

Town Board Workshop  
July 29, 2020  
Sand Lake Town Hall

The Sand Lake Town Board Workshop was held on July 29, 2020 at 7pm at the Town Hall. After the Pledge of Allegiance, the following members were recognized:

Councilman Bulmer  
Deputy Supervisor Erickson  
Councilman Film  
Councilman Nippes  
Supervisor Perry  
Town Attorney Scott Ely, Esq.  
Recording Secretary Shirley A. Neiss (First Deputy Town Clerk)

Others present included: Brian Hunt, Thomas Flynn, Theresa Flynn, Joann Beach, Bob Loveridge, Frank Lewandusky, Mike Durant, Mindy Fowler, Pam Maier, Frank Marc and Garrett DeGraff.

## BUSINESS

### Library

Mindy Fowler, Director of the SL Library, informed the group she received a grant, but hasn't been able to use it due to COVID. She would like to implement a "Story Walk" program as a repurposing of the grant funds which involves purchasing enlarged and laminated story book pages which are hung on posts in trails and parks safe from traffic and other hazards. Families can follow the path to read and enjoy the story while being out of doors, promoting reading and exercise. This program is patented and has had great success at other locations. Mindy said she has already purchased wooden posts to use to hang the pages. After discussion on using either Butler Park or the walking trail on Eastern Union Turnpike for displaying the book pages, Supervisor Perry deferred to Mindy and the library trustees to decide where to install this program. Stuart offered the use of his post-hole digger for installing the posts. Mindy will also speak with Keith.

### Recycling at the Landfill Update

Councilman Nippes informed the Board that, working with Councilman Film, changes in procedures have begun and savings already realized by removing the rented dumpster used for scrap metal from the town landfill. Metals will be stockpiled there and removed as warranted by the highway. He contacted Twin Bridges for quotes on dumpster rentals as well as trash pick-up and removal at various town sites and is awaiting their response. Both he and Councilman Film will continue to monitor the disposal fees to decide whether they are fair and will continue to keep Board informed.

### Second Dyke Culvert

Supervisor Perry announced the town is going ahead with the engineering and design study which is roughly \$25,000. The Dormitory Authority agreed we could submit for reimbursement and we will monitor the process. They still have not received approval from NYS for the engineering plans and once approved the public will be informed. Supervisor Perry stated this was one of her concerns, that being, the State would not act promptly. Mike Durant, President of Burden Lake Association, asked for clarification on the use of the \$25,000 and was advised it is to be used for a design that Department of Environmental Conservation will review. He also inquired why the work cannot be performed by the Town Highway crew. Supervisor Perry stated that if the Highway Dept. did perform

the work, they would bill the town's General Fund for those services, as this is outside their usual job descriptions. Attorney Ely reminded the board to determine whether SEQR and/or Environment Review must be conducted.

2020 Butler Park Concert Series

The Board reviewed whether to reinstate concerts in Butler Park as originally scheduled. The Rensselaer County Bureau of Tourism sent Supervisor Perry an email indicating that outdoor large gatherings are still limited to 50 people. The Town has also not received any guidance from the Rensselaer County Department of Public Health indicating that the Town is safe to proceed with concerts with more than 50 people. Until this guidance is received, and a proper plan in place, no concerts will be held.

There being no further business, and hearing no objection, the workshop concluded at 7:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley A. Neiss  
First Deputy Town Clerk