

Minutes of February 9, 2021 Germantown Town Board meeting via Zoom, commencing at 7:00pm.

Present: Supervisor Beaury  
Councilman Sullivan  
Councilman Kukon  
Councilmember Suarez  
Councilman Christian  
  
Town Attorney, Corinne Smith

Recorded by: Town Clerk, Joyce Vale

Supervisor Beaury welcomed everyone and Led with the Pledge to the Flag.

Motion to open the meeting made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilmember Suarez, with all in favor and none opposed.

Motion to approve the January 5, 2021 Re-organizational meeting and January 12, 2021 meeting minutes made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilmember Suarez, with all in favor and none opposed.

Motion to pay audited bills for February 2021 made by Councilman Kukon, seconded by Councilman Sullivan, with all in favor and none opposed.

#### **Written Communications to the Town Clerk**

No communications.

- Presentation by Suzette Booy and Ralph DelPozzo regarding the re-assessment project.

Suzette started by stating the data mailer went out to the residents and if there were corrections to be made the assessor made the changes. They are in the final stage with updating the new assessments. An assessment disclosure notice will be sent out on or about March 1<sup>st</sup>. The tentative assessment roll will be filed by the end of March or the beginning of April. Suzette complimented Ralph on his work and how well he knows the town. The end of April, the beginning of May the tentative assessment will be filed. Suzette said the town is currently at 78% equalization and the goal is to get to 100% fair market value. Suzette said the cover letter will show the process. Supervisor Beaury asked will the preliminary notice of the final assessment show decreased cost per thousand \$26 to \$19? Suzette answered yes it will show a decrease, but the exact number is undetermined right now. Suzette said the bottom line is all about fairness and equity. Councilman Christian asked if the dates will be made available for those who are not on the Zoom meeting? Suzette said, yes the dates will be on the notice and the town can also put them on the website. Ralph thanked Suzette, Judy Bender and Rip at Real Property for all their work done on the project. When Ralph gets calls in regard to the new assessments, he will explain how they came up with the new values.

#### **Old Business**

- Award bid for Salt Shed Roof repair. The awarded bid went for the Salt Shed went to Finger Lakes Roofing in the amount of \$39,900.

TOWN BOARD  
TOWN OF GERMANTOWN  
COLUMBIA COUNTY, NEW YORK

Dated: February 9, 2021

#### **RESOLUTION AWARDING BID FOR RE-ROOFING OF SALT STORAGE SHED**

WHEREAS, the Town of Germantown issued an Invitation for Bids (“IFB”) for Re-Roofing of the Salt Storage Shed for the Town of Germantown (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, sealed bids for the Project were publicly opened and read at the Germantown Town Hall on January 21, 2021, with bids being received from five parties; and

WHEREAS, the Town has reviewed the bids submitted, and Finger Lakes Roofing’s bid was the lowest bid submitted by a responsible bidder.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Germantown:

1. That Finger Lakes Roofing's bid for \$39,900 for re-roofing of the salt shed using Architectural shingles, is hereby accepted, subject to the terms of the IFB; and

2. That the Supervisor be, and he hereby is, authorized to issue the Notice of Award to Finger Lakes Roofing and execute a contract for such Project in substantially the form provided in the IFB, subject to approval by the attorney for the Town.

On a motion by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Kukon and having been approved by a majority of the Board, this Resolution was declared duly adopted by the Town of Germantown Town Board.

- Accept bid for 2003 pick-up (Utility) truck. Supervisor Beaury said they made a change to the method for selling the truck that the Board previously agreed to surplus. It was decided to sell it directly instead of using the auction site, but bad weather prevented people from seeing it before tonight, and therefore it is necessary to extend the bid period. Councilmember Suarez will update the town website.
- Climate Smart Community. Councilman Christian explained about Clean Energy Community. He said the NYS program will help towns lower energy bills and energy footprints. Our town will need to complete 4 actions to receive a grant for \$5,000. Councilman Christian said that we have already completed 2 of the actions and the 2 additional actions would be to approve the unified solar permit application and the Code Enforcement Officer taking the latest training. Supervisor Beaury said we will consider going forward with this and discuss it at the soar workshop he is proposing tonight.
- Solar law. Supervisor Beaury said they received some volunteers but not enough to form a committee. He said the Town Board will take it on along with Jen Crawford who is an expert in this field. Supervisor Beaury suggested using workshops and asked the Board to set a workshop for March 9, 2021 at 6:00pm before the monthly Town board meeting. The Town Board agreed to the workshop on March 9, 2021 at 6:00pm.
- Formation of Short-Term Rental Committee. Supervisor Beaury said 20 people have applied and that the Town Board will discuss in executive session and appoint members at the March meeting.
- Discussion regarding Tiny Houses. Corinne said she and Sam have discussed the tiny homes on wheels. They are considered RVs and are permitted in mobile home parks (none in Germantown) or housing for farming in specific districts in Germantown with a special permit from the planning board. Tiny homes on wheels would require a variance from the ZBA. Tiny homes on a foundation are covered by the current building code and allowed in Germantown as an accessory apartment to a single-family dwelling permitted in all zones except in the business district. Tiny homes are also allowed temporarily on site of a new home construction. Details of each property and proposed use may change the specific requirements. Councilman Christian asked about a tiny house that is parked on someone's property? Corinne said it is allowed only if it is parked and not being lived in.
- CSC Task Force- update. Matthew Mercier said they are off to a good start and they have some qualified people. They have formed three sub-committees. 1.) Greenhouse gas 2.) Energy Audit 3.) Waste management. Christina Bohnsack said she had her first meeting will be with Cornell Cooperative Extension.
- Update notice of status of Town facilities 2/16/21- 3/15/21. Town Board agreed status quo.

## **New Business**

- Authorize the Supervisor to execute the 2021 Enhanced Enforcement Patrol Agreement with CCSO.

Motion to authorize the Supervisor to execute the 2021 Enhanced Enforcement Patrol Agreement with the Columbia County Sheriff's Office made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

- Health Emergency Plan. Supervisor Beaury said the Health Emergency Plan is due in to NYS by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Supervisor Beaury and Corinne have been working on putting job titles into the template. Supervisor Beaury said our plan is like the County's plan. Corinne said we had to expand our current COVID-19 Safety plan and add more information. The draft has been sent to the Union for comment. When Corinne gets the plan back from the Union, she will send to the Town Board for review and adoption at the March meeting.
- Appoint a particular person to the Board of Assessment Review through 9/30/2025.

Motion to appoint Roy Brown to the Board of Assessment Review through 9/30/2025 made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

- Authorize Columbia County Controller to audit the Justice Court (2020). Supervisor Beaury said each year NYS Office of Court Administration requires all financial records.

Motion to authorize Columbia County Controller to audit the Justice Court for 2020 made by Councilmember Suarez, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

## **Supervisor's Report**

- Farmer's Market. Will have a similar format to last season beginning in May. Will have to go by Health Department guidelines.
- Memorial Day. Supervisor Beaury spoke with Lauren Williams about organizing a procession.
- First Aid and CPR update training for Camp Counselors in February.
- River Sweep, May 1, 2021 9-12noon. The Board approved an employee and use of a town truck to assist the volunteers.

Supervisor Beaury thanked Councilman Sullivan who worked with the highway crew during the snowstorm as a Wingman.

Supervisor Beaury said we will be closing on the Bond on February 23, 2021.

- Next meeting is March 9, 2021 at 7pm and the workshop will be held at 6:00pm.

## **Comments from Councilmembers**

Councilman Sullivan said the Story Hike is on the trail and it looks really good.

Councilmember Suarez said she is glad the library made this happen.

## **Comments and questions from the public limited to those received in writing before the meeting, and may be submitted via email to [Townboard@germantownny.org](mailto:Townboard@germantownny.org)**

Kathy Overington said there has been good feedback about the new program run by the library.

Motion to enter Executive Session at 8:02pm to discuss personnel matters and current or potential litigation made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Kukon with all in favor and none opposed.

Motion to exit Executive Session made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilmember Suarez, with all in favor and none opposed.

Meeting closed at 9:03pm.

Respectfully submitted,