

BOARD MEETING
APRIL 8, 2021

The Gerry Town Board met at 6:30 PM, April 8, 2021, at the Gerry Town Hall for the regular monthly board meeting.

Present were: Randy Zahm, Deputy Supervisor
Gary Swan, Councilman
Bruce Gustafson, Councilman
Todd Wissman, Councilman
Recia L. Myers, Town Clerk
Brian Anderson, Highway Superintendent
William Duncanson, Jr., Town Attorney
Eric Yager, Zoning Officer
Cherin Mehs
David Hall

CALL TO ORDER:

Deputy Supervisor Zahm called the meeting to order and led in the pledge of allegiance.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Cherin Mehs noted that they will be having a Memorial Day program but no marching will be involved this year. The program will be held on May 30th at 1:00 PM at the Gerry Cemetery. She commented that they are going to need a lot of help this year with sorting through flags and setting up chairs for the ceremony. She requested for the Pipers to play and the Town Board discussed the pay and distancing rules and they will have the Town Clerk contact Former Supervisor John Crossley as he has a main contact to see if they would be available.

Cherin will contact Supervisor Heath if he would like to be the master of the ceremonies when he is back from vacation. The school was contacted to see if students could read the Gettysburg address. The new ambulance will be there. Councilman Gustafson asked if the school band will be attending and Recia Myers, Town Clerk, commented that they are would like to as she was contacted by the Music teacher and she will let them know about the ceremony. Deputy Supervisor Zahm offered his PA system for the service and he will have it ready and there on that day. The Town Board discussed Parking Concerns and they will see if they could have a few fire police that day and have parking available at the Highway Garage.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A letter regarding the Rescue Plan for the COVID pandemic relief was received and Deputy Supervisor Zahm noted that the amount our town is supposed to receive is \$339,255.00. Councilman Swan asked if there is a time frame on the money to be spent. There is a deadline of December 31, 2024 to have the money spent and the money should cover revenue losses, water, and sewer and broadband and it cannot be used to offset taxes. Councilman Swan noted that this money should really be looked at renovating the Town Hall as we will

never see this again and we have been waiting too long on the school and we are not at the top of the list. William Duncanson, Jr., Town Attorney, commented that they really do need to look at what they are going to do with this money and the Town could look into ADA compliance grants as well to use with the money received for the Town Hall and that engineers would be able to break down everything. The Town Board discussed for next month to possibly trying to set up special meetings to figure out where this money should be allocated and to move on to discuss the Town Hall as well.

National Grid sent a letter advising an increase in outdoor lighting on April 1st of this year.

OFFICERS REPORT:

Zoning Officer.

Eric Yager, Zoning Officer, submitted the following report for March:

He issued 4 Permits this month

He commented that he is starting to get busy and issued 5 permits alone last week. He has been approached by the Broadway Group which is Dollar General looking to set up somewhere within the Town and they are possibly looking at the Old Suburban House. Councilman Swan asked about Solar Farms and Mr. Yager noted he has not had any requests in our Township but discussed how some counties are having these and obtaining huge money for this. William Duncanson, Jr., Town Attorney, commented that the Town of Ellicott has two in the works right now but have been on stop as the County wants a PILOT agreement.

Deputy Supervisor Zahm explained that they have solar panels and the company laid out tax credits for them.

Cherin Mehs said that residents on Salisbury Road are looking into a farmers market and Eric Yager, Zoning Officer, said he has not yet been approached yet but they have obtained a permit for a pole barn.

Food Trucks were discussed and Recia Myers, Town Clerk, noted that they can obtain a peddlers permit to do this but it is a very detailed process.

Dog Control Officer. Matthew Abbey was absent but submitted reports from Jan thru March and the Reports are very detailed and long and Deputy Supervisor Zahm summarized that Mr. Abbey has had two dog problems that were major problems on Gerry Ellington Road and Wilson Street and he passed around the report for the Town Board to review.

Highway Superintendent.

Brian Anderson, Highway Superintendent, noted that the new truck is supposed to be here next month and the tractor is still in the shop and they have done most of the sweeping and spot ditching right now.

Assessor Report.

No Report for this month

COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND AGENCIES:

SPECIAL ORDERS:

Resolution No. 23 - 2021. Employee Handbook Adoption. A motion was made by Councilman Swan, seconded by Councilman Gustafson. Approved.

Resolution No. 24 - 2021. Appointment of Part-Time Mower & Maintenance Position. A motion was made by Councilman Gustafson, seconded by Councilman Swan. Approved.

Resolution No. 25 – 2021. Modifications to 2021 Budget. A motion was made by Councilman Swan, seconded by Councilman Wissman. Approved.

Resolution No. 26 -2021. Modifications to 2021 Budget. A motion was made by Councilman Swan, seconded by Councilman Gustafson. Approved.

Resolution No. 27 -2021. 2021 Budget Transfer. A motion was made by Councilman Gustafson, seconded by Councilman Swan. Approved.

Minute approval for the March Board Meeting along with Supervisor's Monthly Report. A motion was made by Councilman Gustafson, seconded by Councilman Swan. Approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

No Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Supervisor Heath recommended opening the Park and the Town Clerk contacted the County Health Department with guidance. Deputy Supervisor Zahm explained that signage will be required for Social Distancing and Mask Requirements and will be placed in restrooms, pavilions and playground and that they were advised to close down the tennis/basketball courts as it is considered a high risk sport. Pavilion rentals will receive the keys for restrooms and they will be properly disinfected by the Part Time Mower before and after. The Ball teams will be responsible for following rules and regulations and the cleaning of the restrooms. Councilman Wissman asked about Concessions and the Board said that they could probably have but they would just have to have a limit of people working and everyone to social distance. Deputy Supervisor Zahm explained that they were contacted by a JCC softball team but Supervisor Heath suggested not for them to use as our local teams will be starting up this year right now.

William Duncanson, Jr., Town Attorney, noted that as long as the signs are placed in areas the Town will be covered and we should be fine.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Dave Hall asked the Town Board if he could have permission to purchase POW flags for cemetery and they were fine with that and he will get in touch with the Town Clerk to see what flags and items that the Town already has and go from there.

He noted a few things regarding the Fire Dept. that they are unable to rent out either facilities right now and that they will be replacing the electronic sign at the rodeo grounds and William Duncanson, Jr., Town Attorney, commented that they would not need a new permit as long as the sign is the same size and they follow the rules on their special use permit they received. Mr. Hall also asked to see if anyone would be interested in helping with Memorial Day and they would be grateful to have more people involved.

VOUCHER APPROVAL:

Highway Fund Voucher's #39 – 58 totaling \$26,745.30 was approved on a motion by Councilman Swan, seconded by Councilman Wissman. Approved.

General Fund Voucher's #94 – 121 totaling \$3,394.39 was approved on a motion by Councilman Gustafson, seconded by Councilman Swan. Approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next board meeting will be held at 6:30 PM, May 13, 2021 at the town hall.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM on a motion by Councilman Swan; seconded by Councilman Gustafson.

Minutes taken by

Recia L. Myers,
Town Clerk