

Hamburg Town Board Work Session
Catherine A. Rybczynski, Clerk
04-27-2020

James Shaw, Supervisor	(Present)
Shawn Connolly, Councilmember	(Present)
Elizabeth Farrell, Councilmember	(Present)
Karen Hoak, Councilmember	(Present)
Michael Petrie, Councilmember	(Present)

ALSO PRESENT: Catherine Rybczynski, Town Clerk; Walter Rooth III, Town Attorney; Alissa Strauss, Personnel Clerk; Ted Casey, Highway Superintendent; Jennifer Robertson, IT Director; Christopher Hull, Director, Community Development; Samantha Tarczynski, Finance Director; Pat Ryan, Director of Buildings & Grounds; Sarah desJardine, Planning Consultant, Martin Denecke, Director of Senior, Youth, and Recreation Departments

1.

RESOLVED, that the Town Board opens the Work Session at 5:30 P.M.

On a motion of Supervisor Shaw, seconded by Councilman Petrie, the following resolution was

ADOPTED	Ayes	5	Shaw, Connolly, Farrell, Hoak, Petrie
	Noes	0	
	Abstained	0	

Supervisor Shaw led the meeting in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

LED Project - Supervisor Shaw opened the meeting by revisiting the LED project to discuss how the board would like to finance the project. A discussion of the financing options available followed. The Board discussed using a Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) or financing through Tanko. Board members, Samantha Tarczynski, Director of Finance, and Mr. Walter Rooth, Town Attorney offered comments and insights regarding the question of financing.

Boat Launch – Supervisor Shaw explained that if dredging goes forward that it is reasonable to infer that FEMA will reimburse part of the cost. He also confirmed that the Board wanted to go forward with the dredging of the boat launch.

Beach – Supervisor Shaw stated that the beach appeared to be on schedule to open Memorial Day weekend. It will depend on the Governor’s order, availability of lifeguards, snack shack, etc.

Golf Course – Supervisor Shaw stated it can be ready to open on May 15th, but the particulars of how operations will look upon opening is still being discussed.

New Assessor – Supervisor Shaw stated that Mr. Dan Stanford was a solid candidate who has experience in town-wide assessment revaluations. He continued that Hamburg has not had an assessment revaluation in many decades. Mr. Petrie expressed concerns about Mr. Stanford. Councilman Connolly said it was a “great idea,” “right thing to do” and “long overdue” regarding a town-wide revaluation. Supervisor Shaw stated that the last town-wide revaluation was in 1988 and New York State guidelines recommend revaluation take place every “7 or 8 years.” Mr. Petrie agreed that revaluation was going to be necessary.

Supervisor Shaw introduced New York State Assemblyman Sean Ryan to communicate the statewide perspective and efforts regarding the current situation created as a result of the shutdowns, restrictions and curtailment of business activity necessitated by the Novel Coronavirus Pandemic. Assemblyman Ryan first commended and expressed his gratitude to all town employees, essential workers, first responders, front line medical staff, and all those working to combat the Covid-19 plague and assist those in our community in need during these difficult and trying times. Stated that efforts are ongoing to pick up the response time for unemployment claims; 1000 new workers hired, increased server capacity, etc. Changes have been made to election process to help assure everyone eligible to vote may avail themselves of their constitutional right to cast their ballot and participate in the democratic process. Assemblyman Ryan commended the town on efforts to restore “Racino” money to the town in the budget. He continued that there is a critical need for the federal government to extend funding to the states and local governments and that he and the Governor and legislature are fully aware of the pain local governments face. The state will open up in a data driven and segmented fashion once a two-week decline occurs starting with factories, construction sites, etc. A two (2) week pause will take place to analyze the data before expanding any openings.

Solar Energy Local Law – Supervisor Shaw stated he will be sending a draft local law to each of the Board members.

A review of the items on the agenda was initiated by Supervisor Shaw and participated in by all board members.

Item #8 – Boat Launch Fees - Councilman Connolly spoke on the item.

Item #12 – PAF – Youth, Recreation & Senior Services - Councilman Connolly explained that there are 49 entries, 45 terminations, related to part-time positions.

Item #15 – Appointment of Assessor: Daniel Stanford – Supervisor Shaw informed the Board that Orchard Park also has the hiring of Mr. Stanford on their agenda for their next meeting.

The audit of cash disbursements will be added at the end of the Town Board meeting as a late addition item to be received and filed.

Supervisor Shaw opened the floor for discussion:

Mr. Rooth informed the Board that the Town Prosecutor recently resigned because of conflicts with her other job. He suggested that the Board wait to fill the position because of the current court closure until at least the end of May to save money. He added that he has been granted permission from the District Attorney's office to serve in the position and offered to do so until a new hire is added.

Councilwoman Farrell stated that the Rejuvenation Committee has asked for guidance on proceeding with the Blast on the Beach. Supervisor Shaw asked the members of the Board for their opinion. A consensus was reached that it would be prudent to cancel the event this year.

Supervisor Shaw reported that the Lakeview Community Assoc. asked for guidance from the board on if they should proceed with their annual Memorial Day Parade. A consensus was reached that it would be prudent to cancel the event this year.

Supervisor Shaw suggested that a resolution be drafted to ask that financial assistance be provided by the Federal government directly to local governments.

Councilman Connolly reported that Hamburg residents Larry and Audrey Goble have created a "Safari Walk" throughout the Village of Hamburg. Supervisor Shaw commented that it was a great idea and Councilwoman Farrell offered "kudos" to the Gobles and others in our community for their efforts to keep spirits up during these difficult days.

A Department Head Meeting will be held May 5th at 2 PM to discuss opening Town Hall on limited basis in preparation for providing increased access in the future.

It was reported that the 8th District Courts will not open until May 30th.

2.

RESOLVED, that the Town Board close the Work Session at 7:44 P.M.

On a motion of Supervisor Shaw, seconded by Councilwoman Hoak, the following

resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Shaw, Connolly, Farrell, Hoak, Petrie
 Noes 0
 Abstained 0

Open Meetings Law, Public Officers Law, Article 7, §106. Minutes.

Minutes shall be taken at all open meetings of a public body which shall consist of a record or summary of all motions, proposals, resolutions and any other matter formally voted upon and the vote thereon.

These minutes are an unofficial copy unless the original signature of the Town Clerk is affixed below. The original official paper minutes are stored in the Town's vault.

Catherine A. Rybczynski, R.M.C.
Town Clerk