**REGULAR MEETING**

**TOWN OF ELIZABETHTOWN**

**JANUARY 21, 2020**

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Elizabethtown, County of Essex in the State of New York was held at the Town Hall, 7563 Court Street, Elizabethtown, NY on January 21, 2020.

PRESENT: Noel Merrihew-Supervisor

Ben Morris-Councilperson

Jeffrey Allott-Councilperson

Cathleen Reusser-Councilperson

ABSENT WITH EXCUSE: William Wright-Councilperson

GUESTS: Evelyn Hatch, Bruce Pushee, Harry Gough, Elena Borstein, Keelin Murphy, Michael Vaughan and Mary McGowan.

START TIME: 7:00 PM

1. Michele Drozd from Craigardan spoke regarding the property that they have purchased here in Elizabethtown and their plans for it. She said it would be a place for artists to go and hone their craft along with classes for the artists and for the local public. This will also include classes for chef’s and there will be a small garden for their use along with selling some of the produce. They will build a place that will house up to 18 artists and have space for community classes. The Board and Guests were impressed and supportive of this project.

**RESOLUTION NO. 38-20**

Motion to accept the minutes from the December 17, 2019 meeting was offered by Councilperson Reusser and seconded by Councilperson Allott. All in favor. Motion passed.

AYES-4 Supervisor Merrihew NAYS-0

Councilperson Reusser

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Morris

**RESOLUTION NO. 39-20**

Supervisor Merrihew called for a vote to adopt Resolutions No. 1-20 through No. 37-20 of the Organizational Meeting. Councilperson Reusser offered 1st and Councilperson Allott offered 2nd. All in favor. Motion passed.

See the 2020 Organizational Meeting Resolutions filed previously.

AYES-4 Supervisor Merrihew NAYS-0

Councilperson Reusser

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Morris

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. BOND-WATER

**RESOLUTION NO. 40-20**

Motion to move forward with the Bond from Orrick offered by Councilperson Allott and seconded by Councilperson Morris.

Councilperson Allott asked for more clarity on additional funding etc.

Supervisor Merrihew felt that Marline from the DPH might have more information after the State Budget is announced. Councilperson Reusser questioned what other grants might be available. More discussion on this topic.

**RESOLUTION NO. 41-20**

Motion to table Resolution No. 40-20 offered by Councilperson Allott and seconded by Councilperson Morris. All in favor. Motion passed.

YES-4 Supervisor Merrihew NAYS-0

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Morris

Councilperson Reusser

1. TRAINING FACILITY-Information has already been given at the Public Hearing held previous to this meeting.
2. FEMA-Supervisor Merrihew will be meeting with them on Thursday at 10 AM. He explained that the threshold for private property damage was not met but he heard that Elise Stefanik has taken the request to the President and that he signed it but that nothing can happen unless Governor Cuomo requests it. It was felt that that wouldn’t happen.
3. LED STREETLIGHTS-Councilperson Allott said that we are through the final threshold now and it’s in their hands. One contractor has signed. There is a question of the Towns responsibility after the work is done. He will look into this. The replacement process should start in the Spring with 150 streetlights being replaced.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. TORCH RELAY-There is a Torch Relay that will be coming through Elizabethtown on January 31st at 11 AM and they will be stopping here briefly. Discussion on where they would stop. Perhaps at BVCS although the school does not seem interested. Discussion on having it at the Town Hall, the Town Park or perhaps the Social Center.

**RESOLUTION NO. 42-20**

Motion to allow the Supervisor to host the Torch Relay at the Park or where it seems best, offered by Councilperson Allott and seconded by Councilperson Reusser. All in favor. Motion passed.

AYES-4 Supervisor Merrihew NAYS-0

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Reusser

Councilperson Morris

1. YOUTH COMMISSION

**RESOLUTION NO. 43-20**

Motion to appoint the Youth Commission Chairperson and Alternate moved by Councilperson Reusser and seconded by Councilperson Morris. All in favor. Motion passed.

AYES-4 Supervisor Merrihew NAYS-0

Councilperson Reusser

Councilperson Morris

Councilperson Allott

1. PUBLIC HEALTH

**RESOLUTION NO. 44-20**

Motion to authorize the Supervisor to send a letter of support for School Healthy Streets Community’s Grant opportunity for Public Health offer by Councilperson Morris and seconded by Councilperson Allott. All in favor. Motion passed.

AYES-4 Supervisor Merrihew NAYS-0

Councilperson Morris

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Reusser

1. COURT

**RESOLUTION NO. 45-20**

Motion stating that the Town Board has received from the Town Clerk the Justices reports for the 2019 year. They will be in the Town Clerks office through the month of January for review. Motion offered by Councilperson Reusser and seconded by Councilperson Allott. All in favor. Motion passed.

AYES-4 Supervisor Merrihew NAYS-0

Councilperson Reusser

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Morris

10.DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH-Supervisor Merrihew stated he has the annual inspection report from the Department of Health for Water District 3 and the New Russia Water District for the Board to review.

11.Supervisor Merrihew read a notice that the annual training meeting will be held at the Marriot in NYC February 16th through the 19th. He explained that there are provisions in the Town Budget for attending the classes but not for the Hotel rooms.

12.Councilperson Allott said that on February 1st there will be a hockey game at the Town rink.

**COMMITTEES**

13.HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT-Councilperson Morris asked if Henry is working for the Highway Department full time which the answer is yes. It was discussed that he has been helping to make ice at the rink on his own time which was appreciated.

14.WATER DISTRICT-Nothing new to discuss.

15.BUILDING & CODES-Gordon Costin has been busy and is doing well.

16.PLANNING BOARD/ZONING BOARD-Nothing new to discuss.

17.COBBLE HILL GOLF COURSE-Nothing new to discuss.

18.YOUTH COMMISSION-Nothing new to discuss.

19.BLUEBERRY TRAILS-Nothing new to discuss.

20.GARBAGE-Nothing new to discuss.

**FINANCIALS**

Supervisor Merrihew explained that there are 2 Supervisor Reports. One to close out 2019 and one for the start of 2020.

**RESOLUTION NO. 46-20**

Motion to approve all transfer for the 2019 year offered by Councilperson Morris and seconded by Councilperson Allott. All in favor. Motion passed.

AYES-4 Supervisor Merrihew NAYS-0

Councilperson Morris

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Reusser

**RESOLUTION NO. 47-20**

Motion to approve the transfers for the 2020 year offered by Councilperson Reusser and seconded by Councilperson Morris. All in favor. Motion passed.

AYES-4 Supervisor Merrihew NAYS-0

Councilperson Reusser

Councilperson Morris

Councilperson Allott

**RESOLUTION NO. 48-20**

Motion to approve the 2019 Supervisors Report offered by Councilperson Allott and seconded by Councilperson Morris. All in favor. Motion passed.

AYES-4 Supervisor Merrihew NAYS-0

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Morris

Councilperson Reusser

**RESOLUTION NO. 49-20**

Motion to approve the 2020 Supervisor Report offered by Councilperson Morris and seconded by Councilperson Allott. All in favor. Motion passed.

AYES-4 Supervisor Merrihew NAYS-0

Councilperson Morris

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Reusser

**RESOLUTION NO. 50-20**

Motion to pay all bills offered by Councilperson Allott and Seconded by Councilperson Reusser. All in favor. Motion passed.

AYES-4 Supervisor Merrihew

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Reusser

Councilperson Morris

Resolved that the following bills be paid for the abstract period of 1/1/2019 thru 12/17/2019.

General Fund A $ 2,212.34

Highway Fund DA $11,125.67

Water District SW3 $ 852.96

Sewer capital H $ 9,580.71

Trust & Agency TA $ 4,587.03

21. Supervisor Merrihew handed the board a copy of the representation of what he will suggest to them showing a rebalance and reallocation of the reserve funds.

22. Councilperson Morris spoke of his disappointment regarding communication from the DPW. There is just too much going on with the Town for them not to communicate.

23. Councilperson Reusser said she was gathering an e-mail list and contact information and that there should be some kind of communication that is put out. She would be glad to answer anyone who emails her.

24. Evelyn Hatch asked if we could get the website up to date and if help is needed. Questions on if there is a budget for this.

This meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet E. Cross,

Town Clerk