



Town of Tusten Town Board Meeting

Regular Meeting Minutes

Zoom ID: 890 1678 4280

January 12, 2021

6:30 PM

Supervisor Bernard Johnson	Present
Deputy Supervisor Jane Luchsinger	Present
Councilwoman Jill Padua	Present
Councilman Bruce Gettel	Present
Councilman Alfred Smith	Present
OTHERS PRESENT: Crystal Weston, Town Clerk; Ken Klein Esq, Attorney to the Town; David Bunce, NWS Interim Superintendent; Susan Sullivan, Tusten Rep for UDC; Approx. 10 members from the general public.	

1 OPENING ITEMS

1.1 Call Meeting to Order

Supervisor Bernard Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM

1.2 Pledge of allegiance

Supervisor Bernard Johnson led the pledge of allegiance

1.3 Announcements

- Part Time Grounds Maintenance Position, view the job description online or by email request TownClerk@Tusten.org . If you are interested please fill out a job application and return to the Town Clerk by January 29, 2021

1.4 Payment of Bills

RESOLUTION # 12- 2021

PAYMENT OF BILLS

On motion of Councilman Alfred Smith, Councilwoman Jill Padua, the following resolution was,

ADOPTED 5 AYES 0 NAYS

RESOLVED that the bills be paid as presented:

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Fund Account	Amt.	Vouchers
General Fund	\$ 2,951.04	1-8, 33
Highway Fund	\$ 11,591.07	9-19
Water Fund	\$ 4, 253.73	20-25
Sewer Fund	\$ 4,408.73	26-32
TOTAL	\$ 23,204.57	

2 DIVISION REPORTS - the following reports were read aloud by Supervisor Bernard Johnosn

2.1 Highway- December 2020

- Used 1028.2 gal of diesel fuel 972.8 gal was for highway and 55.4 was non highway use.
- Used 338.7 gal of gas 28 was highway and 310.7 was non highway use.
- Patch holes on dirt and paved roads.
- Stock piled salt for winter.
- Repaired pipes on Irish Town Rd.
- Serviced equipment for winter.
- Repair wash outs on Irish Town, Lackawaxen, Smith Hughes and Grassy.
- A few snow storms out plowing and sanding roads.
- Cut trees on Evergreen and Perry Pond.
- Put snow removal equipment on trucks.
- Installed new No Parking signs 5th street and four No winter maintenance signs, that were missing.
- Graded dirt roads get them ready for winter.
- Serviced Water & Sewer generators

2.2 Water & Sewer

- Repaired 1 sewer cleanout on Route 97.
- Pumped 8 septic tanks with Koberlein.
- Replaced 6 concrete septic tank lids with culvert pipe risers and plastic lids.
- Completed monthly drinking water and waste water sampling and reporting.
- Attended a Construction, Design, & Inspection class and a Utility Management class provided for free by the New York Rural Water Association for our wastewater apprenticeship.

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- Replaced a frozen caustic soda discharge line at the sewer treatment plant.
- Exercised generators at Well #1 and Kirk Rd pump station.
- Built several shelves for additional storage and a large pegboard for wrenches.
- Shoveled around fire hydrants and plowed driveways after snow storm.
- Inspected the grinder and pump stations that were accessible.
- Received training on using new Badger tremble and billing software.
- Read water meters with new tremble.
- Pumped down chlorine contact tank so Koberlein could pump out debris from the bottom.
- Replaced one water meter radio head.
- Picked up 80' of 15" culvert pipe from Highway Dept for future septic tank risers.

2.3 Building Department/ Code Enforcement

- Construction Inspections - 22
- Fire & Safety Inspections - 1
- Complaint/Violation Inspections - 0
- Certificate of Occupancy - 0
- Certificate of Compliance - 14
- Building Permits - 4
- New Homes - 1
- Accessory Building/Garage - 0
- Renovation/Alteration/Addition - 0
- Camping - 0
- Chimney/Fuel - 0
- Accessory Building Commercial - 0
- New Commercial Construction - 0
- Renovation/Alteration - Commercial Construction - 0
- Deck - 0
- Demolition Permit - 0
- Driveway Permit - 0
- Electrical - 2
- Logging Permits - 0
- Mechanical -
- Permit Renewals - 0

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- Pool - 0
- Roof Replacement - 0
- Roof Structure - 0
- Septic Permits - 0
- Sidewalk - 0
- Sign Permit - 0
- Solar Permit - 0
- Well - 1
- Flood Plain Permit - 0

- C/O and violation search - 6

- Dangerous and Unsafe Building - 0
- Complaints Received - 0
- Complaints Closed - 0
- Violations Issued - 0
- Violations Corrected - 0
- Previous Violations Closed/Corrected - 0
- Stop Work - 0

- Monies collected by this office from December 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 are \$1,742.30

Respectfully,
Jim P Crowley, Building Inspector
JPC/js

2020 Annual Report

- Construction Inspections - 240
- Fire & Safety Inspections - 6
- Complaint Inspections - 10
- Certificate of Occupancy - 18
- Certificate of Compliance - 89
- Permits ----- 132 (113 in 2018) (143 in 2019)
 - Addition ----- 2
 - Accessory Bldg/Garage-----13

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- Alterations/Renovation ----- 9
 - Camping ----- 2
 - Chimney/Solid Fuel----- 4
 - Commercial New Acc Bldg ----- 2
 - Commercial Alteration/Renov ----- 7
 - Deck ----- 10
 - Demolition/Fuel Tank Abatement-----3
 - Driveway ----- 10
 - Electrical ----- 25
 - Geothermal Units ----- 1
 - Logging ----- 5
 - Mechanical ----- 5
 - New Homes ----- 8 (7 homes in 2018) (9 homes in 2019)
 - Pool ----- 2
 - Renewal ----- 0
 - Roofs Residential/Commercial-----9
 - Septic Permits ----- 9
 - Sign ----- 2
 - Solar Permits ----- 2
 - Well----- 2
- Municipal Search - 101 (62 in 2018) (81 in 2019)
 - Flood Plain Permits - 1
 - Dangerous and Unsafe Building Declaration - 1
 - Complaint/Violation Notices - 5

Monies collected by this office from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 20120 were \$33,904.90
(\$28,852.40 for 2018) (\$47,348.30 for 2019)

Respectfully,
Jim Crowley, Building Inspector
JC/js

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2.4 Assessor – No report received at this time

2.5 Upper Delaware Council – report given by Susan Sullivan

UDC's monthly meeting was held via Zoom on January 7, 2021

Committee Activities;

WURM Committee;

Invasive Species Spotted Lanternfly has been identified in Bethel NY as well as in Pike Co. Pa, and so you may see descriptions of it posted. UDC has egg scrapers to provide to Town Highway Departments, so would someone on the Board pass this information along to the Highway Department. It's an extremely destructive insect, especially to fruit trees.

TMR Boat Launch; grant opportunities for this project are being held up by the Consultant's failure to give the UDC a price. UDC will seek to get the needed information.

April Litter Sweep; Evan Padua has volunteered to be the Litter Leader for Tusten, and anyone interested in joining this spring cleanup of River accesses should contact Evan.

Project Review Committee;

The virtual training video rollout of the new Project Review workbook will be held on Monday January 25, 2021 at 3:00PM and 5:30PM. the link has been sent by Shannon Cilento but I can also send her email to anyone who needs the link. The video can also be previewed on YouTube or vimeo.

Feagles Lake Development; Shannon is attending Planning Board meetings and gives her updates to the Committee, which indicate the project is on track.

NOTE: While I don't attend the **Operations Committee meeting**, I read the minutes, which describe a long discussion of the term "substantial conformance" and how it appears in the UDC 5-year plan. Clarification of this term with NPS, especially as there is a new Superintendent, will have an impact on projects and zoning changes going forward. The Council passed the 5-year plan with modifications on this topic.

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NPS:

Superintendent Joe Salvatore introduced himself to the Council. He expressed his desire to work collaboratively, made his cell phone number available to all and is open to meeting with any of us, and with Town Board members as well. He met with Larry Richardson, and Laurie Ramie who gave him background on the UPDE (he has agreed not to call us “the Park”)

UDC:

There will be some kind of swearing in ceremony of 2021 officers, Jeff Dexter, myself, and Al Henry, with usual press release

January 15, is the deadline for signing on to the UDC’s Petition for NYS Support of the Upper Delaware River Watershed ...the link is available in Laurie’s 12/30 email or on UDC’s Facebook page.

February 4 UDC monthly meeting will begin with a presentation by Adam Bosch NYC DEP on Emergency Notification Procedure from Cannonsville Reservoir Virtual, of course

5 Year Operating Program for FY 2021-2025 was approved.

UDC letter to support the NYDEC’s Trout Stream Management plan Regs was approved

For further information on UDC topics, email me at suesul1941@gmail.com

2.6 Energy Committee – No report received at this time

2.7 Zoning Re-Write Committee – No report received at this time

2.8 Grants

- TAG Grant (UDC)
 - Comp Plan Part 2 in progress and ahead of schedule
- Bridge NY - Little Lake Erie Culvert
 - In progress of obtaining approval for the acquisitions of right of way
 - Construction est, to begin July and last through Oct.

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3 PUBLIC COMMENT

For detailed information please see the official transcript.

- Mike Farrell (Member of the Comp Plan Comm.) - *encouraging residents to review the draft plan when it comes forth, a lot of hard work has gone into this...*
- Bob Olman - re: repairs made to Evergreen Lane; they were great but have since been destroyed due to weather - *Supervisor Johnson stated he will reach out to the Hwy*

4 NEW BUSINESS

4.1 AGREEMENT FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF HIGHWAYS MONEYS

RESOLUTION #13-2021

AGREEMENT FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF HIGHWAYS MONEYS

On motion of Supervisor Bernard Johnson, seconded by Deputy Supervisor Jane Luchsinger, the following resolution was,

ADOPTED 5 AYES 0 NAYS

RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby approve the expenditure of highway monies as presented:

AGREEMENT between the Town Highway Superintendent of the Town of Tusten, Sullivan County, New York, and the undersigned members of the Town Board.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 284 of the Highway Law, we agree that moneys levied and collected in the Town for the repair and improvement of highways, and received from the State for State Aid for the repair and improvement of highways, shall be expended as follows:

1. GENERAL REPAIRS. The sum of **\$ 314,200.00** shall be set aside to be expended for primary work and general repairs upon **61.2 miles** of town highways, including sluices, culverts and bridges having a span of less than five feet and boardwalks or the renewals thereof.
2. PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS. The following sums shall be set aside to be expended for the permanent improvement of town highways:

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(a) On the road commencing at **6 roads** leading to a distance of **8.68 miles**, there shall be expended not over the sum of **\$114,200.00** Type **Chip Seal** Width of traveled surface **Perry Pond, Forest Pond, Bear Run, Maple Lane, Evergreen, Swamp Pond** Thickness **Subbase**

(b) On the road commencing at **Cochecton Turnpike**, and **Mahls Pond, Cackletown, Swamp Pond, Grassy Swamp** a distance of **7.19 miles** there shall be expended not over the sum of **\$200,000.00** Type **Cold mix Asphalt** Width of traveled surface **18 - 20 "** Thickness **4"** Subbase **Old road base**

4.2 Fire Advisory Board

RESOLUTION # 14 - 2021

2021 FIRE ADVISORY BOARD

On motion of Supervisor Bernard Johnson, seconded by Councilwoman Jill Padua, the following resolution was

ADOPTED 5 AYES 0 NAYS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board Appoint Craig Burkle to the Sullivan County Fire Advisory Board for 2021

4.3 Executive Session

RESOLUTION # 15-2021

ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Supervisor Bernard Johnson, seconded by Councilman Alfred Smith, the following resolution was,

ADOPTED 5 YES 0 NAYS

RESOLVED that the Town Board enter into Executive Session at 7:06 PM for the purpose of acquisition, lease or sale of real property.

No decisions made

No minutes taken

Motion to Exit the Executive Session at 7:16 PM was made by Supervisor Bernard Johnson. All in favor.

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4.4 Parking Lot Discussion

RESOLUTION #16-2021

AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN THE CONTRACT WITH THE NATIONAL BANK OF DELAWARE

On motion of Supervisor Bernard Johnson, seconded by Councilwoman Jill Padua, the following resolution was

ADOPTED 5 AYES 0 NAYS

RESOLVED that the Tusten Town Board of Sullivan, New York hereby authorize the Supervisor to enter into contract with the National Bank of Delaware for the acquisition of property.

5 PUBLIC COMMENT *(for detailed information please see the official transcript)*

- Mike Farrell
- Wanda Gangel
- Bob Olman

6 CONT'D NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Executive Session

RESOLUTION # 17-2021

ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Supervisor Bernard Johnson, seconded by Councilman Alfred Smith, the following resolution was,

ADOPTED 5 AYES 0 NAYS

RESOLVED that the Town Board enter into Executive Session at 7:23 PM to discuss the employment history of a particular individual.

No decisions made

No minutes taken.

Motion to Exit the Executive Session at 7:44 PM was made by Supervisor Bernard Johnson, seconded by Councilwoman Jill Padua. All in favor.

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6.2 Assistant Bookkeeper/ NWS Clerk

RESOLUTION # 18-2021

**APPOINTEMENT & APPROVAL OF HOURS FOR TEMPORARY
BOOKKEEPER & NWS CLERK**

On motion of Supervisor Bernard Johnson, seconded by Councilwoman Jill Padua, the following resolution was,

ADOPTED 5 AYES 0 NAYS

RESOLVED that Jocelyn Strumpfler is hereby appointed to the position of temporary Bookkeeper & NWS Clerk and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Jocelyn Strumpfler is authorized to work 10 hours per week at current pay rate of 19/ hr.; any additional time will be authorized by the Town Supervisor, effective immediately and until February 9, 2021 at which time continued and or changes will be authorization will be determined.

7 CLOSING ITEMS

7.1 Board Comment

No additional comments.

7.2 Meeting reminder

Town Board Special Meeting: Agenda Workshop Tuesday February 2, 2021

7.3 Adjournment

With no further business to be had, motion at 7:46 PM was made Councilman Bruce Gettel, seconded by Councilman Alfred Smith to close the Regular Meeting. All in favor.

Respectively Submitted
Crystal Weston,
Town Clerk