

**January 9, 2024**

**Organization and Regular Town Board Meeting**

**7:00**

The Fremont Town Board held their Organization Meeting and Regular Town Board Meeting on January 9, 2024 at 7:00 PM

Supervisor Emily Murray called the Meeting to order at 7 PM; led the Pledge of Allegiance and Council Member Kiefer gave the Invocation.

Present: Town Board: Supervisor Emily Murray, Council Member Mary Soukup, Council Member Dean Kiefer, Council Member Cindy Smith and Council Member Seth Hilton.

Other Public Officials Present: Tom Flansburg, Highway Superintendent

Public attending was 8

**Old Business:**

**Resolution #1 Approve the Correction to Abstract 12A**

Motion by Council Member Smith seconded by Council Member Hilton Resolution #1 was adopted. It was resolved to approve the correction to Abstract #12A in the amount of \$1174.00. Roll Call of Votes: Kiefer aye, Hilton aye, Murray aye, Smith aye, Soukup abstain. 4 Aye 0 Nay 1 Abstain.

**Resolution #2 Approve the Minutes from December 26, 2023 End of Year Meeting**

Motion by Council Member Kiefer seconded by Council Member Smith Resolution #2 was adopted. It was resolved to approve the minutes from December 26, 2023 End of Year Meeting. Roll Call of Votes: Murray aye, Smith aye, Soukup abstain, Kiefer aye, Hilton aye. 4 Aye 0 Nay 1 Abstain.

Reports of Public Officials submitted and on file: Betsey Farley, Justice, Debra Matthews, Dog Control Officer, John Leonard, Code Enforcement Officer submitted his annual report for 2023.

Superintendent Flansburg stated that they have been sanding and doing misc. work to get caught up on and mentioned the agreement with the County. Supervisor Murray stated that the agreement would come later in the agenda.

**Organizational Meeting:**

**Resolution #3 Approval for Town Supervisor to Transfer Funds and Sign Checks, Banking at Community Bank, Banking at Five Star, Invest Town Funds**

Motion by Council Member Smith seconded by Council Member Kiefer Resolution #3 was adopted. It was resolved to approve Town Supervisor to Transfer Funds and Sign Checks, Banking at Community, Banking at Five Star, Invest Town Funds. Roll Call of Votes: Murray abstain, Hilton aye, Soukup aye, Kiefer aye, Smith aye. 4 Aye 0 Nay 1 Abstain.

**Resolution #4 Approval to Appoint Cindy Smith as Deputy Supervisor for 2024 Salary of \$700**

Motion by Council Member Kiefer seconded by Council Member Soukup Resolution #4 was adopted. It was resolved to approve Cindy Smith as Deputy Supervisor Salary of \$700. Roll Call of Votes: Kiefer aye, Hilton aye, Soukup aye, Smith aye, Murray aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

**Resolution #5 Approve Deputy Supervisor to Transfer Town Funds and Sign Checks**

Motion by Council Member Hilton seconded by Council Member Kiefer Resolution #5 was adopted. It was resolved to approve Deputy Supervisor to transfer town funds and sign checks. Roll Call of Votes: Hilton aye, Soukup aye, Kiefer aye, Smith aye, Murray aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

**Resolution #6 Authorize the Tax Collector to turn Tax Money over to the Town Supervisor Weekly**

Motion by Council Member Hilton seconded by Council Member Smith Resolution #6 was adopted. It was resolved to authorize the Tax Collector to turn tax money over to the Town Supervisor weekly. Roll Call of Votes: Murray aye, Soukup aye, Smith aye, Kiefer aye, Hilton aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

**Resolution #7 Approve Salaries of Elected Officials for 2024**

Motion by Council Member Kiefer seconded by Council Member Soukup Resolution #7 was adopted. It was resolved to approve Salaries for Elected Officials for 2024. \*Supervisor \$7,200.00, \*Council Member (4) @ \$2,000.00 each, \*Town Clerk /Tax Collector \$12,250.00, \*Town Justice \$10,000.00, \*Highway Superintendent \$51,000.00. Roll Call of Votes: Hilton aye, Soukup aye, Kiefer aye, Smith aye, Murray aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

**Resolution #8 Approve One Year Appointments and Their Salaries for 2024 Term**

Motion by Supervisor Murray seconded by Council Member Kiefer Resolution #8 was adopted. It was resolved to approve One Year Appointments and Their Salaries for 2024. \* Attorney for the Town- Richardson & Pullen - \$200.00 per Hour,\* Historian Cindy Smith- \$0,\* Dog Control Officer Debra Matthews \$3,800.00,\* Assistant DCO Michael Matthews \$1,000.00,\*Code Enforcement Officer Charles Cagle \$6000.00 (includes mileage and cell phone),\*House Keeper Susan Peck, Temporary \$15.00 per hour,\*Record Manager Officer Susan Peck,\*Records Advisory Board: Susan Peck, Cindy Smith, \*Budget Officer Emily Murray,\*Mail Clerk Susan Peck,\*Newspaper Reporter Supervisor Emily Murray,\*Baldwin Services for Accounting \$8,500.00,\*Baldwin Services for Payroll \$2300.00,\*IT- Ed's Computers Hourly Rate as needed,\*Health Officer Dr. MacKellar- \$410.00 per year,\*Registrar of Vital Statistics - \$500 per year-2 year term, Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics-Holley Smalt \$0, Deputy Highway Superintendent, Shawn Smith - \$500 per year, Assessor-Holley Smalt \$12,895.00, Board of Assessment Review Chair-\$30.00 per hour, Board of Assessment Review Members \$25.00 per hour. Roll Call of Votes: Murray aye, Soukup aye, Kiefer aye, Hilton aye, Smith aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

**Resolution #9 Approve Organization and How Often Salaries are Paid for 2024**

Motion by Council Member Hilton seconded by Council Member Smith Resolution #9 was adopted. It was resolved to approve Organization and How Often Salaries are Paid for 2024 \*Monthly Town Board Meeting- Second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM Fremont Town Hall, \*Official Newspaper- The Spectator/Shopper,\*Official Bank- Community Bank, \* Mileage Rate .67 cents per mile (2024 Federal Rate), \*Salaries Paid: Bi Weekly: Superintendent of Highways, Highway Employees, and Town Clerk /Tax Collector, \*Salaries Paid: Monthly: Supervisor, Assessor, Dog Control Officer, Deputy Dog Control Officer, Justice, Code Enforcement Officer, Salaries Paid: Quarterly: Councilmen, Registrar, Deputy Supervisor, and Accountant / Payroll, Deputy Highway Superintendent \*Salaries Paid: Annually: Health Officer, and Historian, \*Salaries Paid: Hourly: Housekeeper, Board of Assessment Review members, Town Attorney and IT Services. Roll Call of Votes: Hilton aye, Soukup aye, Smith aye, Kiefer aye, Murray aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

**New Business:****Resolution #10 Authorize the Audit of the Justice Court Records for 2023 by Baldwin Services for \$600.00**

Motion by Council Member Hilton seconded by Council Member Smith Resolution #10 was adopted. It was resolved to authorize the Audit of the Justice Court Records for 2023 by Baldwin Services for \$600.00. Roll Call of Votes: Murray aye, Soukup aye, Smith aye, Kiefer aye, Hilton aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

**Resolution #11 Approve the Wayland Dog Pound Contract for 2024 cost is \$350 per year**

Motion by Council Member Smith seconded by Council Member Hilton Resolution #11 was adopted. It was resolved to approve the Wayland Dog Pound Contract for 2024 at a cost of \$350 per year. Roll Call of Votes: Murray aye, Smith aye, Soukup aye, Kiefer aye, Hilton aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Tabled – Amend the Town of Fremont Land Use Regulations, Local Law #1 of 2005 to include the use of the NYS Building Codes.

Tabled – Department of Social Services Employment – Client Work Experience.

**Resolution #12 Approve the Steuben County Agreement for Gooseneck Low Boy Trailers and Tractors**

Motion by Council Member Kiefer seconded by Council Member Smith Resolution \$12 was adopted. It was resolved to approve the Steuben County Agreement for Gooseneck Low Boy Trailers and Tractors for a 3-year Contract at no cost to the Town. Roll Call of Votes: Kiefer aye, Hilton aye, Soukup aye, Smith aye, Murray aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Supervisor Murray read the letter from the Association of Towns regarding training in NYC.

**Resolution #13 Approve to Pay Bills – Abstract #1 Highway \$4309.58, General \$5098.96**

Motion by Council Member Smith seconded by Council Member Kiefer Resolution #13 was adopted. It was resolved to approve the payment of bills on Abstract #1 in the amount of \$9408.54. Roll Call of Votes: Murray aye, Soukup aye, Kiefer aye, Smith aye, Hilton aye. 5 Aye 0 Nay 0 Abstain.

Public Comments??

Dan Deleo asked, if the Town had a new judge and *Supervisor Murray responded yes, Madeleine Seaman*

Ryan Batte asked, what the amendment to local law 1 was and *Supervisor Murray responded adding the usage of the NYS Building Codes*. He also stated that according to Judge Farley there is no enforcement of any of those. Supervisor Murray stated she said to put them on the taxes He also asked, what the attorneys say about it and *Supervisor Murray asked him if he had a copy of the letter and he said yes. Supervisor Murray stated that the attorney said we could clean up properties and put the costs of it on the taxes* Batte stated the town could hire a contractor, clean it up, put the cost of it on the taxes and when the resident does not pay the taxes it goes to the tax auction. *Supervisor Murray stated but to show up at someone's house and just clean it up is going to be sticky*. Batte responded I am sure it is. *She also responded that we need to get the wording in place but she does not think going onto a property and clean it up is the right thing to do.*

Superintendent Flansburg stated that what one person may think is junk may not be what the resident thinks.

Deleo stated that he might as well apply for the Code Enforcement and collect the pay. He also stated that at some point in time the fines should be collected. He asked if the new code enforcement person will have his phone posted online. The responses was *yes*.

With no other business, Supervisor Murray motioned to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:40 PM

*Susan M. Peck*