and they didn't want any work done to the road.

APPROVE MINUTES:

a. Motion by Council Member Miller, seconded by Council Member Lyons, to approve the January 17, 2023 minutes as written.

Ayes: Thompson, Conklin, Lyons and Miller

Noes: None

b. Motion by Council Member Lyons, seconded by Council Member Miller, to approve the January 23, 2023 minutes as written.

Ayes: Thompson, Conklin, Lyons and Miller

Noes: None

ORGANIZATION APPOINTMENTS: None

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

a. Assessor – Working on Revaluation project with the State. Senior Exemption mailing for Town & County Taxes, were mailed by the County without input from our office with the incorrect phone number. This is NOT for the STAR or Enhanced STAR Program. Deadline for applying is March 1, 2023.

b. Hwy Superintendent – No report.

c. Town Clerk, Town Justice, DCO and Bookkeepers reports were read as submitted. Town Clerk noted that there were currently 13 expired dog licenses. Bookkeeper reported the following collections in September: Justice - \$243.00, Town Clerk – \$364.50, and Franchise Fee of \$1,996.97 from Charter Communications. Supervisor Thompson and Council Member Miller commented on how great the Audit went and complimented the Bookkeeper on her efforts. Bookkeeper mentioned that the auditors recommended some training courses to assist in her duties.

OLD BUSINESS:

a. Town Barn – Council Member Miller stated that both he and Council Member Lyons redrew the building plans and contacted DRF Designs about getting engineering drawings. Cost would be \$130 @ hour for the Engineer and \$70 @ hour for the Architect and would require a deposit for \$900. Motion by Council Member Conklin, seconded by Council Member Lyons, to approve **Resolution #5 of 2023**, authorizing the Town to enter into an agreement with DRF Designs to provide Certified Engineering Drawing for the Town Barn from account A688. Roll call taken: Thompson – Yes, Conklin – Yes, Lyons – Yes, and Miller – Yes. Motion Adopted 4-0. Council Member Miller stated that one of the overhead doors to the Town Barn is no longer operable and needs to be replaced. He volunteered to get an estimate on replacing the door which is believed to be 14' X 16'. Also mentioned that the highway workers would like to get rid of the old wood stove that is no longer in use. Board agreed that they should remove it.

b. Fire/Ambulance Volunteer Tax Exemption. Governor Hochul signed legislation that allows Towns to adopt a local law offering a real property tax exemption of up to 10% for volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers. Both the Fire Chief and Ambulance Captain had a positive opinion of enacting the law with hopes it might attract more volunteers. Motion by Council Member Lyons, seconded by Council Member Conklin to hold a Public Hearing, April 17, 2023 at 7:00pm, on Proposed Local Law #1 of 2023 Opting in on a Volunteer Firefighter and Ambulance Workers Real Property Tax Exemption.

Ayes: Thompson, Conklin, Lyons and Miller

Noes: None

c. Senior Tax Exemption – Steuben County raised the income limit to qualify for the county exemption to \$43,400. The Town's current income limit is set at \$20,000. Motion by Supervisor Thompson, seconded by Council Member Miller, to hold a Public Hearing, April 17, 2023 at 7:00pm, on Proposed Local Law #2 of 2023, Raising the Senior Exemption Income Limit to \$25,899 on a sliding scale.

Ayes: Thompson, Conklin, Lyons and Miller

Noes: None

d. Annual Review of Court Records – Motion by Council Member Conklin, seconded by Council Member Lyons, to approve **Resolution #3 of 2023**, certifying that the Required Annual Review of the 2022 Addison Town Court Records was conducted by all Board Members to the best of their ability:

Ayes: Thompson, Conklin, Lyons and Miller

Noes: None

Motion Adopted 4-0

e. Annual Review of Town Clerks Records – Motion by Council Member Conklin, seconded by Council Member Lyons, to approve **Resolution #4 of 2023**, certifying that the Required Annual Review of the 2022 Town Clerk's Records was conducted by all Board Members to the best of their ability:

Ayes: Thompson, Conklin, Lyons and Miller

Noes: None

Motion Adopted 4-0

f. Agreement for the Expenditure of Highway Moneys – Majority of the board feels the amounts to repair the roads on the proposed agreement are low and don't include wages and fuel. Encouraging the Highway Superintendent to attend the next meeting and negotiate with the board on which roads to repair

and the costs. If no agreement is approved at the next meeting all CHIPS money may be pulled and no money will be released for repair of the Town's roads.

g. New Computer – Town Clerk needs to replace the current computer which dates back to 2015. Tabled till next month.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Tax Collector's Monthly Report – Total amount of warrant - \$1,555,564.74 of which \$597,631.70 remains uncollected. Town paid in full, \$432,220.86.

b. Annual review of Bookkeeper's Records – will be available for the Board Members to review March 18, 2023 at the Town Clerk's Office.

c. Authorization for Vista Print Auto Pay – Website & Email Service. Motion by Council Member Lyons, seconded by Council Member Conklin, to approve **Resolution #6 of 2023**, allowing Supervisor Thompson to use the Town Debit Card to Auto Pay Vista Print each month for the Town Web Site. Roll Call: Thompson – Yes, Conklin – Yes, Lyons – Yes, and Miller – Yes. Motion Adopted 4-0.

d. Uattend – Highway Time Clock Payment – Motion by Supervisor Thompson, seconded by Council Member Conklin, to approve **Resolution #7 of 2023**, allowing the Town Supervisor to have the Bookkeeper set up Auto Pay with General Fund Checking Account for Uattend – Highway Time Clock. Roll Call: Thompson – Yes, Conklin – Yes, Lyons – Yes, and Miller – Yes. Motion Adopted 4-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

COMMUNICATIONS: Law update in regards to Council Members. An ACT to amend the general city law, the general municipal law, the real property law, the town law and the village law, in relation to replacing all instances of the words councilman or councilmen with the words council member or council members became law with the approval of the Governor on August 17, 2022.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Claim Numbers, General Fund Claims, Nos. 31-65, totaling \$16,792.54; Highway Town-wide DA Fund Claims, Nos. 8-15, totaling \$20,993.84; Highway DB Fund Claims, Nos. 56-58 & No. 2, totaling \$13,599.42; Addison Vol Fire Dept, No. 60, totaling \$19,376.87, and Trust & Agency Claims, Nos. 2-5, totaling \$1,711.52, for a Grand Total of \$72,474.19. Motion by Council Member Miller, seconded by Council Member Lyons, to pay the bills in their usual manner.

Ayes: Thompson, Conklin, Lyons, and Miller

Noes: None

SUPERVISOR REPORT: Motion by Council Member Lyons, seconded by Council Member Miller to approve the Supervisor Report for December 2022 as presented.

Ayes: Thompson, Conklin, Lyons, and Miller

Noes: None

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: Stephen Fabian asked why 4-wheelers were driving through Town Barn area and whether we had liability insurance in case of injury. Also inquired about why our new equipment was sitting outside in the weather. Currently no room in the Town Barn. Ed Soporowski, Ambulance Chief, provided info on an initiative to improve ambulance service. Current proposal includes 8 local towns but not Addison or Cameron. Plan calls for paid EMT & paramedics, 24/7 coverage along with local town personnel due to shortages throughout the county. Next meeting on the topic is March 20, 2023 and the the Ambulance Chief will provide an update. Copy of working paper is available for review in the Town Clerk's Office.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Council Member Conklin, seconded by Council Member Lyons, that the meeting be adjourned at 8:40pm, the next scheduled Town Board Meeting is Monday, March 20, 2023, 7pm at the Town Hall.

Ayes: Thompson, Conklin, Lyons and Miller

Noes: None

Respectfully Submitted,

Robin Carr
Town Clerk

NEXT MEETINGS:

MONTHLY BOARD MEETING: Monday, March 20, 2023, 7pm at the Town Hall

PUBLIC HEARINGS: Monday, April 17, 2023, 7pm at the Town Hall

MONTHLY BOARD MEETING: Monday, April 17, 2023, 7pm at the Town Hall