

The June 12, 2019 Town of Bethel regular Town Board meeting was called to order by Supervisor Daniel Sturm at 7:30 p.m. AT THE Dr. Duggan Community Center meeting room.

Council members present: Vicky Simpson
Dawn Ryder
Lillian Hendrickson
Bernie Cohen

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Audit of Bills

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Check(s)</u>
General Fund	\$293,750.07	8472-857
Highway Fund	\$140,324.22	2212-2230, & 2256
Kauneonga Lake Sewer Dist.	\$ 28,845.26	1751-1761

Motion by Mrs. Simpson to approve audit of bills. Seconded by Mrs. Hendrickson, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

Supervisor’s Monthly Report

Mr. Sturm reported:
General Fund, revenue up 4.7%, year-to-date \$97K.
Expenses are up 1%, bought a police car \$40K.
Budget received 91.8% of budget received. 2% better than last year.
Expenses – 47.3% expended; last year 47.2%.
Highway Fund – Expenses up 4.7%, a tough winter. Bought a new truck \$54K.
Expenses – 42.8% spend; 39.6% last year.

Motion by Mrs. Hendrickson to receive and file Supervisor’s Monthly Report as submitted. Seconded by Mrs. Ryder, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

Building Department Monthly Report

May 2019 Fees	\$ 8,569.00
May 2018 Fees	\$ 8,663.00
May 2019 Construction Totals	\$1,901,946.00
May 2018 Construction Totals	\$2,915,800.00

Motion by Mrs. Ryder to receive and file monthly building department monthly report as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Cohen, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

Town Clerk’s Monthly Report

Total Fees for May, 2019	\$9,036.46
State Share	\$ 813.23
Town Share	\$8,223.23

Motion by Mrs. Simpson to receive and file the town clerk’s monthly report as submitted. Seconded by Mrs. Ryder, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

Resolution in Support of Upgrading Route 17 in Orange & Sullivan Counties

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF BETHEL TOWN BOARD, SULLIVAN COUNTY, NEW YORK
IN SUPPORT OF UPGRADING ROUTE 17 IN ORANGE AND SULLIVAN COUNTIES**

WHEREAS, The Mid-Hudson/Catskills Region is achieving economic and population growth due to its proximity to New York City and other states as well as being home to attractive communities with a high quality of life.

WHEREAS, The Region has an immediate requirement for infrastructure investments to allow economic development to continue and maintain the Region's ability to attract jobs and preserve its quality of life for its citizens.

WHEREAS, In May of 2013, the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) issued a study (The Route 17 Transportation Corridor Study) that recommended a new General Use Third Lane be developed along the Route 17 Corridor and found that **“additional transportation capacity is needed to address existing and projected levels of congestion in the corridor, provide for enhanced mobility, and allow for future economic growth in both Sullivan and Orange Counties.”**

WHEREAS, while the improvements underway at Interchange 131 near Woodbury Common, and the proposed improvements to accommodate LEGOLAND are welcome and necessary, they will not address the existing and worsening traffic issues along the Corridor.

WHEREAS, investments along the Route 17 Corridor are consistent with smart growth principles and the 2011 report issued by the Open Space Institute (Private Lands, Public Benefits) which found that Sullivan County has the greatest percentage of preferred growth area in the Catskills, “which is largely concentrated in the center of the county and coincides with significant, established infrastructure.”

WHEREAS, the full conversion of Route 17 to interstate standards (I-86) was previously scheduled to be completed by 2009, but that has not occurred in many of the eastern sections of Route 17. Major upgrades to Route 17 need to be implemented to meet interstate standards

WHEREAS, as part of the 2018-19 New York State Budget, the New York State Department of Transportation has committed to “provide up to \$5 million to advance environmental and design activities related to the construction of a third travel lane along the Route 17 Corridor in Orange and Sullivan Counties.”

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Transportation anticipates hiring a consultant to conduct a Planning and Environmental Linkage Study (PEL) in the Spring of 2019 as the next step in the process leading to the implementation of the recommendations from the Corridor Study, providing locations of priority and conducting environmental assessments and preliminary engineering.

WHEREAS, the current estimate of the cost of implementing the Corridor Study is approximately \$500 million.

WHEREAS, the Mid-Hudson Valley/Catskills Region needs to continue to grow and attract businesses and jobs, and the 2013 NYSDOT Study has documented the requirements of the Route 17 Corridor.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Bethel strongly supports efforts to improve the Route 17 Corridor and encourages the New York State Department of Transportation to begin as soon as possible the environmental processes necessary to advance the construction of a third lane along the Route 17 Corridor consistent with interstate standards.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that \$500 million in Capital Funding to make these important investments along the Route 17 Corridor be included in the State's and

Nation's Infrastructure Programs so that the necessary projects to modernize Route 17 can commence as soon as possible.

Motion by Mr. Cohen to approve resolution in support of upgrading Route 17 in Orange and Sullivan Counties. Seconded by Mrs. Simpson, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

Sullivan Catskills Visitors Assoc. Correspondence – Dove Trail

Motion by Mrs. Hendrickson to receive and file letter dated 5/13/2019 from Sullivan Catskills Visitors Association promoting the Dove Art Trail to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the 1969 Woodstock Festival and to celebrate its historical and present impact on the county. Seconded by Mrs. Simpson, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

Correspondence SC Planning – Adding Property NYS Ag District

Motion by Mrs. Ryder to receive and file letter dated 5/28/2019 from the Sullivan County Agriculture & Farmland Protection Board. The Sullivan County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board reviewed the request from James Cutroni & Nicole Newick, 809 Creamery Rd., Mongaup Valley, NY 12762 (Tax Map # 38.-2-30.22 and 38.-2-30.23 and did not recommend this property to be included in Agricultural District #4. Seconded by Mr. Cohen, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

Correspondence from Fred Yee – tax payment penalty

Motion by Mrs. Simpson to receive and file correspondence from Fred Yee, SBL #38-2-84.1, being charged \$487.92 penalty and would like a refund.

Mr. Sturm recommended the following: send a copy of Mr. Yee's letter to the tax collector and to the town attorney; and to ask the tax collector to respond to the Town Board and provide copies of documentation and why was there a delay in returning the checks. Seconded by Mrs. Hendrickson, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

Correspondence from Lance Hughson – tax payment penalty

Motion by Mrs. Ryder to receive and file correspondence from Lance Hughson, SBL #10.-1-10, being charged a penalty.

Mr. Sturm recommended the following: send copy of Mr. Hughson's letter to the tax collector and to the town attorney; and ask the tax collector to respond to the Town Board and provide copies of documentation and why was there a delay in returning the checks. Seconded by Mrs. Hendrickson, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

Mr. Sturm stated that the tax collector is a separately elected official.

Authorize Joint Fuel Bid with Town of Liberty

Motion by Mr. Cohen to receive, file and approve letter dated 6/1/2019 from the Town of Liberty to continue Town of Bethel participation in a joint municipal bid for fuel oil/gasoline and diesel. Note: to continue participation in the bid process, there will be a charge of \$100.00 payable to the Town of Liberty by 6/30/2019. Seconded by Mrs. Simpson, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

Correspondence from Smallwood MV Fire Co. – 5K & Open House

Motion by Mr. Cohen to receive, file and approve request to close roads and for Constable assistance for the Smallwood-Mongaup Valley Volunteer Fire Company 17th Annual Fighting Fires 5K run/walk on Sunday, July 7, 2019.

Road race – Begin at the firehouse and continue down Mt Lakes Rd, turn left onto Pine Grove Rd, and then right on Lake Shore Dr., continue to Stratton Ave, right to Lake View Dr., across Pine Grove, back to Mt Lakes and end at the firehouse. Seconded by Mrs. Simpson, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

Post for part-time transfer station attendant position

Motion by Mrs. Simpson to post for a part-time position at the Town of Bethel Transfer Station. Seconded by Mrs. Hendrickson, put to a vote and carried 5-0. Mr. Sturm stated that there are presently two (2) full-time employees (Jim Davis & Terry Lynch/road & transfer station) and one part-time employee, Dick Foster.

Kauneonga Lake Sidewalks Improvements

Mrs. Simpson said the Side walk cross walk CR141 by Barrio' has been upgraded.

Town Hall Sign and Garden

Motion by Mrs. Ryder to send Dan Gettel a you for helping with the sign and garden. Seconded by Mrs. Simpson, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

Adjournment

There being no further items on the agenda, motion by Mrs. Simpson to adjourn the Town Board meeting. Seconded by Mrs. Hendrickson, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita J. Sheehan, Town Clerk