

March 13, 2024
Town of Erin Board Meeting

Supervisor Schmidt called the regular meeting of the Erin Town Board to order on this date at 6:30 pm. She then asked the Clerk to call the roll.

MEMBERS PRESENT: William VanRiper, Jr., Randy Evans, Alan Hughson, Michael Shutts, Dawn Schmidt.

PUBLIC PRESENT: Caleb & Nicole Dida, Josh & Logan Benjamin, Jack Cook, Gary Ratchford, Joe Frega, Cindy Whiddon, Mark Margeson.

PUBLIC ON ZOON: Paul & Halie Saunders.

A motion was made by M. Shutts and seconded by W. VanRiper, Jr. to pay the audited bills as they appear on the General Fund Abstract 3, #30-49, totaling \$19,409.02; and the Highway Fund Abstract 3, #29-49, totaling \$51,185.23; and the Street Lighting Fund Abstract 3, #44, totaling \$342.86.

Motion Carried: Ayes: W. VanRiper, Jr., R. Evans, A. Hughson, M. Shutts, D. Schmidt. Nays: None.

A motion was made by A. Hughson and seconded by W. VanRiper, Jr. to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the regular Board Meeting on February 14, 2024 and approve the minutes.

Motion Carried: Ayes: W. VanRiper, Jr., R. Evans, A. Hughson, M. Shutts, D. Schmidt. Nays: None.

COMMUNICATIONS

- The Code Enforcement computer was delivered and John will work on setting it up.
- Town Clerk asks permission to attend the NYS Town Clerks Annual Conference held in Albany April 21-24, 2024 for training. The registration fee is \$175.00 and the room fee is \$560.00 for double occupancy. She asks for reimbursement for meals not covered. No reimbursement should be needed for mileage as arrangements have been made to ride with another clerk.

A motion was made by M. Shutts and seconded by A. Hughson for the Clerk to attend the above-mentioned training and to be reimbursed for mileage, if needed, and meals not covered.

Motion Carried: Ayes: W. VanRiper, Jr., R. Evans, A. Hughson, M. Shutts, D. Schmidt. Nays: None.

AGENDA FOR THE TOWN OF ERIN BOARD MEETING MARH 13, 2024;

1. RESOLUTION 23-2024 LEAD AGENCY DESIGNATION AND NEGATIVE DECLARATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE DECLARATION FOR MICHAEL LOW

RESOLUTION 23-2024

Lead Agency Designation and Negative Declaration of Environmental Significance Declaration for Michael Low

Resolution By: M. Shutts

Seconded By: W. VanRiper, Jr.

WHEREAS; The proposed action involves an application from Michael Low

To place a seasonal camper on property located on North Greenbush Road, Erin NY (Map Parcel No.53.00.1-6), and,

WHEREAS; The Town of Erin Planning Board conducted a preliminary review on February 24, 2024 finds there will be little to no impact on said property, and is a Type II action pursuant to the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA"), 6 NYCRR Part 617, and

WHEREAS; The Erin Town Board has reviewed the Town of Erin Planning Boards findings;

Be it Resolved that; the Erin Town Board adopts these findings and conclusions relating to probable environmental effects contained within the attached EAF and Negative Declaration is issued.

Be it further resolved; the Erin Town Board authorizes the Responsible Officer of the Town of Erin to take such further steps as might be necessary to discharge the Lead Agency's responsibilities on this action.

Motion Carried: Ayes: W. VanRiper, Jr., R. Evans, A. Hughson, M. Shutts, D. Schmidt. Nays: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Town Attorney- No report.

Planning Board- Deda Cedar- Introduced Jack Cook from Southern Tier Central. Here to discuss edits to the final draft of the Comprehensive Plan. First, he spoke about the STC Conference, grant writing assistance program along with a community GIS program they are launching. He read over the vision statement for the Town of Erin. He went through the edits made to the demographic, economic, quality of life, land use, natural resource and renewable energy resource recommendations which led to a discussion on Park Station being owned by the County not by the Town. The section on high-speed internet should be corrected due to only having 6-7 houses in the Town that do not have internet access. If it is more geared to cellular then the emphasis needs to be put on that. The SEQR for the Comprehensive Plan was completed per Jack Cook.

A motion was made by A. Hughson and seconded by R. Evans to accept the Comprehensive Plan with the few edits and set a Public Hearing for April 10, 2024 at 6:30 pm.

Motion Carried: Ayes: W. VanRiper, Jr., R. Evans, A. Hughson, M. Shutts, D. Schmidt. Nays: None.

Deda Cedar- They will be working on Local Law No. 10 of 1992 starting with Section 501: Districts and Special Permits. Pretty much everything that needs to be done in the Town, right now, requires a special permit. Per Dawn-anyone interested in attending the event in April that is sponsored by STC BOCES needs to see Diane to get registered by March 20th. She also questioned if the GIS projects by STC and Chemung County were duplicates. The STC program is directed towards the Town giving the Town the software and the apps. Will be about \$1,000.00/year. Can provide specific Town information.

Parks, Recreation and Senior Committee-Deda Cedar- There will be an Easter Egg hunt at the Fire Station on March 23rd at 1:00 pm. The Senior Group has by-laws that have been adopted. Gary Ratchford gave a report on Senior Group- At the first meeting there were about 22 people that attended. There is a trip coming up on July 20th to Salamanca for a Pow-Wow. They now have a bus reservation policy in place. Erin Senior Group members get first opportunity and then it opens up to Erin Town residents and then, if any seats are still available, others are welcome. They also discussed getting together with Van Etten Senior Group and having a picnic at Park Station or Harris Hill.

Code Enforcement-John McCracken- He is working with the Attorney General's Office regarding Erin Estates. They would like him to do a complete inspection. They are investigating the company that owns Erin Estates. They are concerned about the maintenance of the park. He spoke with the Town Attorney in regards to the Poker Run that is scheduled for April 21st. He is already receiving calls from

concerned residents. The Attorney said the Town should have a say in the event because it is on public roads and it is considered a race. The Attorney is going to do more research and John reached out to Bill Schrom. The major issues are the speed and the dust. It is the same group as last year. Both John and Supervisor Schmidt will follow up with the Town Attorney. Talked about making the sheriff department aware of the date/event in order to monitor the speed in Town. Spring cleanup has started and he has been issuing violations. There have been no responses for bids for the large clean ups. Dealing with the same residents year after year and it is frustrating to everyone. There was a discussion on man power, square miles in the town, hours, and pay. Shared services with the City of Elmira are to be renewed in May.

Highway Superintendent-Steve Tyler- Since the last meeting they have been plowing and cindering as needed. Several trees came down during the storms that had to be cut up. They have been patching potholes, installed a couple of driveway pipes and cross pipes on different roads when the weather has cooperated. They removed all the deck boards on the equipment trailer and replace with new boards that were cut by Soil and Water from some of the trees that fell. They build a new screen to screen creek gravel and anti-skid. Steve went to Albany last Wednesday for CHIPS Advocacy Day and there were 703 Highway Superintendents that signed in. He is asking the Board's permission to start getting prices to replace truck #1. It is starting to rust and things are going wrong with it, they would like to trade it in while it still has some value. For the tire collection this year, Soil and Water has hired Clay Ridge Trucking to haul tires. DEC charges \$200.00/truck for hazardous waste and they aren't going to pay it any longer. Clay Ridge Trucking will charge \$3.00/tire to cover the cost. He is willing to bring the trailer down for our tire collection day. The Board agreed on April 20th 9:00 am to 11:00 am for tire collection and electronic recycling day. Steve will set it up.

Buildings & Grounds- Council Member VanRiper, Jr.- Received the quote on the flooring; for the Town Hall \$15,489.40, for the offices \$5,827.20 for a grand total of \$21,316.60. The flooring is 20 mil with a 25-year commercial warranty. There is still ARPA money left over from the HVAC project. The flooring can be started April 15th and take about a week to complete.

A motion was made by R. Evans and seconded by M. Shutts to accept the quote on the flooring for both the Town Hall and the offices for a total of \$21,316.60 and for the project to start mid-April.

Motion Carried: Ayes: W. VanRiper, Jr., R. Evans, A. Hughson, M. Shutts, D. Schmidt. Nays: None.

Council Member VanRiper, Jr. is still working on quotes for the entryway and diverting the water away from the front of the building.

County Representative- Mark Margeson- Supervisor Schmidt spoke about how Mark advocated that Chips local funding be balanced out among the municipalities. County Executive wanted to give some money back to the community with the leftover ARPA funding. The Legislature suggested adding to the amount. The Town of Erin will receive \$143,980.00 for road projects. Told Mark we appreciate his help getting it passed.

Mark Margeson-The First Arena has been filled the last few weeks with different events. There are concerts scheduled. They are working on getting the violations fixed; sprinkler system has been fixed, fire system has been replaced, LED lights have been put in. It is non-hockey related management. Lacrosse and soccer have contacted them with an interest. No tax payer money has been used. They are using money that has been developed with projects that have come into the community and receive income from that. The only tax payer money that would be potentially used is ARP funding that came from the federal government. ARP funding also bought the bank building.

Supervisor-Dawn Schmidt- Thanked Troop 87 from Big Flats for coming to the meeting. Asked Steve Tyler to let Soil and Water know what the Town is doing for the tire collection day.

OLD BUSINESS

Councilmember Evans asked about the draft solar law from the Town Attorney. One was submitted similar to the Town of Tully that was marked what they would like changed and the one that came back is nothing like the one that was originally sent to her. Supervisor Schmidt said she was told there were several changes to the law that came down from the state since that was sent. When solar companies come into Town they can either do a Pilot (payment in lieu of taxes) or pay property taxes. They cannot do both. It was recommended that the Board goes over the draft law from the Attorney, mark what they want changed, add in the setbacks, ask if there are legal reasons for the changes and set up a meeting with the attorney. Also talked about screening, concerns on who to speak to with problems that arise after the projects are finished, and issues once the companies are sold and who to contact.

The Town Clerk will email the draft from the Board to the Town Attorney once they have made the appropriate changes.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Joe Frega-6 Church St.-NYSEG is putting up new poles throughout the area. Asked if the new poles will have LED lighting. Supervisor Schmidt told him about the agreement that was signed at the end of last year to have all new LED lighting installed in the Hamlet, but the project could take up to a year to finish. Joe also asked if they could take trash out of the streams. They have a clean up day planned for Earth Day and asked for ideas on how to dispose of what they collect.

Gary Ratchford- Asked if tires could have rims for collection day. Steve said they cannot. He also said if some are received, he would set them aside. Gary also asked when the fire ban was. It is March 16th until May 14th.

With no further comments from the public Supervisor Schmidt closed this portion of the meeting.

A motion was made by W. VanRiper, Jr. and seconded by R. Evans to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 pm. Motion Carried: Ayes: W. VanRiper, Jr., R. Evans, A. Hughson, M. Shutts, D. Schmidt. Nays: None.