



APPROVED

Regular Town Board Meeting of the Cohocton Town Board

Date & Time: February 16, 2021

Location: Atlanta Court Facility

(Combined meeting for January and February)

Present: Supervisor Judith Hall, Deputy Supervisor/Councilman Jan Kastberg, Councilman Michael Gilman, Councilman Michael Gilman, David Miller, Town Attorney, Tayonna Kinney, Town Clerk. **Not Present:** Councilman Milton Levesque

Meeting called to order by Judith Hall at 7:00 pm.

Pledge to the flag lead by Judith Hall.

Correspondence: (January) Resignation of Nancy Levesque, appointment of Blair Hall as Deputy Town Clerk, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local Union 1249, and (February) Clearview Cemetery Association Inc.

JANUARY BUSINESS

Motion made by Cheryl Deusenbery, seconded by Jan Kastberg to accept the minutes from December 15, 2020, December 29, 2020, and January 4, 2021. 4 ayes, 0 noes. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion made by Cheryl Deusenbery, seconded by Jan Kastberg to acknowledge the reports for January meeting by the Ambulance Commissioners Meeting, Assessor, Cohocton Police Department, Dog Control Officers, Highway, Historian, Planning Board, Supervisor, Town Clerk (November, December) and February reports for Assessor, Code Enforcement Officer, Cohocton Police Department, Dog Control Officers, Annual Historian Report, Justice, Planning Board, Supervisor, Town Clerk. 4 ayes, 0 noes. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Cheryl Deusenbery, seconded by Michael Gilman to accept the abstracts for January and February with the following corrections for February: Amount owed for voucher #790 for Mike and Deb Matthews is \$23.50, not \$24.50, amount owed for voucher #800 for Martin's Auto is \$1,253.37, not \$1,353.64 which included sales tax, amount owed for voucher #801 is \$3,183.52, not \$3,183.52 which was originally calculated incorrectly, and amount owed for voucher #811 is \$4.25, not \$463.39. Discussion of separating the water and ambulance Verizon bill portions and paying them with the codes specific for those departments, which is different than the rest of the Verizon bill. 4 ayes, 0 noes. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Cheryl Deusenbery, seconded by Michael Gilman to approve the three EMTs for part-time days, Monday through Friday. 4 ayes, 0 noes. All in favor, motion carried.



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Motion by Cheryl Deusenbery, seconded by Michael Gilman to appoint Tayonna Kinney as the Registrar of Vital Statistics. 4 ayes, 0 noes. All in favor, motion Carried.

Motion by Judith Hall, seconded by Michael Gilman to appoint Tayonna Kinney as the Water Billing Clerk. 4 ayes, 0 noes. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Judith Hall, seconded by Cheryl Deusenbery to approve the Resolution adopting provisions of Executive Order 202.83 SUSPENDING THE REQUIREMENTS OF RENEWAL APPLICATIONS AS A CONDITION TO GRANTING EXEMPTIONS UNDER 459-C AND 467 OF THE REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW.

ROLL CALL:

Supervisor Judith Hall: Aye

Councilman Jan Kastberg: Aye

Councilman Cheryl Deusenbery: Aye

Councilman Michael Gilman: Aye

Councilman Milton Levesque: Not Present

Motion by Cheryl Deusenbery, seconded by Judith Hall to approve Barry Fairbrother to attend the STNY Water Works Conference. 4 ayes, 0 noes. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Jan Kastberg, seconded by Judith Hall to accept the resignation of Nancy Levesque as Deputy Town Clerk. Discussion of whether Nancy Levesque was Acting Town Clerk or Deputy Town Clerk. 4 ayes, 0 noes. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Jan Kastberg, seconded by Michael Gilman to approve appointment of Blair Hall as Deputy Town Clerk. Discussion of rate of pay being minimum wage. 3 ayes, 0 noes, 1 recusal. Motion carried.

Motion by Jan Kastberg, seconded by Michael Gilman to sign the CVAS contract with corrected date of 2021. 4 ayes, 0 noes. All in favor, motion carried.

FEBRUARY BUSINESS

Motion by Jan Kastberg, seconded by Cheryl Deusenbery to adopt the resolution to sell the bus garage. 4 ayes, 0 noes. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Jan Kastberg, seconded by Cheryl Deusenbery to publish Resolution of legal notice for the INTENT TO FILE AN APPLICATION WITH USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT (RD) FOR THE TOWN OF COHOCTON PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM EVALUATION in the Hornell Evening Tribune. No conflict declared by Supervisor Hall, Councilman Deusenbery, Councilman Kastberg, and Councilman Gilman. 4 ayes, 0 noes. All in favor, motion carried.



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Motion by Michael Gilman, seconded by Judith Hall to accept the Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative Plan. Discussion to share cost with any other town for employees that works for multiple towns. 4 ayes, 0 noes. All in favor, motion carried.

Discussion initiated by Chief Mark Barnhart on adopting town resolution for ATV/UTV usage within town limits.

Motion by Judith Hall, seconded by Cheryl Deusenbery to have Judith Hall sign the Highway Diversion Program resolution, as written. 4 ayes, 0 noes. All in favor, motion carried.

Board Concerns: Michael Gilman initiated discussions regarding the stretcher batteries for Amanda Miles and Judith Hall with sufficient response by Amanda Miles, Ambulance Chief.

Discussion initiated by Cheryl Deusenbery for the clerk to send her the stamped "approved" minutes with monthly reports to her to post on the website.

Discussion initiated by Judith Hall regarding additional invoice from Synergy Group, HR Partners, the Town of Cohocton received \$3,822 bill in December which was paid, then received in January an invoice for an additional \$6,627.00. Judith Hall would like to know who authorized the additional interviews and critique of the town in general. The report was for a harassment complaint that involved two people, complainant and alleged harasser. Numerous hours billed to the Town of Cohocton for investigations done with towns people not involved in the complaint. Supervisor Hall would like to know who authorized the additional investigation. Michael Gilman responded that the only person that the firm would have been in contact with at the time would have been the Deputy Supervisor. Cheryl Deusenbery added that the board also gave the approval and she didn't think there was a limit to the amount the firm could bill. Judith Hall responded that that isn't how things are normally done. Cheryl Deusenbery then stated they did give the Town of Cohocton a quote and it defined the parameters of what they would do but that it did not specify a limit. Judith Hall indicated that the investigation was way off the scope of what the complaint was for in the initial referral. The other question from Judith Hall is where does the money come out of because, it is not in the budget. Cheryl Deusenbery states to use it out of legal and contingency. Judith Hall states that it is not legal and that money is being used for two other law suits. Cheryl Deusenbery states the board did a resolution for the firm to do an investigation. Community member suggested looking at the contract to look for "limits". Cheryl Deusenbery indicates that she doesn't remember there being a limit on the contract.

Motion by Judith Hall to adjourn, seconded by Cheryl Deusenbery. 4 ayes, 0 noes. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:46 pm.

Meeting minutes submitted by,
Tayonna Kinney, Cohocton Town Clerk