

Town of Middlesex

Regular Meeting

August, 8 2024

Present: David Adam, Supervisor
Stephanie Betts, Council Member
Austin Liddiard, Council Member
Paul Mitchell, Council Member
Rebecca Moore, Town Clerk

Also Present: Patrick Grimaldi , Tax Assessor
Josh Burnett, Highway Superintendent
Ron Keller
Pat Killen, Yates County Legislature
Dawn Kane, Code Enforcement Officer

Absent: Leon Button, Council Member
Amberle Kelly, Historian
Alan Williams, Water District Superintendent

Recording: Rebecca Moore

Call to Order/Pledge

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

Public Comment- None Closed at 7:05 PM

Approval of Minutes: June 13, 2024: Dispense with the approval of minutes Austin and Paul second All in favor – motion carried

Approval of Minutes: July 11, 2024: Dispense with the approval of minutes Stephaine and Paul

second All in favor – motion carried

Supporting Documents presented, in order:

- Map 2 lot 31.04-1-5 – Wickham Road property (tax accessor report)
- Map 1 2023 Pictometry
- Town of Middlesex General Fund – Townwide 08/08/2024
- Town of Middlesex General Fund- Townwide Detail of Expenditures July 2024
- Monthly report of Supervisor 06/30 - 07/31

Tax Assessor- Patrick Grimaldi

Pat declared they are wrapping up this year's assessment and they shared their document in small claims regarding the attorney relative Upper East Hill and the assessment fee.

It was determined there is a snowmobile trail alongside the Wickham Road property – Supervisor Adam emailed Attorney Jeff Graff for more information regarding its usage. Josh Burnett, Highway Superintendent, went to the Wickham property and stopped at turnaround – Map 2 lot 31.04-1-5 introduced by Patrick, to which reflects the property survey lines.

It was determined the Wickham Road property was indeed “abandoned” originally, only up to the turnaround, however, there was no timeline provided to when it was determined “abandoned” and the overall dispute is from house into woods. Road is presently reopened, and has been for quite some time, from road into the woods, which makes it not ‘abandoned’. Paul Mitchell asked for the downside to giving to them. Overall, it is undetermined. However, it would be taking away the access from the access point on the road, to include the turnabout. To which the highway department does indeed utilize. However, it's not the only access. South Road into Italy is an alternative access. Supervisor Adam will communicate with Attorney Jeff Graff to determine next steps.

Highway/Buildings/Grounds- Josh Burnett

Busy - Hauling crusher and installed 2 driveways as well as continuing mowing road side

Replaced water valve with rush

Clean up prep on 08/08 for Cleanup day on Sat 8/10 – dumpsters coming tomorrow, 08/09

Roller update: motor sent to TX and it was determined it was the 4th injector that was faulty. It is reported repaired with one day left to complete putting the roller back together. Repairs was indeed under warranty. Roller should be back in 1 week from today, 08/08. The rented roller will be returned once determined fixed roller is in working order – rental agreement is by day and/or week. Therefore, the returning of the rental will be simple.

August 19-20, they will be putting down nova chip 1 inch on South Vine Valley Road. To which the road will be reduced to one lane. One lane on August 19th with opposite lane on August 20th. Josh requested for a heads up to public on Facebook. Paul Mitchel made note to update Facebook page.

Highway will be putting down oil stone in the last week August on the old section of South Hill Road – dates to be determined

Yates County Highway brought shoulder machine to South Vine Valley for Hassle road. Also on South Vine Valley Road, near the gate, they are going to pick up the portal potties to be returned.

Code Enforcement Officer- Dawn Kane

Beach is doing swimmingly and not effected by blue algae. There was a scare, but it was determined it was just washed-up service dirt. However, the beach will get some in September, as it has in the past, so they will continue to keep an eye out for it. Overall, light attendance, but things have been going well.

Code enforcement has remained steady as well as the planning board.

They were able to finalize Watkins project by Whiskey Point

Thomas Columbo- Engineer for the planning board is retiring. They are looking into Lu Engineering about someone to cover that position

ZBA – Steady – Two more cases next month as well as received the approval for the Welcome sign for South Lake Road

Dekouski boat update – They have been cooperative. They moved/sold the large boat, however replaced with two smaller boats. It appears they also moved some of the other piles to behind the dwelling. The overall goal is to have it all cleaned up before the winter.

No questions for Dawn.

Supervisor Adam on behalf of Alan Williams, Water District Superintendent:

Waiting for Alan’s computer and it should be here near the end of August. Otherwise, there wasn’t much to report as there have been, thankfully, no major leaks.

Supervisor Adam on behalf of Amberle Kelly, Historian:

Amberlee could not be present today, as she is not feeling well. However, she did send a message regarding the following: Wall that heals is coming and they are expected to have a good outcome. She requests that maybe we should be more communitive when the code office is closed down. As someone came into see Dawn, Code Enforcement Officer, and since she was out of the office, the person became rude because code wasn’t available and it is not clearly posted anywhere. Dawn was present and mentioned she thought she made it well known that she was mostly working either from home and/or out and about. However, she will look into being more communitive with when she will be in the office.

Supervisor Adam agrees that there should/could be more communication as there was a similar situation with someone wanting to get something from the Town Clerk and since the hours had changed,

Town Clerks office was closed. Supervisor Adam mentioned back in July, he asked SAT to take off Town Clerk operating hours on the website. However, it appears that didn't happen (due to staffing issues here at Town of Middlesex as well as at SAT)

Supervisor Adam reports painter projects Margaret will be able to move into her area in about one week, with the rest of the project projected to take up to one to one and a half weeks in total.

Pat Killen, Yates County Legislature

Highway dept building moving along and it is more expensive than projected 4-5 years ago

Looking at comparing to Public sheriffs department, State Commission Correction facility as the building is faulted. It has heating/cooling issues as well as the building is in need of improvements, as it is outdated. This is potentially their next large project

Millings will be shared out to the county and they put rest on auction

Sales tax had been doing real well these past few years, however, this past year, they have not done well at all. Internet sales tax is a large chunk, as well as bitcoin mining. With losing the ability to function under an Internet grant, they are working to apply for next round for assistance. However, they will continue to do the work and maybe in one year, they will be able to have more/different internet options. With Empire as a provider with a 14 million grant for federal government internet service, this will allow proceeds to expand to other areas. Specifically, the more remote areas, as currently, it isn't justified as the cost gets higher the more remote the area, especially with fiber optic cables.

Unemployment is at 4%, however this isn't an accurate percentage, as it doesn't include who isn't looking

Wall that heals is presently set up and the opening ceremony was moving. The vet presence was at a high – 50 thousand names overall listed on the wall. The wall is in Penn Yan at the fireman's field – main St, by Hampton Inn, behind car wash

8/24 – Yates Skyler is hosting cleanup day for hazard material. This events alternates hosting year to year. Yates planning or Skyler County website is where people have to pre-apply with what you will be bringing with an estimate volume. The form needs to be pre filled out on computer or mail hard copy (address on website)

Vet events

- 08/20 Coffee at St Marks, hours still pending
- Date to be determined, Charter fishing at Wood Mill Boat launch in Naples
- 08/27 Vet bowling @ 1730
- 8/28 @ 1300 Kayaking vet + guest

Rebecca Moore, Town Clerk

Emailed SAT to gain access to the website for in office updates vs the previous email for updates. This will allow us to edit the website in real time.

Familiarized self with office set up and sat with Denise to go over Town Clerk duties. As well set up meetings with other Town Clerks to gain better knowledge of deadlines and overall duties.

David Adam, Supervisor

Publicly thank Denise for stepping up with town clerk role between the departure of Lynette and the oncoming of Rebecca and being so helpful overall. Applause from entire meeting attendees

Upcoming Budget workshop 08/29 @ 1800 – Reminder has been sent to be ran in newspaper.

Supervisor Adam has started budget prep and introduce budget doc, Town of Middlesex General Fund-Townwide Detail of Expenditures July 2024 – 2024 budget with proposed 2025. This is a rough draft with no % listed as presently, just looking at reports we get from Denise, bookkeeper, from monthly reports to where we are now to where the budget was. We want it to be lower at % and there are a couple areas where amounts were put into it for discussion's sake (ultimately to start the discussion). Therefore, some percentages and costs can be lowered. For example, insurance will change, as this was put in for a larger amount that it would typically be. In need of getting highway budget done as this needs to get to a 2% tax gap. This will all be done by 8/29

Paul Mitchell, Council Member, and Supervisor Adam had health insurance conversation regarding Josh Burnett, Highway Superintendent, and crew members. It was asked of Josh if a day this week, or next, possibly a noon meeting or EOD with Insurance representative, Anthony, to discuss with the crew members the upcoming insurance pricing advantages that will/can benefit the crew and their family plans. Josh suggests in about 2 weeks vs this week, maybe 08/21 or 8/22 or following week around 1500, so crew members wives will be able to come as well. Due to the current schedule, they cannot support this or next week (see Josh's report above).

Parking lot across street, document Map 1 2023 Pictometry introduced. Supervisor Adam met with county on August, 8th, even though the Town of Middlesex does not own this property. Supervisor Adam was there as a courtesy to the relationship to the owners, Wayne family I.E. Velvon Trust. During this meeting, history was filled in regarding the property along with "wish list". First step will be to determine property line. With this, they want to look at abstract to determine specifically who owns the alley way as there is water coming out of ground, creating ground integrity issues. Before there can be any ground breaking digging, for investigation of water source, property lines have to be determined in order to determine who will be covering costs. Town of Middlesex is not an official facilitator of making this determination, due to not having any ownership of this property. The dispute remains between the Velvon Trust, Wayne family and the county. An abstract is needed. Supervisor Adam asked the question if we had a copy? It is unknown if a copy of the abstract is in house. Once it is determined, with the abstract, it will be up to Wayne to finalize the property lines of the parking lot with the county.

Paul Mitchell, Council Member

Ambulance –the overall goal to resolve the dispute regarding Gorham shorting ambulance by \$50,000 is to get all supervisors in same room to go over how much services that they want to pay for. There was

no progress to last meeting discussion on payment services – getting together in room will work towards resolving. Update to follow

Open for public comments at 1950 - NONE Closed Public Comment period

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution # 66 -24

Approve Line-item transfer 8/8/24

On a resolution by Council Member Stephanie– seconded by Council Member Austin, the following resolution was adopted:

ADOPTED: Ayes 5 Adam, Betts, , Liddiard, Mitchell

Nays 0

Resolved to transfer \$16,000.00 for insurance.

Coincidentally, there was a check on desk for about \$16,000.00 and Supervisor Adam called Williamson Law Book about this check since Supervisor Adam knew about \$16,000.00 Insurance transfer amount to see if they were one in the same. However, Matt Tett advised the paper check was from North East quadrant, as they had a great year and they were giving money back to people. Meaning, the \$16,000.00 paper check was a reimbursement and was indeed, separate from the above resolved \$16,000.00 transfer.

Resolution # 67 -24

Audit of claims

On a resolution by Council Member Austin– seconded by Council Member Paul, the following resolution was adopted:

ADOPTED: Ayes 5 Adam, Betts, , Liddiard, Mitchell

Nays 0

Adjourn

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Supervisor Adam, with all in favor to adjourn the regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Middlesex at 2000 PM.