

**TOWN OF NICHOLS  
REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 26, 2022**

*Town Supervisor, Esther Woods, 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 Esther Woods (present), Councilperson Bill Middleton (present), Councilperson Rose Cole (present), Councilperson Brenda Fay-Pelotte (present).*

**ALSO PRESENT;**

*Sandra Lute (Justice), Kem Hart-Baker (Historian), Robert Nugent (Utilities Director), Nichole Lamberti (Morning Times) and Karen Hall (Town Clerk).*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS –**

*K. Hart-Baker asked the Board for permission to purchase a 18" x 24" aerial photo of the Town from Greg Cromer. Discussion followed if there was enough in the historian's budget for the purchase and where the photo would be displayed. Discussion followed regarding what was left in the Historian's budget. The Board felt it was more appropriate for the purchase to be made under the Town Board budget and the photo to be displayed in Town Hall for the public to see.*

*Motion for the Town Board to purchase 18" x 24" Greg Cromer aerial Town photo made by R. Cole 2nd by B. Fay-Pelotte.*

*Roll Vote;*

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

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

**MINUTES -**

*Motion to approve minutes from October 11, 2022 made by R. Cole 2nd by B. Middleton .*

*Roll Vote;*

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

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

**NEW BUSINESS –**

- *Catholic Charities/Tioga Downs - R. Cole spoke with Catholic Charities about cleaning up the hallways and supplying a quarterly listing of their events. Catholic Charities asked if they could get a dumpster for their cardboard and if they could use outside space to put a storage shed. R. Cole stated she is trying to schedule a meeting with Tioga Downs to let them know what is happening at NES. Discussion followed about updating the lease agreements with Catholic Charities and Tioga Downs.*

- *Fiber Optic Update - Another Public Meeting will be held at Nichols Joint Fire Station on November 10, 2022 at 7:00 pm.*
- *2023 Tentative Budget - B. Middleton stated that he would like an accountant to look over the Tentative Budget before the Board adopts it.  
Motion to have EFPR Solutions look over the current Tentative budget made by B. Middleton 2nd by R. Cole.  
Roll Vote;  
B. Middleton (aye), R. Cole (aye), B. Fay-Pelotte (aye) and E. Woods (aye).  
Carried 4 aye- 0 absent- 0 No- 0 abstain  
The Town Board agreed to meet on Friday, October 28, 2022 at 1:30 pm at NES Room 8 to adopt the Tentative budget.*
- *Howland Mobile Home Park Permit - Inspection has been completed and the Planning Board is meeting on October 27, 2022 for final review and approval before sending it to the Town Board to vote on.*

**ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS –**

**UPDATE FROM TOWN PERSONNEL –**

*Highway - W. Heveland brought 2024 Volvo truck paperwork to go on a waitlist to purchase in 2024. Discussion followed about the 2023 truck waitlist, having an equipment reserve, OGS contracts/vendors and if Volvo would commit to the price they are offering. B. Fay-Pelotte to follow up on OGS Contracts and R. Cole and W. Heveland to contact Volvo to see if they will confirm the purchase price.*

*Utilities - R. Nugent ordered a new pump and there are backup plans until that one is shipped. He requested that the Board approve sending out the second pump to repair the bearings that went bad, instead of replacing it.*

*Motion to send second pump to CPE for repair made by R. Cole 2nd by B. Fay-Pelotte.*

*Roll Vote;*

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

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

*The influent vault had a leak and was fixed October on 7th. Turnkey Control did a site survey for the Scada upgrade and are working on getting the proposal together to go out to bid.*

*R. Nugent asked the Board to consider giving him a raise for the 2023 fiscal year. He mentioned that by doing repairs at the plant himself, he has been saving the Town money.*

**COMMITTEE REPORTS -**

*REAP (R. Cole) - There is a meeting on November 9 with a USDA representative to discuss how municipalities can benefit from REAP.*

*COG - Discussion at the last meeting was a push for new houses to be all electric by 2024 by the State. As well as IT shared services.*

**OLD BUSINESS –**

*FEMA property update - Nothing new.*

*Emergency Plan - Discussion about having emergency management coordinators, such as the Board Members and the Highway Superintendent.*

*Motion to approve the Emergency Plan made by B. Fay-Pelotte 2nd by B. Middleton.*

*Roll Vote;*

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

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

*Hunts Creek Project - E. Woods spoke with Doak Engineering and a letter was also sent by the Town attorney. Doak Engineering will send the final invoice and any documents he may have. The Town attorney will start working on the request for proposal for engineers. The FEMA extension was approved until December 15, 2023.*

*Employee handbook - Discussion on paying part time workers hourly wage while at a conference or other training events. Handbook to be sent to the Town attorney to review. W. Heveland and R. Nugent asked questions about clothing allowance. The Board wanted to make sure the allowance was for safety related clothing for full time employees. R. Cole stated the wording had not changed.*

*Fall Clean Up Days - Everything went well and they got a lot of positive feedback.*

*TC Shared Services for IT - Waiting for a draft contract, discussion followed that using shared services is less \$4,000.00 expensive then what the town spends now.*

*NES Town Hall Move - Waiting for the electrical contractor to give an estimate. K. Hall asked if the door in the new Town Clerk's office could be moved to the other side of the wall. The discussion followed about safety concerns, the Board to look at the layout before they left the building.*

*Library Porch - The Board has not received a reply from the letter that was sent to Nichols ReConstruction and he has not responded. The Board agreed to not allow Nichols ReConstruction to obtain a building permit in the Town or Village of Nichols. The Town Attorney will draft another letter stating this. Nichols ReConstruction will have an opportunity to plead his case to the Town Board.*

**OTHER OLD BUSINESS –**

*B. Fay-Pelotte stated that the Planning Board is still working on updating fines and fees. The Solid Waste Law will need to be updated to raise illegal dumping fines.*

**ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC –**

*K. Hart-Baker asked if the Board was going to put donations to the Historian in its own line item on the Budget next year. The Board said they are working on it.*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION –**

*Motion to go into executive session at 8:40 pm to discuss legal considerations and personnel pursuant to public officers law section 105 made by B. Fay Pelotte 2nd by R. Cole .*

*Roll Vote;*

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

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

*Motion to go out of executive session at 9:18 pm made by B. Fay Pelotte 2nd by R. Cole.*

*Roll Vote;*

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

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

*No action taken*

**MOTION TO ADJOURN –**

*Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 pm made by B. Fay Pelotte 2nd by R. Cole.*

*Roll Vote;*

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

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

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Karen Hall*

*11/07/2022*