

# **REGULAR MEETING**

## **TOWN OF ELIZABETHTOWN**

### **JANUARY 19, 2021**

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 19, 2021 and the public could attend via GoToMeeting.

**PRESENT:** Noel Merrihew-Supervisor  
Jeffrey Allott-Councilperson  
Cathleen Reusser-Councilperson

**ABSENT WITH EXCUSE:** William Wright-Councilperson  
Ben Morris-Councilperson

The Supervisor called this meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

#### **BUSINESS**

1. **INSURANCE**-For years the Town has contracted with Upstate Insurance Company. This year Supervisor Merrihew asked for quotes and after looking at them all, he felt NYMIR was the best. He has talked to other municipalities that use them and they are very satisfied with their service. The proposal that they gave is a 20% savings with better coverage. He had contacted Upstate and Selective to see what had been paid out and to review the former coverage. NYMIR seems the best. He said they also will cover the stained glass windows and all the out buildings even the cabin on Blueberry. Cyber protection too.

**RESOLUTION NO. 38-21**

Motion to approve the Town of Elizabethtown to change their Insurance coverage to NYMAR. Yager & Flynn is the carrier out of Glens Falls. Motion offered by Councilperson Reusser and seconded by Councilperson Allott. All in favor. Motion passed.

AYES-3      Supervisor Merrihew      NAYS-0  
                 Councilperson Reusser  
                 Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Reusser asked if there was any guarantee on the premium for a period of time. Supervisor Merrihew said it was a 3-year cycle.

2. CELL TOWER-Supervisor Merrihew said he was talking to a gentleman in CA whose company was just purchased by American Towers which makes them the largest carrier in the world. He had a proposal for the Town of Elizabethtown. Supervisor Merrihew had talked to other carriers and they are all pretty close. He feels that American Tower, because of the acquisition, would have a better opportunity for them to market this tower for more carriers. Their proposal was between 10 and 20 thousand dollars. Councilperson Allott asked if that was the buyout and Supervisor Merrihew explained that they purchase and negotiate the lease with Verizon so that they can then turn to us with the 50-year lease and add additional carriers. Discussion held on this topic and Supervisor Merrihew will get a more official proposal. Councilperson Reusser asked how much say the Town has over who the carriers are. Supervisor Merrihew gave explanation and Councilperson Allott asked if our contract is with Verizon directly. Supervisor Merrihew said yes it's a 25 year 5-year renewal contract. More discussion this.

3. BLUEBERRY TRAILS-The Town would like to gain tax exemption from the Town of Lewis for the property up on Blueberry Trails. If the Board is supportive of this the Town will write a letter to the

Town of Lewis requesting tax exemption status. Supervisor Merrihew explained that if the Town of Lewis agrees with this they would give the Town of Elizabethtown a letter granting this. He said that in the letter he would express that Etown has never excluded Lewis from the property or brush dump etc. and that Etown takes care of it. He said that he has grieved the classification of the property 2 times. Councilperson Reusser asked what the Town is paying in taxes and Supervisor Merrihew said about \$1000.00 in Land and School is about another 60%. He said that this would not exempt the Town from the School taxes. He said he will pen a letter to the Town of Lewis regarding this.

4. AIR PURIFIER SYSTEM-Supervisor Merrihew gave explanation on the County's system and that someone had contacted him about their own product. They are about \$1,400.00 each. He gave the board paperwork regarding it and discussed having the Cleaner add using the air purifier to his job. Councilperson Allott asked about the maintenance of this and felt it might be expensive for its upkeep. He said he knows someone who has one like this and will ask them. He also expressed that the State does not acknowledge this type of thing as useful even though it is, and masks etc. are still necessary.
5. Supervisor Merrihew was contacted by a young artist who is looking for an administrative partner. She needs the non-profit status. The Museum is unable to do this as they are a sponsor for something else. The Town would administrate the paperwork and there would be no cost to the Town
6. WATER PROJECT-We have gotten all the chemical reports on the first hole drilled. The second spot drilled was not as successful. They will be checking on a 3<sup>rd</sup> spot. Supervisor Merrihew

explained about this process and where it will be on the Foot Bridge Property. He said all the chemistries came back very positive for the first one and it is sustaining 300 gallons a minute.

7. YOUTH COMMISSION-They have lined up skiing and skating and all is going very well.

8. HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT-No discussion.

9. BUILDINGS & CODES-No discussion.

10.PLANNING BOARD/ZONING BOARD-No discussion.

11.COBBLE HILL GOLF COURSE-No discussion.

12.GARBAGE-No discussion.

**RESOLUTION NO. 39-21**

Motion to approve the minutes for 12/15/20 offered by Councilperson Allott and seconded by Councilperson Reusser.

All in favor. Motion passed.

AYES-3	Supervisor Merrihew	NAYS-0
	Councilperson Allott	
	Councilperson Reusser	

**FINANCIALS**

No Transfers to approve for January 2021

**RESOLUTION NO. 40-21**

Motion to approve the Supervisors Report for January 2021 offered

by Councilperson Allott and seconded by Councilperson Reusser.  
All in favor. Motion passed.

AYES-3      Supervisor Merrihew                      NAYS-0  
                 Councilperson Allott  
                 Councilperson Reusser

**RESOLUTION NO. 41-21**

Motion to pay all bills for the abstract period of 1/20/2000 thru  
12/15/2020 offered by Councilperson Reusser and seconded by  
Councilperson Allott. All in favor. Motion passed.

AYES-3      Supervisor Merrihew                      NAYS-0  
                 Councilperson Reusser  
                 Councilperson Allott

Resolved that the bills be paid for the abstract period of 1/20/2000  
thru 12/15/2020.

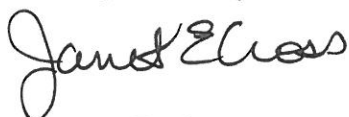
General Fund A      \$3,674.61

**COMMENTS**

Harry Gough asked about the disinfection device and if the Town is  
looking for FEMA to pay for it. Supervisor Merrihew said he wasn't  
sure it was FEMA but was whatever program that the Town uses  
for its disinfecting product. Mr. Gough spoke of the organizations  
that are eligible at this time for FEMA reimbursement. Towns not  
being one of them but this might change. He gave explanation on  
this.

This meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Janet E. Cross,

Town Clerk

