

December 14, 2022

**STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY COUNTY**

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

Deputy Town Supervisor Clayton led the pledge of allegiance and called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM with the following role call attendance: Councilmembers Doolin, Thiem and Vane. Attorney Afzali, Highway Superintendent Bashwinger and Town Clerk De Oliveira were also present.

DISCUSS/APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 2022

Deputy Town Supervisor Clayton made a motion seconded by Councilmember Vane to approve the meeting minutes from November 9, 2022- Deputy Town Supervisor Clayton & Councilmembers Doolin, Thiem and Vane all voting aye.

CORRESPONDENCE

Deputy Town Supervisor Clayton spoke of the success with the Rabies Clinic November 19th at the Highway Garage and thanked the following volunteers: Debra Flagler, Donna Ferraino, Jennifer Merrill- Fuller and Kristin De Oliveira.

The board discussed an incident involving an injured cat and called into Town ACO Ferraino had to transport the animal to Latham and that the Town would be receiving a bill.

Deputy Town Supervisor Clayton spoke of Local Laws for 2023 regarding changes for the Assessors going from elected to appointed officials as well as the ATV law that is in process.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cynthia Barnick, an Irish Hill resident spoke of concern with dirt bikes on the roadways as well as noise levels. Attorney Afzali spoke of the new ATV law being able to provide more authority for the Town in situations of unauthorized activity.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Highway- Highway Superintendent Bashwinger said the weather has been working in our financial benefit and that there is 225 tons of salt which should be good until about March.

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Transfer Station- Highway Superintendent Bashwinger said it has been the second month in a row with over \$1000 in bottle return money. Transfer station employees have been separating better and helping to make fewer trips to the landfill.

Planning Board- Planning Board Chairman Martin told of a recent subdivision on Long Road that will need a drive by review.

ZBA Board- ZBA Chairman Spargo was present but had no news to report as there was no December meeting.

Building and Zoning Department – Administrative Assistant Deitz told of a possible subdivision on West Woodstock. With the slower winter months coming up there will be lots of projects and updating all the permits that have closed out.

Library- Library Director Kathy Stempel told of an upcoming interactive Polar Express movie on December 17 and the new Pokémon Club that was starting on Saturdays,

Parks & Recreation- The Town Board will be setting dates for 2023 for upcoming events to be hosted.

Assessor's- The Department mailed a summary report for the month that Town Board reviewed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Senior Meals- Mat Harris reported there was a recent Christmas Party and that there was a good turnout. There was a recent NYS Health Inspection and the Community Center passed with flying colors. The Board discussed possibly installing a water system to make the water drinkable.

Celebration Committee – The snowstorm unfortunately led to the 3rd Annual Peter Becker Parade being cancelled on December 11th.

OLD BUISNESS

ATV Update with Hilltown Riders

The Local Law has been drafted for ATV/OTV Roadway Usage and has been asked to be reviewed. A public hearing tentatively to be set for 2023.

NEW BUISNESS

Discuss/ Approve IPS Software Sync

After discussion Deputy Supervisor Clayton made a motion seconded by Councilmember Vane to sync the RPS and IPS software from Edmunds Gov in an amount not to exceed \$1500, Deputy Town Supervisor Clayton and Councilmembers Doolin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

Appoint New Member to Board of Library Trustees

After discussion Deputy Supervisor Clayton made a motion seconded by Councilmember Doolin to approve Lynn Warner-Kerr for a 5-year term on the Board of Library Trustees; Deputy Town Supervisor Clayton and Councilmembers Doolin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

Discuss Grant Writers

The board discussed the idea of hiring a Grant writer to work with the Town to both find and execute grants for the Town to best utilize opportunities.

Discuss/ Approve Renaming Berne Town Park

Councilmember Vane discussed the improvements made at The Town Park as well as the possibility of the Eagle Scouts building a Vietnam Memorial Site. Councilmember Vane made a motion seconded by Councilmember Thiem to change the name of the park to Berne Town Park to Berne Memorial Town Park, Deputy Town Supervisor Clayton, and Councilmembers Doolin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

Discuss Ice Rink at Town Park

The Board discussed the idea of putting an ice rink at the Town Park on the tennis court as well as the idea of other more permanent solutions for possible future improvements at the park.

Approving Hiring of Transfer Station Employee

After discussion about the recent loss of an employee Deputy Supervisor Clayton made a motion seconded by Councilmember Thiem to hire Ed Dibble at \$19 an hour bi- weekly, civil service exempt, part- time permanent , Deputy Town Supervisor Clayton and Councilmembers Doolin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

Discuss Sealed Bids for Haying at Switzkill Farm

Deputy Supervisor Clayton made a motion seconded by Councilmember Thiem to authorize bids to be redone for the haying of Switzkill Farms with a sealed bid opening January 9th at 10 AM, Deputy Town Supervisor Clayton and Councilmembers Doolin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

Discuss Sealed Bids for Logging at Switzkill Farm

Deputy Supervisor Clayton made a motion seconded by Councilmember Doolin to authorize bids for logging of Switzkill Farms following Conservation Easement rules with a sealed bid opening January 9th at 10 AM, Deputy Town Supervisor Clayton and Councilmembers Doolin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

Schedule Organizational Board Meeting for 2023

Deputy Supervisor Clayton made a motion seconded by Councilmember Vane to set the Organizational Board Meeting for Tuesday January 10th at 6:30PM with monthly regular meeting to follow at 7PM, Deputy Town Supervisor Clayton and Councilmembers Doolin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

Resolutions Adding funds to General Fund and Highway Fund Reserves

Deputy Supervisor Clayton offered and moved the following resolution: Be it resolved the Town Board of the Town of Berne does hereby approve the budget transfer of 12/14/2022 for the General fund capital reserves as attached to these minutes Resolution was declared duly adopted with the following roll call vote:

Deputy Supervisor Clayton.....aye	Councilmember Thiem.....aye
Councilmember Vane.....aye	Councilmember Doolin..... aye

Deputy Supervisor Clayton offered and moved the following resolution: Be it resolved the Town Board of the Town of Berne does hereby approve the budget transfer of 12/14/2022 for the Highway fund capital reserves as attached to these minutes Resolution was declared duly adopted with the following roll call vote:

Deputy Supervisor Clayton.....aye	Councilmember Thiem.....aye
Councilmember Vane.....aye	Councilmember Doolin..... aye

Certificates of Appreciation

Deputy Supervisor Clayton read aloud the following Certificates of Appreciate:

“In recognition for many years volunteering and serving our community, We the Town Board of the Town of Berne hereby recognize Millie Zuk for her dedication to our community.”

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“In recognition for decades of service as a Public Officer for the Town of Berne in both elected and volunteer positions. We the Town Board of the Town of Berne hereby recognize Alan Zuk for his dedication to our community.”

“In recognition for over 40 years as Town Tax Collector and serving the residents of the community in different capacities, We the Town Board of the Town of Berne hereby recognize Jerry O’Malley for his dedication to our community.”

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS

Deputy Supervisor Clayton made a motion to accept the Supervisor’s Financial Report from November 2022 seconded by Councilmember Vane, motion carried with the following roll call vote: Deputy Town Supervisor Clayton and Councilmembers Doolin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

Deputy Supervisor Clayton made a motion to accept the Town Clerk’s Financial Report from November 2022 seconded by Councilmember Doolin, motion carried with the following roll call vote: Deputy Town Supervisor Clayton and Councilmembers Doolin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

Deputy Supervisor Clayton made a motion to accept the Building and Zoning’s Financial Report from November 2022 seconded by Councilmember Thiem, motion carried with the following roll call vote: Deputy Town Supervisor Clayton and Councilmembers Doolin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

AUTHORIZING BUDGET TRANSFERS FOR NOVEMBER

After discussion, Deputy Supervisor Clayton made a motion seconded by Councilmember Vane that the budget transfers for November be authorized. Motion carried with the following roll call vote: Deputy Town Supervisor Clayton and Councilmembers Doolin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

APPROVING ABSTRACTS AND PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS

After discussion, Deputy Supervisor Clayton made a motion seconded by Councilmember Doolin to approve the bill to Heavy Duty Automatics a W&W company in an amount not to exceed \$1422.76 Deputy Town Supervisor Clayton and Councilmembers Doolin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

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Deputy Supervisor made a motion seconded by Councilmember Vane to approve a bill to CAPITAL DISTRICT VETERINARY HOSPITAL 222 Troy Schenectady Road in an amount not to exceed \$865.11 for the emergency appointment, Deputy Town Supervisor Clayton and Councilmembers Doolin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

Deputy Supervisor Clayton made a motion seconded by Councilmember Doolin to approve the following abstracts and payment bills:

GENERAL FUND, HIGHWAY FUND, SEWER, UTILITIES WITHHOLDINGS FOR 2022

Abstract #63 \$76,403.04 (Voucher 1415-1440) Prepaid
Abstract #64 \$79,553.85 (Voucher 1444-1543) Regular Vouchers

Abstracts #63-#64 Totaling \$155,956.89

Deputy Supervisor Clayton made a motion seconded by Councilmember Thiem to authorize payment of bills -motion carried with the following roll call vote: Supervisor Palow, and Councilmembers Doolin, Thiem and Vane voting aye.

APPOINT NEW MEMBER TO COMP PLAN COMMITTEE

Deputy Supervisor Clayton made a motion seconded by Councilmember Vane to appoint Cathy Shultes to Comprehensive Plan Committee to fill a vacancy, Deputy Town Supervisor Clayton and Councilmembers Doolin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION 8:40PM

Deputy Supervisor Clayton made a motion seconded by Councilmember Thiem to enter Executive Session to discuss contract negotiations and litigations, Deputy Town Supervisor Clayton and Councilmembers Doolin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

MOTION TO CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION 9:36PM

Deputy Supervisor Clayton made a motion seconded by Councilmember Vane to close Executive Session, no action was taken. Deputy Town Supervisor Clayton and Councilmembers Doolin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye.

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MOTION TO ADJOURN

There being no further business or discussion, Deputy Supervisor Clayton made the motion seconded by Councilmember Thiem to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried with the following roll call vote: Deputy Town Supervisor Clayton and Councilmembers Doolin, Vane and Thiem all voting aye. Meeting adjourned 9:37PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin De Oliveira, Town Clerk