

**TOWN OF SAND LAKE
TOWN BOARD MEETING
November 11, 2020**

A meeting of the Sand Lake Town Board was held on November 11, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. at the Sand Lake Town Hall.

Before the Pledge of Allegiance, the following answered roll call:

PRESENT: Councilman Bulmer
Councilwoman Erickson
Councilman Film
Councilman Nippes
Town Attorney Ely

RECORDING SECRETARY: Barbara Hansen, Town Clerk

OTHERS PRESENT: Several members of VFW Lt. Perry Williams Post Number 3025. Brian Hunt, Commissioner of Public Works, Kevin McGrath, Surveyor and Garrett DeGraff.

Members of the VFW Post entered for the Pledge of Allegiance in a procession in honor of the Post's 75th Anniversary.

Supervisor Perry opened the meeting by wishing Happy Veterans' Day to all of our Sand Lake Veterans, and to those who are serving and have served in our Armed Forces.

RESOLUTION #2020-11-95

Honoring Veterans of Foreign Wars, Lt. Perry Williams Post Number 3025, on its 75 Anniversary

Moved by: Supervisor Perry

Seconded by: Councilwoman Erickson

Whereas, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) is an organization created in 1913-14 by the merger of three national war-veteran societies; and

Whereas, membership in the VFW is restricted to any active or honorably discharged officer or enlisted person who has served in "any foreign war, insurrection or expedition, which service shall be recognized by the authorization or the issuance of a campaign medal," and

Whereas, the objectives of the VFW are to ensure national security through maximum military strength, speed the rehabilitation of the nation's disabled and needy veterans, to assist veterans' widows and orphans and the dependents of needy or disabled veterans, and to promote Americanism by means of education in patriotism and by constructive service to communities; and

Whereas, the Lt. Perry Williams Post Number 3025, West Sand Lake, New York was first mustered on October 25, 1945, thereby celebrating its 75th anniversary and was awarded the Diamond Jubilee Award by the VFW; now therefore

Be it Resolved, the Town of Sand Lake congratulates the Lt. Perry Williams VFW Post Number 3025 on its 75th Anniversary; and

Be it Further Resolved, the Town honors all of the Lt. Perry Williams Post Number 3025 members, both past and current, and is proud of the contribution all have made to protect our freedoms; and

Be it Further Resolved, the Town looks forward to the next 75 years of service of this fine organizations.

MOTION CARRIED: UNANIMOUS

RESOLUTION #2020-11-96

Honoring Duane Wehnau on his Charter Membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Lt. Perry Williams Post Number 3025

MOVED by: Supervisor Perry

Seconded by: Councilman Bulmer

Whereas, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) is an organization created in 1913-14 by the merger of three national war-veteran societies; and

Whereas, the Town of Sand Lake has formally congratulated the Lt. Perry Williams VFW Post Number 3025 on its 75 anniversary through formal resolution; and

Whereas, Town of Sand Lake resident Duane Wehnau was a charter member of this VFW Post when it first mustered on October 25, 1945; now therefore

Be it Resolved, the Town congratulates and honors Duane Wehnau on his military service and charter membership in the Lt. Perry Williams Post Number 3025; and

Be it Further Resolved, that the Town of Sand Lake looks forward to honoring Duane when he celebrates his 100 year membership in this organization in 2045.

MOTION CARRIED: UNANIMOUS

Formal Certified Resolutions were presented to the VFW Commander and Mr. Wehnau by the Town Clerk. Mr. Wehnau was also presented with the 75 year Diamond Charter Member plaque by the Commander of the Post.

BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Supervisor Perry to approve the minutes of the September 30, 2020 Workshop Meeting. It was seconded by Councilman Film.

A motion was made by Supervisor Perry to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of October 5, 2020. It was seconded by Councilman Erickson.

A motion was made by Supervisor Perry to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of October 7, 2020. It was seconded by Councilman Film.

A motion was made by Supervisor Perry to approve the minutes of the Town Board Meeting of October 14, 2020. It was seconded by Councilman Bulmer.

A motion was made by Supervisor Perry to approve the minutes of the Town Board Workshop Meeting of October 21, 2020. It was seconded by Councilman Nippes.

TOWN CLERK REPORT November 11, 2020

Total Revenue for October, 2020 - \$11,617.00

Paid to NYS Ag & Markets - \$64.00

Paid to NYS Health Department - \$135.00

To be Paid to DEC - \$1,889.23

Paid to Supervisor - \$9,528.77

DEC – I am happy to announce the new website is working well and we had sales of \$1,989.00 since our first day October 7th.

Passports – Again, new passports are by appointment only but photos and renewals can be done by walk in. Our hours are M – Fri 9-4 and Thursdays till 6:00. If you absolutely can't make it in during these hours for passports or any of the Clerk's services, please call and we will try to accommodate you.

We can complete many of our services by mail, e.g. dog licenses, handicap permits, convenience facility permits so again, call and we will work it out.

If you need a Notary Please call ahead as we only have 2 Notary on staff on a part time basis.

Covid-19 has put a financial strain on many households so Town Hall employees are collecting non-perishable food items at the Town Hall to be distributed to families in need on Monday before the Thanksgiving Holiday. Please participate in our food drive.

The Town Hall will be closed Friday after Thanksgiving, November 27.

Another tradition we have here at Town Hall is our Christmas “giving tree” started by my predecessor, Barbara Biittig. We are going to continue this tradition this year and will be collecting, hats, mittens, gloves and toiletries to be donated to local shelters. We will start collecting these items December 1st. We will also be collecting new, unopened toys for distribution to local children which can be dropped off at Town Hall.

The Town of Sand Lake 8th Annual Holiday Parade will be held on Friday, December 4th. Councilman Bulmer is in charge of the Parade this year and will have more information in his report.

Supervisor’s Report: Supervisor Perry expressed concern over the rising number of Covid cases in our Town. Please continue to practice safety precautions and restrictions.

The November 25th Town Board Workshop Meeting is cancelled since it is the night before Thanksgiving. Our next meeting is December 9th.

The newly constituted Planning Oversight Committee (POC) met on November 5th to organize and start work. It was encouraging to see the enthusiasm the members are bringing to this panel. Many thanks to Monica Ryan and Fred Erickson who discussed their tenure with the POC.

We hope to launch the Military Banners Program at the December 9th, 2020 Town Board Meeting. There are still some details to be ironed out before it is offered to the public.

Our Assessor, Mike McGuire, is leaving to take a full time job in Albany County. While we are happy for his new opportunity, we will miss his knowledge, competence and friendship. We are currently seeking a new part-time Assessor. An ad was placed in The Advertiser.

Councilman Bulmer’s Report: Animal Control: Cathy Crawmer had 15 calls this month and there were 2 Street Lights out.

Holiday Parade: This is an event enjoyed by all and entails a lot of work. First I’d like to thank Barbara Glasser and the Parade Committee who made this happen for the past 7 years. The 8th annual Parade will take place December 4th beginning at 7:00 pm. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 restrictions there will be no holiday activities at Butler Park after the Parade. Lineup will start at 6:00 pm at Miller Hill School Parking Lot. The Parade will proceed down Route 43, Old Route 66, to Gettle Road and end at the High School. A note to the children, Santa’s elves will be collecting letters along the parade route to give to Santa so bring them with you and the elves will collect them and make sure Santa gets them. We are also doing a toy drive here at Town Hall. Please check out the Parade flier on the Town website at: townofsandlake.us. for more information and an Application if you wish to participate and/or enter a float in the Parade. Any questions please contact: abulmer@sand-lake.us.

Councilwoman Erickson: Access to broadband has finally come to Walk Road and to some households on Momrow Road. The Town and residents of the area are very pleased.

The Library is open for lending and computer use but no meetings are being held there. Any questions call the Library at 518-674-5050 for information about Storytime or the Storywalk, call or check out the calendar on the Town's website.

The Pump Track is well under way with the help of dedicated volunteers.

Girl Scout Emily Walsh, working on her Gold Award, organized volunteers to clear up and mulch 1.1 miles of trails at Butler Park. Thank you Emily.

Sand Lake Historical Society. Thank you to the Veterans who presented a program on their experiences last night. It was most enlightening.

Sand Lake Center for the Arts: There is a display of incredible quilts at SLCA that can be viewed Saturdays and Sundays noon – 3:00 pm. A holiday wreath making class will be held from noon – 4:00pm on November 22nd. They are also doing a food drive to be donated to Unity House. Call Town Clerk's Office to get my contact information if you have any questions.

Councilman Film: Ambulance: Poestenkill will be voting in January on the proposal to merge with Sand Lake for ambulance service.

Beach: Unfortunately, there has been some vandalism. We are going to be putting up cameras and if you are identified, you will be prosecuted. A special thank you to my wife for helping me paint the pavilion at the beach.

Councilman Nippes: There has been vandalism at Butler Park as well and we too are putting up cameras. This is a warning to those responsible, so please stop.

Seniors are meeting the 2nd Thursday of the month at the Averill Park Fire House at 12:00 noon.

Nopiates meets the first Monday of the month at the Stride Building in rear (2nd building) on Route 150 at 6:00 pm.

Convenience Facility was cleaned up with the help of the Rensselaer County Sheriff's Department.

Thank you to Dave Martin who came in on his day off. A lot was accomplished.

Brian Hunt, Highway: We are getting ready for winter. Salt and sand has been stock piled. Thank you to Carla Engwer for organizing the CPR classes the highway employees attended.

BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION #2020-11-89

Approval of 2021 Town of Sand Lake Budget

Moved by: Supervisor Perry

Seconded by: Councilman Film

Whereas, the Town Board of the Town of Sand Lake adopted its Preliminary Budget on October 21, 2020 and

Whereas, the Town Board held a Public Hearing on the 2020 Preliminary Budget on October 28, 2020; and

Whereas, the Budget Officer of the Town of Sand Lake completed and filed the required online Property Tax Cap Form with the New York State Comptroller's Office on November 2, 2020 indicating that the Town of Sand Lake's 2020 Preliminary Budget does not override the tax cap; now therefore

Be it Resolved, the Town Board of the Town of Sand Lake hereby adopts the 2021 Preliminary Budget as the Town of Sand Lake 2021 Final Budget; and

Be it Further Resolved, that when final budgets are received from the fire districts, the Budget Officer will include final budget information on the Summary of the 2021 Town Budget page; and

Be it Further Resolved, that the Town Clerk is directed to prepare two certified copies of the budget with certified copies of the fire districts' final budgets annexed to each and within five (5) days deliver the copies to the Town Supervisor, who must then present them to the Rensselaer County Legislature within ten (10) days of receipt.

MOTION CARRIED: UNANIMOUS

RESOLUTION #2020-11-90

Establishment of Public Hearing to Transfer Existing Monies and Abolish Sewer Equipment Capital Reserve Fund

Moved by: Supervisor Perry

Seconded by: Councilman Nippes

Be it Resolved, that the Sand Lake Town Board will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, December 9, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. to solicit comments on transferring and spending the total amount of \$78.30 in the Sewer Equipment Capital Reserve Fund to purchase grinder pumps to subsequently abolish this Capital Reserve Account.

MOTION CARRIED: UNANIMOUS

The following Resolution is carried over from October which we have now finished up.

RESOLUTION #2020-10-81

Approval of Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) By and Between the Town of Sand Lake and the United Public Service Employees Union

Moved by: Supervisor Perry

Seconded by: Councilman Film

Be it Resolved, that the Sand Lake Town Board hereby authorizes Supervisor Nancy Perry to sign the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) by and between the Town of Sand Lake and the United Public Service Employees Union

MOTION CARRIED: UNANIMOUS

Supervisor Perry went on to explain some of the inequities regarding pay scales at the Highway Department and the hope that these changes will rectify this and make the highway positions more competitive with the private sector.

Prior to the vote on the following Resolution, Kevin McGrath, Surveyor, produced a map and survey and explained the transfer of said property. Town Attorney Ely asked Mr. McGrath to provide him with metes and bounds descriptions so that he could prepare the Deeds. He also noted that he would need signatures from all parties involved and adjoining property owners.

RESOLUTION #2020-11-91

Transfer of Hillcrest Road (Paper Road) Property

Moved by: Supervisor Perry

Seconded by Councilman Film

Be it Resolved, that the Sand Lake Town Board hereby authorizes Supervisor Nancy Perry, upon review by Counsel, to execute a deed, accompanying documents, and/or any other legal documents for the transfer of the former lands of Hayner back to the Hayner family and also granting a 25 foot section of the paper street known as Hillcrest Road to the adjoining owner Thomas Seremeta upon completion of all necessary actions and documents.

MOTION CARRIED: UNANIMOUS

RESOLUTION #2020-11-92**Approval to Contract for COBRA Administrative Services****Moved by: Supervisor Perry****Seconded by: Councilman Film**

Whereas, the Town of Sand Lake has adopted and sponsors one or more of the following: Health, Dental, Vision, Health Reimbursement, and/or Medical Flexible Spending Account Plans which are group health plans; and

Whereas, the administration of COBRA can be more efficiently and accurately provided by experts; now therefore

Be it Resolved, that the Sand Lake Town Board agrees to allow Supervisor Nancy Perry, upon review by Counsel, to enter into an agreement with Jaeger & Flynn Associates, Inc., 30 Corporate Drive, Clifton Park, New York, 12065 to provide administrative services associated with COBRA at an annual fee at \$100 plus \$2.50 per COBRA notice sent (via USPS first class mail with proof of mailing receipt) and a 2% premium charge paid by COBRA participants as allowed by law.

MOTION CARRIED: UNANIMOUS**RESOLUTION #2020-11-93****Approval of 2021 Animal Shelter Agreement with Mohawk Hudson Humane Society****Moved by: Supervisor Perry****Seconded by: Councilman Bulmer**

Be it Resolved, that the Sand Lake Town Board hereby authorizes Supervisor Nancy Perry, upon review by Counsel, to execute a 2021 Animal Shelter Agreement with Mohawk Hudson Humane Society.

MOTION CARRIED: UNANIMOUS**RESOLUTION #2020-11-94****Budget Transfers and Amendments****Moved by: Supervisor Perry****Seconded by: Councilwoman Erickson**

Be it Resolved, the following changes are made to the 2020 Town of Sand Lake Budget:

Budget Transfers

From	To	Amount
A 5142.1000	A 5110.1000	\$60,000.00
Snow Removal Personal	General Repairs Personal	
A 1990.4000	A 1420.4000	\$6,260.00
Contingency Contractual	Attorney Contractual	

Budget Amendments

Increase appropriation A 1420.4000 Attorney Contractual in the amount of \$6,960.00 by appropriating the Board Designated Professional Services account A 888 in the amount of \$6,960.00 for legal services in connection with the appeal of Troy Sand & Gravel v. Town of Sand Lake, William H. Hoffay v. Town of Sand Lake, and Rifenburg Construction v. Town of Sand Lake.

Increase appropriation SS 8120.2000 Sewer District 1 Equipment in the amount of \$54, 128 by appropriating the Sewer District Fund Balance SS 599 in the amount of \$54,128 for the purchase of Grinder Pumps.

MOTION CARRIED: UNANIMOUS

Public Comment: Brian Hunt wanted to express condolences from the Highway Department to Bob Martin and Family on the passing of their wife and mother, Marion Martin.

At 7:47 pm Supervisor Perry moved that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss the possibility of proposed legislation. It was seconded by Councilwoman Erickson.

MOTION CARRIED: UNANIMOUS

The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:22 pm. No decisions were made.

Councilman Bulmer said he could use some help with the Holiday Parade. If you think you can lend a hand, please contact him at Town Hall or on his email: abulmer@sand-lake.us.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Nippes and seconded by Councilman Film.

MOTION CARRIED: UNANIMOUS

