

*Nichols Town Regular Board Meeting
December 17, 2024
6:00PM*

Board Members Present: Supervisor Esther Woods, Councilperson Brenda Fay-Pelotte, Councilperson Rose Cole, and Councilperson J. Ladd Yost

Board Members Absent: None

Others Present: Erica Deretz, Robert Nugent, Ray Thetga, Jr., Ray Thetga, Sr., LeeAnn Tinney, Jeff Blow, Ted Dydinski and Marcy Hill, Town Clerk.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor, seconded by Esther Woods at 6:00pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve the November 26th minutes by Councilperson R. Cole, seconded by Councilperson B. Fay-Pelotte

Vote: -4 Ayes, 0-No, 0-astain

Acceptance of Financial Reports: A motion to accept the November financial reports by Councilperson R. Cole, seconded by Councilperson B. Fay-Pelotte

Vote: -3 Ayes, 0-No, 0-astain, 1 absent

Public Comments – No comments.

*Departments- *Note full reports have been given to the board and are on file in the clerk's office.*

Highway – Will was not present at meeting.

Building & Grounds – Ray is working on projects at both the town and library. Ray will work with Erica and then call for quotes on moving of some particular items. Cameras are installed on the carriage house.

S/W – Bob stated that last week there was an issue with the pump and switch at the reservoir. This has been resolved. He noted that the copper and lead testing went well. Also, Bob stated that the containment walls “did their job” at the sewer plant worked during a recent (minimal) chlorine spill.

Code Enforcement – Report on file. An item no in the report that came after the Council of Government's meeting. The Sherriff's department and the Department of Health are creating a “hotline” for property maintenance issues. This will be just for code officers to get law enforcement involved in situations when needed. We have used it once and feel that it will be used more often.

Library – Erica stated that Mrs. Okrasinski has retired and Mrs. Karen Rathke has resigned from her position at the Library. She reiterated that Mrs. Ann Hill will be starting on the library board in January.

New Business:

A. Resignation – Will Heveland

A motion to accept the resignation of Will Heveland, Effective 12/24/24, by Supervisor E. Woods, seconded by Councilperson R. Cole

Vote: 4- Ayes, 0-No, 0-astain

B. Nichols Fire Department Commissions' Report – Ted Dydinski

Commissioners' Report Monthly – Mr. Dydinski from the Nichols Fire Department attended the meeting to share that Mike Friedrichsen and Bryan Cole are being recommended as the 2025 fire commissioners. The new truck is due to be delivered in new response truck due 2025. The fire departments lawyer is reviewing contract between Tioga Center Fire Department and Nichols Fire Department for a contract with Candor EMS for paid EMS coverage from 6AM to 6PM. Candor will cover both districts Tioga and Nichols. The cost will be split between Nichols and Tioga Center. This is a start and the end goal is 24/7 coverage. Thank you to Bryan Cole and the commissioners for work on this.

A motion to recommend Mike Fredrichsen and Bryan Cole as the Town of Nichols Fire Commissioners' for the term five-year term beginning in January 2025 by Supervisor E. Woods, Seconded by Councilperson B. Fay-Pelotte

Vote: 3- Ayes, 0-No, 1-astain

C. Battery Backup Disconnect Policy –

A motion to approve the Battery Backup Disconnect Policy by Supervisor E. Woo by EW 2nd Rose Cole

D. Organizational Meeting - Date & Time: January 2, 2025 6:30PM

E. REAP Donation – Letter received from REAP requesting donation.

A motion to support REAP with continued donation was made by Supervisor E. Woods, seconded by J. Ladd Yost

Vote: 4- Ayes, 0-No, 0-astain

Old Business:

1. Employee Handbook Updates – 2025 – A few minor changes were made.

A motion to approve the 2025 employee handbook by Supervisor E. Woods, seconded by Councilperson J. Ladd Yost.

Vote: 4- Ayes, 0-No, 0-astain

2. Timesheets – The new timesheet was approved. All offices will now be using the same timesheet.

3. Signage for Town Hall & Library. – Deposit was sent. The signs will be started after the new year.

4. Library Front Porch – waiting for handrails. Everything else has been completed. The porches look amazing.

5. Depot Road Reimbursement – Closeout paperwork has been submitted.

6. FEMA Properties – Continuing to move forward with closeout. Next meeting is December 18th.

Forms have to be submitted in January.

A motion to approve vouchers and pay bills by Supervisor E. Woods, seconded by Councilperson R. Cole.

Vote: 4-Ayes, 0-No, 0-abstain

General Fund: \$38656.27

Highway \$168,069.82

Library \$3324.33

Sewer/Water \$ 4211.77

A motion to move into Executive Session by Councilperson B. Fay-Pelotte; seconded by Councilperson J. Ladd Yost.

Vote: 4-Ayes, 0-No, 0-astain

A motion to reconvene into regular session by Councilperson. B. Fay-Pelotte, seconded by Councilperson J. Ladd Yost.

Vote: 4- Ayes, 0-No, 0-astain

A motion to recommend Jeffrey Blow as interim Highway Superintendent by Supervisor E. Woods, seconded by Councilperson R. Cole

Vote: 4- Ayes, 0-No, 0-astain

A motion to adjourn and to adjourn at 7:30 pm by Supervisor Esther Woods, seconded by Councilperson Brenda Fay-Pelotte.

All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcy Hill

12/17/2024