REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

JULY 11, 2023

ELDRED TOWN HALL

PRESENT SUPERVISOR JEFF HAAS

COUNCILMAN FRED BOSCH

COUCILWOMAN KAITLIN HAAS

COUNCILMAN CHRIS TAMBINI

Also present, Attorney to Town Michael Davidoff – not present

Town Clerk Susan Hoffman

BJ Gettles – Code

James Hanson - Code

Supervisor calls meeting to order – 7:03 PM

Flag Salute

Moment of Silence for Anton Karl and Marian Gruel

Roll Call all members present

**MOTION BY** Councilman Tambini to approve the June 2023 Town Clerk Minutes seconded by Councilwoman Haas, discussion motion carried all ayes.

**MOTION BY** Councilman Bosch to approve June 2023 Financials seconded by Councilwoman Haas, discussion motion carried all ayes.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Highland Ambulance Service

Highland Fire Department

Yulan Fire Department

Correspondence read by Supervisor

**SUPERIVSOR**

Deputy Supervise Kaitlin Haas states: We did receive a press release dated July 5 from County of Sullivan division of public works. I did pose some follow up questions to Bob Trotta the bridge engineer, and Edward McAndrews the commissioner just for clarification on the timeline. It’s a road closure for Eldred, New York Sullivan County Division of Public Works is closing a portion of county route twenty- three commonly known as Eldred Yulan Rd., Eldred to repair county bridge 198 located approximately .1 miles west at the intersection of County route 33 with State Route 55. This section of county route 33 will be close to all traffic starting at 7am on Thursday, July 20th and will remain closed for approximately 18 days. A detour route will utilize state route 55, State Route 97 and county route 21. And there is a map attached so that when we discuss it during the workshop with questions we want to clarify where does the length of time is it working days or calendar days? Because that's about a week's difference for the road closure. I think the difference between August 6 and August 15 is it only going to the road surface going to be accessible during non-working time periods. Or is it going to be completely closed to all traffic.

Supervisor Haas reports: I have a letter here from NYSEG addressed to myself and Kaitlin. It goes into NYSEG’s completion of the largest storm resiliency project in our history. New York State electric and gas has completed significant infrastructure upgrades that will enhance the grid in the Liberty division, which includes the Town of Highland, Barryville, Yulan, Eldred, Tustin and Minisink. These upgrades will result in increased reliability and resiliency for its 2000 customers. This is the company's largest resiliency project to date, 575 new poles were installed with nearly 15 miles of upgrades to distribution lines 13 miles of enhanced visitation management, trimming from ground to sky and removing overhanging limbs which could fall on lines for the upgrades include the installation of an automated system with supervisory control and data acquisition. A means providing data and communication with the company's Energy Control Center in Binghamton. SCATTA as the term is used, sees where an outage has occurred in the grid. Restore customers and zones automatically reduce outage times for customers. It detects interruptions and align and shuts off power immediately and can be operated and monitored remotely. This helps to reduce the number of customers impacted by an outage and can make the process safer by remotely de energizing lines during storms. These upgrades create a more intelligent and automated grid, including distribution lines that can withstand greater snow, ice and wind events and smart devices to detect faults across the infrastructure. The newly constructed lines are also built to a more modern standard, replacing aging infrastructure. The 2 ½ year project cost $10.5 million. Major construction on the project was completed in February and they said we'd like a little feedback from this board. We're still working on the SWIPP program at the town highway garage, and we'll be having a meeting Thursday at 3:30 with these concerns of Joe with the engineer on the project, and the highway department at that time.

**COMMUNITY PLANNING/SENIORS**

Councilman Bosch

The Highland seniors had their barbecue last month, and it was delicious. Everything went well. Everybody got a hot dog and hamburger, delicious salads and tray full of desserts

**YOUTH & PARK DEVELOPMENT**

Councilwoman Haas/Councilman Tambini

We were awarded the $7,500 from Sullivan County Youth Bureau for our summer program in partnership with Koinonia. We provided them all the relevant and insurance information. We should be receiving the contracts for signature so then they can really see the funds and they're also going to be doing a site visit. Koinonia is also pursuing an additional I think it's $25,000 grant for them for their after -school program. I did write a letter of support in that endeavor as our community partners and I haven't gotten any feedback yet. We did ask prior to the start of the Koinonia program for some parameters. What we use the monies for is to subsidize the weekly cost per Town of Highland residents.

**CODE**

No report.

**EMERGEDNCY MANAGEMENT**

No report.

**GRANTS**

No report.

**INSURANCE**

No report.

**BUILDINGS**

No report.

**BEAUTIFICATITON/RENAISSANCE**

Supervisor Haas/Susan Hoffman

I can report a little bit on the Yulan side of the operation. Volunteers have hung up the plants a month ago, and many thanks all those volunteers. The watering has been taking place and the plants are in full blown. Mother Nature's really cooperating with us this year, and the area looks good. Carol has been here several times. She's taking care of the boxes in front. She's here putting bug killer and deer repellent and really, really taking care of everything and has been very happy that it has rained.

**PERSONNEL**

No report.

**WEBSITE**

No report.

**ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT**

No report.

**911 HEROES PARK**

No report.

**RESOLUTIONS**

Motion by Councilwoman Haas to pay General Abstract #7-2023 claims #176-194 in the amount of $11,651.05 which have been duly audited by the Town Board and the Town Supervisor, seconded by Councilman Bosch, motion carried, all ayes.

Motion by Councilwoman Haas to pay Highway Abstract #7-2023 claims #56-61 in the amount of $138,531.57 which have been duly audited by the Town Board and the Town Supervisor, seconded by Councilman Tambini, motion carried, all ayes.

Motion by Councilwoman Haas to pay Eldred Street Lights #7-2023 claim #7 in the amount of $92.42, which has been duly audited by the Town Board and the Town Supervisor, seconded by Councilman Bosch, motion carried, all ayes.

Respectfully submitted

Town of Highland Town Clerk