

Regular Meeting Minutes of the Vestal Town Board
May 10, 2023

TOWN BOARD PRESENT:

Supervisor John Schaffer
Councilwoman Patty Fitzgerald
Councilwoman Sue Messina
Councilman Stephen Donnelly
Councilman John Fletcher

ALSO ATTENDING: Town Clerk Debra Wallace, Secretary to The Board of Fire Commissioners Sue Bowen, Town Attorney Dave Berger, Town Engineer Vern Myers and 24 members of the public.

Supervisor Schaffer convened the meeting at 5:03 PM.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Councilwoman Messina and seconded by Councilman Fletcher, the following was

ADOPTED Schaffer, Fitzgerald, Messina, Donnelly, Fletcher

Ayes 5

Nays 0

Motion approving the April 26th, 2023 Minutes, of the Regular Meeting of the Town Board.

3. BID OPENINGS

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS

May 10, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.: The use of monies from the Coal House Repair Reserve Fund to replace the Coal House Roof, in an amount not to exceed \$14,000.

No one wished to speak.

5. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

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Multiple members of the public spoke in concern about their reassessments and how the process works. The Town Board heard their concerns and Supervisor Schaffer stated that he would look into some of the properties that were mentioned and speak with Town Assessor Mark Minoia on Monday.

6.RESOLUTIONS & MOTIONS

7.CONSENT AGENDA

On a motion by Councilwoman Messina, seconded by Councilwoman Fitzgerald, as follows with **7.5.3** to be pulled from the consent agenda for correction of advertising date.

ADOPTED Schaffer, Fitzgerald, Messina, Donnelly, Fletcher

Ayes 5

Nays 0

7.1 PUBLIC WORKS (DONNELLY/Messina)

R106-2023 Approval to Waive Water/Sewer Penalties

Request from Tracy Tokos, owner of 2441 Charleston Ave., for the late penalties to be waived on her Water/Sewer bill.

R107-2023 Authorization to Sign Cemetery Contract

Authorization for Supervisor Schaffer to sign the contract agreement for the mowing of the Vestal Cemeteries. The contract remains the same as the previous year.

7.2 FINANCE (MESSINA /Donnelly)

R108-2023 Approval to Pay Coughlin& Gerhart, LLP

Request for the Town Board to approve payment in the amount of \$770.00 to the Law Firm, Coughlin & Gerhart, LLP in reference to outside counsel fees for professional services rendered.

7.3 PERSONNEL (FITZGERALD/Fletcher)

R109-2023 Authorization to Increase Town Engineer Base Salary

Authorization to increase the annual base salary for the position of Town Engineer to \$150,000 effective with the first full payroll in July 2023. The purpose of this increase is to address current and future recruitment and

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retention issues

R110-2023 Authorization to Increase Police Chief Salary

Authorization to increase the annual base salary for the position of Police Chief to \$130,000 effective with the first full payroll in July 2023 and to re-establish the methodology to calculate salary and benefits for the position of Police Chief as stated in Resolution 375-11 and Resolution 077-18. Resolution 375-11 was to provide for the continuation of salary calculations and benefits as were provided in the now repealed New York State General Municipal Law §207-M. Resolution 077-18 was to alter how the Police Chief's salary increases are calculated when the next highest Union subordinate's increase is a percent increase instead of a dollar amount. It also clarified that the Vestal Police Supervisors Association contractual Sick incentive benefit would be available to the position of Police Chief. This directive applies to the position of Police Chief and is not specific to the current incumbent.

7.4 PLANNING & ZONING (FITZGERALD/Donnelly)

R-111-2023 Authorization to Sign Supplemental Agreement No.1 Main St. Bridge

Authorization to sign a Supplemental Agreement No. 1 for the Main St Bridge Replacement Project for additional soil boring, stormwater and archeological services.

7.5.PUBLIC SAFETY (MESSINA/Fletcher)

R112-2023 Approval for Case Dr. School Zone Signs

Request from Jeffrey Ahern, Vestal Central School District Superintendent, that Case Drive be deemed a school zone with a 15-mph speed limit.

R113-2023 Approval to Sell Retired Police Vehicle

Request from Police Chief, Stace Kintner, for Board approval to sell a retired police vehicle which is no longer in service. The vehicle is a 2020 Dodge Durango. It will be sold in "as is" condition via Auctions International.

7.6 ADMINISTRATION (FLETCHER/Donnelly)

R114-2023 Approval to Waive Alcohol Restriction on Rail Trail For

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Museum Event

Request from Cheresse Wiesner-Rosales, Museum Director, for the Town Board to waive the alcohol restriction on the Rail Trail for the Second Saturday Music Festival Series from May – October 2023 contingent upon all requirements being met.

RECEIVE AND FILE:

- Warrants: 2023: Warrants: 2023: 17, 17A, 17B, 17E, 18, 18E
- Change of Tenant: 1708 Vestal Parkway E
- Change of Tenant: 141 Front Street
- Change of Tenant: 2317 Vestal Parkway E
- Vestal Town Clerk Monthly Report

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

8.PETITIONS & PROTESTS

9.OLD BUSINESS

On a motion by Councilwoman Messina and seconded by Councilwoman Fitzgerald, the following was

ADOPTED Schaffer, Fitzgerald, Messina, Donnelly, Fletcher
Ayes 5
Nays 0

R115-2023 Approval to Advertise for Public Hearing on Local Law

Request to advertise on May 26, 2023 for a Public Hearing to be held on Wednesday, June 14, 2023. The Public Hearing is for a proposed Local Law regarding the adoption of a Town of Vestal Nuisance Law.

10.OTHER NEW BUSINESS

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

8. PETITIONS & PROTESTS

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9. OLD BUSINESS

10. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

11. SUPERVISORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **200th Anniversary:**

The Town is celebrating its Bicentennial throughout 2023.

The May Bicentennial event is Vestal Park's Day on May 20th. Many activities will take place at several of the Town Parks throughout the day beginning at 9am (Guided hikes at Jones Park, Pickle Ball demonstrations, Disc Golf, re-dedication of Ethel place park) there will also be food sponsored by Wegmans, music, giveaways and prizes at Arnold Park. Follow **Vestal 200** on Facebook or visit the Town website **vestalny.gov** for the full schedule.

- **Front Street Day Saturday, June 3, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

Vendor registration has closed. It is going to be a great event. Craft and food vendors, music, Town department vehicles, Bicentennial ceremony and a day of fun. Please see the Front St. Day link on our website. vestalny.gov

- **Burn Ban**

There is a Town wide BURN BAN in effect until further notice.

- **Brush Pick Up 2023 will Start on May 1st**

On *Monday of the FIRST WEEK of the month* we will have two teams

Team one: will start in the West working East

Team two: will start in the East working West

Until all roads have been covered (136 miles)

The Town does NOT pick up contractor brush

12. COMMITTEE CHAIR COMMENTS AND UPDATES

Councilwoman Messina stated that on April 27th, 2023 the Police Awards

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Ceremony was held to honor our Sworn Members and Civilian for their service to our community.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilman Donnelly, seconded by Councilman Fletcher the meeting was adjourned at 6:09 P.M. Carried unanimously.

Approved by _____
Debra Wallace, Town Clerk

