

WHITE CREEK TOWN BOARD MINUTES
FEBRUARY 14, 2023

The White Creek Town Board held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 14, 2023 at the Major General John Wilson Sprague Building. Supervisor James Griffith called the meeting to order at 7pm. Roll call was taken by the Clerk. Present at the meeting was Supervisor James Griffith and Town Council Members Tammy Taber, Lance Wang and Gregory Woodcock. Gregory Austin was absent. Also present was Budget Officer Laura Manning, Highway Superintendent Chris Rieben and Town Assessor Darryl Caputo.

Resolution 8-2023 – Approval of January 10, 2023 Town Board Minutes

Gregory Woodcock made a motion to waive the reading to the minutes of the January 10, 2023 Town Board minutes and approved as presented. Tammy Taber seconded the motion and all others voted in favor of approval.

New Business

Resolution 09-2023 – Accept Resignation of Roberta Stone from Assessor’s Office effective immediately

Supervisor Griffith received a letter of resignation dated January 31, 2023 from Roberta Stone. Roberta had been hired to stay on for a period of six months to assist in the new assessor transition. Lance Wang made the motion to accept the resignation of Roberta Stone effective immediately. Tammy Taber seconded the motion and all voted in favor of said resolution.

Resolution 10-2023 – Appointment of William McCarty as mentor for new Assessor

Assessor Darryl Caputo requested that the Board approve appointing William McCarty (Village of Cambridge Assessor) to assist him on an as needed basis with a salary of \$25.00 per hour not to exceed the one thousand dollars a month that was allocated in the budget for the services of Roberta Stone. Lance Wang made the motion to appoint William McCarty on an as needed basis not to exceed the amount allocated for the services of Roberta Stone in the 2023 budget. Tammy Taber seconded the motion and all others voted in favor of the appointment.

Letter of Interest for the White Creek Pedestrian and Parking Study

Supervisor Griffith announced that Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C will be conducting the requested Transportation Planning Engineering Services for the White Creek Pedestrian and Parking Study. Supervisor Griffith stated that several pedestrian improvements and parking needs will be addressed near the Cambridge Community Forest and the Town Hall. This study will provide the framework to garner community support and attract funding sources that will provide the Town the opportunity to take the project to the next steps of engineering and construction. The preliminary estimate of fee for the proposed scope of services is \$11,300.00.

NY Bridge Grant

Supervisor Griffith also announced that the application for the NY Bridge Program has been submitted to NYSDOT. If received the grant would cover the cost of replacing the culvert on the Ash Grove Road Bridge before Bates Road. The Town had applied for the grant previously but did not receive it.

Building Repairs Committee

After a discussion of needed repairs at the Town Hall , it was decided that a committee should be appointed to conduct a fact finding stage of what needs to be done to improve the building (interior and exterior). Tammy Taber made a motion to appoint Lance Wang and Gregory Woodcock as the building committee members. James Griffith seconded the motion and all voted in favor of appointment. Lance and Greg will get together before next month's meeting and provide the Board with a list of recommendations.

Town Residents Comments

Town resident Perry Young wanted to know why it took three years for the sides to be put on the salt shed. He also wanted to know why the parking lot still is not paved. Supervisor Griffith stated that the hope was that the paving could be included in the covid relief funds that the Town will be receiving. However, Supervisor Griffith did state that estimates could be sought for the cost of doing a partial pave of the lot. Perry Young asked if Chris has been sharing materials with the Town of Salem. Chris Rieben stated a firm no to the question and stated that the only shared service with the Town of Salem and other towns is the use of the hot box. Mr. LaFlamme had some questions in regards to the 2024 General Election and how the Board of Elections will be handling it. Supervisor Griffith

stated that he would ask one of the Chairman's of the BOE to attend a town board meeting and answer questions that residents may have in regards to the election and voting. David Nolan stated that in his opinion GAR did not do a good job with the reevaluation.

Assessor's Report

Assessor Darryl Caputo submitted a monthly report to the Board. He has attended multiple training courses in the last month. The assessment of one property was reduced by \$10,682.00. All notices have been sent out to those individuals that need to reapply for tax exemptions.

Town Clerk's Report

Town Clerk Lisa Austin-Cuddihy submitted a report for the month of January 2023. She reported \$815.00 of revenues with \$236.72 being the town's portion. Lisa also reported on the 2023 Town and County Tax Collection. The amount of taxes collected for the month of January was \$2,223,645.06. The town budget monies were transferred to Budget Officer Laura Manning and the remainder of the collection was sent to the Treasurer's Office.

Budget Officer's Report

Budget Officer Laura Manning submitted the monthly operating statement to the Board.

Highway Superintendent's Report

Highway Superintendent Chris Rieben submitted a monthly report of activities to the Board. The crew was out plowing and sanding 15 days using 1400 yards of sand and 100 ton of salt. A rebuilt differential was put in the 5500-2009 truck and new air tanks were installed on the 7600-2009 truck. Chris will be meeting with Lance to update the equipment plan. He will also be meeting with the highway committee to review road specs and winter roads policies.

Audit Report – Resolution 11-2023

Gregory Woodcock made a motion to approve all vouchers submitted for payment. Lance Wang seconded the motion and all others voted in favor of approval. Total of all vouchers was \$38,606.90. General fund \$8,285.87 and Highway fund \$30,321.03.

Justice Court Report

Town Justice Scott Lucey submitted the monthly court report for January 2023 in the amount of \$2418.00.

Adjourn – Resolution 12-2023

Motion was made by Lance Wang to adjourn the meeting. Tammy Taber seconded the motion and all voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lisa Austin-Cuddihy
White Creek Town Clerk