

April 8, 2024

The Regular Monthly Turin Town Board Meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Supervisor Gillette.

Those present were:

Jane Gillette-Supervisor	Christine Healt -CTHC Circuit Rider
Edward Koss-Councilmember	Joshua Leviker-Legislator/Mayor
Linda Galarneau-Councilmember-Absent	Lydia Wojnowski-Councilmember
Moses Beiler-Councilmember	Sheena Dickinson-Clerk/Collector
John Karelus-Hgwy. St.	Bob Earl-Town Resident
Dan Szalach-PB Chairman	David Freeman-Town Resident
Paul Dickinson-Highway MEO	Kaitlyn Matthews-Village Resident
Robb Matthews-Highway MEO	Rivver Tourville-Highway MEO
Bonny Lou Mahar-Town Resident	Karen Shaw-Town Assessor
John Bodnar-Town Resident	

THIS MEETING WAS TAPED

PUBLIC HEARING: A motion to open the public hearing on proposed Local Law 2024-2 to move Grievance Day to the first Wednesday after the fourth Tuesday in May commencing in May 2024 was made by Councilmember Koss, a second by Councilmember Beiler; all in favor, public hearing was opened at 6:05pm. Karen Shaw, Town Assessor, was in attendance to explain the reasoning for needing to move the date and why the current Local Law would not work the way it is worded. There were no questions at that time but the public hearing was left open if anyone did have any questions.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

David Freeman: Mr. Freeman was in attendance to request a copy of the meeting minutes and Clerk Dickinson stated once they are approved, he may have a copy. He also wanted clarification on whether Lee Gulf Road was a Minimum Maintenance Road because his neighbor told him it was. It was stated that the Town of Turin has no Minimum Maintenance Roads currently and that the portion of Lee Gulf Road from Carpenter Road is an open Town Road and the portion from West Road up to the dam is a Seasonal Road. Mr. Freeman stated that the town roads are illegally open to ATV's. There was also a brief discussion on County Trails.

Bob Earl: Mr. Earl was in attendance and asked the Board if they ever thought about the liability that Ives Road is open to ATV's and it comes out to a State Road with no where to go. He stated he wants something from the Insurance company with their thoughts on Ives Road and other Town roads being open to ATV's. Supervisor Gillette stated she will contact the Town Attorney on this matter. Mr. Earl also wanted to know why the Supervisor never told the Board about the email regarding the possible County

Trail and Supervisor Gillette stated that she did receive it and knew there were public hearings coming up about it but really nothing Town could do regarding the trail.

John Bodnar: Mr. Bodnar was in attendance to discuss his issue with his neighbor regarding fencing and farm animals running loose. He had spoken to the Sheriffs Department, State Police Department and the Town Justice. He stated that the Town does not have any Local Laws regarding fencing, which is true. But he has since resolved this issue with his neighbor and helped him fix his fence.

Bonny Lou Mahar: Mrs. Mahar was in attendance to state that she owns the land as well as Tim Swiernik off of Evans Road and does not want the road abandoned. She stated that maybe just putting up a "Dead End" sign would be good.

Christine Healt, CTHC Circuit Rider: Christine discussed upcoming trainings, webinars and grants. The tentative date for the CTHC meeting is May 16, 2024. A report was emailed to the Clerk previously.

Joshua Leviker:

-The preliminary budget hearing on the final budget for Village is next Tuesday and the Village tax rate will remain the same.

-The Village received a grant for $150 thousand for the DAM project. Cornell will help with the design according to what DEC wants.

-The water project bids came back and the purchase offer is in place for the land for the tower. They will start contacting land owners for right-a-ways and there was a brief discussion on hydrants.

-The blue house behind Municipal building is condemned and the asbestos company refused to enter. The County has issued the owner a letter that it needs to be taken down. Two other homes in Village have received appearance tickets.

-There will be no County property auction this year due to State guidelines.

-Blue Street in Glenfield will be getting sidewalks and curbs this year completed by the County and East and West Main streets here in the Village will be getting them next year.

-Jane Gillette, Lydia Wojnowski, John Karelus, Josh Leviker, and others from the Towns of Martinsburg and West Turin met with the County Highway Superintendent to discuss the possibility of the County taking over various roads in each Town. Here in the Town of Turin the County has interest in East Road North, East Road, Mackay Road, Morgan Gulf Road and Houseville Road. The County states they get more from NYS in CHIPS monies and would still pay the Towns to plow, grade, and mow the roads. There would have to be an inter-municipal agreement between the Towns and County and these can be no longer than ten years. There were many concerns voiced and many that do not like the idea of the Town giving up their local roads. Paul Dickinson asked Supervisor Gillette if this were to happen, where would the money go that the County paid to the Town for maintaining it since we would be losing CHIPS money for the roads and that is all the money the Highway Dept. gets to fix/pave roads. Supervisor Gillette stated it would go in a reserve fund for the Highway. Dave Freeman stated that you eventually loose

control over our own township when you start relinquishing local roads. He also stated that Highway Superintendent Karelus should have control over the Highway Budget, not the town board.

MINUTES: The minutes from the March 11th, 2024 Regular Meeting had been dispersed previously to all Board Members and Supervisor by Clerk Dickinson. A motion approving these minutes was made by Councilmember Koss, a second by Councilmember Wojnowski; all in favor, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- All Councilmembers received a copy of the Tug Hill Times and April Announcements.

-Letter from Town Attorney, Michael Young, regarding animal/land dispute. This has since been taken care of by the landowners.

-Invoice from the Village regarding delinquent water bills from before the Water District No. 2 was formed. Have emailed Candy Akin, Real Property and Town Attorney to get a clear answer on if the Town can re-levy these since it was before the official Water District was formed. A motion by Councilmember Wojnowski to table this matter until the Board has a clear answer was made, a second by Councilmember Koss; all in favor, motion carried.

-Supervisor Gillette received an email from NYMIR with the annual price for Town insurance. The total is $17,770 but there was a motion by Councilmember Beiler to add replacement cost to the 2017 & 2018 dump trucks which would increase the premium by approximately $266. A second by Councilmember Koss; all in favor to accept the insurance premium and add replacement cost to the two trucks, motion carried.

REPORTS:

SUPERVISOR: -Copies of the financials for March 2024 were provided by the accountant and the bank statements had also been provided.

CLERK: Presented the monthly Clerk Report for March 2024 and also the tax collection summary. There were no questions at that time. A motion to accept the March clerk report and tax collection summary was made by Councilmember Wojnowski, a second by Councilmember Koss; all in favor, motion carried. Clerk Dickinson also provided Supervisor Gillette with a check for the March tax interest collected. Supervisor Gillette brought it up to the Board to pay Clerk Dickinson $2,000.00/year for water bill collection/administration paid out in two payments-$1,000.00 in February and $1,000.00 in August. This will be done by voucher this year and next year it will be a budget line. A motion by Councilmember Wojnowski approving Clerk Dickinson to be paid $2,000.00/year for water bill collection /administration was made, a second by Councilmember Beiler; all in favor, motion carried. Clerk Dickinson will submit a voucher for the May abstract since February has gone by and then again in August.

JUSTICE: The summary of cases for the month of March 2024 had been provided and a motion accepting this report was made by Councilmember Koss, a second by Councilmember Beiler; all in favor, motion carried. Supervisor Gillette has mailed out the Justice Audit to NYS by priority mail.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT: The abstract for the month was provided and also a total cost of what Snirt Run cleanup cost the Town was provided. Highway Superintendent Karelus stated that they have been getting ready for spring and sweeping roads. Highway Superintendent Karelus found a roller and trailer at a cost of $49,900 for the roller and $6,000 for the trailer totaling $55,900. There was a discussion on these items and why they are needed. A motion to purchase both the roller and trailer out-right with funds from reserve was made by Councilmember Beiler, a second by Councilmember Koss; all in favor, motion carried. There was a brief discussion on the town barn insulation and we are waiting on Terry Thisse to research the best way to fix/replace and also looking for a possible energy grant to help with the cost. There was also another discussion regarding the Summer Youth Program through the County and a motion approving the Highway Dept. to apply was made by Councilmember Koss, a second by Councilmember Beiler; all in favor, motion carried. Highway Superintendent also provided a quote for a new pressure washer. The current one is 20 years old and will cost $2,000 to fix. A motion approving the purchase of the 4030peo-3000psi, 4 gal at the cost of $7,500 was made by Councilmember Koss, a second by Councilmember Beiler; all in favor, motion carried. Lastly, the printer at the barn stopped working and a motion to order a new one was made by Councilmember Koss, a second by Councilmember Wojnowski; all in favor, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

-**Resolution 2024-10**-Local Law 1-2024: With the SEQR and declaration complete a motion authorizing adoption by the Town Board of the Town of Turin Local Law No. 1 of 2024 to amend Article 3 of the Rural Development Law to provide further clarity on the regulations of Signs and Electronic Message Centers (EMC) was made by Councilmember Wojnowski, a second by Councilmember Koss; all in favor, motion carried. Clerk Dickinson will file the Local Law with NYS.

-Supervisor Gillette, Tim Munn of Pixamation, Spectrum and the security camera provide Johnson Controls are going to meet April 15th, to work out the issues with the cameras. The high-speed internet is installed and up and running.

NEW BUSINESS:

-With no comments on the proposed Local Law 2024-2 to move Grievance Day to the first Wednesday after the fourth Tuesday in May commencing in May 2024 a motion to close the public hearing at 8:08 pm was made by Councilmember Wojnowski, a second by Councilmember Beiler; all in favor, motion carried. **Resolution 2024-11**-Local Law 2-2024: Authorizing adoption by the Town Board of the Town of Turin Local Law No. 2 of 2024 to move grievance day to the first Wednesday after the fourth Tuesday in May was made by Councilmember Wojnowski, a second by Councilmember Koss; all in favor, motion carried. Clerk Dickinson will file this Local Law with NYS.

-Karen Shaw, Assessor, requested a camera to take pictures and input photos of properties in the system at a cost of $185. A motion approving this purchase was made by Councilmember Koss, a second by Councilmember Beiler; all in favor, motion carried. Karen also stated that the town is due for a total revaluation and will start next year for the 2026 roll and this will help fix the equalization rate. The County has a data collector and are in the process of hiring an assessor to help out the Towns when needed. Karen also submitted an invoice for her NYS Assessors Association 2024 Annual Dues for $125.

This will be split between Turin and West Turin. Clerk Dickinson has agreed to invoice West Turin for their half.

-Moratorium on Solar Law: A motion to set up a public hearing at next months meeting, May 13, 2024 regarding a Moratorium on Solar Law was made by Councilmember Beiler, a second by Councilmember Koss; all in favor, motion carried.

-Municipal building costs from Village have been provided and is on the abstract.

-Supervisor Gillette is meeting with Accountant, Scott Lawrence, on April 16th to discuss the water accounts.

MOTION FOR PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS:

A motion by Councilmember Wojnowski to pay vouchers (General Fund 93-121=$13,142.65 and Highway Fund 47-64=$24,034.32), a second by Councilmember Koss; all in favor, motion carried.

With no further business to attend to, a motion was made by Councilmember Wojnowski to adjourn. A second was made by Councilmember Koss; all in favor, meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Next regular meeting to be held on Monday, May 13th, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sheena L. Dickinson, Town Clerk