

**TOWN OF NICHOLS
REGULAR MEETING
March 29, 2023**

Town Supervisor, Esther Woods, brought meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the Nichols Elementary School located at 139 Ro-Ki Blvd Nichols NY 13812

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL;

Supervisor Esther Woods (present), Councilperson Bill Middleton (present), Councilperson Ladd Yost (present), Councilperson Rose Cole (present), and Councilperson Brenda Fay-Pelotte (present).

ALSO PRESENT;

Kem Hart-Baker, Howard Stoltzfus, Steve Hill, Will Heveland, Nicole Lambarti, Sandra Lute and Marcy Hill (Town Clerk).

MINUTES

Motion to approve the revised minutes from March 14, 2023 made by R. Cole 2nd by L. Yost
Roll Vote; B. Middleton (abstain), R. Cole (aye), B. Fay-Pelotte (aye), Lad Yost (aye), and E. Woods (abstain).
Carried aye-3- 0 No- 2 abstain

Supervisor's Report:

Esther shared that Mr. Ken Snowden recently passed. Our condolences go out to the family. "He was a very dedicated community member". He will be missed on the planning board and the other various committees he served on.

New Business:

Motion to accept to accept the OSC Audit made by B. Fay-Pelotte 2nd by Bill Middleton
Roll Vote; B. Middleton (aye), R. Cole (aye), B. Fay-Pelotte (aye), Ladd Yost (aye), and E. Woods(aye).
Carried 5 aye- 0 absent- 0 No- 0 abstain

Motion to approve the OSC Audit Corrective Action Plan by B. Fay-Pelotte 2nd by Rose Cole.
Roll Vote; B. Middleton (aye), R. Cole (aye), B. Fay-Pelotte (aye), Ladd Yost (aye), and E. Woods(aye).
Carried 5 aye- 0 absent- 0 No- 0 abstain

We have two community members, Dale Keirsten and Ben Hobbs that are interested in filling the two open positions on the Planning Board. They would fill positions until the end of the year, December 2023.

Motion to approve Dale Keirsten and Ben Hobbs as planning board members by B. Fay-Pelotte 2nd by Bill Middleton.
Roll Vote; B. Middleton (aye), R. Cole (aye), B. Fay-Pelotte (aye), Ladd Yost (aye), and E. Woods(aye).
Carried 5 aye- 0 absent- 0 No- 0 abstain

- Fuel cards for Highway Department - Rose Cole is continuing to work on this along with Jeremy from Tioga County IT dept. will be working on this. We will need to obtain the

number of cards needed for employees. Once this is complete all departments will be using the same fueling station and it will be easier to monitor use.

- Town Clerk and Code Enforcement Officer Training Requests.
Martin would like to attend a Hazard Mitigation conference on April 17th. Marcy is interested in going to the NYS Town Clerk's convention in Syracuse April 23-26.

Motion to approve Martin's conference request by B. Middleton 2nd by B. Fay-Pelotte.

Roll Vote; B. Middleton (aye), R. Cole (aye), B. Fay-Pelotte (aye), Ladd Yost (aye), and E. Woods(aye).

Carried 5 aye- 0 absent- 0 No- 0 abstain

Motion to approve Marcy's conference request by B. Middleton 2nd by B. Fay-Pelotte.

Roll Vote; B. Middleton (aye), R. Cole (aye), B. Fay-Pelotte (aye), Ladd Yost (aye), and E. Woods(aye).

Carried 5 aye- 0 absent- 0 No- 0 abstain

- **Resolution to Amend Organizational Meeting Omission**
Mr. Chet Spencer is on the Board of Assessment Review Board. His name was an omission on the reorganizational meeting minutes. There are three individuals on the Board of Assessment Review Board: Mr. Howard Visscher, Mr. Chet Spencer, and Mr. Howard Stoltzfus.

TOWN OF NICHOLS

RESOLUTION #6-2023

AMENDMENT OF RESOLUTION # 1 OF 2023 ENTITLED "ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING JANUARY 5, 2023"

Motion to approve Resolution #6 to amend Resolution #1 by B. Fay-Pelotte 2nd by B. Middleton

Roll Vote; B. Middleton (aye), R. Cole (aye), B. Fay-Pelotte (aye), Ladd Yost (aye), and E. Woods(aye).

Carried 5 aye- 0 absent- 0 No- 0 abstain

Tioga county Water and Soil – Looking for donation. We will review what we donated to them last year.

- Review 2023 calendar in regard to 2 meeting dates per month - Keep 2 meetings per month.
2nd Tuesday and 4th Wednesday

Departments:

Will Heveland – April 1st "CHIPS" money will come out. We will find out what we have to spend. Truck 105 is up and running with new engine. Ditch'n bucket doesn't fit new excavator. We can trade our old one in and for additional monies get one that will fit the machine.

Will was asked to get a quote and trade in value.

Ray Thetga Jr – not present

Robert Nugent – Bob stated that since the discussion of the possibility of a proposed IDA project on

Depot Road he has been thinking about well head protection. We only cover up to 300 ft. for well. We can make our well head protection area bigger. In talking with Owego – they have 3 different zones. The maximum is 2500 feet from each well head. Water is a precious commodity and we need to protect it. We need some technical expertise where we would want to go between our 300 and the maximum of 2500. It would protect us in the future.

There was conversation regarding zoning:

Q. Is that something that should consider being they (planning board) rezoned it? Yes, they should. When was it rezoned? A. It was two years ago.

Q. What were the reasons? A. Trying to group the industry into the same two areas.

The wellhead information will be reviewed and passed onto the planning board if applicable.

- Kem Hart-Baker - Kem would like for the town to do a more “formal” thank you to Mr. Jeff Gural. For all he has done and continues to do with the town.

Can't remember when there has been any formal recognition. It has been done verbally, however, a formal acknowledgement would be great.

We have to start “tooting” our own horn so we can bring businesses back into town. We have our bicentennial celebration next year.

A booklet donated by Carl Sherwood- District 3 School records, need to be preserved. The cost would be \$1500 – that is “cheap” for what it is. Kem was asked to provide a quote at the next meeting.

Kem also asked for the town to expend \$265 for a file cabinet to match the others that we have.

Bill will check with Ray and see what we have in good working order.

Kem would like to purchase picture frames from the Historian's budget (up to \$150).

Motion to approve the purchase of picture frames – not to exceed \$150.00 by B. Fay-Pelotte 2nd by L. Yost

Roll Vote; B. Middleton (aye), R. Cole (aye), B. Fay-Pelotte (aye), Ladd Yost (aye), and E. Woods(aye).

Carried 5 aye- 0 absent- 0 No- 0 abstain

The AED will be put back in Carriage House in June when the new one is received.

Bicentennial Celebration - Ladd and Kem will meet soon to start planning. We have one other community member at this time that has volunteered. We are looking at having the celebration during Old Home Day weekend 2024.

Committee Reports:

Reap - None

Hazard Mitigation – grant requesting contact info from all municipalities.

Reviews will be starting in April.

LEPC – next meeting is in May

Council of Government - None

Old Business:

- Stamps.com ° Follow up on approval from accountant to use our credit card on For this account. We cannot have a credit card on file to be charged monthly. As far as the newsletter goes - we can get three in per year with the amount that we budgeted for. Rose will try to have a newsletter for the May-June timeframe.
- Insurance Farmer's Market – Checking with Sprague insurance for our liability coverage Esther will ask about our liability insurance when she calls about another issue.
- Shared Services Update -Installs are done. Everyone is up and running. The Highway Department cameras have been installed. The supervisor and deputy supervisor will only have access to the cameras. There was discussion on who else should have access to the camera footage. This will be revisited.

We will be cancelling Greenlight and Verizon services at the highway garage. Spectrum will be cancelled at the Water and Sewer plant.

- New Town Hall Project Review final punch list
 - Review estimates, AED training, Doors, Air Conditioner, Roof, Boiler
 - Request approval of carpet protector runner for Clerk's office
 - Review Final Punch list status
 - Review Library cleaning cost options: Town absorb cost or invoices fee out to

Motion to approve that the town will not invoice the library for cleaning services by B. Fay-Pelotte 2nd by Bill Middleton

Roll Vote; B. Middleton (aye), R. Cole (aye), B. Fay-Pelotte (aye), Ladd Yost (absent), and E. Woods(aye).

Carried 4 aye- 1 absent- 0 No- 0 abstain

- Emergency Plan Annexes –Held meeting earlier tonight. Continuing to work on plans.
- Depot Rd Project – Going well- just assigned a new engineer. They are continuing work on the project.
- FEMA Properties updates – The properties made thru 1st hurdle. The two houses are still on the list. The money goes to emergency priorities. This is the 2nd round of purchasing and is a lower priority. So far, so good as long as the money holds out.
- Handbook updates – Rose shared and discussed the updates.

Motion to approve to accept voucher and pay bills by Esther Woods 2nd by Rose Cole

Roll Vote; B. Middleton (aye), R. Cole (aye), B. Fay-Pelotte (aye), Ladd Yost (aye), and E. Woods(aye).

Carried 5 aye- 0 absent- 0 No- 0 abstain

EXECUTIVE SESSION –

Motion to go into executive session to discuss legal considerations pursuant to public officers' law section 105 at 8:45 pm made by B. Fay-Pelotte 2nd by Rose Cole.

Roll Vote;

B. Middleton (aye), R. Cole (aye), B. Fay-Pelotte (aye), Ladd Yost, and E. Woods (aye).

Carried 5 aye- 0 absent- 0 No- 0 abstain

Motion to go out of executive session at 9:10 pm made by B. Middleton and 2nd by R. Cole

Roll Vote;

B. Middleton (aye), R. Cole (aye), B. Fay-Pelotte (aye), Ladd Yost (aye) E. Woods (aye).

Carried 5 aye- 0 absent- 0 No- 0 abstain

MOTION TO RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION

Motion to reconvene to regular session at 9:10 pm made by E. Woods 2nd by B. Fay-Pelotte.

Roll Vote;

B. Middleton (aye), R. Cole (aye), B. Fay-Pelotte (aye), Ladd Yost (aye), and E. Woods (aye).

Carried 5 aye- 0 absent- 0 No- 0 abstain

MOTION TO ADJOURN –

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 pm made by B. Fay-Pelotte 2nd by R. Cole.

Roll Vote;

B. Middleton (aye), R. Cole (aye), B. Fay-Pelotte (aye), Ladd Yost (aye), and E. Woods (aye).

Carried 5 aye- 0 absent- 0 No- 0 abstain

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcy Hill

03/29/2023

Approved 4/11/2023