

July 9, 2013

The regular monthly meeting of the Tyrone Town Board was held on the above date at the Town Meeting Room and was called to order by Supervisor Jackson at 7:00 pm..

Meeting opened with Pledge to the Flag.

Present: Supervisor; Town Clerk; Councilpersons: Perry, Grimmke, Petris and Allen; Highway Superintendent; Justice; Assessor plus those on sign-in sheet.

A copy of the minutes from the June 11, 2013 meeting were furnished to Board Members.

Motion by Perry, second by Grimmke to accept the minutes. Carried unanimously.

Supervisor Jackson read aloud the balances to the Town's Bank Accounts.

After review of the Financial Reports by Board Members:

Motion by Allen, second by Grimmke to accept reports of the checking account for the General Fund. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Petris, second by Jackson to accept reports of the checking account for the Highway Fund. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Allen, second by Grimmke to accept reports of the Trust Account. Carried unanimously.

After review of the Abstracts by Board Members:

Motion by Allen, second by Perry to approve payment of bills on the General Abstract with the exception of voucher #337. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Allen, second by Petris to approve payment of bills on the Highway Abstract. Carried unanimously.

Old Business:

(1) Councilperson Grimmke wanted to thank the County Highway Dept. for the work they are doing on County Road 23 near Talbort Hill.

Old Business Cont'd:

July (2) Lakes Association: Cartha Conklin that there next meeting will be held on 20th at 10:00 am at the Town Meeting Room. They annual “Boat Parade” was held on July 4th and she was told that it was very nice.

(3) Assessor: Vicki Flynn reported that the final roll is in and that she is currently cleaning up some old files. She also wanted to clarify that when there is a question on an assessment, that she consults with an appraiser at the County.

Supervisor Jackson also reported that he has met with the County regarding the upcoming renewal of our contract for an assessor and they informed him that Tyrone is technically in a 10 year commitment to keep Vicki Flynn for an additional 6 year term.

This contract will be subject to annual reviews by both the County and the Town of any properties that the assessor or her family members owns to ensure all are being equally treated.

#9-13 Resolution by Perry, second by Grimmke to reappoint Vicki Flynn as the Tyrone Assessor for the next six year contract. Carried unanimously.

New Business:

(1) Supervisor Jackson asked of the Board if they have a specific date and time, or any conflicting dates and times for him to schedule an appointment for the Union Negotiations. This week he will set up a date and time for some point in August.

(2) Town Clerk: Deborah Tyler furnished the Board with a copy of her monthly report.

(3) Code Enforcement: Not present. Supervisor Jackson read aloud his monthly report.

(4) Justice Report: Bobbi Sparling furnished the Board with a copy of their monthly report.

She also announced that she just received an email notifying them that JCAP will be offering more grant funds. When asked if they knew what items they may apply for, she informed us that she and Justice Kennedy just received this and they have not yet sat down together to discuss it.

New Business Cont'd:

(5) Fire Department: Bill Kennedy provided the Board with a copy of their monthly report.

Bill also presented a letter from Schuyler County, which was requesting each Township to release to Emergency Management, the right to proceed with the “Seeker Process”, in which any liability would be the responsibility of the County.

The “Seeker Process” is from a grant that will allow the County to erect three communication towers (Watkins Glen, Hector and Sugar Hill) that will provide broad band access among Emergency Depts., Highway Depts., etc...

Legislator, Dennis Fagan, also added that this will vastly improve communications between departments and that there will be no environmental impact to the areas where the towers are being placed.

A positive or non response from townships to the letter, within 30 days, will be considered an acceptance.

(6) County Legislator: Dennis Fagan stated that he wanted to clarify on some recent newspaper articles regarding the requested reduction of assessed value, by the Inergy Corp. to the County, and it’s impact on individual townships.

This reduction amounts to 7 million dollars and will gradually be reduced over the next three years.

This will not go back on back taxes and will have no impact on the Town of Tyrone, as it had been reported.

When asked by Alan Hurley, a Town resident, about the WalMart and Watkins Glen Middle School assessments, Legislator Fagan informed us that the WalMart assessment has not yet been completed and that the Middle School is in the onset of renovations, which will alter the assessment, but could result in income to the County.

(7) Highway Superintendent: Paul Ernhout reported that their gravel is all done and they are mainly working on Hallock Rd. at this time.

(8) Planning Board: Jack Wilbert notified us that they had received a sub-division request which they are reviewing.

He also said that the final Comprehensive Plan, including a summary of the survey, is done and he will get copies out to the Supervisor and Board for approval.

They have also received designs and quotes for two Tyrone signs for +\$1,000.00, which the Planning Board and Lakes Association will split.

(9) Environmental Management: Not present.

Other Business:

(1) Historian, Paul Reiser, wanted to remind us that the Wayne Old Home Days is

Saturday, July 13th. Please bring a dish to pass.

(2) Councilperson Perry said that he would like to see the Town do something for former Town Clerk, Helen Baxter, for her many years of service. Councilperson Grimmke and Town Clerk Tyler have been discussing this and will decide what we would like to do.

(3) Richard Little, a resident, presented the Supervisor and Board with a petition (signed by 200+ people) requesting an audit of the records for the Wayne Baptist Cemetery from 2007 to present. There was also question as to the Town's required maintenance to the cemetery.

First, it was clarified by Supervisor Jackson, that according to the NYS Division of Cemeteries Law, a Town owned cemetery is required to be maintained three times per year by the Town. The Wayne Cemetery has already been done 3+ times by early July, and is scheduled to be mowed again on Friday, July 12th. The Town has relied on Monterey Shock, access to their services and climate weather to maintain the cemetery, beyond the law requirements.

It was also noted that the cemetery used to have its own association, which maintained it and Highway Superintendent, Paul Ernhout, stated that the Town has been maintaining the cemetery since the association dissolved, at the cost of the Town, with no funds being removed from the Wayne Baptist Cemetery Fund, which the Town of Tyrone just received approximately a year ago from the Town of Wayne.

John Grimmke, from the Tyrone Union Cemetery, spoke to the group about the Tyrone Cemetery's use of funds and volunteers. A contact person and application were passed on to Mr. Little from NYS to start their own association and Mr. Grimmke offered to assist them, if needed.

There was some lively discourse in which all were reminded that all meetings are held according to Robert's Rules and certain behavior and language is not acceptable.

The question of the audit of the records was also addressed and it was explained that the former association retained an attorney, whom was later disbarred, and the records were transferred to Fitzsimmons Law Firm, in Watkins Glen, and have been requested by the Town in the past, to no avail.

It was decided that the Town would, by letter, once again request the records from Fitzsimmons and that Paul Reiser would schedule a meeting with the only contact person that the Town has had for the Wayne Cemetery, Diane Campbell.

Paul Reiser asked that one of the petitioners attend this meeting with him. Pat Pagano told him that the group would discuss it to see who, if anyone, will join Paul.

We will discuss this again at the August meeting to see where things stand.

Other Business Cont'd:

(4) At Alan Hurley's inquiry about a Town audit, it was once again explained that the Town's AUD's are all up to date and that this is the way that the State Comptroller does an annual audit of the Town's accounting. It was also reiterated that the cost for an independent audit is not in the Town's budget.

(5) John Sullivan questioned the Highway Superintendent about some \$5,000.00 worth of equipment that was mentioned last month, that was sold on Auctions Int'l. Paul Ernhout explained that those sales never went through as the bids were not high enough to be accepted. Only two bids were acceptable on Auctions Int'l which total around \$500.00.

#10-13 Resolution by Jackson, second by Grimmke to accept the two bids. Carried unanimously.

Motion by Jackson, second by Allen to enter into an executive session regarding possible litigation at 8:27 pm. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

**Deborah Tyler
Town Clerk**

Executive session adjourned at 9:07 pm and the open meeting reconvened and too was adjourned.