

**Town of Johnsburg
Town Board Meeting
April 4, 2023**

In Attendance: Mark Smith – Supervisor Justin Gonyo – Councilman
 Pete Hoskins – Councilman Gene Arsenault – Councilman (via Zoom)
 Jean Comstock – Town Clerk

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Meeting called to Order at 7:00PM
3. Resolution in Memory of Wayne Bukovinsky - read by Supervisor Smith
4. Approval of March 21, 2023 Town Board Meeting Minutes – Supervisor Smith asked if there was any discussion regarding these minutes.

RESOLUTION # 23 – 81

Mr. Hoskins made a Motion to approve and accept the Meeting Minutes from the March 21, 2023 Town Board Meeting and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Gonyo. With the following Board members present voting in favor the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 4 (Hoskins, Gonyo, Arsenault, Smith); Nays -0.

5. Informational presentation on Short Term Rentals – Laurie Arnheiter and team; this is just an update; August of 2022; we meet every month; short term rental owners; we want to control our destiny; Dean Spaulding Nick Khachaturian, Chris Heidrich & Erwin Morris; purpose – to serve as a think tank, gather information from other communities and share with the Board any recommendations; examine regulations, local issues, invited guests from other towns – Hague, Bolton Landing, Lake George, Warrensburg, Lake Luzerne, Schroon Lake, Chestertown; we'll be speaking with others over the next few weeks; local officials, public; monitoring the Hinchey Bill – working its way through State Legislation, amending the tax code, we're following this closely; we'd like to hold a workshop, May 12, 2023 at 7:00PM at Tannery Pond – open to the public, benefits, impact on Town, challenges, recommendations on how we can all work together; we'll take the findings and merge to final recommendations to the Board; any questions from the Board? Supervisor Smith – quite comprehensive, any interest, please attend the workshop.
6. Emergency Approval of Truck Repairs – Supervisor Smith - one of our trucks from the Department of Public Property and Public Programs went in for routine service – manifolds cracked, rotors need replacing, regular procurement process at least two more weeks, out of fleet for approximately 4 years, not to exceed \$4,500; no repairs in 9 years; need a motion to approve repairs.

RESOLUTION # 23 – 82

Mr. Hoskins made a Motion to approve the emergency repairs to the truck for the Department of Public Property and Public Programs not to exceed \$4,500 and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Gonyo. With the following Board members present voting in favor the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 4 (Hoskins, Gonyo, Arsenault, Smith); Nays - 0

7. Authorization to proceed with road sweeping – bids in packet. Mr. Comstock noted that Evolution bought out Kingsbury Sweeping – the price doubled, same as last year – over \$9,000, I can rent a sweeper for 1 month for \$7,000, do it ourselves and save money. Question was asked if the Highway Department had someone who could run the machine, Mr. Comstock indicated that he had an operator. Supervisor Smith – not to exceed \$8,000 for rental of sweeper.

RESOLUTION # 23 – 83

Mr. Hoskins made a Motion to approve the rental of a sweeper for 1 month not to exceed \$8,000 for the Highway Department and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Gonyo. With the following Board members present voting in favor the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 4 (Hoskins, Gonyo, Arsenault, Smith); Nays - 0

8. Approval for Attendance at Local Government Days (Planning/Zoning) – Supervisor Smith – if you can't attend after you've been signed up the individual will be responsible to pay the Town.

RESOLUTION # 23 – 84

Mr. Gonyo made a Motion to approve attendance at the Local Government Days and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Hoskins. With the following Board members present voting in favor the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 4 (Hoskins, Gonyo, Arsenault, Smith); Nays - 0

9. Approval of Zoning Forms – Complaint Form - Mr. Gonyo – these forms have been created out of laws that are pre-existing? Supervisor Smith – yes. Bolton/Lake George – don't have these (Mr./Mrs. Konis), please ask people on the Committees; Mr. Hoskins – is there an urgency? Mr. Gonyo – I'd like clarification that it's based on something we already have in writing; Mr. Hoskins – take another two weeks to research it; Mr. Arsenault – let's take a little bit; Supervisor Smith – we will table these two forms for further clarification.
10. Authorization to proceed with the LA Group for the Ski Bowl – update for Vision 2020 already allocated with ARPA funds; Ms. Nettle – Masterplan for Ski Bowl Park – why do we need an updated vision for Ski Bowl Park – it's all about the funding; many of the things we have in this town are provided through grant monies; parks and trails are good for the local residents as well as visitors. With the Masterplan we can apply for funding. Current Masterplan for the Ski Bowl is outdated; it's not clear that the Board wants to move the highway garage; the sooner the sand reclamation happens the better and the more property for the park; adjustments to Vision 2020 needs to happen; we're ready to talk to the LA Group; once we have the plan we can apply to NYS for 75% of the money; we're asking for the approval for the \$20,000 to update the Vision of 2020 with the LA Group. Supervisor Smith – update allows you to get grants? Ms. Nettle – correct; Mr. Gonyo – money is a grant? Ms. Nettle – ARPA funds. Mr. Gonyo – is there any other way to spend this money? Supervisor Smith – all other ARPA funds have been allocated, is there somewhere else that we could use the \$20,000? Supervisor Smith – it's for the purpose of the contract with the LA Group. Mr. Hoskins - thanks to Kelly for all her hard work on these grants.

RESOLUTION # 23 – 85

Mr. Hoskins made a Motion to approve the ARPA funds of \$20,000 for the LA Group to update the Masterplan for Ski Bowl Park and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Gonyo. With the following Board members present voting in favor the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 4 (Hoskins, Gonyo, Arsenault, Smith); Nays - 0

11. Appointment of Planning Board Member – Supervisor Smith –we received a letter of interest for the opening on the Planning Board; any discussion from the Board – Matt Ordway.

RESOLUTION # 23 – 86

Mr. Hoskins made a Motion to accept and appoint Mr. Ordway to the Planning Board and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Gonyo. With the following Board members present voting in favor the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 4 (Hoskins, Gonyo, Arsenault, Smith); Nays - 0

12. Appointment of Board of Assessment Member – Ms. Nettle has expressed an interest in being appointed to the Board of Assessment. Supervisor Smith asked for any questions or any discussion?

RESOLUTION # 23 – 87

Mr. Hoskins made a Motion to accept and appoint Kelly Nettle to the Board of Assessment and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Arsenault. With the following Board members present voting in favor the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 4 (Hoskins, Gonyo, Arsenault, Smith); Nays - 0

13. Salt Shed Concerns – Safety Officer (Ernie Dunkley) – this issue has been on the books for us for about a year; it's beyond repair, held together with cables; walls are bowing out and busting at the seams; not sure when it was built; cannot send anyone inside, it's bad; we can even try to repair it; old lumber, old telephone poles; roof corrugated metal – full of holes and leaks; rain/snow – salt is of no use once it's wet; we'd like to look into getting grant money and relocating it with a better floor as a base; Supervisor Smith – asking for what? Ernie – getting another salt shed with grant money; Fred - \$80,000 for a new building; Mr. Hoskins – you'll need to have this by next snow season; Supervisor Smith – USDA may be able to help us with this; I'll try to get the ball rolling or point me in the right direction; Mr. Hoskins -this should have been done several years ago; Supervisor Smith – it's a death trap and we'll meet and discuss.

14. Committee Reports – Supervisor Smith indicated these updates were online for review. Mr. Gonyo Cedarwood presentation re: materials for 4 different suppliers for the sewage processing; they'll be shopping around for two more quotes; insuring that ORDA has everything they need on their end to present at their next Board Meeting; draft letter between ORDA and Cedarwood – everything seems to be on the right track; Bone Bayse – agree with that; Supervisor Smith – some minor changes, will hear from our attorney by the end of the week.

15. Safe Employee of the Quarter– Ben Gadway from the Highway Department.

16. Letter from Gore – the Board has been looking at this and we need to have a discussion on this; Supervisor Smith – summarize – Executive Session for certain things – strategy could affect the outcome of the lease.

RESOLUTION # 23 – 88

Mr. Hoskins made a Motion to move to Executive Session at 8:01PM and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Gonyo. With the following Board members present voting in favor the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 4 (Hoskins, Gonyo, Arsenault, Smith); Nays - 0

Supervisor Smith indicated that the Town Board was amenable to the extension of the Agreement, but needed to look into a few issues and nothing was decided on or voted on during Executive Session.

RESOLUTION # 23 – 89

Mr. Arsenault made a Motion to adjourn the Executive Session at 8:37PM and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Hoskins. With the following Board members present voting in favor the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 4 (Hoskins, Gonyo, Arsenault, Smith); Nays - 0

17. Zoning Permit Report – in Board Packet and on-line.

18. Warrants –Mr. Gonyo asked what the \$15,000 to Rozell Industries was for? Mr. Comstock indicated it was the final payment to Rozell for the Glen Creek Bridge Project.

GENERAL FUND:	\$ 33,510.98
HIGHWAY FUND:	\$ 32,069.13
LIBRARY FUND:	\$ 338.80
WATER DISTRICT:	\$ 8,665.64
TRUST & AGENCY:	\$ 519.20
TOTAL	\$ 75,103.75

RESOLUTION # 23 – 90

Mr. Gonyo made a Motion to accept and approve the Warrants and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Hoskins. With the following Board members present voting in favor the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 4 (Hoskins, Gonyo, Arsenault, Smith); Nays - 0

19. Privilege of the Floor

- Mr. Heidrich – take into account finding sand sooner rather than later; may have to reconsider zoning with sand mines; using smaller sand mines in the area.
- Mr. Ashline – ticket sales on-line – no sales tax collected on tickets for Gore Mountain; I called Dan Stec’s office 244,753 tickets sold as of today; 85/kids; 109 for adult; a lot of money; could Warren County collect it’s 4%; hook up with Essex County Board (Whiteface), Belair – if our Board passes a Resolution (per Dan Stec) to collect the sales tax, he’ll take it forward; user tax only; money for Warren County – it could go a long way.
- Mr. Mosher – where is the 3 minute rule posted; pleased to hear that the sign law will be enforced; the ZEO is finally doing his job; Supervisor Smith – a comment made to me re: ORDA contract; would like to get this contract on the agenda to point out where it’s one-sided; if the sewer district cannot pay for the bond/loans who pays for it? Supervisor Smith – we can provide that information.
- Mr. Konis – kudos to Bruce Ashline – good idea; we have a recreational town, we don’t tax anything; we spend a lot of money getting these people here, let’s get them to pay a little bit of tax and help out the Town; great revenue source.

20. Motion to Adjourn – Supervisor Smith – any further Town Board business? Can I get a motion to adjourn?

RESOLUTION # 23 – 91

Mr. Gonyo made a Motion to adjourn the Town Board Meeting at 8:44PM and moved its passage with a Second Motion from Mr. Hoskins. With the following Board members present voting in favor the Resolution is carried. Ayes – 4 (Hoskins, Gonyo, Arsenault, Smith); Nays - 0

Prepared by:

Jean M. Comstock

Jean M. Comstock
Town Clerk

**THE NEXT TOWN BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD
APRIL 18, 2023 AT 7:00PM AT
TANNERY POND AND VIA ZOOM**