

**TOWN OF NICHOLS
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 24, 2022**

Deputy Town Supervisor, Bill Middleton, brought the 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 Kevin Engelbert (absent), Councilperson Bill Middleton (present), Councilperson Esther Woods (present), Councilperson Rose Cole (present), Councilperson Brenda Fay-Pelotte (present).

ALSO PRESENT;

Will Heveland (Highway Superintendent), Marcus Cole, Kem Hart-Baker (Historian), Greg Comer, Randy Reynolds, Mike Grinage, Nichole Lamberti (Morning Times), Ricky Kie and Karen Hall (Town Clerk).

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC –

K. Hart-Baker asked how the remainder of the Town Supervisor’s term will work since Kevin is resigning. The Board responded that they would be discussing it and will let the public know their decision in the next few days. Someone will be appointed to the position and run for the position in the 2023 election, to serve for the remainder of Supervisor’s term.

Greg Cromer - Presented an aerial photo of the Town of Nichols to purchase. The Board asked questions regarding cost and took his information.

MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes from August 9, 2022 made by E. Woods 2nd by B. Fay-Pelotte.

Roll Vote;

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

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

NEW BUSINESS –

- *Town Supervisor Resignation - B. Middleton read a letter of resignation from Kevin Engelbert effective August 31, 2022.*

Motion to accept Kevin Engelbert’s resignation made by B. Fay-Pellote 2nd by R. Cole.

Roll Vote;

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

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

- *Employee Handbook and Emergency Management Plan Work Session- The Board agreed to set a Work Session date to discuss the Employee Handbook and the Emergency Operations Plan on September 12, 2022 from 8am - 10am at Town Hall located at 54 E River Rd. (The Clerk’s Office will be closed during that time to take minutes).*

- *Fall Clean Up - The Hours for the Fall Clean Up will be from 11:00 am - 3:00 pm on Friday October 14th and 8:00 am - 12:00 pm Saturday October 15th. The County will be taking care of the advertising for the event.*
- *Preservation Town Records - K. Hall submitted a proposal to the Board to review for next year's budget. This includes the preservation of 6 vital records books that are in fair condition (Birth Death and Marriage 1933-1989) and 2 Minutes Books that are in poor condition (1934-1959) at a total cost of \$11,300.00.*
- *Office Copier - K. Hall presented to the Board a quote from a Tobisha representative to replace the 10 year old lobby copier to review for next year's budget. 48 month lease at \$99.00/ 63 month lease at \$69.00, includes maintenance (parts, labor, travel) and supplies (toner).*
- *NES - Continued discussion about the Town Hall Offices moving up to the Old Nichols Elementary School. The majority of the Board Members want to see estimates of the cost to move Town Hall up to NES.*
- *The Board thanked W. Heveland for the additional clean up of the "Bailey's Eddy" boat launch. B. Middleton mentioned that the Town won't have to extend the boat ramp down there.*

ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS –

UPDATE FROM TOWN PERSONNEL –

Highway - R. Cole stated that the Highway department had a resignation from one of its employees and will be down a man. W. Heveland is concerned he will not be able to hire anyone before the winter season unless the starting pay rate is increased. The Board stated there was nothing they could do about the pay at this time since the budget and organizational minutes are in place until the end of the year. E. Woods to write up help wanted ad, K. Hall to put in the Tioga County Courier. B. Middleton mentioned that an invoice had been sent to Truman Kittle for the road repair on Upper Briggs Hollow Rd.

Buildings and Grounds - B. Middleton mentioned that the Town's Attorney sent a letter to Nichols Re-Construction to confirm a date to fix the front porch at the Cady Library.

OLD BUSINESS –

Hazard Mitigation Grant (Esther) - Nothing to report.

Hazard Mitigation Plan/REAP (Rose)- Haz Mit. will have a mtg regarding the EMS Study.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS –

Hunt’s Creek Project - The Engineer, Brain Doak, W. Heveland, R. Cole and the Town’s Attorney will be talking with FEMA to find out what our options are because the cost of the bid from Marcus Cole is so much higher than the engineer’s original estimate.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC –

K. Hart-Baker would like to take a picture of the Town Board for the 200th anniversary book of the Town and for historical purposes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION –

Motion to go into executive session at 8:00 pm to discuss personnel made by R. Cole 2nd by B. Fay Pelotte.

Roll Vote;

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

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

Motion to go out of executive session at 9:14 pm made by R. Cole 2nd by B. Middleton.

Roll Vote;

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

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

Action Taken -

Motion to Accept Esther Woods Resignation as Town Board Member, effective date at the end of business on August 31, 2022 - made by B. Fay-Pelotte, 2nd made by R.Cole.

Roll Vote;

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

Carried 3 aye- 1 absent- 0 No- 1 abstain

Motion to Appoint Esther Woods to fill the vacated Town Supervisor’s position until December 31, 2023 made by R. Cole 2nd made by B. Middleton.

Roll Vote;

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

Carried 3 aye- 1 absent- 0 No- 1 abstain

Motion to Appoint Melanie Sinsabaugh to Financial Officer effective 9/1/2022 made by R. Cole 2nd B. Fay-Pelotte.

Roll Vote;

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

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

MOTION TO ADJOURN –

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:21 pm made by R. Cole 2nd by B. Middleton.

Roll Vote;

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

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Hall
08/29/2022