

**JUNE 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2021 - Town Board Meeting- In person**

Supervisor Brenda Adams opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, followed by a moment of silence.

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Brenda Adams  
Councilperson Alan Miller  
Councilperson Ginny Nightingale  
Councilperson Terese Platten  
Councilperson David Patzwahl

**Audience: 5**

Councilperson Alan Miller spoke concerning his allegations against town proceedings, and suspend the Town Supervisor.

**MOTION:** Councilperson David Patzwahl made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Alan Miller, to table the motion until there is further action and understand the details to look into his complaint.

5-ayes,

Roll-call showed: Supervisor Brenda Adams – no;  
Councilperson Alan Miller – yes;  
Councilperson Ginny Nightingale – yes;  
Councilperson Terese Platten – yes; and  
Councilperson David Patzwahl – yes.

**MOTION:** Councilperson David Patzwahl made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Ginny Nightingale, to table all five motions requested by Councilperson Alan Miller, to review and understand allegations in the documents. 5-ayes,

Roll-call showed: Supervisor Brenda Adams – yes;  
Councilperson Alan Miller – yes;  
Councilperson Ginny Nightingale – yes;  
Councilperson Terese Platten – yes; and  
Councilperson David Patzwahl – yes.

Councilperson Alan Miller presented Town Clerk, Charlotte Cowan, with another freedom of information request (FOIL). The Town Clerk dated the FOIL upon receipt of said request.

**MINUTES:** Councilperson Ginny Nightingale made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Alan Miller, to approve the May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021, minutes as amended.

5-ayes

Roll-call showed: Supervisor Brenda Adams - yes;  
Councilperson Alan Miller – yes;  
Councilperson Ginny Nightingale - yes;  
Councilperson Terese Platten - yes; and  
Councilperson David Patzwahl - yes.  
Motion Carried.

**BILLS:**

**Motion:** Councilperson Alan Miller made a motion, seconded Councilperson Terese Platten, to approve the payment of the May bills: General Fund: #115- #143 in the amount of \$11,010.66. Highway Fund bills: #44-#55 in the amount of \$62596.57. 5-ayes

Roll-call showed: Supervisor Brenda Adams -yes;

Councilperson Alan Miller-yes;  
 Councilperson Ginny Nightingale - yes;  
 Councilperson Terese Platten - yes; and  
 Councilperson David Patzwahl - yes.  
 Motion Carried.

Supervisor Brenda Adams noted the Sallie LaValle donates her stipend check for her participation serving on the BAR, every year. Councilperson David Patzwahl wanted it known that “we thank”, Sallie for her support to the town.

**SUPERVISOR MONTHLY REPORT**

Town Clerk Revenues	\$ 401.07
Highway Fund	\$487,084.50
Highway Fund Capital	\$ 42,926.59
General Fund	\$ 597,838.60
Lighting Districts	\$ 3,834.17
Fire Districts	\$ 300.00
Building Inspector	\$ 5,241.00-
	(05/01/-06/07/2021)
Planning Board	\$ 50.00
Recreation	\$ 3,497.74
Court Revenues	\$ 3,812.00(May-2021)
Zoning Board of Appeals	\$ 25.00
Tax Collector	\$ 29,746.36

**MOTION:** Councilperson David Patzwahl made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Terese Platten, to adopt the Town Hall and Town Park opening guidelines. There are two sets of guidelines. The town hall is an interior space and the park is an outside space. 5-eyes

Roll-call: Supervisor Brenda Adams– yes;  
 Councilperson Alan Miller -yes;  
 Councilperson David Patzwahl – yes;  
 Councilperson Ginny Nightingale – yes; and  
 Councilperson Terese Platten – yes.

Motion Carried.

**MOTION:** Supervisor Brenda Adams made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Alan Miller, to approve the Summer Swim Program. 5-eyes

Roll-call: Supervisor Brenda Adams – yes;  
 Councilperson Alan Miller -yes  
 Councilperson David Patzwahl – yes;  
 Councilperson Ginny Nightingale – yes; and  
 Councilperson Terese Platten – yes.

Motion Carried.

**MOTION:** Councilperson Ginny Nightingale made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Terese Platten, to approve the safety plan for Danimarie Jones to conduct a Summer Art Program at Stoddard Park, July 10<sup>th</sup>, - 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 noon, and August 7<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m. to

12:30 noon. 5-eyes

Roll-call: Supervisor Brenda Adams– yes;  
Councilperson Alan Miller -yes  
Councilperson David Patzwahl – yes;  
Councilperson Ginny Nightingale – yes; and  
Councilperson Terese Platten – yes:

Motion Carried.

All program description plans are available at the town clerk office during the normal office hours.

**Report from County Board of Supervisors:** Report given by Supervisor Brenda Adams.

1. State of emergency has been extended to July 12<sup>th</sup>. Covid infection rate is going down. The vaccination rate in the Town of Canaan is falling behind with both the State and the County in vaccinations in both age groups. The 15 years plus age group the vaccination rate in the State is 67%, the County is 65%, and Canaan is 58%. The 65 years plus age group is 80.9%, the County is 79%, and Canaan is at 63%. Supervisor Brenda Adams reached out to each of the fire companies to ask for their help for public outreach. It is possible for us to have a vaccination pod but we need at least fifteen people in order to bring the public health workers out. Seniors without transportation should call the Town Clerk or Supervisor Brenda Adams.
2. Police Citizen Review Committee (less one opening) appointed and meeting monthly and will have the review and oversight of the regular committee.
3. Budget and federal stimulus dollar conversation: Supervisor Brenda Adams said that we have been told to wait for additional guidance before putting together a plan.

**Board Discussion:**

1. Communications update/ Mail Chimp mail account established/ Summer newsletter will be digital.
2. Audio consultation for Town Hall: what is the basic thing we can do to improve the sound in building and a wish list for the future. Supervisor said she found him through Gary Phelps. He has volunteered to give us a list of options and cost.
3. Opening of the Town Park/ Town Hall to outside events/ see above motions.
4. Boat launch coordination with Berkshire Farm & DEC: Councilperson David Patzwahl thanked Highway Superintendent Bernhard Meyer, they brought in logs and placed the logs along the launch road where there is a lot of commotion with additional people entering to swim off the property and hang out. Hope this helps with the fishermen. Supervisor Adams said that David coordinated this activity.
5. Resumption of Senior Lunch the week of June 14<sup>th</sup>.
6. CNHN: Councilperson Ginny Nightingale reported that we had two other people that they were able to help. They have received their 501-3C certification (non-profit certification) approval. Every six months, starts in July, people may reapply.
7. Climate Smart Task Force: Councilperson Terese Platten said we established several subcommittees to work on Climate Smart Community (CSC) projects:
  - a. Municipal building energy audit- applying for a grant to pay for an energy audit of our municipal buildings. Grant application is due June 30 and we can use some of

- the materials we already have collected during our benchmarking for the Clean Energy Community program.
- b. Natural Resources inventory (NRI) compiling data for our town's NRI. Canaan Task Force member Dylan Cipkowski has created the Canaan Natural Resource Inventory Naturalist project (<http://www.naturalist.org/projects/canaan-biodiversity:project>).
  - c. Composting: Successful composter and rain barrel sale May 8: handed out 13 composters and 17 rain barrels, which residents prepaid for; we sent out press releases before and after the event and the Columbia Paper. We would like to implement a compost collection for our municipal buildings.
  - d. Social media: We have a Facebook page, an Instagram account, and we are posting on the Town website.
  - e. OEWS & BLS reports submitted: These are New York State Department of Labor annual reports, they select towns randomly. This is our year for both reports. The OEWS report was last done in 2013, and the BLS reports in 2016. We put together some spreadsheets and create an institutional record. Supervisor Brenda Adams worked with Town Clerk, Charlotte, and HRS in Hudson to put together job descriptions.
8. Tax Statis: Supervisor Brenda Adams said that today is the day the tax info was taken down to the County. The last day to pay taxes to the town was the end of May. Last year at this time, 2020, we had collected \$3,147,00, in 2021 we collected \$3,106,000.00. In 2020 we had 80 unpaid parcels and in 2021 we had 57 unpaid parcels; our open liability is \$58,257.00. The county is discussing what it will do when the rules change for foreclosures at the end of the summer. If the county decides to take action to foreclose, these would be parcels that have not been paid since 2016.
  9. Planning Board is still waiting to hear from Sunoco Station, they are working with the thruway authority, Councilperson Ginny Nightingale and a small group of residents have made a proposal on a short-term rental law. The proposed law has been given to Planning board Chairperson Pierre Gontier, to distributed to their board members. The ZBA has a public hearing the end of this month and a special meeting this Tuesday.
  10. Councilperson David Patzwahl said we're doing very well with the transfer station. Last year was the high-water mark at about 93 tons, this year for May we were down 47.5 tons, 35 tons came out of C&D.

## **ASSESSOR'S REPORT**

### Grievance Day-

- Board of assessment review has submitted their report to the supervisor
- Any changes from this proceeding have been entered on the roll.
- A Statement of changes will be filed with the Town Clerk.

### Final Roll-

The Final Roll will be filed on July 1<sup>st</sup>. A legal notice will be in the paper

### Around the office-

Assessor Clerk is taking Assessment Administration classes. He is working on both scanning and data verification out in the field.

## **CANAAN HIGHWAY REPORT**

### **ACTIVITIES:**

Working extensively evaluating our paving needs - which roads need it the most and which roads qualify for the CHIPS 10-year plan. Roads were measured and quantities of stone were ordered and delivered. We were able to find space for over 3000 ton of stone in the yard and still leave room to process, mix and load the prepared asphalt. The crew shimmed areas on the roads which are going to be paved and the Austerlitz highway department has been a big help rebating intersections.

We are planning to pave 2.38 miles, none of the roads will be closed but delays are expected. We are paving the following: Bradleys Crossing, Shaker Ridge, the hill portion of Gifford, Old Hudson and Warners Crossing. It will be a joint effort with multiple towns helping. Right now, we are helping Ghent, they in turn will help us and provide a chink truck which is essential. Earlier we helped chip seal in New Lebanon and they in turn will help us.

Truck #7 the 2005 F550 has a broken main leaf spring which will be scheduled to have it replaced.

Many contractors are becoming more and more disrespectful unloading heavy tracked equipment on the roads. On these hot days the roads are more susceptible to damage, once a hole is made in the asphalt it's impossible to repair it to its original condition. I am vigilant trying to prevent these occurrences.

We are also working on Flints Crossing in conjunction with CSX. The area at the crossing has been a safety issue for many years. We are widening a section of the road so that CSX can relocate the signal arms. Communication with CSX is very poor and I thank Greg Hart the region 8 railroad coordinator from DOT for all of his help on this project.

The weather has been fickle with heavy rains and washouts, high winds and tree limbs down to the intense heat and dust complaints.

Doug spread sand at the beach and hand raked several areas inaccessible by the loader. The crew also addressed the Queechy Lake boat launch parking area by placing barriers to prevent unwanted parking.

The crew and I will be attending our annual safety training day on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Motion:** Councilperson David Patzwahl made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Alan Miller, to approve Chips \$310,000.00 - \$225,000.00 for paving to replace quotes for equipment. 5-ayes

Roll-call: Supervisor Brenda Adams – yes;  
Councilperson Alan Miller -yes  
Councilperson David Patzwahl – yes;  
Councilperson Ginny Nightingale – yes; and  
Councilperson Terese Platten – yes.

Motion Carried.

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION:** Wendy Dwyer would like to have a swap shop but doesn't have a location.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Councilperson David Patzwahl made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Alan Miller, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. 5-ayes

Roll-call: Supervisor – yes;

    Councilperson Alan Miller -yes

    Councilperson David Patzwahl – yes;

    Councilperson Ginny Nightingale – yes; and

    Councilperson Terese Platten – yes:

Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte L Cowan, Town Clerk