

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF RICHLAND
1 BRIDGE STREET, PULASKI, NY

DATE: June 11, 2024

KIND OF MEETING: Regular Town Board Meeting - Administrative Hearings David Conn. William Ty Garvin, and Michelle Dishave. Bid Opening - Salt Shed

PLACE: Grand Jury Room, H. Douglas Barclay Courthouse Pulaski, NY

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Robert North
Councilwoman Donna Gilson
Councilman Larry Atkinson
Councilwoman Sue Haynes
Councilman Eric Pappa

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Town Residents, Tim Crouch, Robert Jeffery, Jeff Edick, William Garvin, David Conn, Kerdwadee Barnes, Swiat Kaczmar, Legislator, Herb Yerdon, CEO/ZEO John Howland, Chief Water Operator, Bob Hicks, Attorney Graham Seiter, and Town Clerk Millie Newcomb

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with Supervisor North leading in the Pledge of Allegiance.

BLESSING: Blessing was done by Councilman Atkinson

PUBLIC COMMENT: No comments

The Administrative Hearing was opened by Attorney Graham Seiter at 6:03pm. First Hearing is for 5196-98 US 11, Pulaski, David Conn. The first witness was CEO/ZEO John Howland. Mr Howland told the Board about the violations on the property belonging to Mr. Conn. Mr Conn has been in touch with Mr Howland over the violations. He was approved for a Retail Sales and Service from the Planning Board and a car dealership under Zoning. When he was approved, he was only allowed to have 20 vehicles on his property. Most of the time he is over 20 vehicles and was sent letters for that. Under the Towns junkyard law he is in violation for old tires and car parts under the porch. He has been in and out of violation since 2018. In 2017 Mr Conn

was sent to the State Supreme Court. In December 2017 the Judges decision was that he had to get rid of the Vehicles by January 18,2017. Attorney Seiter and Mr Howland went over various letters and correspondence with Mr Conn. Mr Howland passed around pictures of before and current pictures of the property to the Board. Mr Conn is very good about calling Howland and taking care of issues but they usually come back over time. As of today, there are 24 cars on the property. Mr Conn told the Board that sometimes customers bring cars before he is ready for them. He also told the Board that he plans on retiring and selling off the business. He asked the Board for 45 days to get the property cleaned up. The Board agreed that he can be in compliance within 45 days and stay in compliance until the building sells. ***Councilman Atkinson made the motion to give Mr Conn the 45 days to bring the property into compliance and stay in compliance. (July 26) This motion was seconded by Councilwoman Haynes. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE".***

Next, the Administrative Hearing for William Ty Garvin of Lehigh Road. Again, Mr Howland was sworn in and gave the Board a summary of the history of the property. Mr Garvin has 2 properties that have violations. Several notices have been sent. 240 Lehigh Road is a rental property and is currently not rented. 8 letters have been sent and there has been no progress. The Board was handed pictures of the property with Councilwoman Haynes And Councilman Atkinson asking several questions. After much discussion ***a motion was made by Councilwoman Haynes to give Mr Garvin 45 days (July 26) to get the property into compliance . This motion was seconded by Councilman Pappa. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE".*** Attention then turned to the property at 263 Lehigh Road. Mr Garvin lives at this residence. There are 3-4 unlicensed vehicles on this property with various other vehicles. After a long discussion ***a motion was made by Councilman Pappa to give Mr Garvin 45 days (July 26) to bring his property up to compliance. This motion was seconded by Councilwoman Haynes. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE".***

Next Hearing is for 383 Valley Road, Pulaski owned by Michele Dischiave of Central Square. Ms. Dischiave was not present for this hearing The location of this property is 383 Valley Road. This property was purchased from the County Auction in October 2022. Before Ms. Dischiave purchased the property, the former owners were sent 10 notices since 2015 to clean the property up. Since Ms Dishlave is not present for this hearing Attorney Seiter heard from the defendant only one time and after several attempts since has not received a return call. She was supposed to follow up with Attorney Seiter but has never tried. The property has been deemed uninhabitable. The Town does not condemn properties. Several pictures have been distributed to the Town Board. Mr Howland would like the Town Board to take action on this property since it is in violation. Mr Howland did inform the Board that the Town would have to get a structural engineer to go out inspect the property and give the Town a letter before we move forward. With no further questions to Mr Howland, the Board gave Ms Dischiave 45 days to remedy the issue. Councilman Atkinson agrees but says the Town has to get an engineers report and then 30 days to take care of it or tear it down. John Howland suggests, to get the engineers report and get them to give the Town a letter then get it torn down. Before that happens, the Town must get an asbestos survey. Chances are that they may not be able to get into the building

because of the holes everywhere, so they will have to do a visual inspection. Once it gets condemned you can hire a certified company to make sure that the whole home is clear. Jamie Foster works with contractors that do that. His company is the one that took down the old bowling alley and the Parker home. After that, we can put it out for bid to take the house down. Councilman Atkinson advised that we should just go ahead and do it because it's obvious it will never get done. This should be done before the next meeting. ***Councilman Atkinson made the motion to go ahead and get the engineering report and start the proceeding to take the house down. Councilman Pappa seconded this motion. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE".*** All costs will go back on the property owner

A "Thank You" card was read by Councilwoman Gilson from Janice Monnat Family.

WATER REPORT: Chief Water Operator Bob Hicks is here to give his report. The Town pumped 18,236,300 gallons of water in May 2024 compared to 16,154,400 gallons for May 2023 leaving a difference of 2,131,900 more gallons pumped this year over last year for the month of May. There was a leak on Rt 11 just north of the Douglas Farm. Worked with the Highway department to dig and repair the main. We exposed the pipe and found a hole in the side of it. We placed a repair band on it and backfilled. Everything went smoothly. Mr Hicks Thanked Highway Superintendent for all of his help. Completed flushing of all the dead ends. Still waiting for Ron from P&T on well B23 Still looking at what to do with the Bishop Road Tank. New Repeater installed. Joe and I are going to be doing lead and copper water samples this month, exercising valves and getting the inventory completed. Kris Watson is in school this week for his class 2 B & C license. The repeater on Canning Factory Road is up and working to enable us to read the NE corner of the Town of Richland . Mr Hicks asked where the Town stood with Orwell. Councilman Pappa said the only thing left is 2 meter pits to put in line, then all the meters and all the pits are in. They have to put up a pump station. They should have the blocks by July 4th weekend. By August it should be up and start to chlorinate and push water to Orwell. As soon as they push the water to Orwell, they will drop the tank and refurbish the tank and hopefully, by late August early September, they will be totally on board and running on Richland water. They average about 15,000 per day but could jump up higher since they have had issues in the past with their water. Online payments for the Town of Richland are up and running. Councilman Pappa told the Board that B&L rep, Dustin Clark is checking on a few things and will get back with us in a few days on how we should move forward with that. Dave Turner recently contacted Legislator Gilson on the ARPA funds. We may be able to use some of the funds for a new tank. Mr. Turner called just to see how we were making out. These monies have to be allocated by the end of 2024 and used before the end of 2026.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT: Legislator Herb Yerdon is here to give his report. The Oswego County EMS has a report in the packet. In the report is information on EMS education, response and meetings. Next is the Public Safety Committee Report for 2024. Next is the Probation Public Safety Committee Report. This report lists the supervision, Investigations, Electronic Monitoring, Pretrial Release, Grant/ Programs, Restitution/DWI fees, Special Services, Staffing and alternatives to incarceration. Next, the Fire Coordinators Report for May 2024. Next is the Oswego Vet Fest. This is to be held on Friday June 14th 2024 at the Oswego VA Clinic from 10am to 4pm. 293 State Route 104 in Oswego, NY There will be a Food Truck on site. If you wish to get onsite assistance please bring documentation including a copy of DD214 and a photo ID. June 20th is the Longest Day, the day with the most light and a day we celebrate to bring awareness to Alzheimer's and dementia related disease. The Office of Aging just received notification that we will be receiving 900 Senior Farmer Market Coupon booklets in late June. Each eligible senior will receive one coupon booklet valued at \$25 containing five \$5 coupons. These will also be distributed at the Cayuga Community College parking lot. They will also be distributed at the Oswego, Fulton, and Pulaski Farmers markets. There will be a Senior Picnic on Wednesday August 14th at the Mexico VFW. Please save the date. OFA is in the process of organizing 2-3 Senior Health Insurance Fairs for late September/early October prior to open enrollment which begins October 15th. Target areas include Fulton and Pulaski and maybe Oswego. OFA Case Management staff will be trained in adding mini cognitive assessment as part of the initial/ annual assessment to our case managed clients.

BID OPENING FOR SALT SHED- HYBRID BUILDING SOLUTIONS is first. The bid was in 2 parts. The first price is \$62,539 plus \$44,764 for a total of \$107,303. The next bid is from Bright Span. The bid is for \$ 124,011. Highway Superintendent Balcom and Councilman Atkinson will get together next Wednesday to go over the bids and make the recommendation. Highway Superintendent Balcom told the Board that he has had a Help Wanted Ad in the paper and online for a month. He has only had 2 applicants. He had a few interested but they would lose money coming to work with the town. Mr.Balcom would like to hire one of the applicants, Matt LaPoint. Matt has a class A license. We would like to make it a 1 yrs probationary period in the next contract. At the present time it's 6 mos. The Board does like that idea. ***Councilman Atkinson would like to make the motion to accept the Bids on the salt shed. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Gilson. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE". A motion to hire Matt LaPoint was made by Councilman Pappa and seconded by Councilwoman Haynes. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE"***

HIGHWAY REPORT: Completed tree work on North Fernwood Road. A lot of truck maintenance on truck #17. Back springs, wiring ,96, 10,17 have been sandblasted and painted. #24 oil and filter change serviced. Serviced gradall starter wiring problems. New carrier bearing on excavator. Fixed wiring problems on mower and hydraulic block. We do have \$75,000 to put toward another gradall. At the time Kevin wasn't able to find one. So he would like to make

sure that money gets turned over to next year. Have been mowing. Helped water on a bad pipe that was leaking. Fixed washouts on Rainbow Shores Road. Cut shoulders on Frank Lacey Road and Town Road. Truck #97 carrier bearings broke on Route 81. Dug 2 graves. All of our 1a's are hauled for chip sealing. Was able to salvage 600 tons from the shop. We need 889 tons for the job. So we only had to buy 289 tons. Big savings. Gabby is working on plows and wings and doing a great job. A lot of work has been done at the new property. Went to Highway school. It was very stressful but got a lot of good info. Mr. Balcom also has Mike Lasell working on the site plan for Highway Building. Mile has been great to work with on short notice. The cost will be about \$ 1800. Hauled 10 loads of $\frac{3}{4}$ crushed stone. Three of the 10 wheeler loads went to Haldane. Pop Warner is going to pay for the concrete pad for the new shed, Then Highway will go and demolish the 2 blue sheds.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS: Fixed the parking lot at Haldane. It took 3 loads of $\frac{3}{4}$ crushed stone. Building for storage is ordered and paid for by grant. Started to rewire outlets for the new work benches. Charlie and Sam are doing a great job mowing and keeping up. Mr Balcom would also like to ask the Board again to give these guys a few personal and paid holidays. They more than deserve it. He would like it worded if you work for the Highway, you get it, if you don't then you don't get the holiday or paid sick days. You can't compare these guys to summer rec help.

GRAVEL LEASE: A few changes. First on the second page, 3 they want the royalty if there is an increase or decrease, either party has the right to come back to the table. They wanted that changed to 25%. The other is 6.7 on the 4th page. The property owner wanted the right to go onto the property to get gravel or materials for himself for the period of the lease. The Board really didn't have an issue with either of the issues. ***A motion to accept the gravel lease as presented was made by Councilwoman Haynes and seconded by Councilwoman Gilson. In a roll call vote all were in favor with a vote of "AYE".***

DRY BRIDGE ROAD: Councilman Atkinson said that with the research he has done, most of the property that the Town was looking to sell is mostly in a protected wetland. He suggested letting Mr Edick use the right a way that is currently across it. It would cost the Town more to try to sell it. Attorney Seiter doesn't think the town can just give the Edicks permission a right of way indefinitely. The Town may not be able to "gift" or a permanent right of way to the property. Attorney Seiter will look into it further and let Town Supervisor North know. The Wetland covers about 70% of the property.

RICHLAND PARKS: The Pond project will be put back out for bid.

KRISTY LAMACHE CONTRACT: After a brief discussion about different projects around the Town, a motion to renew Kristy LaManche's contract, ***a motion was made by Councilman***

Atkinson and seconded by Councilwoman Haynes. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE"

Letter from Comprehensive Board Chairperson Dawn Holyinski read to the Board by Town Board Councilwoman Donna Gilson. This letter will be attached to the minutes.

ZONING AND CODES: The list of permits was presented to the Board. The Planning and Zoning Board have a joint meeting next week. Cell Tower on the Well Field. The Amish on Route 3 purchased the property next to him. He wants to put up a shed to build cabinets. Application for a 4 unit lodge on County Route 62. There was a question about the Richland Airport. The Tower is a little over 3000' from Co Rt 2 which is almost $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile. When they got the report back from them to check into it. The FAA said that there wasn't an Airport within 5 miles of that. Mr Howland spoke to the Attorney from Nixon-Peabody and told them that there is an airport about 500 feet from the other side of the road and the Tower will be about 3000 feet from the road, they are within 1 mile of the airport. He said that he was going to look into it. It could be because it may not be recognized as an airport with the FAA; he doesn't have an answer for it. For the most part, there are only Ultra-lites that run out of that airport. Mr Pappa said that he doesn't ever see anything other than that. Councilman Pappa lives near the airport. The Planning and Zoning Clerk is next. Julie Peterson has decided to step down from this position. Mr Howland did check in the house first to see if anyone was interested. No one was interested. We have to post the job but we are in need of someone next week so Cathy Spinney has offered to do it until someone answers the ad. If no one does, she will take the position. Brian Leary resigned from the Planning Board so that would move Robert Jeffery to a regular position on the planning board so we will have to advertise for a Planning Board Alternate. ***A motion to accept Brian Leary's resignation and approve Robert Jeffery was made by Eric Pappa and seconded by Councilman Atkinson. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE".*** Discussion about holding positions on 2 boards. The Board discussed several meetings ago about getting the public involved instead of the same people on 2 Boards. The Clerk will advertise for the position and see how many apply before moving forward. Next is Campgrounds. ***Councilman Atkinson would like to make the motion to lift the moratorium on Campgrounds.*** The reason is Selkirk State Park is closing in October for 1 year. If anyone applies for a permit for a campground today, it would probably take them 6 months to get a permit and another 6 months to get the campground built. With Selkirk closed, what happens with the transient campers with the moratorium in place. We have to get things in motion to make plans. Mr Atkinson has come up with a list of ideas for setbacks. We are about a year out. The Town would have to either rescind the Local Law now or wait for it to expire. If we don't rescind the Local Law and let it expire in August, once it expires we resort back to the law that is on the Books now which allows campgrounds. What Mr Howland recommends is to make a Local Law regulating campgrounds. Mr Atkinson put together additional requirements on campgrounds.

Mr Howland thinks they are like solar farms and windmills. This is only his opinion. He thinks this is what came out of the meeting and he is glad that Joe McGrath came to it because he was very informative. All the campgrounds up and down Route 3 are more than 1000 ft off the road with the exception of Bear's Sleepy Hollow, and they are not seen. If people can't see them they don't care. Conversation continued. Part of the approval of a site plan, the planning Board can say, you have to have certain trees to shield campers from the road. The Planning board already has the authority to do this because setbacks are technically only 75' from the center of the road for a commercial campground. Councilman Atkinson added this was kind of his idea when you start looking at the cost of dirt vs the cost of trees. Proper screening, it's cheaper to plant trees than it is to buy more dirt. After this conversation, ***Councilman Atkinson withdrew his motion.*** Councilwoman Haynes feels that the Board should have something in place before the moratorium runs out. According to Attorney Seiter, the Board doesn't have to act before the moratorium runs out. The Board was supposed to have some ideas and bring them to this meeting. Councilwoman Haynes feels there should be some discussion with the Board before this expires. Councilwoman Gilson feels something should be in place before it expires so we are not back to the same thing we were before the moratorium. Whatever the Board decides proper screening has to be put in place. A workshop was scheduled for July 1st at 10:00am in the Grand Jury Room.

Town Supervisor Bob North left the meeting at 8:40pm.

DOG REPORT: A motion to accept the Dog Control report as presented was made by Councilwoman Haynes and seconded by Councilman Atkinson. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE".

SUPERVISOR REPORT: A motion to accept the Supervisors report for the months of March and April was made by Councilwoman Haynes and seconded by Councilman Pappa. In a roll call vote, all members were in favor with a vote of "AYE".

JUSTICE REPORTS: A motion to accept the Justice Reports from Judge Conger for the months of April and May 2024 was made by Councilman Atkinson and seconded by Councilman Pappa. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE".

WARRANT OF BILLS: Next is Abstract #6 of 2024. With no discussion, a motion to accept the abstract was made by Councilwoman Haynes and seconded by Councilman Pappa. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE".

TOWN BOARD MINUTES: Town Board Minutes for April 30, May 14, and May 20, are next. With no discussion, a motion to accept the Town Board Minutes as presented was made by Councilman Pappa and seconded by Councilwoman Haynes. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE".

TOWN CLERKS REPORT: *A motion to accept the Town Clerks Report as presented was made by Councilwoman Haynes and seconded by Councilman Pappa. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE".*

CEMETERY UPDATES: Repairs have been made to the monuments at the McClelland Cemetery.

TOWN HISTORIAN REPORT: No report

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: National Grid survey. Superintendent Balcom called National Grid this morning. The Town is still using both of those pits so they need to contact Mr Balcom asap. Teamsters negotiations are coming up. Councilman Atkinson spoke to Supervisor North about forming a committee about Welcome signs entering into the Town of Richland. Mr Atkinson would like to name a committee to look into the placement of these signs. Councilman Atkinson would like Robert Jeffery to head up this committee. His knowledge of the State Highway laws would be a plus. *A motion by Councilman Atkinson to have Robert Jeffery head up a committee on Welcome Signs for the Town of Richland. This motion was seconded by Councilwoman Haynes. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE"* Councilman Atkinson will work with Robert on this project.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Tim Crouch lives on Town Road in the Town of Richland. His road is maintained by the Town of Albion. He is having issues with no mowing of the sides of the roadway. It's getting very dangerous to pull off Town Road and Lehigh Road. It was suggested that he call the Albion Highway Department or the Albion Town Clerk's Office.

NEXT TOWN BOARD MEETING: July 9, 2024 at 7:00pm.

MEETING ADJOURNED: With nothing more to bring before the Board, *a motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Atkinson and seconded by Councilwoman Haynes. In a roll call vote, all were in favor with a vote of "AYE". 8:38pm*

Respectfully submitted by

Millie Newcomb
Town Clerk