

**REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
HELD AT THE MANSFIELD
TOWN HALL IN EDDYVILLE
SEPTEMBER 20, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT

**Robert C. Keis, Town Supervisor
Nancy Meeder, Councilwoman
Robert Schmidt, Councilman
Michael Telaak, Councilman**

ALSO, PRESENT

**Brad Hurley, Highway Superintendent
Dale W. Baldwin, Town Justice
Carl Calarco
Cheryl Folts
Joseph Folts, Mansfield Volunteer Fireman
Dylan Armstrong, Highway Employee
Caleb Snow, Highway Employee**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/PUBLIC HEARING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

After all those present said the Pledge of Allegiance Supervisor Keis, brought the Public Hearing to order. A Public Hearing, on the update of the May 17, 2004, Comprehensive Plan which was completed by the Town Planning Board. Supervisor Keis noted that this is the third update, the Plan was simplified with no major changes.

There was no further discussion, **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilwoman Meeder seconded by Councilman Schmidt no opposed carried to close the Public Hearing.

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING BROUGHT TO ORDER

Supervisor Keis, brought the Regular Town Board Meeting to order.

TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES/APPROVED

For approval of the August 16, 2021, Town Board Meeting Minutes **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilman Schmidt seconded by Councilwoman Meeder no opposed carried to approve the Meeting Minutes as read.

MANSFIELD VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, ELLICOTTVILLE FIRE DISTRICT AND LITTLE VALLEY FIRE DISTRICT

Supervisor Keis deviated from the Agenda to address fire contracts.

Joseph Folts a Mansfield Volunteer Fireman, was present to question the future of the Mansfield Volunteer Fire Company.

Supervisor Keis, noted at this time the Mansfield Fire Company cannot provide adequate fire protection, especially during the day when some members are at work. The company needs additional members who must train and be certified, before they can fight a fire. Also proper equipment, must be on the Trucks when arriving at a fire. A situation happened that is evident that Mansfield needs additional members.

Councilman Telaak is working to find people interested, to join the fire department, complete training and be certified. Supervisor Keis stated that the Town Board does not want to see the Town of Mansfield Volunteer Fire Company fold, but until additional members are signed up, trained and certified the Town cannot have a primary district with Mansfield. Their current fire contract expires, on December 31, 2021.

TOWN BOARD MEMBER RESIGNED/GREG MEYER

Supervisor Keis informed Board members that Greg Meyer has submitted a letter of resignation from the Town Board. Board members regrettably accepted Greg Meyer's resignation **ON A MOTION MADE BY** Councilman Schmidt seconded by Councilwoman Meeder.

TOWN BOARD MEMBER APPOINTED/CARL CALARCO

Supervisor Keis stated that Greg Meyer's resignation leaves a vacancy on the Town Board, currently Carl Calarco, is running on apposed for Town Supervisor, in the November election, he asked for Board approval to appoint Carl Calarco to the Town Board.

For Board approval **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilman Schmidt seconded by Councilwoman Meeder no opposed carried, to appoint Carl Calarco to the Town Board effective at this Board Meeting September 20, 2021.

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SUPERVISOR KEIS'S AND TOWN CLERK'S FINANCIAL REPORTS/APPROVED

After Supervisor Keis presented his and Town Clerk's financial reports **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilman Schmidt seconded by Councilman Telaak no opposed carried, to approve Supervisor's and Town Clerk's financial reports as presented.

HIGHWAY EMPLOYEES RATE OF PAY/APPROVED

Highway employees Caleb Snow, and Dylan Armstrong were present and asked for a salary increase of 5 percent for 2022. Bryan Welka a third highway employee, was not in attendance at this meeting.

Councilman Telaak stated that he approved the 5 percent increase, due to inflation. After discussion **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilman Telaak seconded by Councilwoman Meeder no opposed motion carried effective January 1, 2022 highway employees to receive a 5 percent increase, in their hourly rate of pay.

Supervisor Keis stated that Highway Employees salary to be \$20.06 per hour, and a deputies pay is an extra \$.50 per hour.

MEETING WITH COUNTY DPW, BRIDGE, TUBE

With regard to prior discussions about the Kent Road Bridge, and the Bridge on Jersey Hollow Road. Supervisor Keis and Superintendent Hurley discussed with Board members their meeting with Cattaraugus County DPW. Superintendent Hurley noted that tentatively the County DPW has offered to put in a Tube Bridge on both the Kent Road and Jersey Hollow. It was noted that it could cost the Town \$500,000, or more to replace each bridge, according to Superintendent Hurley the highway department does not have the equipment or skill to work on bridges.

Should the Town contract with Cattaraugus County DPW to take over the two bridges then the Town would take over the Town Line Road Route 242 to the Crandall Road. The County DPW would pay the Town \$200,000 to bring up the Dublin Road.

After discussion Board members voted **ON A MOTION MADE BY** Councilman Schmidt seconded by Councilwoman Meeder no opposed carried, to authorize Supervisor Keis and Superintendent Hurley, to negotiate with Cattaraugus County DPW to take over the bridges on the Kent Road and Jersey Hollow Road. They will report to the Board.

Superintendent Hurley asked the Board to consider hiring another highway employee also he needs a replacement truck.

2022 FIRE PROTECTION PLAN

Supervisor Keis, stated that he had talked with Fire Commissioners and Town Attorney regarding the 2022 Fire Contracts. Supervisor Keis, noted that Councilman Telaak has asked that the Town do a one year contract, to give Mansfield Fire Department an opportunity to succeed. Board members voted **ON A MOTION MADE BY** Councilwoman Meeder seconded by Councilman Schmidt no opposed carried to authorize Supervisor Keis to continue one year contracts with Ellicottville and Little Valley Volunteer Fire Departments. Supervisor Keis noted that his Tentative Budget for Fire Protection total is in the amount \$89,237.00. The rate per thousand for Little Valley Area #3 is at \$.75. The rate per thousand for Ellicottville Area #2 is \$.54. Supervisor Keis displayed a colored map indicating the fire district boundaries.

NYS DIVISION OF THE BUDGET CORONAVIRUS VIRUS

Supervisor Keis informed Board members that he received a letter from NYS Division of the Budget, whereby, they received the Town's correspondence expressing that the Town declines funds from the Coronavirus Local Recovery Funds.

TENTATIVE BUDGET

Before presenting the Tentative Budget Supervisor Keis stated that he already made provisions in the budget, for Highway Employees increase, in their hourly rate.

Town Officials Salaries: Councilpersons, (4) \$9,400, Town Supervisor \$10,000, Town Supervisor's Contractual Expense \$20,000, Budget Officer \$2,000, Municipal Court \$9,990, Clerk/Collector \$18,060, Registrar \$500.00, Dog Control Officer \$2,500, Highway Superintendent \$56,000, Code Enforcement Officer \$6,500, Planning Board members \$25.00 for each meeting attended.

After Supervisor Keis presented his Tentative Budget without changes, the General Fund Appropriations and General Fund Revenues are in the amount of \$350,787, Highway Fund Appropriations and Highway Fund Revenues are in the amount of \$1,228,080. The estimated Town Property Tax Rate Per Thousand for 2022 is \$5.09. For Board approval **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilwoman Meeder seconded by Councilman Schmidt no opposed to approve Supervisor Keis Tentative Budget to be the Preliminary Budget for the Year 2022.

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2022 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

To schedule a Public Hearing **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilwoman Meeder seconded by Councilman Telaak no opposed carried to schedule a Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget for the Year 2022, to be held on October 18, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Notice will be published in The Villager.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT DEMO TRUCK

Supervisor Keis informed Board members that to replace the Truck that was totaled in an accident, Superintendent Hurly has found a Demo 10-Wheeler Truck from State Bid, total cost is in the amount of \$247,653.

SUPERVISOR KEIS TWO CHECKING ACCOUNTS

After Board members audited Supervisor Keis two checking that were in balance as presented **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilman Schmidt seconded by Councilman Telaak no opposed carried to acknowledge and approve the two checking accounts.

PAYMENT OF BILLS

After Board members audited the general and highway fund bills submitted for payment **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Carl Calarco seconded by Councilwoman Meeder to pay the following:

General Fund Voucher Numbers 175 to 197, in the amount of \$6,054.50
Highway Fund Voucher Numbers 127 to 136, in the amount of \$14,711.02.

A motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Meeder at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betty Jane Horning, Town Clerk