

Hamburg Town Board Special Meeting

Catherine A. Rybczynski, Clerk

11-16-2020

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

ALSO PRESENT: Brad Rybczynski, Deputy Town Clerk; Samantha Tarczynski, Director of Finance; Walter Rooth III, Town Attorney; Kevin Trask, Chief, Hamburg Police Department; Nicholas Budney, Captain, Hamburg Police Department; Jen Robertson, IT Director; Christopher Hull, Director, CDBG; Sean Crotty, Emergency Manager; Camie Jarrell, Town Engineer

1.

RESOLVED, that the Town Board opens the Special Meeting at 5:30 P.M.

On a motion of Supervisor Shaw, seconded by Councilwoman Farrell, the following resolution was

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

Supervisor Shaw explained that Councilwoman Hoak would be participating remotely and that her vote counts as if she were physically present in the room.

Supervisor Shaw then turned his attention to the Agenda for the Regular Meeting. A discussion took place amongst the Board Members and those in attendance relative to the items on the agenda.

Item #3 – Public Hearing on the Business Improvement Exemption Law intended to entice investment in real estate via tax breaks.

Item #5 – Schedule Public Hearing regarding the Special Events Local Law

Items #6, 7 & 8 – New member approval for fire companies

Item #9 – Contract with OSEA to redraft the town Safety Manuel which has not been done since 1991.

Item #10 – Advertise for New vehicles; 2 Ford Fusions for the Police Department.

Item #11 – Award the bid for a 2021 Dodge Charger. The item must be tabled until AFTER the vote on the budget.

Item #12 – 2020 Dodge Durango accounted for in the 2020 budget.

Item #13 – Golf Course terminations.

Item #14 – Budget adoption as amended. Increasing spending \$411,182.00 primarily to cover the fund balance.

Councilman Connolly stated that he was taking into consideration the tax cap and suggested that the Board consider lowering the fund balance allocation from \$895K to \$495K.

Councilman Petrie stated he was more comfortable keeping the number as proposed in the amendments and remain hopeful that the fiscal situation improves (increase in sales tax, video lottery terminal money, etc.).

Supervisor Shaw agreed that the current amendment being offered was responsible and he was comfortable moving forward with it as detailed in the item for consideration today.

Item #15 – Vacation Time Carry Over – Supervisor Shaw was approached by representatives of the bargaining units representing town employees and asked for compensation or additional time to use accrued vacation time. The rationale being that employees were unable to use this time as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic caused shut downs, changes in shifts, etc. This offering of additional time to use the vacation time would be a “one time” offering and it would be stipulated in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that this action would not be a precedent setting action.

The approval of the resolution would also extend the opportunity to Managerial Confidential employees. Mr. Shaw stated that he felt they should be treated the same, especially since they are not getting a pay raise in this budget.

Old Police Station/Dispatch

Councilman Petrie met with the department heads of the departments that may be placed in the old police station/dispatch area. He has the space requirements each conveyed they would like.

Councilwoman Farrell stated that she is waiting on the funding sources to be identified as going toward a specific part of the project. Assemblyman Ryan grant is DASNY money and intended to bring the bathroom in compliance with ADA requirements.

If it is issued a Board Resolution will need to be prepared for the December 7, 2020 meeting to issue an RFP.

Buildings and Grounds has the ability take out the jail cells. Supervisor Shaw will direct B&G to add the removal to their work list.

Councilman Petrie stated that all parties stated that they needed storage space.

Dog Park

Councilman Connolly met with a Bethford resident regarding the possibility of a dog park going in the neighborhood.

The number of dogs NOT licensed was brought up by Ms. Tarczynski to Brad Rybczynski, Deputy Town Clerk, due to a previous conversation she had during budget time with the Town Clerk, Cathy Rybczynski. He responded that the Town Clerk would be happy to conduct a census however money has neither been allocated in the budget this year nor over the past dozen plus years. In addition to the lack of funds the Town Clerk's office is currently understaffed and would have difficulty conducting a census, mailing, and processing the paperwork.

Councilman Connolly stated that the Lake Erie Seaway Center is looking for artists to provide sculptures or other art work to help enhance the center. They have money available in their budget.

Mr. Connolly asked if there was a summary of projects and amount spent available. Supervisor Shaw stated that he would be sending out an update on the grants Mark Malewski has sent to him since Labor Day.

Sean Crotty updated the Board on the catastrophic damage on the Lake Front and at Hoover Beach.

Camie Jarrell updated the Board on the Twin Willows project and also gave a report on the lake front.

Mr. Shaw provided the Board with some stark numbers about COVID-19 cases in our area. Hamburg has outpaced every community in our state with the greatest number of cases per capita. He continued that he would pen a letter to Congressmen Higgins, Jacobs, and Reed requesting Federal Assistance in response to COVID.

Mr. Shaw delivered news that the town has been invited to attend a preliminary meeting to talk about appointing a referee to manage the McKinley Mall case.

2.

RESOLVED, that the Town Board adjourns the Work Session at 6:55 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	

The meeting was closed at 6:55 PM.

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 Deputy Town Clerk is affixed below. The original official paper minutes are stored in the Town's vault.

Brad M. Rybczynski
Deputy Town Clerk