

STATE OF NEW YORK

COUNTY OF BROOME

Town Board Work Session

A Work Session held at 279 Park Avenue, Binghamton, New York,  
on the 7th day of April, 2020, commencing at 5:30 PM.

BEFORE: ELIZABETH ROUNDS

Supervisor

REPORTED BY: CZERENDA COURT REPORTING, INC  
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Binghamton, New York 13901-3318  
JESSICA BRIELMEIER  
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ALSO PRESENT:

VICTORIA XLANDER, Deputy Supervisor  
DEAN NYE, Councilperson  
MICHAEL BENSLEY, Councilperson  
VICKIE CONKLIN, Town Clerk  
MICHAEL DONAHUE, Highway Superintendent  
ALAN POPE, Town Attorney  
ROSE POPE, Deputy Town Attorney  
Absent: Mark Leighton, Councilperson

MS. ROUNDS: I would like to welcome everybody to the Town of Binghamton Town Board Work Session on April 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:30. I would like to have a roll call vote.

MS. CONKLIN: Deputy Supervisor Xlander

MS. XLANDER: Here

MS. CONKLIN: Councilperson Bensley

MR. BENSLEY: Here

MS. CONKLIN: Councilperson Leighton

No response.

MS. CONKLIN: Councilperson Nye

MR. NYE: Here, barely.

MS. CONKLIN: Supervisor Rounds

MS. ROUNDS: Here. I need to read the following that was given to us by Alan. I, Supervisor Rounds, have confirmed with Counsel that this meeting is being held in compliance with Executive Order 202.1, issued by Governor Andrew M. Cuomo on March 12, 2020. The Executive Order suspends Article 7 of the Public Officers Law to the extent necessary to permit any public body to meet and take any action authorized by law without permitting in public in-person access to meetings and authorizing such meetings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service.

This meeting is being held remotely via ZOOM virtual meeting

software. The public has the ability to view or listen to this meeting live via the ZOOM app, web browser and/or by telephone. This meeting is being recorded, and will be transcribed at a later date.

Okay. The first on the agenda, I want a motion may be made to go into an executive session to discuss a legal matter and/or personal matter regarding a particular employee after the meeting is convened. Obviously, we won't be going into any executive session tonight.

I would like to make a motion for a resolution for the approval of the audited claims.

MR. BENSLEY: So moved.

MS. ROUNDS: Second?

MS. XLANDER: Second.

MS. ROUNDS: Any questions? Call vote please.

MR. NYE: Yes. One.

MS. ROUNDS: Go ahead.

MR. NYE: There is a receipt missing from Mr. Nick Pappas.

MS. ROUNDS: Yes. And I have that on my notes, it's a Lowe's receipt for \$43.67. So I was going to talk to him about that and ask him if he could that receipt. And, if not, we could talk to Lowe's and find out actually what that was.

MR. NYE: Okay. Just wanted to make sure that we weren't

approving something that was obviously missing a component.

MS. ROUNDS: Yep. We do have that to talk with him and see if he -- obviously, everybody is out of the routine a little bit. But it's on my list to talk to him.

MR. NYE: Good deal.

MS. ROUNDS: Any other questions?

Roll vote, please.

MS. CONKLIN: Deputy Supervisor Xlander.

MS. XLANDER: Aye.

MS. CONKLIN: Councilperson Bensley.

MR. BENSLEY: Aye.

MS. CONKLIN: Councilperson Leighton. Councilperson Nye.

MR. NYE: Aye.

MS. CONKLIN: Supervisor Rounds.

MS. ROUNDS: Aye.

MS. ROUNDS: Resolution is passed.

On to recognition of -- the last, last work session which was March 3rd. Did anybody have any questions concerning the work session?

MS. XLANDER: No.

MR. NYE: No.

MS. ROUNDS: On to communications and announcements, there's really nothing, obviously any of the Associations of Towns. Monthly meetings have been postponed at this point. This

Friday is Good Friday, so this actually was a day off for the town employees. So the highway garage is making some changes in the schedules.

They did bring back half a crew this week and half a crew next week. So we are making the arrangements for the crew for next week to take Monday off.

That's all I have. Does anybody else have anything for communications and announcements?

MR. NYE: Elizabeth, a question on that. Are the employees being able to be paid without charging credits?

MS. ROUNDS: Yes. Unless -- yes. If -- it depends though, like this week and the highway department, they were called back or (inaudible) called back. And one of them didn't come back for one day, so they would have to use their personal time for that day.

MR. NYE: Is it your sense that the town will be reimbursed by this --

MS. ROUNDS: No.

MR. NYE: -- federal package?

MS. ROUNDS: No. I talked -- Mike and I sat down last week and there was a FEMA presentation. And so we sat and listened to the presentation by FEMA, and at this point we don't have any projects. We don't have any structures that needed to be built, you know, as a result of this.

And they're only compensating anyone for overtime. We haven't experienced any overtime. So, basically, we are not going to be entitled to any FEMA reimbursement.

MR. NYE: Okay.

MS. ROUNDS: Go ahead. I'm sorry, Dean.

MR. NYE: Okay. I thought we might be entitled to some compensation from this federal package.

MS. ROUNDS: No. Because that wasn't -- that was for small business. That wasn't for government entities. You mean the paid -- the paid -- or the paycheck protection act?

MR. NYE: Yes. Yes.

MS. ROUNDS: I am pretty sure, and Alan, maybe you can correct me if I'm wrong, but I didn't think that that was for public entities.

MR. POPE: I am really not sure. But, as you say, we are not incurring anything different than our day-to-day work and the employees through the union are working with us to do split shifts, just like many of the municipalities.

MS. ROUNDS: And we do have, obviously, Vickie Conklin is doing work from home and also stopping in town hall when no one else is here. Sandra has been in here to do payroll.

So we are really not -- haven't incurred, you know, anything -- and to be honest with you, obviously, sales tax revenue and things like that, that's what we will be looking at

losing. But that's...

MR. NYE: Highway workers are being paid which is good, but they are not providing any services to the town in their 40- or 37.5-hour week. And I thought perhaps the town might be entitled to some compensation from this federal stimulus deal.

MS. ROUNDS: No. I don't believe so. I mean, I can double check, but the town -- I mean, when you say that the highway hasn't -- they have been doing servicing. They have been maintaining the roads. They have started, you know, switching over to their winter to -- their winter equipment to their summer equipment.

So I don't feel -- I mean, obviously, if we had a water main break, all of that, business would be as usual. So...

MR. NYE: But the half of the employees that are not working and are hopefully at home, they are being paid by the town --

MS. ROUNDS: Correct.

MR. NYE: -- and not providing a service to the town and they are not charging their credits, which they shouldn't.

MS. ROUNDS: So I understand. I can look it into, Dean. But I really do believe -- because I've, obviously, looked into it for a personal matter.

MR. NYE: Right.

MS. ROUNDS: And, obviously, we qualify as for it as the size of our town, we have 500 employees. But I do remember when I

was reading over the information when I was submitting my application, because I thought about that, too, and for some reason I don't think this was for public entities.

MR. NYE: Could that be raised when you meet or talk with your the County folks and see if anybody believes that they have an avenue by which we can be reimbursed.

MS. ROUNDS: With who? I am sorry.

MR. NYE: You meet with the Broome County, with Jake Garnar and the other towns, Associations of Towns.

MS. ROUNDS: Yeah. I have been in contact with all of them and no one has really said anything. I will ask. And I will find out.

I mean, obviously, when you have a municipality like Johnson City and possibly Vestal who have to, you know, construct things, you know, they will be entitled to some FEMA money, if they had to have some temporary structures put up and extra overtime and things like that.

MR. NYE: Right. Right. Okay.

MS. ROUNDS: Okay.

On to officials and committee reports. So just to tell you, the planning board and zoning board does have their quarterly meeting that's going to be held this Monday. So I am reaching out to Chris and Jerry to have them have all of the members download Zoom. And Alan is going to do a



half-hour -- 40-minute, half-hour educational.

And, actually, one of the things that Alan and I spoke about today was that it would be a good idea for him to make a presentation about the Corona -- the COVID-19 in the sense that what happens if, for some reason, you know, we have to have a planning board meeting with a resident or zoning board meeting with a resident and we have to do it through Zoom. So he's just going to do a short educational meeting on Monday.

So you will be getting an invitation, because I can host the meeting and it will be the same thing like we did today. But just all the board members will have to download Zoom for the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Deputy Town Attorney Pope: Elizabeth, I did one in the Town of Chenango. I did a public hearing on a Use Variance so I'll join Alan and talk about how that went.

MS. ROUNDS: Okay. So that would be good. You know, hopefully, we're all hoping that the communities will start to be reopened. But in some cases, we still may not exceed the threshold of participants. You know, we may be able to reopen but only have the three people or four people in a room, in a meeting at a time. So we still might have to have a meeting through Zoom.

Youth commission. Of course, everything is on hold. I have been in contact with Chris about that. We would love to have a

short season. Again, you know, we are all trying to have some kind of normalcy back in our lives, once we can get back to our lives. So it's not -- we are not ruling it out. They did put it out there that we would refund anybody's money who had already paid for the registration for this season.

I don't believe anybody has requested it yet. So we, of course, for sure, would do it. But we will wait and see if they can at least have a short season of some sort, you know, just restructure something. Maybe if it's a month long or six weeks long. It still would be something, better than nothing. So that's happening there.

Code Enforcement/Building and Grounds. You know, Nick is doing his thing. Zack - Zack I have to say, and Tim Hawley from the highway department have spent the last three days -- well, last Thursday and then Monday and today going around and picking up trash on our town roads. And also doing it on Hawleyton and Park Avenue, because we did call the county and asked if the prisoners were going to be coming out to do that and that was a no.

So both of them graciously accepted the challenge and have picked up a whole lot of trash, and I have to say the roads look great. So I am going to personally thank them for doing that. It makes a difference to me and makes a difference to the way our community, our members of our community view our

community.

So -- and Mike's here from the Highway Department. So you guys have to tell me, 'cause he is sitting ten feet away from me.

If you can hear.

MR. DONAHUE: Can you hear me?

MR. NYE: Elizabeth.

MS. ROUNDS: What?

MR. NYE: Elizabeth. Nick...

MS. ROUNDS: Are you there? Do you have a question, Dean?

MR. NYE: Yeah, I did. Nick sent out a couple of documents dealing with the NYSEG relamping program. And, you know, he's not there today and I didn't talk to him today either. Is that something we have to move on quickly? Because one was a real good payback. The other one, there was something wrong.

MS. ROUNDS: No. I mean, obviously, that was all done in the midst of, you know, the world coming to an end here. And so Nick and I were going to talk about it. It is a good payback on -- because we, obviously, we want to update the town park as well. So I'll be honest with you, I haven't talked to Nick about it. I did get those documents as well.

So I think it was something we should pursue. I mean, we are out on an initial outlay, but I think there was a six-year or seven-year payback. So that might be something that we are interested in doing.

On that note, I don't know if you guys noticed, but in the vouchers today when we had the NYSEG for our lamps, the bill in the past had been \$2,800. And now with the new LED lights, it came out to be \$1,600.

MS. XLANDER: Oh, wonderful.

MS. ROUNDS: So it's obviously -- it's really -- right there, that \$1,200, we invested \$1,300 upfront, and we've already got paid back our money.

MR. NYE: I have some questions on it. So I just didn't know if we needed to act on that sooner than later.

MS. ROUNDS: Well, I'll be honest with you, anything that needed to be acted on sooner, has been put on pause because --

MR. NYE: Okay.

MS. ROUNDS: -- every industry and everything.

MR. NYE: Yep.

MS. ROUNDS: So Mike is going to come over and talk to you about the highway.

MR. DONAHUE: Hi, everybody. How are you doing?

MS. CONKLIN: Hi, Mike.

MR. DONAHUE: Couple things. Employees are going to come back on the 20th of April and --

MS. XLANDER: We are having trouble hearing.

MS. CONKLIN: Yeah. We are having trouble hearing you, Mike.

MR. NYE: Yeah. Get a little closer to the microphone.

MR. DONAHUE: All the employees are going to come back on the 20th. We'll just have to split them up, so breaks and stuff like that, so they won't congregate or anything, but by that time it's pretty much passed our threshold. There are some projects that we are going to start working on so they can pretty much get done.

One of the good things is the state budget passed, as everybody has known. They did allow all the money for CHIPS program from this year. There's a couple of programs that Pave New York and Extreme Winter is all about revenue. So they said funded it at 25 percent of what their allocations were supposed to be, and then see in July what their state revenues were at from that point. So them two items, the CHIP program itself is 100 percent funding on that.

MS. CONKLIN: I'm sorry. The Pave New York and what program?

MR. DONAHUE: Extreme Winter fund.

MS. CONKLIN: Stream land?

MR. DONAHUE: Winter. Winter.

MS. CONKLIN: Winter, okay. Thank you.

MR. DONAHUE: Money for potholes and things like that.

MS. CONKLIN: Okay.

MR. DONAHUE: That's pretty much about it. You all have your agendas with you?

MS. CONKLIN: Having trouble making out what you're saying.

MR. DONAHUE: Does everybody have their agendas with them?

MS. CONKLIN: Yes.

MR. DONAHUE: Okay. Because she wanted to go down to unfinished business.

MS. CONKLIN: Okay.

MR. DONAHUE: Highway pipelining. We need to authorize the bid for the highway pipelining. The bids will be due May 4th at 12:00 and the bid results will be read out loud at 12:01.

MS. CONKLIN: I am sorry. Read out loud when?

MR. DONAHUE: 12:01 on May 8th.

MS. CONKLIN: On May 8th.

MR. DONAHUE: May 5th, sorry. That would be on Monday. And then the (inaudible) meeting, they can do the awards. So you'll need to make that in the form of a motion.

MS. CONKLIN: But, Mike, did you say the bids are due May 12th -- I mean, May 4th at 12:00 PM?

MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

MS. CONKLIN: Okay. That's a Monday, correct?

MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

MS. CONKLIN: Okay. Thank you.

MS. ROUNDS: So we need to make a motion to adopt a resolution for the highway department sanitary pipelining bid, to authorize the bids to go out and be due back in by May 4th at 12:00, with the reading of the bid May 5th at 12:01, and

authorization of the bid winner on May 19th, which is our regularly scheduled board meeting at 7:01.

MR. BENSLEY: So moved.

MS. ROUNDS: Second?

MS. XLANDER: Second.

MS. ROUNDS: Any discussion?

(Whereupon there was no response)

MS. ROUNDS: Roll call vote, please.

MS. CONKLIN: Deputy Supervisor Xlander.

MS. XLANDER: Aye.

MS. CONKLIN: Councilperson Bensley?

MR. BENSLEY: Aye.

MS. CONKLIN: Councilperson Leighton? Councilperson Nye.

MR. NYE: Aye.

MS. CONKLIN: Supervisor Rounds.

MS. ROUNDS: Aye.

Motion carried. Resolution is passed.

And so, Mike, we are going to also have him go down now and under a new business and talk about the Kubota and tractor.

MR. DONAHUE: We would like to deem the Kubota tractor and the Kubota excavator surplus and to sell them on Auction International (inaudible).

MS. XLANDER: Having trouble understanding you, Mike.

MR. DONAHUE: We'd like to authorize the Kubota tractor and

the Kubota excavator be deemed as surplus so we can sell it on Auction International.

MS. XLANDER: Okay.

MS. ROUNDS: We need to make a resolution to put the Kubota tractor and the Kubota excavator on Auction International. So moved?

MR. BENSLEY: So moved.

MS. ROUNDS: Second?

MS. XLANDER: Second.

MS. ROUNDS: Roll call vote.

MS. CONKLIN: Deputy Supervisor Xlander.

MS. XLANDER: Aye.

MS. CONKLIN: Councilperson Bensley.

MR. BENSLEY: Aye.

MS. CONKLIN: Councilperson Leighton. Councilperson Nye.

MR. NYE: Aye.

MS. CONKLIN: Supervisor Rounds.

MS. ROUNDS: Aye.

Motion carried. Resolution is passed. Okay. Thank you.

On to the supervisor's report. Obviously, there's not really -- I mean, obviously, everybody probably is staying updated on their own for the Corona virus. I would like to -- Mike and I thought it was a good idea that maybe we could have a moment of silence to think about what our country has



been going through and the 12,000 people who have died this last month. So I would like to take a moment to acknowledge that.

And also we need to start moving on to citizen of the year. We need to start thinking about the citizen of the year. So, Vickie, who worked with you last year, Vickie Xlander?

MS. XLANDER: I consulted with Nancy.

MS. ROUNDS: Okay. I do have somebody in mind, so if you want to give me a call. I don't want to make that public yet, because these minutes will be public. So if you want to give me a call, I have somebody in mind.

MS. XLANDER: Okay.

MS. ROUNDS: Okay. That way, we could decide. That would be a nice way to hopefully do something maybe in July about -- for this so that we know hopefully by that time we would be able to have -- you know, (inaudible) participate.

MS. XLANDER: Yep.

MS. ROUNDS: Okay. Moving on to unfinished business. Item number 2, Cleanup Days. There was an announcement that the Broome County landfill was just -- excuse me, postponing the municipalities for their drop-off days. So I will speak to Carol over the next week and see, but we did -- Nick and I talked about doing something maybe a little different, so when we are able to schedule that, we will talk to everybody about

it and see what we all think. Right now we want to have it on June 16th. So they are just not scheduling anything right now. So we will have to wait and see.

And then on to, we need to re-approve the town clerk of the -- the New York State Clerks Association annual conference. We need to give Vickie Conklin the authorization to attend. It's been rescheduled for August 23rd to the 26th of 2020. Vickie, do you remember how much that was?

MS. CONKLIN: Oh, my gosh. I think it was \$800 --about \$800 or \$850, including registration and the hotel room, I believe.

MS. ROUNDS: Okay. So I need to have a motion made to authorize Vickie Conklin, our town clerk, to attend the New York State Town Clerks Association Annual Conference, August 23rd to 26th.

MR. BENSLEY: So moved.

MS. ROUNDS: Second?

MS. XLANDER: Second.

MS. ROUNDS: All in favor.

MR. BENSLEY: Aye.

MS. XLANDER: Aye.

MR. NYE: Aye.

MS. ROUNDS: Opposed?

(Whereupon there was no response)

MS. ROUNDS: Motion passed.

MS. CONKLIN: Thank you.

MS. ROUNDS: Okay.

MR. BENSLEY: Anything for you, Vickie.

MS. ROUNDS: Now, we need to -- excuse me just one second. So we had gotten before everything kind of changed, we had gotten a message from Thoma, Linda Armstrong, and she works with the CDBG grant and we need to adopt section 4 -- or 504 of the grievance procedure. So we need to adopt the resolution that we are providing a grievance.

We are complying with the policy of section 504 and basically section 504 of the rehabilitation act of 1973 prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability and programs and activities conducted by the U.S. department of housing of urban development or that receives assistance from HUD. This includes the New York State development block grant program funded by HUD, and under which the Town of Binghamton has received financial assistance.

So I did speak to Mike Bensley and he would be our compliance officer. So that if someone did feel that they had been discriminated against due to a disability, they can file a grievance. And I did print out the procedures for filing a complaint. And then I do need to read a resolution that we need to sign and get it back to them so we have that on file. So I am going to read the resolution and bear with me and then

we will take the motion and then we can discuss this any further.

Section 504 of the rehabilitation act of 1973 prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability and programs and activities conducted by the U.S. department of housing and urban development or by grantees that receive financial assistance from HUD. And, whereas part A of the title 24 of the code of federal regulations 24 CFR requires adoption of grievance procedures to address complaints of those who feel they have been discriminated against on the basis of disability and also requires the provision of notice of such grievance procedures and whereas it is a policy of the Town of Binghamton not to discriminate against any individual, person or group on the basis of disability and the intent of the town to address any complaints that may arise pursuant to section 504.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Town of Binghamton does hereby adopt by resolution, internal grievance procedure providing for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints, allegedly any action prohibited by section 504 of the rehabilitation act of 1973 of the department of health and human resources regulations and implementing the act.

Be it further resolved that the Town of Binghamton does hereby designate Mike Bensley as our grievance coordinator in the Town of Binghamton who shall be responsible for receiving and

addressing complaints, pursuant to the procedures adopted hereby and attached hereto.

And, be it finally resolved, that the Town of Binghamton will place its employee, the public and potential beneficiary of certain federal programs on notice by undertaking certain actions that will include, but not be limited to, providing a copy of the grievance procedure to its employees; putting the public on notice by placing the notice of the town's official newspaper subsequent to adoption of this procedure; three, placing copies of the procedures in the location in the front of the -- usually you put them -- Vickie, in the front of...

MS. CONKLIN: I usually put them out on the -- in the lobby and on the sign board.

MS. ROUNDS: Okay.

-- placing copies of the procedure in the lobby at the town hall and on the sign board in the town hall for review and dissemination and for any language to federal program procedures to ensure all potential program beneficiaries are aware of the town's adopted grievance procedure.

So moved.

MR. NYE: So moved.

MS. ROUNDS: Second.

MS. XLANDER: Second.

MS. ROUNDS: Any discussion?

(Whereupon there was no response)

MS. ROUNDS: No laughing, Rose.

MR. BENSLEY: Rose is in charge of keeping me out of trouble.

MS. ROUNDS: So anybody have any discussions about this?

(Whereupon there was no response)

MS. ROUNDS: Roll call, vote please, then.

MS. CONKLIN: Deputy Supervisor Xlander.

MS. XLANDER: Aye.

MS. CONKLIN: Councilperson Bensley.

MR. BENSLEY: Aye.

MS. CONKLIN: Councilperson Leighton. Councilperson Nye.

MR. NYE: Aye.

MS. CONKLIN: Supervisor Rounds.

MS. ROUNDS: Aye.

Motion carried. Resolution has been adopted

On to item number 5 of the unfinished business. The community center coordinator position. So we did receive one application for that position, and that has been forwarded to Mike and Vickie. So the gentleman is Dave Yetter?

MR. NYE: Yetter?

MS. ROUNDS: Yetter. I think I have it here.

So I did ask Mike today if he could contact Dave and just tell him that we are interested in having him take the position.

But it would be -- we wouldn't probably meet with him for a few

weeks and then we will when, you know, we get the community center back up. Because Nick has been letting people know -- like people who had rented it for April, we, obviously, had to cancel that and refund money there.

But one of the things that I think will be helpful is that I did talk to the people from our paygov, which is the company that processes our credit cards, if somebody wants to pay. They are going to be putting a program that we can attach on to our website under the community center that will be a calendar that they can check availability, that they can also book the day that they want to use, submit a payment, print out the forms and then just, you know, get those forms to our coordinator.

So we are hoping to streamline this and that we would have to provide -- if it turns out that Dave is still interested in doing that, we would have to provide him a computer and he could probably do most of the work from home. So that would work out great. I think it would just streamline it, because people would find out right away if the day that they wanted to use it was available.

MS. XLANDER: Sounds good.

MS. ROUNDS: So give him a call, Mike, and just tell him we'll let him know when we are back in business.

MR. BENSLEY: I sure will do that. I am glad to call him.

MS. ROUNDS: Yeah, good.

MR. BENSLEY: Vickie Xlander?

MS. XLANDER: Yeah.

MR. BENSLEY: Did you get a chance to see his letter?

MS. XLANDER: I did.

MR. BENSLEY: Did you have any reaction to it?

MS. XLANDER: I have no concerns other than the fact that it was handwritten.

MR. BENSLEY: He rolls old school, you know, it was kind of funny, I was surprised myself.

MS. XLANDER: Yep.

MS. ROUNDS: Well, not to make jest, but the first question I asked was does he know how to use a computer?

MR. BENSLEY: So just so that the board understands, I knew Dave Yetter when I worked at NYSEG and he worked in corporate communications, so he is an articulate fellow. And I am fairly well convinced that he knows how to use a computer.

But he also is a very nice fellow and I imagine that he will be sharing the responsibilities with his wife and they live very near to the community center. They could practically walk to it. So it's a matter of convenience all the way around.

MS. ROUNDS: Okay. Perfect.

The next item is the Hickory Common School District just needs our approval to use the town hall if possible, May 12th at 7:00



and May 19th at 7:30. The May 12th meeting is just their annual meeting that they present their budget and then on the 19th they have to budget or vote on that budget.

MR. BENSLEY: Yep.

MS. ROUNDS: So we need to make a motion to allow the Hickory Common School District to use our town hall on May 12th and May 19th.

MS. XLANDER: So moved.

MS. ROUNDS: Second?

MR. BENSLEY: Second.

MS. ROUNDS: Any questions?

(Whereupon there was no response)

MS. ROUNDS: All in favor?

MS. XLANDER: Aye.

MR. NYE: Aye.

MR. BENSLEY: Aye.

MS. ROUNDS: Opposed?

(Whereupon there was no response)

MS. ROUNDS: Motion carried.

And last on the new businesses, we need to reappointment Bill Meredith, who sits on our town assessment board of review, his -- it expired last September, right, Vickie?

MS. CONKLIN: Correct, yes. So we need to make it retroactive to October 1, 2019.

MS. ROUNDS: And we did get a letter of intent from him that it would be his pleasure to serve on this board and he is willing to serve a full five-year term.

So, Alan, is this a resolution or just a motion?

MR. POPE: Just a motion.

MS. ROUNDS: Okay. So I would like to make a motion to reappoint Bill Meredith to the Town of Binghamton assessment review board with his term starting September 1, 2019.

MS. CONKLIN: I am sorry. October 1st.

MS. ROUNDS: October 1st. I am sorry. October 1, 2019, and he will be serving a five-year term.

MS. XLANDER: So moved.

MS. ROUNDS: Second.

MR. NYE: Second.

MS. ROUNDS: Any discussion?

MR. NYE: Is this a paid position?

MS. ROUNDS: It is. I will be honest with you, I can't think of what they get. Is it that much?

MS. XLANDER: \$50.00 a meeting?

MS. ROUNDS: No. Because they only meet -- you know, they only meet with the residents when it's -- their assessment reviews. I mean, it is in the budget, but I can't tell you. But it is a paid position.

MR. NYE: Do we need to include that in motion or not?

MS. ROUNDS: No.

MR. NYE: Okay.

MR. BENSLEY: Elizabeth, what's the difference between that and the zoning board of appeals?

MS. ROUNDS: Because this is a -- a zoning board of appeals is dealing with variances, either area or use variance. The town assessment is dealing with the grievances of someone's assessed property.

MR. BENSLEY: So the ZBA would never hear a grievance, it's strictly physical property?

MS. ROUNDS: Correct. They would never hear a grievance about someone complaining that their taxes are too high.

MR. BENSLEY: I thought that was the case, just wanted to confirm.

MS. ROUNDS: Yep.

MR. BENSLEY: Thank you.

MS. ROUNDS: Yep. All in favor?

MR. NYE: Aye.

MR. BENSLEY: Aye.

MS. XLANDER: Aye.

MS. ROUNDS: So moved.

Does anyone have anything else -- wait, hold on. Oh, yeah.

So -- so Mike had IT posted it on our website, our next billing cycle for the water and sewer starts May 1st and then they get

their bills, and so then they have the month of May to pay them. So we are going to only take credit cards or checks. They have to be mailed in, you know, not in person.

And I was going to call govpay and I will do that this week because they paid -- we get charged 3 percent. And this -- we are doing this because of the COVID 19, you know, not taking cash, so maybe they would be willing to reduce their rate for just one month so that our residents -- it can't hurt to ask. So I was going to ask them if they would reduce their rate for just this one time, you know, as a courtesy for us. So we will see.

MR. BENSLEY: We will see how it goes. If you don't ask, the answer is always no.

MS. ROUNDS: I've been telling my kids that my whole life. Unless there's anything else, I would like to make a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MR. BENSLEY: So moved.

MS. ROUNDS: Second?

MR. NYE: Aye.

All in favor?

MS. XLANDER: Aye.

MR. NYE: Aye.

MR. BENSLEY: Aye.

MS. ROUNDS: Opposed?

(Whereupon there was no response)

MS. ROUNDS: Motion carried.

So it was great to see everybody. And I guess we will probably most likely do our next board meeting -- what day would it be? On the 21st. We will probably do it this way.

MR. NYE: The 28th, maybe?

MS. ROUNDS: No, it's the 21st. I would assume we are going to do it this way because there is an executive order, you know, staying in place until April 29th. So we will see you all back on the big screen.

MR. NYE: Drive safe, Alan.

MS. ROUNDS: Everybody have a safe ride home.

MR. NYE: Bye-bye.

MR. BENSLEY: Take care.

MS. XLANDER: Be healthy.

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I, JESSICA BRIELMEIER, Shorthand Reporter, do certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate transcript of the proceedings in the matter of the Town of Binghamton Board Work Session, held in Binghamton, New York, on April 7, 2020.

JESSICA BRIELMEIER  
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