

Town of German Flatts Board Meeting
66 E. Main Street, Mohawk, New York 13407
October, 25, 2022

Present: Peter Rovazzi, Supervisor
Jack Fitzer, Deputy Supervisor
Penny Watkins, Councilwoman
Scott Hendrix, Councilman
John Brewer, Councilman
Jim Hawkins, Dog Control
Rich Sweeney, Codes
Carmen, Newtown, Highway Superintendent
Karl Manne, Town Attorney
Dwight Kanyuck, Town's Solar Project Attorney
Tim Carpenter, Town's Solar Project Engineer
Pam Jones, Town Clerk

Absent: Ozzie Sterling, Councilman

Public: 14 people, see sign-in sheet

MEETING call to order at 5:30pm by Rovazzi at the Town Community Center. Pledge of Allegiance said by all.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Brewer to approve the September 28, 2022 minutes. Carried

MOTION by Watkins, seconded by Rovazzi to approve the October 12, 2022 minutes. Hendrix and Brewer abstained. Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to approve the September 2022 treasurer's report. Carried.

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Brewer to approve the Town Clerk's September 2022 report for \$1,279.50. Carried.

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MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Rovazzi to approve Judge Engert's September 2022 report for \$575.00. Brewer abstained. Carried.

MOTION by Watkins, seconded by Hendrix to approve Judge Stone's September 2022 report for \$10,736.00. Brewer abstained. Carried.

BILLS

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Hendrix to pay GFIM bill for \$763.65. Carried.

MOTION by Brewer , seconded by Watkins to pay bills as audited. Carried.

OTHER REPORTS

HIGHWAY - Newtown stated highway department is finishing up on roadwork and are getting ready for winter. New worker Cole Olivadoti as of 10/11/2022.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Brewer to approve the hiring of Cole Olivadoti as full time Highway Heavy Equipment Operator as of October 11, 2022 at \$21.54 per hour. Carried.

DOG CONTROL - Hawkins reported 4 calls in Mohawk, 1 call in Ilion, 2 days of phone calls and writing of tickets.

CODES - 31 permits out. Sweeney will take Energy Code Enforcement Training on October 26, 2022, 8am -5pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Brewer to open Public Comment Session. Carried.

No one signed up to speak.

MOTION by Watkins, seconded by Hendrix to close Public Comment Session. Carried.

LOCAL LAW NO. 3, 2022 SOLAR MORATORIUM PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Brewer to open Public Hearing at 5:45 on Local Law #3, 2022 establishing a six month moratorium on applications, approvals and/or construction or installation of Solar Energy Systems and/or Solar Farms within the Town of German Flatts. Carried.

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Rovazzi asked if there were any question from the floor. Gordon Woodcock of Ithaca NY commended the Town Board on the good job they were doing with this Local Law and the Solar Law the Town has on File.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to close Public Hearing at 5:50. Carried.

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Hendrix to table the adoption of Local Law No. 3, 2022 till the November 29, 2022 meeting. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

TRASH DAY - 171 permits were given out by Clerk's Office, 113 permit were used. \$108.00 collected for tires.

COMP ALLIANCE TRAINING - October 26, 2022, 9:00-11:30 & 1:00 -3:30 at the Town Community Center.

NEW BUSINESS

COMP ALLIANCE RENEWAL AGREEMENT-

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Hendrix to approve a 1 year (1/1/2023 -12/31/2023) Member Participation Agreement with Comp Alliance. Carried.

JCAP RESOLUTION -

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Brewer to endorse the application for a JCAP grant up to \$30,000.00 by the German Flatts Justice Court. Carried.

LOCAL LAW NO. 2. 2022 TAX CAP PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Watkins to open Public Hearing at 6:00, authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established in General Municipal Law 3-c.

Carried. Rovazzi asked if there were any comments. No comments.

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Hendrix to close Public Hearing on Local Law No. 2, 2022 at 6:01. Carried.

MOTION by Brewer, Seconded by Watkins to adopt Local Law No. 2, 2022. Carried.

BUDGET TRANSFER #8 - To increase Parks Payroll.

INCREASE expenditures to \$17,500.00 from 2022 budgeted amount of \$10,000.00 in fund A-7110.1, account Parks, Per Serv.

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INCREASE expenditures to \$38,415.00 from 2022 budgeted amount \$37,841.00 in fund A-9030.8, account Social Security, Employer Cont.

DECREASE expenditures to \$52,656.00 from 2022 budgeted amount of \$60,730.00 in fund A-1990.4 account Contingent, Contr Expend.

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Hendrix to approve budget transfer #8. Carried.

BUDGET TRANSFER #9 - To record revenue and expenditures (Solar)

INCREASE revenue to \$7,000.00 from 2022 budgeted amount of \$0.00 in fund B-2770.0, account unclassified.

INCREASE expenditures to \$11,400.00 from 2022 budgeted amount of \$4,400.00 in fund B-8010.4 account Zoning, Contr Expend.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to approve budget transfer #9. Carried.

BUDGET TRANSFER #10 - To record equipment purchase, increase revenue, reclassify debt payments and record fund balance used.

INCREASE revenue to \$136,177.00 from 2022 budgeted amount of \$110,000.00 in fund DA- 2302.0 account Snow removal Services, Others.

INCREASE revenue to \$121,325.00 from 2022 budgeted amount of \$0.00 in fund DA-2665.0 account Sales of Equipment.

INCREASE expenditures to \$180,147.00 from 2022 budgeted amount of \$1,243.00 in fund DA- 5130.2 account Machinery, Equip & Capital Outlay.

DECREASE expenditures to \$16,628.00 from 2022 budgeted amount of \$40,628.00 in fund DA-9785.6 account Debt Principle, Install Purch.

DECREASE in Fund Balance to \$227,312.00 from 2022 budgeted amount of \$234,714.00 in fund DA-911.0 account unreserved Fund Balance.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Brewer to approve Budget Transfer #10. Carried.

BUDGET TRANSFER #11 - To record debt payment to record payoff of John Deere Loader.

INCREASE expenditures to \$34,098.00 from 2022 budgeted amount of \$16,628.00 in fund DA-9785.6 account Debt Principle, Install Purch.

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INCREASE expenditures to \$2,193.00 from 2022 budgeted amount of \$1,727.00 in fund DA-9785.7 account Debt Interest, Install Purch.

DECREASE expenditures to \$60,532.00 from 2022 budgeted amount of \$69,500.00 in fund DA-5142.4 account Snow Removal, Contr Expend.

DECREASE expenditures to \$60,532.00 from 2022 budgeted amount of \$69,500.00 in fund DA- 5148.4 account Service Other Govts, Contr Expand.

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Watkins to approve Budget Transfer #11. Carried.

BUDGET TRANSFER #12 - To record equipment purchases.

INCREASE revenue to \$259,387.00 from 2022 budgeted amount of \$215,000.00 in fund DB-1120.0 account Sales Tax.

INCREASE revenue to \$18,200.00 from 2022 budgeted amount of \$9,200.00 in fund DB-2665.0 account Sale of Equipment.

INCREASE expenditures to \$62,587.00 from 2022 budgeted amount of \$9,200.00 in fund DB-5130.2 account Machinery, Equip & Cap Outlay.

MOTION by Watkins, seconded by Hendrix to approve Budget Transfer #12. Carried.

MVEDD RESOLUTIONS

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Brewer to approve resolution establishing energy benchmarking requirements for certain municipal buildings. Carried.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Watkins to approve resolution to adopt the New York State Unified Solar Permit for solar projects 25kw in size or smaller to be used along with Town's building permit. Carried.

PRELIMINARY 2023 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Brewer to open Public Hearing for 2023 Preliminary Budget at 6:15. Carried.

Rovazzi asked if there were any questions. 1 question on water districts budget increases for 2021 & 2022 budgets.

MOTION by Brewer, seconded by Watkins to close Public Hearing at 6:21. Carried.

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SOLAR PROJECT - US LIGHT ENERGY

ATTORNEY Kanyuck went over the description of action and summary of determination of part 2 of the SEQRA form. Kelly Macisco asked questions on what Mr. Kanyuck had read. Which after she stated, she was against the project and the only winners are the Solar Company and the land owner.

DRAFT RESOLUTION US LIGHT ENERGY

Chris Koenig of C.T. Male Associates asked to have resolution passed so the solar project could move forward, this is a necessary hurdle for us. Rovazzi asked for more time as the Town has 62 days after Public Hearing to make a decision, which will be at the November 29th meeting, at 5:30. Before Local Law #3, 2022 is adopted.

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Hendrix to enter into executive session at 7:25 for personnel reasons along with Newtown and Manne. Carried.

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Brewer to exit executive session at 7:55. Carried.

MOTION by Rovazzi, seconded by Hendrix to reinstate Count Clerks longevity as of January 1, 2022 to reflect years worked (not prorating) Carried.

MOTION by Hendrix, seconded by Brewer to adjourn at 7:57. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela A. Jones, Town Clerk
Town of German Flatts