REGULAR MEETING
TOWN OF ELIZABETHTOWN
OCTOBER 18, 2022

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 October 18, 2022 and the public could attend in person or via GoToMeeting.

PRESENT: Noel Merrihew-Supervisor
Jeffrey Allott-Councilperson
Ben Morris-Councilperson
Cathleen Reusser-Councilperson (via GoToMeeting)
ABSENT WITH EXCUSE: William Wright-Councilperson

GUESTS: Shannon Bronson and Shalonie Heald in person. Harry Gough and Bridgette Allen via GoToMeeting.

The Supervisor called this meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

1. Shannon Bronson spoke regarding a potential Dog Park for the town. She spoke of her concern if the Park is at Noble Terrace and not fenced in, people will lose their dogs. Councilperson Allott asked why not fenced in and the Supervisor explained. Discussion on enter at your own risk and other various signage. Shannon spoke about the research she has done with the dog parks in Peru and Ticonderoga and the "leash" law for Etown. She felt there would have to be 2 (two) fenced in areas. One for small dogs and one for larger dogs. She discussed businesses that would be willing to sponsor things like a bench, garbage cans and fencing, etc. Discussion on why Noble Terrace can't be fenced in because of its usage in the winter. Shalonie Heald spoke about her

experiences with dog parks. Councilperson Morris spoke about his thoughts on having the park at Noble Terrace and that it should be placed elsewhere. More discussion on this and Councilperson Allott said he will talk to Janet Collier from Ags. and Markets regarding what they require. He will also talk to the Insurance company about liability. More discussion on where the park could go, dog licensing etc.

BUSINESS:

2. MINUTES

RESOLUTION NO. 109-22

Motion to accept the September 20, 2022 minutes 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	

3. GO-TO-MEETING LOCAL LAW-A public hearing was held prior to this meeting regarding extending Zoom capabilities for town meetings after the State has discontinued this ability for meetings.

RESOLUTION NO. 110-22

Local Law No. 2-2022-A local law to adopt amendments to the New York State Open Meetings Law for the expanded use of videoconferencing in the Town of Elizabethtown was moved by Councilperson Allott. A roll call vote was held.

Councilperson Morris----------yes
Councilperson Allott----------yes
Councilperson Reusser----------yes
Supervisor Merrihew----------yes
This Local law has been adopted.

4. DOG PARK-Discussion already held. Will look into the legalities.

5. FOOTBRIDGE-A meeting was held with the Department of Health and the engineers regarding the wells for the water project at the Footbridge. All the engineering has been submitted to the DOH so waiting on them. After discussion with Marline at DOH, she has put this on the top of her to do list and should know more within a month. Supervisor Merrihew explained that this will be happening in the spring instead of this fall. Discussion on the new chlorination house and decommission of the old wells and removal of the roofing on the old spring. Can still use the same contact tank which will be a savings. Discussion on this and how much property is needed where the Public Health Building is and getting this property.
6. SEWER-Councilperson Allott said that he appreciates what Jason and the other folks have done but for them to now say it might not be possible for this community to have a waste water treatment plant because of affordability, seemed like a revelation to them. He explained that Northern Boarders has been on calls and helping the town. The only way a sewer system can go forward at this time is for the town to get 90-100% grant funding. This would mean finding 18-22 million dollars in grants. Councilperson Reusser said that Jason and company have not been motivated to find another system that would work because they have been getting paid all this time. Northern Forest is going to see what funding is available. The Supervisor said there is a meeting on Monday and Councilperson Allott will also attend. This meeting will discuss what new monies are available for this type of project.
7. HIGHWAY LINES/X-WALKS-Jim Dougan from the County Highway, will be doing the lines and cross walks for the town. Discussion on where the crosswalks will be. This will come out of the Highway's budget.

8. ZONING-Letters are going out next week and The Supervisor said he had 12 to send out. Discussion on campers and how long they are allowed to be housed on a person's property
9. BUDGET-A workshop will be held on November 1, 2022 at 7PM. Good news is should be another lowering of the taxes 8-10% again this year.
   -Councilperson Reusser looked up the Local Law on travel trailers. They do have to be registered. She said the law is very lean. The board will revisit this before sending out the violation letters.
10. COLLAPSE EFC FUNDING

RESOLUTION NO. 111-22

Resolution granting the Supervisor authority to sign a letter of agreement to collapse EFC funding for the sewer project 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	

11. COBBLE HILL GOLF COURSE-The County Highway will remove the soil in a week or two as they have the proper trucks to do this. The cost will be about $4000.00.
12. ROARING BROOK-The Supervisor said he had talked to Atlantic Engineering and they are submitting the final paperwork for the stream design to the DEC. Because of DEC regulations, no one is allowed in the river until next spring. On hold until then to put in the riprap from the original FEMA funding.

COMMITTEES:

13. HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT-Nothing discussed.
14. WATER DISTRICT-Nothing discussed.
15. BUILDING & CODES-Busy.
16. YOUTH COMMISSION-Soccer is happening now.
17. PLANNING BOARD/ZONING BOARD-Nothing discussed.

18. CHGC-Discussed already.
19. GARBAGE-Nothing discussed.
20. TRAILS-Councilperson Morris and Councilperson Allott said that there are sections of the road up above that needs work and that the brush dump needs to be pushed back.
21. Councilperson Allott spoke and said that Otis Mountain was a success. At the end of September, the Adirondack Mountain Bike summit was held. All the towns got together in North Creek to compare notes and look for new funding potential.
    -As far as the Norther Boarders Grant he said the walls are up and trusses coming tomorrow along with the rest of the lumber for the pavilion. It will be active up there for the next few weeks. Making good progress.
    -Councilperson Allott said he spoke with Charter who finally has a new Government Affairs person, Sam Parker, regarding Broadband. He said he has been trying to join the Friday meetings for the past 2 months and said there are some pretty powerful, driven people attending. New York as a whole is pretty well covered so it's hard to get funding for the small pockets of unserved people. They are trying to get our region looked at differently than the rest of the state. He spoke more about this. A full survey has been done and it will cost over a million dollars to implement. There are 62 underserved homes in Elizabethtown and there would be 47 miles of wire that would need to be run at a cost of about $22,000.00 a mile. He was told that the State and the Feds are working hard to solve this problem. Maybe ARPA funds to help get Star Link for the unserved as interim coverage, was a thought. Elizabethtown as a whole is 91% served.
    -Councilperson Allott asked about the removal of the Tennis Courts at the Social Center. He said there were a contingency of folks who do not want to see this happen. The Center does not feel it can afford to keep it going and questioned if the Town

would want to take it over. Discussion on the cost of this and perhaps other uses.

-Councilperson Morris questioned about the water.

FINANCIALS:

TRANSFERS

RESOLUTION NO. 112-22

Motion to approve the Transfers 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

SUPERVISORS REPORT

RESOLUTION NO. 113-22

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

AYES-4 Supervisor Merrihew NAYS-0
Councilperson Morris
Councilperson Reusser
Councilperson Allott

PAY ALL BILLS

RESOLUTION NO. 114-22

Motion to pay all bills 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

Resolved that the following bills be paid

General Fund A----------$ 26,046.37
Highway Fund DA----------$ 12,720.17
Garbage District----------$ 32.00

Lighting District----------$	1,361.48
Water District SW1----------$	25.00
Water District SW3----------$	2,650.08
Water Capital ----------$	396.00
Water Capital 2020H-------$	654,756.89
American Recovery Plan---$	2,123.98
NBRC Recreation Grant----$	1,607.55
Trust & Agency TA----------$	2,942.20

COMMENTS:
Harry Gough read the law regarding travel trailers and said that a registered one could stay on a person's property but there is a limit of only 2.

This meeting was adjourned at 8:28 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Janet E. Cross,
Town Clerk