

VESTAL TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION DRAFT MINUTES

MONDAY, December 5th, 2022

Board Attendance: Supervisor Schaffer; Board Members: Fitzgerald, Messina, Donnelly and Fletcher

Also Attending: Town Attorney David Berger, Director of Human Resources Nancy Olmstead, Town Engineer Vern Myers, Town Clerk Debra Wallace, Deputy Town Clerk Sarah Maney, Secretary to Board of Fire Commissioners Susan Bowen and one member of the public.

Supervisor Schaffer commenced the Work Session at 5:00 p.m.

5:00 Sue Bowen, Secretary to Board of Fire Commissioners, to discuss the quotes received for Medical Services/Cancer Benefits Insurance for Fire Fighters.

Sue Bowen, Secretary to Board of Fire Commissioners, discussed with the Town Board the two options that are available. Lourdes Hospitals plan is less expensive than the previous plan through UHS and includes Fit/Lift testing as well.

Sue Bowen, Secretary to Board of Fire Commissioners, discussed with the Town Board the Enhanced Plan from Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company for NYS Volunteer Firefighter Cancer Benefit Program at a cost of \$132.10 per firefighter a Total Premium of \$10,153.85 for 2023 which would be under budget.

OK-These items will be placed on the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board.

UPCOMING PUBLIC HEARINGS

COMMITTEES

7.1 PUBLIC WORKS (DONNELLY/Messina)

1. Request from Scott Groats, Water & Wastewater Superintendent, to have the Town Board approve the Water Chemical Bid to Slack Chemical Company, 465 Clinton Street, Carthage, New York 13619. Bid Prices are listed in the memo dated 11/15/2022.

OK-This item will be placed on the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular

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Meeting of the Town Board.

7.2 FINANCE (MESSINA /Donnelly)

1. Warrants: 2022: Warrants: 2022: 46, 46C, 46E, 48, 48E

2. Request from Jessica Farley, Deputy Comptroller, for the Town Board to approve Budget Transfers for the Police Department as indicated in the memo dated 11/28/2022.

OK-This item will be placed on the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board.

3. Resolve to authorize Nick Angeline, Town Comptroller, to sign documents renewing the contract for disability and life insurance benefits with Met Life for the period December 1, 2022 - November 30, 2023 per the recommendation of the town's insurance consultant. Met Life increased life insurance rates for the basic benefits by 20.4% or approximately \$2,038 annually, lowered the rate for short term disability benefits by 6.3% saving approximately \$1,996 annually and held the rates for long term disability and employee purchased insurance products.

OK-This item will be placed on the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board.

4. Request to Pay \$382.20 for Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce Annual Membership Dues for 2023.

OK-This item will be placed on the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board.

5. Request to pay \$1650.00 for The Association of Towns of the State of New York Annual Membership Dues for 2023.

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OK-This item will be placed on the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board.

6. Request from Nick Angeline, Town Comptroller, for the Town Board to approve a Budget Transfer for the Town Historian to purchase a Photo Scanner.

OK-This item will be placed on the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board.

7.3 PERSONNEL (FITZGERALD/Fletcher)

1. Request from Nancy Olmstead, Director of Human Resources, for the Town Board to review and discuss the proposed changes to sections 900-1200 of the Employee Handbook.

Town Board Members would like to discuss and revisit some areas of the Employee Handbook before voting. The Town Board will discuss the changes at next Town Work Session.

No-This item will not be placed on the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board.

7.4 PLANNING & ZONING (FITZGERALD/Donnelly)

1. Request from Lincoln Ellis, Code Enforcement Officer, for Town Board approval to make a job offer for a Municipal Fire Inspector to Jillian Pichura, with a start date of 01/03/2023.

OK-This item will be placed on the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board.

7.5 PUBLIC SAFETY (MESSINA/Fletcher)

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1. Request from John Paffie, Fire Chief, for the Board of Fire Commissioners to approve Pranav Jagannath as a new member of the Vestal Fire Department at Company No.4.

OK-This item will be placed on the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board.

7.6 ADMINISTRATION (FLETCHER/Donnelly)

1. Request from Cheresse Wiesner-Rosales, for Town Board approval to accept a \$500 donation to the Vestal Museum for the 2022 Haudenosaunee Festival.

OK-This item will be placed on the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board.

RECEIVE AND FILE:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Wednesday, December 7, 2022** The Town Board will take up petitions for a vote regarding BHL Ventures, LLC to join Water District #1 and Sewer District #1, regarding 813 Bunn Hill Road and being designated as Broome County Tax Map No. 174.12-1-4,5,6,7,8.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Discuss renaming Ethel Park

The park was named after the Street it is on and Supervisor Schaffer suggested that the park be renamed Gordon Allen Park. Gordon Allen recently passed and was active member of our community for many years.

The Town Board Members all agreed that this was an excellent idea.

OK-This item will be placed on the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board.

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- Discuss Retainer Agreement with Coughlin & Gerhart

This item will be held over for further discussion.

NO -This item will not be placed on the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board.

- Revisit discussion regarding the Challenger League being run by the Town

The Challenger League is a special needs baseball league for our community. The current organizers are unable to continue to run the league and asked if the Town would like to take over the League. All Town Board members are in favor of the idea and the Town Recreation Department will be responsible for organizing the league.

OK-This item will be placed on the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board.

On a motion by Councilwoman Messina, Seconded by Councilman Donnelly the Board ended the Work Session and entered into Executive Session. The time was 5:25 pm.

A MOTION WILL BE MADE TO ENTER INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING:

Employees request for additional compensation

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilwoman Fitzgerald and seconded by Councilman Fletcher the Executive Session was ended and the Regular Meeting was adjourned. The time was 5:50 p.m.