

WHITE CREEK TOWN BOARD MINUTES
OCTOBER 12, 2021

The White Creek Town Board held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at the White Creek Town Hall. Supervisor James Griffith called the meeting to order at 7pm. Members present at the meeting were Supervisor James Griffith, Heath Murphy, Tammy Taber, Lane Wang and Barbra Kingsley. Others present were Highway Superintendent Chris Rieben, Budget Officer Laura Manning and Planning Board Chairman Ron McEvilly. A moment of silence was observed to remember Town Assessor Ronna Meerwarth who passed away suddenly on October 1st. Ronna had served as an Assessor since 1986.

Resolution 34-2021 – Approval of September 14, 2021 Town Board Minutes

Lance Wang made the motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the September 14, 2021 Town Board meeting and approve as presented. Tammy Taber seconded the motion and all others voted in favor of approval.

New Business

The Board members agreed to advertise bids for on road diesel fuel and propane for the Town's purposes for the year 2022. The bids will be opened for consideration at the November 09, 2021 Town Board Meeting.

The Board accepted with regret the resignation of cleaner Tracy Lucey effective November 01, 2021. The Town will advertise for a new cleaner and hope they can partner up with the Village to share the same cleaning services.

The Town Board will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, November 09, 2021 for the vote on the 2022 Town Budget.

Resolution 35-2021 – Renaming of Town of White Creek Office Building

The Board voted to pass said resolution in recognition of a distinguished White Creek veteran and Medal of Honor recipient Major General John Wilson Sprague, do hereby name the Town of White Creek Building, located at 28 Mountain View Drive, the Major General John Wilson Sprague Building. Motion was made by Lance Wang, seconded by Barbra Kingsley and all others voted in favor of said resolution.

Roll Call Vote: Resolution 35-2021

Griffith	Aye
Kingsley	Aye
Murphy	Aye
Taber	Aye
Wang	Aye

Old Business

GAR Reval Update

Supervisor Griffith reported that he had received word that the Town's involved in the reevaluation would need to contribute to the costs in the second and third years of the reval. This was not how the grant application was presented to the Town's participating in the grant. Therefore, the Washington County Board of Supervisors will give approval for the County to pay the additional costs and the Towns will not be responsible for any additional costs.

ARPA Relief Funds

Supervisor Griffith reported that the draft of how to spend the money has been extended for six months. The Town's plan has to be complete by April 30, 2022. The Town has until 2025 to spend all the monies.

Town Residents Comments

Greg Woodcock presented the Board members with a printout of six different ideas for the Town Board to consider from cemetery cleanup to reflective tape on guardrails and road signs. Supervisor Griffith stated that a flagpole will be placed at the highway garage as Mr. Woodcock had requested at the September meeting, if town funds allow.

Planning Board Report

The Planning Board approved a Boundary Line Adjustment submitted by Al George of September Farm at the October 6th meeting. Chairman Ron McEvilly and Planning Board member Carey Murphy explained to the Board that current requirements in the regulations for a Boundary Line Adjustment are outdated and do not represent the current practices by attorneys and Washington County Real Property for the filing of Boundary Line Adjustments. The Planning Board would like to see them changed as soon as possible. Supervisor Griffith stated that he

will contact Town Attorney Alan Wrigley to discuss and start the process required to change the verbiage in the regulations.

Town Clerk's Report

Town Clerk Lisa Austin-Cuddihy presented the September 2021 monthly report. The revenues collected for the month of September was \$8,304.00 with the Town's portion being \$754.90.

Budget Officer's Report

Budget Officer Laura Manning presented the Monthly Operating Statement for the month of September to the Board. The CHIPS money has been received and all revenues and expenses are on track for this time of year.

Highway Report

Superintendent Chris Rieben submitted a monthly report of activities to the Board. The crew has been busy grading and graveling roads, ditching has been done along with some mowing. Trucks and equipment are being serviced to get prepared for the winter season. Chris would like to see if enough money could be found in this year's budget to purchase a PTO powered blower for the tractor. It would be used to blow out ditches and culverts in the fall and in the spring it would replace the sweeper that we normally have to rent to blow off sand. The decision on the purchase was tabled to the November meeting.

Resolution 36-2021- Auctions International Bid for Pickup Truck

The Board voted to accept the bids placed on Auctions International for the pickup and plow that came in at \$29,100.00 and \$1,275.00 respectfully, for a total of \$30,375.00. Barbra Kingsley made the motion to accept the bids, Tammy Taber seconded the motion and all others voted in favor of said resolution. Superintendent Rieben will contact Marc from Auctions International.

Audit Report – Resolution 37-2021 – Approval of monthly Vouchers

Heath Murphy made a motion to approve the payment of the vouchers submitted for the month in the amount of \$26,431.38. Lance Wang seconded the motion and all others voted in favor of said resolution.

Justice Court Report Town Justice Scott Lucey reported that the September Court Report totaled \$3,040.00.

Supervisor's Report

Supervisor Griffith shared an email with the Board that was sent to him from a "Concerned Citizens" group who are seeking support from their local leaders and community members for help in fighting the fact that the democratic process is being circumvented by a minority of community members in regards to the school mascot at Cambridge Central School. They were hoping that the Town of White Creek leaders would reach out to the Commissioner of Education Betty Rosa, not so much for the name and mascot issue but for first amendment Rights. Supervisor Griffith and the Board members unanimously agreed that this issue is out of the jurisdiction of the Town and must remain an issue with New York State and Cambridge Central School. A motion to table the issue was made by Supervisor Griffith, seconded by Lance Wang and all voted in favor.

Executive Session

The Town Board went into an Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. Executive session began at 7:50 pm and ended at 8:10pm.

Adjourn

After the Executive Session, with no other business on the agenda, Heath Murphy made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tammy Taber seconded the motion and all others voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lisa Austin-Cuddihy
White Creek Town Clerk

