

**VESTAL TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION MINUTES
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 13TH 2021**

WORK SESSION

Board Attendance: Board Members Fitzgerald, Messina, Fletcher, Ellis
Also Attending: Town Attorney David Berger, Human Resources Director Nancy Olmstead, Town Clerk Debra Wallace, 1st Deputy Town Clerk Heather Webster, Fire Chief John Paffie, Fire Secretary Sue Bowen, Town Engineer Vern Myers, Town Comptroller Laura McKane, Deputy Town Comptroller Nick Angeline

Supervisor Schaffer convened the Work Session at 5:30 PM.

On a motion by Councilwoman Messina, seconded by Councilman Ellis, the Board entered into Executive Session. The time was 5:32 P.M.

- Request from Nancy Olmstead, Director of Human Resources for an executive session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations with CSEA and Court Personnel.

Upon the advice and consent of Town Justice Matthew Butler the Town Board terminated the employment of Clerk to Justice Jheri Rusin effective at the close of business on Friday, August 27, 2021.

Present were Supervisor Schaffer, Councilpersons Fitzgerald, Messina, Fletcher and Ellis.

On a Motion by Councilman Ellis and seconded by Councilwoman Messina. The above was **ADOPTED** 5 Ayes Messina, Fletcher, Ellis, Schaffer, Fitzgerald

0 Nays

On a motion by Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilwoman Messina the Executive Session was ended at 6:00 P.M.

6:00 pm Fire District Budget

Fire Chief Paffie, in conjunction with Town Comptroller Laura McKane, presented the Fire District Budget to the Town Board, detailing long term Capital Plan items. Chief Paffie stated that the Fire Department was moving away from fuel

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operated equipment where they could and obtaining battery operated equipment as replacements. Chief Paffie stated the reason for this is that it's more efficient, requires less use of generators, and cuts down on overall costs.

Councilwoman Fitzgerald asked if the Fire Department was going to raise the price for the use of the training facility by other businesses. Chief Paffie stated that that was discussed but most likely won't be decided on until the current contract is up.

Chief Paffie stated that the Command Vehicle would take a year to build, therefore it's likely to not land on the budget until 2023.

Upon completion of the Budget Presentation Supervisor Schaeffer thanked Chief Paffie and his department for doing a good job.

UPCOMING PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 09/15/2021 Local Law D - Placing a Temporary Moratorium on Approvals Regarding Solar Array Farms
- 09/15/2021 Establishment of an Extension of Consolidated Water District No. 1, Extension No. 202, in the Town of Vestal

COMMITTEES

1.1 PUBLIC WORKS (ELLIS/Messina)

1. Request from Scott Groats, Water & Wastewater Superintendent, for the Town Board to authorize the use of sewer fund balance in the amount not to exceed \$77,200.00 for the Village of Endicott's Inflow and Infiltration Study.

Councilman Ellis stated that funding for this is to be determined, per Town Comptroller Laura McKane.

OK – This item will be added to the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board

2. Request from Scott Groats, Water & Wastewater Superintendent, as part of the

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process of submitting a grant application for the Bunn Hill/Vestal Road Water Project, that The Town Board approves the resolution declaring its intent to establish itself as lead agency in the coordinated review of this action.

OK – This item will be added to the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board

1.2 FINANCE (MESSINA /Fletcher)

1. Warrants: 2021- 34, 34E, 34S, 35, 35E, 36, 36E

OK – This item will be placed as a “Receive and File” on the Agenda at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board.

2. Town Clerk Monthly Report, August 01, 2021 – August 31, 2021

OK – This item will be placed as a “Receive and File” on the Agenda at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board.

3. Request from Nick Angeline, Deputy Comptroller, for the Town Board to authorize John Schaffer, Town Supervisor, to sign the contract for the 2021-2022 Vestal School Resource Officers.

OK – This item will be added to the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board

4. Request from Nick Angeline, Deputy Comptroller, for the Town Board to approve Budget Transfers as indicated in memo dated September 9, 2021.

OK – This item will be added to the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board

7.3 PERSONNEL (FLETCHER/Fitzgerald)

7.4 PLANNING & ZONING (FITZGERALD/Fletcher)

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1. Request from Vern Myers, Town Engineer, authorizing him to sign an Engineering Agreement for the completion of the Vestal Pool Study.

OK – This item will be added to the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board

2. Request from Vern Myers, Town Engineer, for the Town Board to authorize John Schaffer, Town Supervisor, to sign Delta Engineers Agreement for Design Service to move the Museum.

OK – This item will be added to the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board

3. Request from Vern Myers, Town Engineer, authorizing him to sign McFarland-Johnson Engineers Supplemental Agreement No. 1. regarding the Meeker Road Bridge.

OK – This item will be added to the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board

4. Request from Vern Myers, Town Engineer, authorizing him to sign an agreement with Delta Engineers to provide for a Bridge Inspection (Main St. Truss Bridge over big Choconut Creek) of the Gusset Plate hangars that have been “Yellow Flagged” by the NYSDOT Bridge Inspection yearly Condition Inspection.

Town Engineer Vern Myers stated that a load rating test will be performed to begin the inspection.

OK – This item will be added to the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board

7.5 PUBLIC SAFETY (MESSINA/Ellis)

1. Request from Matthew Butler, Town Justice, to hire Carrie Aurelio to the vacant position of Clerk to Justice effective Monday, September 20, 2021. Ms. Aurelio’s rate of pay will be \$23.95 per hour.

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OK – This item will be added to the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board

2. Request from John Butler, Police Chief, for the Police Department to spend an additional \$103.04 for Bike Equipment. Funds would be taken from the Asset Forfeiture Line.

OK – This item will be added to the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board

3. Request from John Paffie, Fire Chief, to approve Nicholas Martinez as a new member of the Vestal Fire Department at Company No. 4.

OK – This item will be added to the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board

4. Request from John Paffie, Fire Chief, to approve Robert Bryant as a new member of the Vestal Fire Department at Company No. 2.

OK – This item will be added to the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board

5. Request from John Paffie, Fire Chief, to approve Dominic Lis as a new member of the Vestal Fire Department at Company No. 2.

OK – This item will be added to the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board

5.1 ADMINISTRATION (FLETCHER/Ellis)

1. Request from Nancy Olmstead, Director of Human Resources, to re-appoint Deborah A. Gruver to the Board of Assessment Review effective October 1, 2021. Ms. Gruver’s new term will expire September 30, 2026.

OK – This item will be added to the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board

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2. Request from Cherese Wiesner-Rosales, Museum Director, for the Town Board to allow the Vestal Museum to accept a check from Visions Credit Union for \$500, a check from the Broome County Arts Council for \$350, and a check from the Vestal Historical Society for \$500 for the upcoming 2021 Haudenosaunee Festival that will be on September 25th on the Vestal Rail Trail from 12-5.

OK – This item will be added to the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board

3. Request from Michelle Tomancik-Teed, Assistant Recreation Planner, to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the annual Division for Youth Grant application for 2022.

OK – This item will be added to the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board

4. Request from Nancy Olmstead, Director of Human Resources for retroactive authorization for Cherese Wiesner-Rosales, Museum Director to appoint Rebecca Colao as an intern effective August 1, 2021 at the rate of \$16.00 per hour. It is anticipated she will work approximately 8 hours per week until November 30, 2021.

OK – This item will be added to the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Request from David Berger, Town Attorney, for the Town Board to approve payment in the amount of \$4,024.50 to The Law Firm of Frank W. Miller, PLLC., for outside counsel fees in connection with Town litigation.

OK – This item will be added to the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board

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2. Request from Laura McKane, Town Comptroller, for the Town Board to approve accepting a donation from the Friends of Vestal Parks and Recreation, Inc. The donation amount of \$2907.38, is being donated to the Recreation Department.

OK – This item will be added to the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board

3. Request from Laura McKane, Town Comptroller, for the Town Board to approve a transfer of \$28,050 from A9901.9002 (Transfer for Health Insurance) for a second vehicle in 2021 for the Code Department.

OK – This item will be added to the Agenda for a vote at the next Regular Meeting of the Town Board

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilman Fletcher, seconded by Councilwoman Fitzgerald, the Board Adjourned the Work Session. The time was 6:50 P.M.