

January 24 2024

**State of New York
Albany County
SECOND MONTHLY MEETING**

Town Supervisor Palow led the pledge of allegiance and called the meeting to order at 7:04PM with the following roll call attendance: Councilmembers Martin, Doolin, Thiem and Vane were present, also in attendance Town Clerk De Oliveira and Attorney Afzali.

ACCEPT MEETING MINUTES

Supervisor Palow made a motion seconded by Councilmember Doolin to accept the meeting minutes from January 3, 2024 Organizational Meeting and Regular Meeting, Supervisor Palow & Councilmembers Doolin, Martin, Thiem and Vane all voting aye.

CORRESPONDENCE

Councilmember Martin discussed a BKW Outreach program for career readiness for high school students that will provide networking opportunities.

OLD BUSINESS

Supervisor Palow made a motion seconded by Councilmember Vane to set a Public Hearing for February 14, 2024 at 6PM to discuss the transfer of Switzkill Farm to Albany County, Supervisor Palow and Councilmembers Doolin, Martin, Thiem and Vane all voting aye.

NEW BUSINESS

Discuss/ Approve Siewert Equipment for Sewer District

Supervisor Palow discussed quotes for Sewer Pumps repairs/replacements from Siewert Equipment. One of the main pumps at the intersection of Route 443 is broken and the Board discussed the quote and compared the price of repairing and replacing and Supervisor Palow made a motion seconded by Councilmember Martin to purchase a new pump in an amount not to exceed \$3780, Supervisor Palow and Councilmembers Doolin, Martin, Thiem and Vane all voting aye.

Supervisor Palow and the Board also discussed the need for a residential pump and agreed the repair price was much more sensible and Supervisor Palow made a motion to approve the payment to Siewert Equipment for a residential pump repair in the amount of \$2590.00 Supervisor Palow and Councilmembers Doolin, Martin, Thiem and Vane all voting aye.

Discuss/ Approve Payment to Carver Stone for Chips Bill

Supervisor Palow made a motion seconded by Councilmember Vane to authorize payment to Carver Stone in an amount not to exceed \$1951.80, Supervisor Palow and Councilmembers Doolin, Martin, Thiem and Vane all voting aye.

Discuss/ Approve New LED Lights for Town Park and Baseball Field

Councilmember Vane briefed everyone on some LED Lights that were available for sale from a vendor. The lights will be used for the Parking Light of Town Park when there are events as well as the baseball field. The BKW Little League President Kyle Bates agreed to purchase the lights with the Town of Berne and they will also have National Grid come and connect the lights. Councilmember Vane made a motion seconded by Councilmember Palow to reimburse BKW Little League for LED Lights in an amount not to exceed \$2275, Supervisor Palow and Councilmembers Doolin, Martin, Thiem and Vane all voting aye.

Helderberg Ambulance Purchase from Health Reserve Fund

Brenda Dibble and other representatives from Helderberg Ambulance were present to speak with Town Board and request funding for pulsometers from McKesson Medical supplies. The current pulsometer Helderberg Ambulance has right now do not fit small children or women with artificial nails. Supervisor Palow made a motion to reimburse Helderberg Ambulance in an amount not to exceed \$1687.80 for three McKesson Pulsometers seconded by Councilmember Vane. Supervisor Palow and Councilmembers Doolin, Martin, Thiem and Vane all voting aye.

Discuss/Approve Name of Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Councilmember Vane discussed the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and Celebration Committee and how currently the two boards are functioning separately. Councilmember Vane made a motion seconded by Councilmember Thiem to combine and put the Celebration Committee under the Parks and Recreation Board to create one new Board called Parks & Celebration, Supervisor Palow and Councilmembers Doolin, Martin, Thiem and Vane all voting aye.

Supervisor Palow made a motion seconded by Councilmember Thiem to appoint Mary Alice Molgard to the Parks & Celebration Board as Co-Chair to the Parks & Celebration Board, Supervisor Palow and Councilmembers Doolin, Martin, Thiem and Vane all voting aye.

Supervisor Palow and Chair Claire Ansboro shared dates of events already planned for 2024:

- March 16 8AM-11AM Kenneths Army St. Patrick's Day Brunch
- June 1st Kenneths Run 10th Annual Run
- June 29 3PM Fireworks for Fourth of July at Town Park

- September 21 3PM Oktoberfest at Town Park
- November 11 Veteran's Lunch at Community Center
- November 23 Opening Day Brunch: Hilltown Whitetail Brunch
- December 7 Storytime with Santa and Cookies & Hot Cocoa at Community Center
- December 14 Annual Peter Becker Christmas Parade

Discuss/Approve Authorization for Quote to Rehab Community Center

Councilmember Martin spoke of goals for the Community Center and offered the idea of Lamont Engineers coming to design plans on ways to update and rehab the community center. Councilmember Martin made a motion seconded by Councilmember Vane to approve payment to Lamont Engineers in an amount not to exceed \$2500 from the Parks and Recreation Reserve Fund, Supervisor Palow and Councilmembers Doolin, Martin, Thiem and Vane all voting aye.

Discuss/ Approve New Part Time Seasonal Highway Employee

Supervisor Palow made a motion seconded by Councilmember Vane to approve the hire of David Doolin as a part-time seasonal highway employee at \$20 per hour not to exceed 25 hours per week, FLSA non-exempt employee, unclassified, civil service exempt, effective 01/16/2024. Supervisor Palow and Councilmembers Martin, Thiem and Vane all voting aye, Councilmember Doolin abstain.

Discuss/ Approve Applicant for Animal Control Officer Position

Supervisor Palow discussed an applicant who is a Town Resident Paul Gribbin who applied for the position, Town Clerk De Oliveira read an email he sent expressing his interest in the job. Supervisor Palow made a motion seconded by Councilmember Vane to hire Paul Gribbin as Town of Berne Animal Control Officer at an hourly rate of \$19.57 with a differential rate of 24.57 Supervisor Palow and Councilmembers Doolin, Martin, Thiem and Vane all voting aye.

Discuss/Approve Library Board of Trustees Recommendation Letter

Supervisor Palow shared a letter of recommendation to fill the Library Board of Trustees and stated since it was just received on January 20 it would be tabled to allow Board Members to call and interview applicant as well as review resume.

Public Comment Any Topic

Michael Vincent wanted to inquire about grants and if any had been applied to by the Town's Grant Writer.

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Executive Session

7:35 PM

Supervisor Palow made a motion seconded by Councilmember Thiem to enter into executive session to discuss personnel matters, Supervisor Palow and Councilmembers Doolin, Martin, Thiem and Vane all voting aye

Supervisor Palow Reconvened the meeting at 8:20PM and stated that no action had been taken.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Town Supervisor Palow made the motion seconded by Councilmember Vane to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried with the following roll call vote: Supervisor Palow and Councilmembers Martin, Doolin, Thiem and Vane all voting aye. The meeting adjourned at **8:22PM**.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin De Oliveira, Town Clerk