**REGULAR MEETING**

**TOWN OF ELIZABETHTOWN**

**MARCH 21, 2023**

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, Elizabethtown, NY on March 21, 2023 and the public could attend in person or via GoToMeeting.

PRESENT: Noel Merrihew-Supervisor

Cathleen Reusser-Councilperson

William Wright-Councilperson

Jeffrey Allott-Councilperson

ABSENT WITH EXCUSE: Ben Morris-Councilperson

GUESTS: Bridgett Allen

The Supervisor called this meeting to order AT 7:04 PM.

1. Minutes

**RESOLUTION NO. 55-23**

Motion to accept the minutes for February 28, 2023 offered by Councilperson Wright and seconded by Councilperson Reusser. All in favor. Motion passed.

AYES-4 Supervisor Merrihew NAYS-0

Councilperson Wright

Councilperson Reusser

Councilperson Allott

**BUSINESS:**

1. DODSON & ASSOCIATE

**RESOLUTION NO. 56-23**

Motion to give the Supervisor authorization to pay Dodson & Associates Professional Engineering Services for the water project to date in the amount of $15,000.00 offered by Councilperson Reusser and seconded by Councilperson Wright. All in favor. Motion passed.

AYES-4 Supervisor Merrihew NAYS-0

Councilperson Reusser

Councilperson Wright

Councilperson Allott

Next step is to put in the formal request for the property transfer at the Public Health Building from the County to the Town. May take about 2 months to finalize but everything else is done at this point. Will be about 1.34 acres transferred to the town.

1. BARTON & LOGUIDICE-This is in regards to the original suit settlement and going forward what’s to be encompassed in the project that we are on. They are requesting up to an additional $15,000.00 to allow them to attend meetings. Councilperson Allott said that they certainly need to be engaged and in the loop but he is surprised they are not just offering this service based on past work and what we have already paid them.

**RESOLUTION NO. 57-23**

Motion to pay Barton & Loguidice up to $15,000.00 offered by Councilperson Wright and seconded by Councilperson Allott. All in favor. Motion passed.

AYES-4 Supervisor Merrihew NAYS-0

Councilperson Wright

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Reusser

Councilperson Wright said we need to keep moving on this as there are a lot of failing septic systems out there. Lots of discussion on this topic.

1. ENERGY PROGRAM-The Supervisor passed out a paper regarding this program and explained about it.
2. CYBER SECURITY-NYMIR is coming Friday. The town has to put together a Cyber Security policy and the Supervisor would like them to tell us what is needed. Will know more by next meeting.

**COMMITTEES:**

1. HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT-They have been busy.
2. WATER DISTRICT-No new discussion.
3. BUILDING & CODES-Mr. Costin is submitting his annual report this week.
4. PLANNING BOARD/ZONING BOARD-They have asked for more detail on what is submitted by the Building & Codes Officer to them. Some of the members will be attending the annual meeting in Lake Placid.

10.COBBLE HILL GOLF COURSE-It’s a work in progress on how it’s going to be managed this year. Will need coverage for maintenance, mowing etc. Not sure if we need to go back to an overall manager. Will try to take over much of it’s running in house. The running of the Club House is still up in the air. Discussion on ideas for cost reduction and what is needed for coverage there. There will be a savings of $15,000.00 by eliminating the manager position. We will need to advertise for attendants etc. Councilperson Wright suggested advertising at the School for attendants.

11.YOUTH COMMISSION-Has been busy.

12. TRAILS-There are a lot of people using them.

13.GARBAGE-No discussion.

14.Councilperson Allott discussed about the Wastewater Income survey. Need to vote on engaging ARCAP with the survey. They will do a lot of the paperwork and supply a letter for the mailing. We do have to officially engage them and then they supply us with a blueprint of what the survey letter should look like. Discussion on the confidentiality of the survey. He said that Colin Powers, with BRASS is willing to help. He is from Essex and is looking for a capstone project. He has arranged a tour of the Essex Waste Water Treatment Plant for Monday March 27th if anyone from the Board would care to attend. He also gave a list of what is needed to proceed with this project. Discussion on having a drawing for prizes to help incentivize folks to return the surveys and that there will be 2 survey mailings and then door to door survey if needed. More discussion on this topic.

**RESOLUTION NO. 58-23**

Motion to sign ARCAP Community Survey Agreement offered by

Councilperson Wright and seconded by Councilperson Allott. All in

favor. Motion passed.

AYES-4 Supervisor Merrihew NAYS-0

Councilperson Wright

Councilperson Allott

Councilperson Reusser

15.Councilperson Allott said he has been working on the Broadband

issue. There is a Statewide Broadband meeting that will be held at

the Wild Center in Tupper Lake on Monday the 28th regarding this

topic. He said there will be a lot of people going and he planned on

going also. The Supervisor said that he read on the Fair Grounds

report that they said Star Link was better than fiber. Councilperson

Allott said that the interaction he has had with people that do not

have fiber coverage, ranges from grateful for working on this issue

to legal threats. He said that he has offered up to anyone in financial

need, help from the town for them to get Star Link. No one has

taken him up on this offer.

16. Councilperson Wright asked if the County has talked about the

tax credit for Fire, Ambulance etc. volunteers. The Supervisor said

that there has been a lot of discussion on this topic.

**FINANCIALS:**

TRANSFERS-None to approve

SUPERVISORS REPORT

**RESOLUTION NO. 59-23**

Motion to approve the Supervisors Report 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 Wright

PAY ALL BILLS

**RESOLUTION NO. 60-23**

Motion to pay all bills offered by Councilperson Reusser and

seconded by Councilperson Wright. All in favor. Motion passed.

AYES-4 Supervisor Merrihew NAYS-0

Councilperson Reusser

Councilperson Wright

Councilperson Allott

Resolved that the following bill be paid for the abstract period

1/1/200 thru 2/27/2023

General Fund A-----------$ 2,009.01

Highway Fund DA--------$12,159.05

Water District SW3------$ 25.00

Trust & Agency TA-------$ 2,306.23

**COMMENTS:**

Councilperson Wright asked the Board how they would feel about

getting rid of the 2 trucks that sit at the Highway. Maybe get rid of

them and purchase a 550. If they are not going to be hiring CDL

drivers than something needs to be done so the other workers can

plow etc. Discussed that the salt shed needs to be replaced.

This meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet E. Cross,

Town Clerk