

**Town of Middlesex
Regular Meeting
May 9, 2024**

Present: David Adam, Supervisor
Stephanie Betts, Council Member
Paul Mitchell, Council Member

Absent: Leon Button, Council Member (entered at 7:46 p.m.)
Austin Liddiard, Council Member
Patrick Grimaldi, Assessor

Also Present: Josh Burnett, Highway Superintendent
Dawn Kane, Code Enforcement Officer
Amberle Kelly, Historian/Heritage Group

Recording Secretary: Lynnette Miller, Clerk

Call to Order/Pledge

Supervisor Adam called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, 1216 State Route 245, Middlesex. He led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment – none

Approval of Minutes

Supervisor Adam requested a motion to accept the minutes of the April 11, 2024, regular meeting. A motion was made by Council Member Mitchell, seconded by Council Member Betts.

*All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

Guest Speaker – Jeff Friend, Lyons National Bank

Supervisor Adam welcomed Jeff Friend, Senior Vice President & Director of Market & Municipal Development at Lyons National Bank. Supervisor Adam referred to a discussion at the April Board meeting about LNB coming to Rushville. Supervisor Adam stated that the Board would like to learn more about LNB. Jeff stated that he oversees the retail side of the bank. Jeff stated that LNB is truly a community bank, taking in local deposits and funding local loans. At each local branch, managers and loan officers make decisions based on what is best for them. Jeff has been with LNB for over 20 years. He provided the Board with LNB's 2023 Annual Report. A community grant for \$25,000 was received by LNB which helped to fund a new sign for Finger Lakes Plates in Rushville. Additional community projects are planned which benefit small town businesses as well as the bank. LNB is the number one mortgage lender in Yates County. LNB holds deposits of nearly 19 million dollars from the greater Rushville area (Rushville, Middlesex, Potter, Italy & Gorham) and nearly 49 million dollars in loans. LNB partners well with the agriculture and Mennonite communities. Each branch has a local Advisory Board consisting of 6 or 7 local members. LNB bids on municipal Bonds and BANS. LNB also offers tax collection service. Jeff stated that LNB fully expects to be the funding source for the Town of Middlesex BAN award on May 22, 2024. Supervisor Adam asked Jeff for an update on the Rushville property. Jeff stated that LNB closed

on the property about 30 days ago. A drive thru is proposed north of the building. Local contractors will be hired to renovate the Rushville property. LNB is hopeful that the branch will open in approximately 90 days. Supervisor Adam welcomed LNB to the community. He and the Board thanked Jeff for his time.

Highway/Buildings/Grounds – Josh Burnett

- The guys finished ditching on Valley View Rd. and started ditching on Upper Hill Rd.
- Gravel roads have been graded, gravel was hauled for stockpile, as well as gravel placed on Kaltenback Rd., boom mowing has been done.
- Clean Up Day held on April 20th went well. Approximately 30 tons of materials taken in that day.
- Sand was delivered to the Vine Valley Beach. Gorham's skid steer was used to spread. Tables & lifeguard chair were placed. The fence looks good.
- Banners have been placed on the poles in the hamlet. Flags just arrived and will be placed on Monday.
- There was a water main break on Monday near Johnson Rd. Art Rilands, prior water superintendent for the Village of Rushville and now mayor, is willing to work when needed using Rushville's backhoe. He is requesting \$35/hour. There was a discussion about how to pay Art. The Board needs to research. Is there a memorandum of shared services with the Village of Rushville? YC Legislator Ed Bronson suggested that the Town look into an independent contractor.
- The roller is back in service.
- Annual Highway Safety Training was held in Benton. Required training was completed.
- The milling pile on North Vine Valley Road will be used for shoulder material in late summer. Supervisor Adam commented that the millings will need to be reprocessed. Villager Construction will re-mill this month if needed. Bruce St. Lawrence suggests coordinating with Villager.
- The new one-ton truck will be here by the end of May. Wilbri is waiting for a couple parts to arrive.
- Truck #2, 2016 F-550, closed on Auction International at \$10,600. An old 500-gallon fuel oil tank sitting out in the weeds behind the Town Barn was cleaned up, photos taken and placed on Auctions International. A bid came in at \$420.00. Josh feels these are good prices.
- The guys will continue ditching, placing gravel on South Hill Road, and mowing.

Assessor – no report

Code Enforcement Office – Dawn Kane

- Planning Board – Currently working on the model law for solar farms, also working on updating zoning laws.
- ZBA – No meeting this month.
- Vine Valley Beach – Dawn thanked Superintendent Burnett and the highway guys for doing a great job preparing the beach for the season. The septic tank has been pumped by Warners. To date three lifeguards have been hired. Dawn will have the lifeguards getting the beach set and ready. Anyone interested in applying as a lifeguard should contact Dawn. ACS is working on repair to the dock. Supervisor Adam commented on the placement of the dock. Dawn will be present when the dock is placed.

Council Member Leon Button entered at 7:46 p.m.

Historian/Heritage Group – Amberle Kelly

- The Memorial Day Parade will be held in Middlesex at 10:00 a.m. on May 27th. There will be a ceremony following. A table of Middlesex memorabilia will be located in the fire hall.
- Marcus Whitman Fun Day sponsored by the Gorham Historical Society will be held at Lincoln Hill Farm, July 28, 2024 from 11 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. The purpose is to educate residents on the life and history of Narcissa and Marcus Whitman, in addition to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Whitman to Whitman Run. Activities include a 5K run and a kid's fun run, a tractor show, crafts, arts and more.
- Citizens Appreciation Day will be held August 4, 2024. Nominations are currently being accepted.
- Amberle and Win Harper met with a couple from Geneva who taught them how to clean cemetery headstones properly. Amberle is hoping to hold a community work day sometime this summer to continue the project. Supervisor Adam suggested contacting the high school for students who might need community service.

Legislator's Report – Ed Bronson

- Concrete is being poured in the truck storage area at the new County building in Benton. Natural gas pipe will be delivered next week.
- County Highway to begin mowing highways next week.
- Yates County is in need of Foster Parents. Contact the Social Services Department in Penn Yan.
- The Wall That Heals, a replica and mobile education center of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial will be in Penn Yan August 8-11, 2024. Volunteers and contributions are needed.
- There will be two public hearings held by Yates County on May 13, 2024; A Local Law Extending the YC Pilot Youth Deer Hunting Through 12/31/25, and Moving Elections of Yates County Legislators to Even-Numbered Years.
- The YC Clerk has started a veteran's discount program through various local businesses. Registration is necessary through the Clerk's office.
- The Broadband project will begin signing on Middlesex customers during the third quarter this year.
- Yates County has received a \$300,000 grant toward septic replacement. A 50% reimbursement will be given up to a \$10,000 limit for applicants who reside within 250 feet of a lake or major tributary. Contact County Planner, Jeff Ayers.
- Yates County is planning a paper shredding day on September 7, 2024.
- NYS DOT will be modifying the sidewalk on the corner of Water Street and State Route 245 in the Town of Middlesex in order to make that area handicap accessible.

Town Clerk – Lynnette Miller

- The Board was given a copy of the town clerk's monthly report.
- Reconciliation for the 2024 tax collection was completed on April 18, 2024, with the Yates County Treasurer Marsha Devine. Clerk Miller reviewed the warrant for 2024. Clerk Miller reported on the online tax payments received through Yates County, as well as the unpaid tax amounts sent to Yates County.
- Clerk Miller gave Board members a handout, "Basic Responsibilities of the Town Clerk."
- Clerk Miller thanked the Board for their support of her attendance to the NYSTCA Annual Conference in Albany in April. There was a tremendous amount of information presented, along with great opportunity to network with other town clerks throughout NYS.

- Information regarding Town sponsored social media, specifically Facebook pages, was discussed at the town clerks conference. Clerk Miller reported that towns are cautioned to use social media solely as a means of keeping residents informed, keeping commenting turned off.
- Clerk Miller received notice that Yates County is in need of Planning Board members.
- Clerk Miller will be contacting each department in the Town asking for updates for the Town website.
- Clerk Miller reported to the Board that the Yates County Women’s Republic Committee Chair Marsha Devine and the YC Board of Elections have confirmed that there currently is no committee in the Town of Middlesex to find candidates for office.

Supervisor’s Report – David Adam

- Special Project – Bruce St. Lawrence reported on the South Lake Road paving project, stating that it looks like the job will come in under bid. The shoulder work is yet to be done. Lu Engineers will be onsite tomorrow to look at areas of pavement. Delineators and/or signage needs to be taken care of as soon as possible. Overall, the project went well with excellent quality work. Supervisor Adam asked Bruce to speak about the role Project Manager Brian played for Lu Engineers. Bruce reported that Brian stands up to the contractors, is well-qualified and he is extremely careful on quantities. Having Brian on the job was well worth it.
- Supervisor Adam reported that he received an email from Town resident Bob Andre whose property adjoins property owned by Steve Decker at the end of Wickham Road. Both gentlemen are in attendance at tonight’s meeting. The Town of Middlesex has a right-of-way at the end of the road where there is a turnaround. Supervisor Adam, Highway Superintendent Josh Burnett, Bob Andre and Steve Decker all walked the area yesterday, proceeding down through the woods at the property lines of the two residents due to an old road, now a path. Mr. Decker reported that this is considered abandoned property by NYS since there has been no maintenance of the old road. Mr. Decker and Mr. Andre are asking if the Town would consider giving up this right-of-way. Legislator Ed Bronson stated that the process needs to go through the Yates County Highway Department. After a discussion, Supervisor Adam stated that he will contact the Town’s attorney to get further information.

Public Comments – none

Resolutions

Resolution #49-24

Accept Online Auction Bid for Truck #2

On a motion by Council Member Betts, seconded by Council Member Button, the following resolution was

ADOPTED	Ayes	4	Adam, Betts, Button, Mitchell
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Liddiard

RESOLVED to accept the online auction bid through Auctions International for Truck #2 in the amount of \$10,600.

Resolution #50-24

Accept Fuel Tank Bid

On a motion by Council Member Betts, seconded by Council Member Button, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Adam, Betts, Button, Mitchell
 Nays 0
 Absent 1 Liddiard

RESOLVED to accept the bid through Auctions International for a surplus 500-gallon fuel tank in the amount of \$420.00.

Resolution #51-24

Accept the Professional Services Proposal with Lu Engineers for South Lake Road Rehabilitation – Phase 3 Construction Inspection

On a motion by Council Member Mitchell, seconded by Council Member Button, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Adam, Betts, Button, Mitchell
 Nays 0
 Absent 1 Liddiard

RESOLVED to accept the Professional Services Proposal to perform professional construction inspection services for the phase 3 paving improvements on South Lake Road, Town of Middlesex in the amount of \$34,400.

Resolution #52-24

Audit of Claims

On a motion by Council Member Mitchell, seconded by Council Member Betts, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Adam, Betts, Button, Mitchell
 Nays 0
 Absent 1 Liddiard

RESOLVED that the invoices contained in the May 9, 2024 Abstract have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts:

General Fund	Vouchers No. 92-120	\$ 12,175.83
Highway Fund	Vouchers No. 77- 91	\$338,422.89
Water District	Vouchers No. 19	\$ 23.45

Executive Session

At 8:38 p.m. Supervisor Adam requested that the Board enter executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters. A motion was made by Council Member Betts, seconded by Council Member Mitchell.

*All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

Meeting Reconvened

The meeting reconvened at 8:55 p.m.

Supervisor Adam will contact Yates County Personnel as well as Town Attorney Jeff Graff regarding the handling of water main breaks in the Town of Middlesex. He will report at the next meeting.

Middlesex Town Board
Regular Meeting
2024-05-09

Adjourn

With no further business, a motion was made by Council Member Button, seconded by Council Member Betts to adjourn the regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Middlesex at 8:56 p.m.


Lynnette F. Miller, Town Clerk