

Supervisor James Schmitt opened the workshop meeting of the town board of the Town of Pawling at 6:00 PM May 5, 2021 at the Pawling Town Hall, 160 Charles Colman Blvd., Pawling, New York. Present were Councilmen McCarthy, Johnson, DeRosa, town attorney Nancy Tagliafierro, and approximately eight citizens. Councilwoman Snow was absent. Due to Covid 19 restrictions, there was a limited capacity of 12 persons maximum allowed in the building. Social distancing and masks were required. Registration to attend the meeting was required.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Supervisor Schmitt opened the meeting for public comment on agenda items and there were none.

RESOLUTIONS

The Board reviewed the resolutions and agreed they would be acted upon at next week's meeting. The Board acted on the following resolutions:

**Resolution 2021092
Authorizing Town Supervisor to Apply For & Administer 2021 Dutchess County
Municipal Investment Grant (MIG)**

Whereas, Dutchess County's Municipal Investment Grant (MIG) is an ongoing program designed to prioritize and incentivize projects that partner with other municipalities and taxing authorities, to develop shared services that align with County priorities and create savings for taxpayers;

Whereas, one 2021 MIG 'Focus Area' is the purchase of generators for critical infrastructure;

Whereas, the Town seeks to configure the Lathrop Building at Lakeside Park as an emergency shelter with a new stand-by electric power generator and appurtenant fuel source, thereby providing a new type and level of facility service; and

Whereas, configuring the Lathrop Building as an emergency shelter with a new stand-by generator will deliver public health and community resiliency benefits and efficiencies for taxpayers; therefore, be it

Resolved, the Town Supervisor is hereby authorized to file an application with Dutchess County for a Municipal Investment Grant (MIG) for a Lathrop Building Stand-by Power Generator; and be it

Further Resolved, the Supervisor is authorized as representative in connection with the application and to administer all associated understandings and assurances, as well as to execute any contracts or agreements with Dutchess County in connection with said project award and to expend funds pursuant to such arrangements and achieve reimbursements.

MOTION: Supervisor Schmitt

SECOND: Councilman McCarthy

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Johnson – "AYE"

Councilman DeRosa – "AYE"

Councilman McCarthy – "AYE"

Councilwoman Snow - "ABSENT"

Supervisor Schmitt – "AYE"

**Resolution 2021088
Appointment of Building Clerk**

Whereas, after an extensive evaluation the town board has decided to restructure some staffing at the Town of Pawling in order to provide the best and most efficient services to our residents, and

Whereas, after conducting several interviews the town board has decided to appoint Jennifer Strehle as the Building Department Clerk, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Town Board approves Jennifer Strehle to be a full time building department clerk effective May 3, 2021 at the yearly salary of \$43,000.00.

MOTION: Supervisor Schmitt

SECOND: Councilman DeRosa

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Councilman Johnson – “AYE”

Councilman DeRosa – “AYE”

Councilman McCarthy – “AYE”

Councilwoman Snow - “ABSENT”

Supervisor Schmitt – “AYE”

PHONE SYSTEM PURCHASE

Jim Santuro from Superior Phone Systems was present to give the board an overview of the upgrade to the phone system. He said they would be installing a new box, saying they would be upgrading the phone system box to a newer version, while the existing phone system will be kept intact. This would give addition capabilities to the phone system. The upgraded system will meet all new 911 regulations and there will be a two year warranty.

Christine Mitchell, town bookkeeper said the reason the town is taking this on at this time is because the existing system is no longer supported. There will be redundancy also so there will be backup should it be needed.

The board thanked Mr. Santuro for his presentation.

TOWN BOARD DISUCSSION

JOHNSON

Councilman Johnson said he is meeting with Ron Laberge from the Laberge Group Friday morning at 10 AM at the water district regarding PWD #2. Laberge has drafted a response to Dutchess County Department of Health updating them on the progress that has been made. Things are moving along and he will keep the board updated. There will be a bidding process for the well. Councilman Johnson said he emailed Joe Olenik, chief constable to plan on staffing community day with two constables each day, June 12th and 13th.

MCCARTHY

Councilman McCarthy said a red line version of the Ag Law has been put on the website so everyone can see the changes that were made. That was done today. Hopefully the public hearing on the Ag Law can be closed on May 12th. Councilman McCarthy said regarding resolution 2021092, the grant is for a generator for the Lathrop building at Lakeside Park. He is working with Laberge on trying to get a grant from the County to use Lathrop as an emergency

facility for the public and the generator would be a huge asset for when we do lose power going forward.

DEROSA

Councilman DeRosa wanted to let people know that the town board is letting people in to the meetings now. Regarding the Whaley Lake Dam, the water level is twelve inches above the concrete spillway. He said there was debris in the spillway, which Wendel Weber, supervisor of buildings & grounds has had removed.

SCHMITT

Supervisor Schmitt said a resident contacted him who lives on Route 292, south of the entrance to the dam entrance. They are getting up in age and they had concerns about entering and exiting their property safely because it is a blind hill. They have been working with an engineer and have submitted plans this past week. They are proposing the town sell them some property in order to realign their driveway. Following discussion, councilman DeRosa suggested he and supervisor Schmitt meet with the engineer to discuss the proposal and bring additional information back to the board. Supervisor Schmitt said he and Councilman McCarthy had a meeting today with Village Mayor Lauri Taylor and Deputy Mayor Dan Peters. They talked about shared services, possibly combining village and town courts, the building departments and also discussed was the sewer line on Route 22 south. He hoped these meetings could happen more often.

Councilman McCarthy said it was a good meeting and he felt it should be done more often. Nothing can be done with combining the courts until the end of the year, it has to be done at the end of the village justice's term.

CREW BINETTE COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Supervisor Schmitt said the board honors someone from the community every month who has gone above and beyond and who has had a positive impact on the community. This month, the nominee is Ed Beauchamp, who happens to be the town clerk's husband. Ed has done the music by the lake program for eight years, which has been a huge success. Ed has done a wonderful job in bringing the event to what it is, it has a big social media following, and he has had some pretty amazing bands there. In the beginning, music by the lake was at Murrow Park with 25 or 30 people and Ed has had events with 500 – 600 people, which is amazing. This month's nominee will be Ed and next week there will be a proclamation honoring him, hopefully Ed can be here to accept it.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Wendel Weber, supervisor of buildings & grounds said the golf course was aerated today. He explained that he purchased a tractor, which is a sprinkler that moves on its own with water pressure to water the fairways, which would help keep the fairways green throughout the year. The cost is \$1,856.98 and the money is in the budget so he ordered it. Mr. Weber said regarding the "Urban Forestry Save the Tree Grant", he has been back and forth with Save a Tree to get everything updated and the grant received was for \$22,100.00, and he would like to move that along.

Supervisor Schmitt made a motion to approve the \$22,100.00 Wendel is requesting for Save a Tree, seconded by Councilman Johnson, motion passed unanimously.

Harvey Matcovsky, resident of Holmes, and member of the school board, announced that the eight man football team won the section nine championships. He hoped the turf field would be built by 2022. He was just informed that the Whaley Lake bond is done, the rate is 1.45% and it is a sixteen year bond. He has spoken to the town assessor regarding taxes and he has no more questions. He felt the planning board should meet in public now, as the town board is doing.

Gregory Bernard, resident from 53 West Main St. asked about the East Main St. culvert project.

Supervisor Schmitt said the bid documents are being prepared.

Mr. Bernard felt the highway superintendent should prepare a paving program for the town.

Supervisor Schmitt said the highway superintendent is working on a paving plan.

The motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Johnson at 6:40 PM, seconded by Councilman DeRosa, motion passed unanimously.

Town Clerk