

**TOWN OF NICHOLS
PUBLIC HEARING
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 8, 2022**

Town Supervisor, Esther Woods, brought the Public Hearing to order at 6:00 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;

Will Heveland (Highway Superintendent), Mary Caldwell (Court Clerk), Randy Thetga, Nichole Lamberti (Morning Times), Marcy and Mark Hill, Kem Hart-Baker (Historian) and Karen Hall (Town Clerk).

PUBLIC COMMENTS –

K. Hart-Baker asked questions about adding a donation line item for the Historian and regarding the Historical Property line item on the budget. The Board told her that the Library could accept donations on her behalf, however the Town is not allowed to accept donations. The Board also informed her that the Historical Property contractual line didn't apply to the Historian.

Motion to close Public Hearing and go into Regular Meeting 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

Motion to adopt the Preliminary 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

Motion to adopt the Final Budget 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

MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes from October 26, 2022 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

NEW BUSINESS –

Tioga Downs/Catholic Charities leases - E. Woods received a letter that Tioga Downs would like to renew their lease. Leases should be ready for the Board to review at the December Meeting. Discussion followed about utility and cleaning costs. R. Cole to look into costs and the Board will resume lease review.

Dog Control Officer Resignation - Motion to accept Laurie Maciak’s resignation as DCO made by B. Middleton 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

Laurie will assist when she is able until the Town finds a replacement. K. Hall to put job posting on the website, Nichols Dog Control FB page and in the Town newspaper.

Cady Library - Deb Stubecki, Library Trustee, sent an email to E. Woods. She had concerns regarding lighting and security for the Library when the Town Hall moves to the school. B. Middleton to go to the Library Board of Trustees Meeting on November 15, 2022 to address those concerns.

ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS –

UPDATE FROM TOWN PERSONNEL –

Highway - W. Heveland stated that the monies budgeted for the Highway Department isn’t sufficient to cover fuel, pipes, gravel, shop supplies, guardrails etc. B. Woods told him that his budget is \$100,000.00 and he will receive \$258,000.00 in CHIPS, this is all the Highway Department will have for road repair in 2023. According to the state accountants the Town can only use money raised in property taxes, sales tax, and CHIPS for that account line. The casino money is not allowed to be used for road repair accounts and property taxes will have to be raised in the future. W. Heveland wants to have Tri County Tree Service, which was discussed at the April 12, 2022 meeting, do tree maintenance along the roads at \$800.00 per day. He asked the Board how much they can budget at this time.

Motion to hire Tri County for 10 days of tree removal at \$8,000.00 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 Board also added they would add more days if needed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS -

REAP/Hazard Mitigation - REAP meeting is 11/9/22

COG - Reported in 10/26/2022 meeting

OLD BUSINESS –

FEMA Hazard Mitigation - Nothing new.

Emergency Plan - Nothing new. R. Cole to file a final copy of the Plan without a draft watermark in the Town Clerk’s Office.

Employee handbook - To discuss at the December Board Meeting.

TC Shared Services for IT - Nothing new.

Hunts Creek Project - E. Woods and B. Fay-Pelotte to meet with Hunt Engineering on 11/9/2022 at NES at 8:45-9:00 am to discuss hiring them as the Engineering firm. B. Fay-Pelotte mentioned that the Town will also reach out to Delta and McFarland so they also receive a RFP.

NES - The electrical, phone and computer lines have been installed. Sheet rock will be hung next week.

Library Porch Repair - E. Woods talked with the Town Attorney and he does not think the Town can hold building permits from Nichols ReConstruction. The Board discussed that it would cost more money to take Nichols ReConstruction to court and have the porch fixed, than to re-bid it and get the porch fixed.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS –

R. Cole told the board that W. Heveland was going to submit the road repair bill for the damage done by Truman Kittle to the Town's insurance company. Then an invoice would be sent to T. Kittle to pay the cost of the deductible the Town will have to pay. She said that W. Heveland didn't know how to start that process. K. Hall said that she would tell him who to contact the following morning.

R. Cole also told the Board that the NJFD will be putting an effort into revitalizing their EMS squad. B. Middleton was asked to be the Town Board liaison. Discussion followed about the Town's shared services agreements with the NJFD and that there was a countywide decision to not allow the fire departments to remove trees that are on Town roads at night. The Board will review any agreements the Town has with NJFD.

Motion to cancel November 23, 2022 Board Meeting 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 cancel November 17, 2022 Special Meeting made by B. Middleton 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

K. Hall to post in the Tioga County Courier, on the Town website and in the Town Hall lobby. N. Lamberti will also announce it in the Morning Times.

MOTION TO ACCEPT REPORTS AND PAY BILLS -

Supervisor's Report - Was submitted and is filed in the Clerk's Office.

CEO Report - Was submitted and is filed in the Clerk's Office.

DCO Report - Not submitted

Historian Report - Was submitted and is filed in the Clerk's Office.

Justice Reports - Was submitted and is filed in the Clerk's Office.

Town Clerk Report - Was submitted and is filed in the Clerk's Office.

Abstract #10-2022

General Fund	#459-502	\$ 72,863.03
General Town Outside	#464-500	\$ 872.80
Highway Townwide	#181-190	\$ 11,367.48
Highway Outside	#178-189	\$ 46,466.86
Sewer	#111-119	\$ 8,483.93
Water	#111-119	\$ 10,476.77
<u>Total</u>		<u>\$ 105,530.87</u>

Motion to accept the reports and pay bills made by R. Cole 2nd 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

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENTS -

EXECUTIVE SESSION –

MOTION TO ADJOURN –

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 pm 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

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Hall

11/17/2022