**REGULAR MEETING**

**TOWN OF ELIZABETHTOWN**

**AUGUST 20, 2024**

A 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 12932 on August 20, 2024, and the public was welcome to attend in person or via GoToMeeting.

PRESENT: Cathleen Reusser-Supervisor

Ben Morris-Councilperson

William Wright-Councilperson

Jeffrey Allott-Councilperson

Adam Bailey-Councilperson (via GoToMeeting)

GUESTS: Charlie Moisan, Carolyn Sicher, Paige Saltamach, Bruce Pushee, Mary McGowan Evelyn Hatch, Michael Reusser, Aaron Woolf, Jack Pulsifer, Laurie House, Arin Burdo and Patty Walsh.

Via GoToMeeting: Zach Allott and George Saltamach.

This meeting started at 6:30 PM.

1. HUB WEBSITE COMMITTEE PRESENTATION-The Supervisor introduced members of the committee. Arin Burdo spoke about the new website which will promote events and activities for the area and how this all came together. She explained how the support of Northern Forest has been invaluable. It is anticipated that ROOST will also help by designing the site. Zach Allott and Aaron Woolf have been helping free of charge.

-The Supervisor explained that Bed Tax monies collected by the county and divided up to the towns, will be used to fund this project. The Committee of Tourism and Enhancement fund distributes this 2% Bed Tax.

-Aaron Wolf gave explanation about the design of the website and the design of the Etown logo and showed what they are presenting. (see attached)

-Zach Allott spoke about the e’ logo and he and Aaron discussed how Hometown and the blueberry emblem came about.

-Laurie House spoke about the blueberry emblem and what it represents along with what this website will be all about.

**BUSINESS:**

2. EMS DISTRICT RESOLUTION, RESOLUTION TO FUND AUDIT

**RESOLUTION NO. 129-24**

Resolution to formalize the control and management of the Town of Elizabethtown Ambulance District pursuant to Town Law §198(10-f) offered by Councilperson Morris and seconded by Councilperson Allott. (see attached)

Roll call vote held.

Councilperson Allott-yes

Councilperson Morris-yes

Councilperson Wright-yes

Councilperson Bailey-yes

Supervisor Reusser-yes

-The Supervisor will be in touch with Atty. William Tansey to draw up the contract.

3.MINUTES

**RESOLUTION NO. 130-24**

Motion to approve the July 16, 2024, Meeting minutes offered by Councilperson Wright and seconded by Councilperson Allott. All in favor. Motion carried.

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

Councilperson Wright

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Morris

Councilperson Bailey

4. WORKSHOP/REGULAR MEETING

**RESOLUTION NO. 132-24**

Motion to approve the August 6, 2024, Workshop/Regular Meeting minutes offered by Councilperson Allott and seconded by Councilperson Wright. All in favor. Motion carried.

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Wright

Councilperson Bailey

Councilperson Morris

5. REDUNDANT WATER-UPDATE, RFP FOR WELL DRILLING. QUOTE FOR CLEANING STORGE TANK.

The Department of Health has required the town to have a redundant drinking water supply system. The hang-up on this was obtaining the property that was needed but that is in its final phase and deeds are being drawn up. Hanna Neiley is working on the RFPs for drilling.

-Water bills have gone out. They were late because of a failure with the program software and many issues with billing. They will reflect 14 months of use instead of 12.

6. WASTEWATER TREATMENT-UPDATE NBRC FY2014 CATALYST PROGRAM RESOLUTION.

**RESOLUTION NO. 131-24**

A Resolution authorizing that Cathleen Reusser, Town Supervisor, is empowered to act on behalf of the Town of Elizabethtown as the Authorized Official to sign and execute all necessary documents relating to the Northern Border Regional Commission 2024 CATALYST Program and grant award.

Whereas, the Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) has made grant funds available for FY 2024 through the CATALYST Program, wherein grant funds are made available to municipalities to implement public infrastructure projects: and

Whereas, the Town of Elizabethtown proposes to implement a project to improve the municipal wastewater system; and

Whereas, the Northern Border Regional Commission requires the legal authority of the applicant to authorize permission for the executive official to sign all NBRC investment documents that bind the applicant.

Therefore, Be It Resolved, the Town Board of the Town of Elizabethtown hereby authorized Elizabethtown Town Supervisor, Cathleen Reusser, to sign and execute all necessary documents relating to the Northern Border Regional Commission 2024 CATALYST Program and grant award offered by Councilperson Allott and seconded by Councilperson Morris. All in favor. Motion carried.

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser Nays-0

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Morris

Councilperson Wright

Councilperson Bailey

-Councilperson Allott spoke regarding the Wastewater Meeting/Workshop. They discussed district expansion, but they decided not to expand. Still some APA concerns regarding avoiding wetlands. Bond resolution has a 30-year timing and starts when the money is taken. Must figure out how to allocate the cost of the project and how to charge for the service. Also, whether to require hookup. Discussed the pretreatment stations for the Hospital and other industrial users. Need a resolution to require 100% hookup or not and a recommendation to keep the existing district.

-The storage tank exterior at the reservoir must be cleaned as per the Department of Health’s order. The Board was given a quote from Saint D Mobile Wash & Detail. The Supervisor will check with the Department of Public Works to see if it is something they can do.

-Councilperson Morris questioned who and when is the decision on EDUs for Wastewater. Councilperson Allott said they are looking into what is the most defensible. The Committee will make a recommendation for the Board to decide on.

7. HIGHWAY-STORM BERYL, FEMA (NYS DECLARATION SIGNED, AWAITING FEDERAL APPROVAL), ORRICK-DPW Superintendent Pulsifer said that Simonds Hill is reopened. Most roads that were damaged are fairly passable now. They rented an excavator to do ditching. He has requested a state contracted price from Abley Kubota on the cost of purchasing a new excavator. The current backhoe is broken down and will cost approximately $3000.00 to fix. He has also asked for a quote for the brush cutting attachment.

8. BOND RESOLUTION, STATE OF EM EXTENDED, MINING PERMIT-The town had to declare a State of Emergency July 10th that ran out August 9th, so the Supervisor renewed it for another 30 days.

She said she has been working with BRASS on the Flood map which has not been updated since 1984 and said it is more accurate now. There is one property that will be discussed further.

-Kubricky is at Roaring Brook Lane doing work on the bank. Expecting to receive permits to do the work that is needed.

-The Supervisor explained about the information in the Board’s packet that is from Orrick. The town is asking for a 6.5-million-dollar contract for work that has been done and that will need to be done. See attached. She explained the process and there will be a 75% reimbursement of the total allowable cost. The state has offered up their 12.5% so the local burden will be 12.5%. This will not be avoidable.

**RESOLUTION NO. 133-24**

Motion to pursue securing those funds offered by Councilperson Wright and seconded by Councilperson Allott. All in favor. Motion carried. See attached Notice of Adoption of Resolution.

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

Councilperson Wright

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Morris

Councilperson Bailey

The supervisor stated that this is step one and is not signing anything yet.

-The Supervisor stated that she submitted an application to the DEC for a mining permit for the Bronson Way pit. It was not approved. They want mapping of the specific area; how much material will be pulled out and a third item. Jim Dougan from the County will be helping.

9. COBBLE HILL GOLF COURSE-ROOF, MIKES REPORT, NOV 8TH SECTION 7 X-COUNTRY MEET-Having a good season and getting a lot of praise. Planning on the 31st to do the roof. November 8th is Section 7 x-country meet will take place again at the Course.

- Questioned how E-town day went and was told it was not a loss for the fire department but not a big profit either.

**COMMITTEES:**

10. HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT-Discussed already.

11. WATER DISTRICT-Discussed already.

12. BUILDING AND CODES-No discussion.

13. PLANNING BOARD/ZONING BOARD-Bruce Pushee said that they did meet. He explained that he thought the Museum property was all Service but only half is and the other is mixed use. Discussed with Councilperson Bailey about this.

14. YOUTH COMMISSION-They got grant monies and will build a baseball field. Soccer started yesterday.

15. TRAILS-Councilperson Allott said they are trying to get all things done before September. The Supervisor questioned the half cut trees and was told it’s so they are easier to remove.

-Councilperson Morris said that there is commercial brush at the brush dump. Might need a sign at the brush dump that states for Elizabethtown only.

16. GARBAGE-No discussion.

**COMMENTS:**

-Doc Moisan said he felt the State, County and Town crews have done a great job.

-Bruce Pushee asked regarding the EDU’S for the Sewer project, does it take in the usage along with the debt or separated. The Sewer Committee is still deciding, and Councilperson Allott explained.

-More discussion on Sewer District.

**RESOLUTION NO. 134-24**

Motion to have the Water Tank cleaned by Saint D Mobile Wash & Detail offered by Councilperson Wright and seconded by Supervisor Reusser. All in favor. Motion carried.

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

Councilperson Wright

Councilperson Morris

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Bailey

-Councilperson Wright asked if the company that worked on Brainard’s Forge Road had been paid yet and was told they would be tomorrow. He asked about that company blacktopping the road and was told no they would not be. He said it should be done before winter. More discussion on this.

**RESOLUTION NO. 135-24**

Motion to support the Section 7 X-Country Meet offered by Councilperson Morris and seconded by Councilperson Allott. All in favor. Motion carried.

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

Councilperson Morris

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Wright

Councilperson Bailey

**FINANCIALS:**

TRANSFERS

**RESOLUTION NO. 136-24**

Motion to approve the Transfers offered by Councilperson Wright and seconded by Councilperson Allott. All in favor. Motion carried.

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

Councilperson Wright

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Bailey

Councilperson Morris

SUPERVISORS REPORT

**RESOLUTION NO. 137-24**

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

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

Councilperson Morris

Councilperson Wright

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Bailey

PAY ALL BILLS

**RESOLUTION NO. 138-24**

Motion to pay all bills for Abstract 38 ABS July 8-1 to 8-50 offered by Councilperson Wright and seconded by Councilperson Allott. All in favor. Motion carried.

AYES-5 Supervisor Reusser NAYS-0

Councilperson Wright

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Morris

Councilperson Bailey

Resolved that the following bills be paid.

General Fund $33,985.27

Highway Fund $86,158.10

Garbage District $ 87.84

Lighting District $ 2,611.56

Water District 1 $ 0.00

Water District 3 $ 1,406.68

Water Capital 2020 $ 89.89

Recreation Grant $ 4,020.58

This meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet E. Cross,

Town Clerk