

TOWN OF CLARKSON
TOWN BOARD MEETING
August 10, 2021

The Town Board of the Town of Clarkson held their regular meeting on Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at the Clarkson Town Hall, 3710 Lake Road, Clarkson, NY at 6:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Christa Filipowicz	Supervisor
Allan Hoy	Councilperson
Patrick Didas	Councilperson
Tom Guarino	Councilperson
Leslie Zink	Councilperson
Susan Henshaw	Town Clerk
Robert Viscardi	Highway Superintendent
**Richard Olson	Attorney
**Liz Spencer	Assessor
Kevin Moore	Building Inspector

**excused

Supervisor Filipowicz opened the meeting. She led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was observed for our service men and women, first responders, as well as those on the front lines fighting COVID. Also mentioned was resident Bill Fine who was awarded a purple heart back in 1969.

NEW BUSINESS

We have several employees attending upcoming conferences. A reminder for all to follow employee guidelines set forth in the Employee Handbook.

Leanna Hale - Association of Public Historians of New York State Conference
Kevin Moore and Mike Farrell – Building Inspector Conference
Liz Spencer – New York State Assessor Conference

RESOLUTION #156
TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR
EMPLOYEES

Introduced by Councilperson Didas

Seconded by Councilperson Hoy

For Clarkson employees to attend conferences for Continuing Education

VOTE OF THE BOARD

AYES: Supervisor Filipowicz, Councilpersons Guarino, Didas, Hoy and Zink

NAYES: None

Audit Report – an Independent Audit was completed by Shawn Hucko at EFPR. Clarkson received an un-modified, or clean opinion. Supervisor Filipowicz would also like to thank Keylee Gilfilian, Ursula Liotta for your input on this report.

Supervisor Report:

PERMA – Supervisor Filipowicz and Keylee Gilfilian attended a risk assessment meeting on July 30 where our safety processes were evaluated. Sample policies were provided and are included in our handbook. Highway employees received training as well.

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Recovery Fund -Supervisor Filipowicz, Superintendent Viscardi, Town Attorney Dick Olson and Councilperson Pat Didas met with ARPA Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund to discuss acceptable uses for the funds. The Town Board has decided that the funds will be used mostly towards drainage and sewers. They felt this was the best use for overall health and safety of the residents.

Budget for Fiscal Year 2022 – has begun and all departments are preparing for the August 14 due date to EFPR. Workshops for each department to begin by end of August.

NYSERTA – Supervisor Filipowicz met with NYSERTA to review Build Ready Solar at the Transfer Station. A final decision should be made by September or October if we have been approved.

Cyber Security Grant – Nearing the end of the 2019 grant where the town will be upgrading our computer systems with firewalls for protection. Final set of invoices is in and the town will be reimbursed.

Battery Storage for Solar Farms – Councilperson Zink, Town Attorney Dick Olson and Planning Board member Harold Mundy have researched information regarding the storage.

Electric Charging Station – The fire district has discussed with Clarkson the opportunity to have a Charging Station to be located at Department 2 Fire Station in Clarkson, the Court House or the Town Hall. We are looking into possibly working with National Grid or other opportunities for a grant. We are located in an incentivized area which would reduce the cost significantly.

Clarkson Academy – Supervisor Filipowicz attended an Open House and feels it is such an asset to our community. The Town Historian Leanna Hale, Academy members Bonnie Howlett and Mary Edwards were also there to help guide and answer questions. They enjoying teaching cursive writing at the Academy as well. It really feels as if you are taking a step back in time when you visit the Academy.

Lineage – Building Department needs a new copier. Keylee Gilfilian and Supervisor Filipowicz have been in discussion with Lineage regarding leasing a new copier for 39 months at \$116.91 a month. For a total of \$4559. This is less than a purchase price option by several hundred dollars. For efficiency purposes as well as the most cost effective method, it is best to move forward with the lease. Lineage will allow us to bill this for year 2022 as it takes some time to order and have a copier in place.

RESOLUTION #157**TO LEASE COPIER FOR BUILDING DEPARTMENT ON 2022 BUDGET**

Introduced by Councilperson Didas

Seconded by Councilperson Hoy

To lease a copier for the Building Department for \$116.91 a month for 39 months

VOTE OF THE BOARD

AYES: Supervisor Filipowicz, Councilpersons Guarino, Didas, Hoy and Zink

NAYES: None

Text My Government – Keylee Gilfilian attended a zoom session to learn how Text My Government allows residents to call or text the town and receive emergency notices instantly. Something to review for 2022 budget if interested.

Fringe Benefits Package – Keylee Gilfilian is completing a package for Monroe County due this Friday August 13.

Lifetime Assistance – Supervisor Filipowicz will be attending the groundbreaking ceremony for the Lowery Center on August 18. They are adding a huge addition to their complex.

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Town Board Meeting August 24 – will be cancelled and the board members will be attending a meeting with Sweden and the Village of Brockport at Sweden Town Hall at 7:30 pm where they will be hearing the Seymour Library Boards' budget for 2022. However the Town Board members will meet quickly at Clarkson Town Hall prior to the combined meeting to approve the bills.

Town Board Report:

Good Neighbor Days – Advertisement in the Westside News for the next 2 weeks. Banners are almost completed.

Solar Law – Councilperson Zink, Planning Board member Harold Mundy and Building Inspector Kevin Moore are working on updates to the towns' Solar Law. They have also been working on researching lithium-ion batteries and concerns regarding the Solar projects in town. Harold Mundy advised that the safety of the community is their main concern. He felt that the solar panels were quite safe with limited danger to the community. Batteries are more the concern. The Solar Projects will be using very large batteries with containers or modules. They use lithium, which is an alkaline metal and is very reactive. It can only be stored in oil or away from sunlight, heat and humidity. There is a possibility for thermo runaway which results in a potential fire. Temperature sensors are in place to advise if there is an issue. This does help to make things safer, but not necessarily safe. The combustion that runs off of these batteries is hydrogen chloride which is a very reactive gas and toxic. The USPS has identified these batteries as hazardous and are limited on the amount that can be transported. Also having a staffed fire department seems vital or having the Monroe County Hazmat organization close by would also be helpful. The idea of an already stressed fire department and introducing this type of situation to the community can be concerning. Harold mentioned the results of the Comprehensive Plan shows that the residents are not interested in industrializing the town. That they would like to keep Clarkson as is. He handed out papers showing the Solar overlay districts and pointed out specific land mass items that pertain to the different solar projects. He discussed the lease terms and sizes of each project. The Clarkson Solar Law advises that Clarkson is comprised of 33.2 square miles of land. The solar array land use limit cannot exceed more than 1% use of land. 212.4 acres are allowed for solar, and currently occupied is 48 acres on Redman Rd, 47 acres on Lake Rd, 27 acres on County Line Rd and a possible 15 acres at the transfer station. That leaves 39.5 acres remaining. Attorney Dick Olson will review the information Harold provided and will also send to MRB Group as well as town engineer JP Schepp for their review as well.

Town Clerk Report: Susan Henshaw recapped the E-ZPass tags and how you save 30% using the tag versus Tolls by mail. All paperwork has been filed and sent to Albany for approval to sell the tags from Town Hall. It should take approximately a month. She also mentioned she has declined purchasing a postal meter. The fees for its use is much more than simply utilizing the Clarkson Post Office. Not enough savings for the town. Susan also mentioned that over the last few months, a few residents have inquired about advertising on the Welcome to Clarkson signs. She researched information on cost to add more signs to the existing. It would cost an additional \$300.00 per sign if we needed brackets, and \$200.00 if we did not. This option was voted down as the board members felt they wanted to leave the integrity of the Welcome Sign as is. Not necessarily an advertising board.

Superintendent Report: Superintendent Viscardi advised that he read through the American Rescue Plan and found it difficult at best to understand with all the stipulations involved regarding highways roll. He contacted MRB where they had a roundtable discussion on the options as well. They will be having 2 more webinars during August to assist town highway departments on how to spend the funds. Superintendent Viscardi advised how the money was being distributed Nationwide. There is a total of \$20 Billion and New York State is receiving a large portion at \$775 million. It is a 50/50 split with half coming this July and the other half coming in July 2022. There are 4 categories of spending and its very important to stay only within those options. With most of the

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money being spent on roads and drainage he wants to ensure the funds go directly to the approved areas. He will further advise after more webinars and will review the plans prior to usage. Supervisor Filipowicz mentioned that many factors of the American Rescue Plan are concerning the time frame of January 2020 through March 2021. She emphasized the need to go slow and review exactly where the money will be spent. She discussed broadband and the internet in more rural areas that have above average service. Harold Mundy mentioned that Spectrum does a very good job with their service for our residents. Superintendent Viscardi also advised that highway is 2/3 done with milling on Redman Road, followed by some clean up then they will be paving for a few days to complete the job.

Building Inspector Report: Kevin Moore wished to thank the highway department for the road work they have been tending to this summer for a job well done.

RESOLUTION #157**ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF SUPERVISOR'S JULY FINANCIAL REPORT**

Introduced by Councilperson Hoy

Seconded by Councilperson Guarino

To acknowledge receipt of the Supervisor's monthly financial report.

VOTE OF THE BOARD

AYES: Supervisor Filipowicz, Councilpersons Guarino, Didas, Hoy and Zink

NAYES: None

RESOLUTION #158**APPROVE MINUTES 7-27-2021**

Introduced by Councilperson Zink

Seconded by Councilperson Guarino

To approve meeting minutes of 6-22-2021

VOTE OF THE BOARD

AYES: Supervisor Filipowicz, Councilpersons Guarino, Didas, Hoy and Zink

NAYES: None

RESOLUTION #159**AUDIT 8-10-2021**

Introduced by Councilperson Hoy

Seconded by Councilperson Guarino

To authorize payment of audit 08-10-2021 totaling \$92,475.83 AA General \$60,184.57, BB General- Outside Village \$1,890.74, DA Highway - Town Wide \$13,481.12, HH – Capital Projects \$4,492.00, SL – Lighting \$3,492.87, SS – Sewer \$269.70, SW – Special District Water \$8,664.83 and Distribution of checks: Trust and Agency #6204-6205, Joint Checking #4371-4409.

VOTE OF THE BOARD

AYES: Supervisor Filipowicz, Councilpersons Guarino, Didas, Hoy and Zink

NAYES: None

RESOLUTION #160**ADJOURN**

Introduced by Councilperson Didas

Seconded by Councilperson Hoy

To adjourn the meeting at 6:40pm

VOTE OF THE BOARD

AYES: Supervisor Filipowicz, Councilpersons Hoy, Didas, Hoy and Guarino

NAYS: None

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Henshaw

Town Clerk

Approved 9-14-2021

