

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
MINUTES VAN ETEN TOWN BOARD
JANUARY 13, 2022**

RESOLUTIONS THIS MEETING
BEGIN 17-22 THRU 18-22

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF TOWN OF VAN ETEN WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY TOWN SUPERVISOR GEORGE KETURI IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING 2022 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING AT 7:20 PM.

ROLL CALL OF TOWN BOARD

HAROLD SHOEMAKER-COUNCILPERSON/DEPUTY SUPV.
FRED SWAYZE, JR.-COUNCILPERSON
PENNY FLORA-COUNCILPERSON-EXC
ANDREW LARISON-COUNCILPERSON
GEORGE KETURI-SUPERVISOR

TOWN OFFICERS

BOB EASTWOOD-H'WAY SUPT.
MARY JO LECLAIRE-ASSESSOR
DAWN ROSE-TOWN CLERK
RICH LECLAIRE-CODE ENFORCEMENT
BONNIE MALLEN- TOWN HISTORIAN-EXC
HEATHER GABLE- WATER OPERATOR-EXC
DUSTIN ROSE-CEMETERY CURATOR AND
DOG CONTROL OFFCR.
BRENDA QUICK-WATER CLERK

OTHERS PRESENT: HANNAH ERB, DEANNA EASTWOOD, JOHN EASTWOOD, CHRISTIN TYSKEWICZ, PHIL TYSKEWICZ, KAREN FRICK, CATHY LECLAIRE, JOSH SHAPIRO (SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR TOWN AND VILLAGE COURTS 6TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT) AND HEATHER DUNBAR.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SWAYZE, JR. AND SECONDED BY LARISON TO ACCEPT THE MEETING MINUTES FOR REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 9 AND 30, 2021. ALL AYE. CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE READ AND ON FILE WITH THE TOWN CLERK

TOWN RECEIVED THANK YOU CARD FROM SPENCER FOOD CUPBOARD FOR \$2,000 DONATION.

MR. JOSH SHAPIRO, SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR TOWN AND VILLAGE COURTS 6TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

-COURT CONSOLIDATION

- MR. SHAPIRO STATED TWO OPTIONS FOR COURT CONSOLIDATION:
 - CONSOLIDATION WITH TOWN OF ASHLAND WOULD BE DIFFERENT PROCEDURE DUE TO ASHLAND NOT BEING CONTIGUOUS WITH VAN ETEN. TOWN WOULD SEEK "HOME RULE" WITH STATE TO CONSOLIDATE. MR. SHAPIRO NOTED GRANTS MAY BE AVAILABLE TO HELP AND CONSOLIDATION WOULD AID IN SHARING COSTS OF COURTS.
 - HOME RULE REQUEST WOULD REMOVE TOWN RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS AND OPEN TO ALL OF CHEMUNG COUNTY RESIDENTS. TOWN WOULD CONTACT TOWN SUPERVISOR IN ASHLAND. MR. SHAPIRO NOTED CONTACTING LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES' MAY AID IN REQUESTING HOME RULE.

REPORTS FROM TOWN OFFICERS:

-TOWN JUSTICE-NO REPORT

- CHECK FOR \$1,752.50 PRESENTED TO G. KETURI/TOWN SUPV.
- LETTER FOR 2021 VAN ETEN TOWN COURT REVIEW

-ASSESSOR-MARY JO LECLAIRE-VERBAL REPORT

- LECLAIRE RECEIVED RESUME FROM MS. SALLY WHITSON FOR TOWN BOARDS REVIEW FOR TOWN ASSESSOR.

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- LECLAIRE WILL ADVERTISE IN NY ASSESSORS' NEWSLETTER FOR VACANCY.
 - LECLAIRE ASKED FOR RESOLUTION TO ELIMINATE SENIOR CITIZEN RENEWAL REQUIREMENT TO ASSIST IN LIMITING SENIORS' EXPOSURE TO COVID-19.
- BUDGET OFFICER-GEORGE KETURI- REPORT FILED AND KETURI READ FIRST PAGE OF DECEMBER 2021 BUDGET REPORT.
- TOWN CLERK-DAWN ROSE-REPORT FILED
- CHECK FOR \$489.66 PRESENTED TO G. KETURI/TOWN SUPV.
- TOWN HISTORIAN-BONNIE MALLEN-NO REPORT
- PARK COMMISSION-NO REPORT
- DOG CONTROL-DUSTIN ROSE-REPORT FILED
- DOG SHELTER AT HIGHWAY GARAGE WILL NEED REVISIONS TO INSTALL CONCRETE PAD AND ELECTRIC. WORK WILL START WITH BETTER WEATHER.
- CODE OFFICER-RICH LECLAIRE-VERBAL REPORT
- LECLAIRE IS CONTINUING TO REMEDY BUILDING PERMITS FROM 2019 TO 2020 PER NYS BUILDING CODE OVERSIGHT OFFICE IN ALBANY.
 - LECLAIRE IS FINISHING YEAR END NYS BUILDING AND FIRE REPORTS.
 - LECLAIRE WILL BE WORKING WITH CHIEF LANNING WHEN CONDUCTING SOME FIRE INSPECTIONS.
- BUILDINGS & GROUNDS-HAROLD SHOEMAKER-VERBAL REPORT
- SHOEMAKER STATED HIGHWAY GARAGE HAD NEW LIGHT INSTALLED.
- CF&R FIRE CO-REPORT FILED
- HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT-BOB EASTWOOD-REPORTS FILED
- EASTWOOD NOTED EMPLOYEES HAVE RETURNED FROM COVID LEAVE.
- TOWN SUPERVISOR-GEORGE KETURI-VERBAL REPORT
- CHECK (#667094) FROM RESPOL OIL FOR \$80.00.
 - CHECK (#3385) FROM LIGHT ON THE HILL FOR DONATION IN AMOUNT OF \$750.
 - KETURI WORKING ON RENEWING ANNUAL TOWN INSURANCE.
- WATER OPERATOR-HEATHER GABLE-REPORT FILED
- WATER DIRECTOR-HAROLD SHOEMAKER- REPORT FILED AND SHOEMAKER READ FIRST PAGE OF DECEMBER 2021 WATER BUDGET REPORT.
- SHOEMAKER REPORTED ONE WATER CUSTOMER HAD CONCERNS WITH HOT WATER ELEMENT (SEDIMENT, ETC.). SHOEMAKER ASKED CHEMUNG COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND NEWFIELD WATER ABOUT SEDIMENT AND WAS TOLD IT'S NOT UNFAMILIAR FOR WATER IN OUR AREA.
- CEMETERY-DUSTIN ROSE-REPORT FILED
- CHECK #4430 FROM WINDNAGLE PRESENTED IN AMOUNT OF \$600 FOR CEMETERY PLOT.

ALL OFFICERS WRITTEN REPORTS ARE ON FILE WITH TOWN CLERK.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SWAYZE, JR. AND SECONDED BY LARISON TO ACCEPT THE OFFICER'S REPORTS AS PRESENTED. ALL AYE. CARRIED

AUDIT COMMITTEE-GENERAL-H. SHOEMAKER

A ACCT: \$7,835.76
FIRE: \$90,959.00

HIGHWAY/WATER-H. SHOEMAKER

DA ACCTS: \$4,157.95
SW (WATER): \$4,158.24

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BUDGET ADJUSTMENT

N/A

A MOTION WAS MADE BY KETURI AND SECONDED BY LARISON AND CARRIED TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF AUDITED VOUCHERS AS RECOMMENDED BY AUDIT COMMITTEE OF SWAYZE, JR. AND SHOEMAKER. ALL AYE. CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS:

- KETURI ASKED CHIEF LANNING ABOUT BURNING BRUSH PILE AT HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT AND CHIEF WOULD LIKE TO WAIT FOR SNOW.
- KETURI WILL CONTACT HAEFELE FOR UPDATED PROPOSAL FOR BROADBAND EXPANSION FOR TOWN TO REQUEST ASSISTANCE FROM COUNTY AND STATE.
 - COMMITTEE UPDATES-
 - STREETLIGHTS-ANDY LARISON
 - LARISON STATED STREET LIGHTS ARE GOOD.
 - SIDEWALKS-FRED SWAYZE, JR./RICH LECLAIRE
 - WATER DIRECTOR-HAROLD SHOEMAKER

COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE:

- MR. TYSKEWICZ INFORMED TOWN BOARD THEY WOULD LIKE TO BUILD WEDDING VENUE ON CORNER OF MCDUFFY AND LANGFORD CREEK. KETURI STATED TOWN NEEDS VENUE. SHOEMAKER WAS SPEAKING WITH RICH LECLAIRE REGARDING WEDDING VENUE AND MOTORCYCLE RACING (ON LANGFORD CREEK ROAD) AND TOWN MAY WANT TO REQUIRE PERMITS FOR COMMERCIAL EVENTS TO ENSURE PROPER NOTIFICATION TO EMERGENCY PERSONNEL. SWAYZE, JR. STATED TOWN WILL WORK WITH RICH LECLAIRE TO CREATE PERMIT REQUIREMENTS.
- MS. DUNBAR STATED MUSIC EVENTS IN PAST HAVE GONE WRONG AND AGREES TOWN NEEDS PROCEDURES IN PLACE.
- MS. FRICK ASKED TOWN TO PLACE NOTES ON WATER BILLS TO INFORM WATER CUSTOMERS OF TOWNS POSITIVE MEASURES TO AID IN LOWERING COSTS.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION 17-22

RESOLVE, THAT THE TOWN BOARD OF VAN ETEN, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY GRANTED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 11.1, ISSUED BY GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, DOES HEREBY DIRECT THE TOWN ASSESSOR OF THE TOWN OF VAN ETEN TO GRANT EXEMPTIONS ON THE 2022 ASSESSMENT ROLL IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RESOLUTION ATTACHED HERETO. SPONSOR-SWAYZE, JR. SECONDED-SHOEMAKER. ROLL CALL VOTE-SHOEMAKER, FLORA-EXCUSED, SWAYZE, JR., LARISON AND KETURI. ALL AYE. CARRIED

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RESOLUTION 18-22

TOWN BOARD OF VAN ETTEN HAS REVIEWED JUSTICE COURT FOR 2021. SPONSOR-SHOEMAKER. SECONDED-KETURI. ROLL CALL VOTE-SHOEMAKER, FLORA-EXCUSED, SWAYZE, JR., LARISON AND KETURI. ALL AYE. CARRIED

- NEED BALLOT WORDING TO ELECTION BOARD BY AUGUST FOR CANNABIS PROPOSAL.
- SHOEMAKER REFLECTED ON SOME OF TOWN BOARDS ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021:
 - WATER DISTRICT PAID OFF ONE BOND LAST YEAR (LARGE SAVINGS IN INTEREST) AND WOULD LIKE TO PAY OFF ONE MORE IN 2022. WATER DISTRICT HAS ONE MORE BOND UNTIL 2035 FOR \$67,000 PER YEAR AND HAS NO INTEREST). WATER DEBT SERVICE COST WILL BE LOWERED.
 - RESTORED CHEMICAL CART AND INSTALLED SHED ADEQUATE TO HOUSE IT.
 - REPAIRED AND STAINED GAZEBO AT BANFIELD SQUARE.
 - RECEIVED GRANT MONIES FOR COMPLETING PAVING CF&R PARKING LOT.
 - TOWN RECEIVED BOTH GRANTS FOR VILLAGE DISSOLUTION.
 - RECEIVED ARPA MONIES TO AID IN FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS.
- SHOEMAKER NOTED FORMER BUILDING CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER DID NOT KEEP STATE REQUIRED CERTIFICATION THAT HAS LED TO CURRENT CODE ENFORCEMENT REVIEWING TOWN BUILDING PERMIT FOR 2019 AND 2020.
- SWAYZE, JR. THANKED ALL FOR VOTES. SWAYZE, JR. NOTED SEVERAL ITEMS FOR 2022:
 - APRIL 22 IS EARTH DAY AND TOWN WOULD LIKE TO HELP ON APRIL 23 AND 24 STARTING AT 8 AM FOR ROADSIDE PICK UP. TOWN WILL PROVIDE DUMPSTER, GARBAGE BAGS, SAFETY VESTS, GLOVES.
 - TOWN WIDE DUMPSTER DAY ON MAY 7 AT HIGHWAY GARAGE FROM 8A – 12PM.
 - INVESTIGATE REPAIRING “DIP” IN LAWN AT BANFIELD SQUARE WITH ARPA MONIES.
 - INVESTIGATE REFURBISHING WHITE SHED AT BANFIELD SQUARE PER NANCY BANFIELD JOHNSON.
 - PROVIDING MORE PPE FOR COVID WITH ARPA MONIES.
 - PROVIDING AID TO QUALIFIED HOMEOWNERS FOR SECURITY CAMERAS WITH ARPA MONIES.
 - CREATE PLANNING BOARD WITH DIVERSE REPRESENTATION.
- EASTWOOD WILL INVESTIGATE TIRE REMOVAL FOR RESIDENTS.
- DUSTIN ROSE SUGGESTED MORE PICNIC TABLES IN BANFIELD SQUARE.
- SHOEMAKER SUGGESTED AID TO RICH LECLAIRE FOR REVIEWING 2019 – 2020 BUILDING PERMITS.

REGULAR TOWN BOARD WILL BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 10, 2022 AT 7:00 PM.

ADJOURNED AT 8:29 PM MOTION BY SWAYZE, JR. SECONDED BY LARISON. ALL AYE. CARRIED.