

1 STATE OF NEW YORK

2 COUNTY OF BROOME

3 - - - - -

4 In the Matter of the Town of Binghamton
5 Town Board Work Session

7 - - - - -

8 A Work Session held at 279 Park Avenue, Binghamton,
9 New York, on the 7th day of April, 2020, commencing at
10 5:30 PM.

12 BEFORE: ELIZABETH ROUNDS
13 Supervisor

15 REPORTED BY: CZERENDA COURT REPORTING, INC
16 71 State Street
17 Binghamton, New York 13901-3318
18 JESSICA BRIELMEIER
19 Shorthand Reporter
20 Notary Public
21 Binghamton - (607) 723-5820
22 (800) 633-9149

20 ALSO PRESENT:
21 VICTORIA XLANDER, Deputy Supervisor
22 DEAN NYE, Councilperson
23 MICHAEL BENSLEY, Councilperson
24 VICTORIA CONKLIN, Town Clerk
MICHAEL DONAHUE, Highway Superintendent
ALAN POPE, Town Attorney

Town Board Work Session

1 MS. ROUNDS: Okay. The first on
2 the agenda, I want a motion may be made to
3 an executive session to discuss the legal
4 matter and/or personal matter regarding a
5 particular employee after the meeting is
6 convened. Obviously, we won't be going into
7 any exact detail tonight.

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

11 MR. BENSLEY: So moved.

12 MS. ROUNDS: Second.

13 MS. XLANDER: Second.

14 MS. ROUNDS: Any questions?

15 MR. NYE: Yes. One.

16 MS. ROUNDS: Go ahead.

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

19 MS. ROUNDS: Yes. And I have that
20 on my notes, it's a Lowe's receipt for
21 \$43.67. So I am going to talk to him about
22 that and ask that he provide that receipt.
23 And, if not, we could talk to Lowe's and
24 find out what that actually was.

Town Board Work Session

1 MR. NYE: Okay. Just want to make
2 sure that we weren't approving something,
3 obviously, that's missing a component.

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

9 MR. NYE: Good deal.

10 MS. ROUNDS: Any other questions?

11 Roll call, please.

12 MS. CONKLIN: Deputy Xlander.

13 MS. XLANDER: Aye.

14 MS. CONKLIN: Councilperson

15 Bensley.

16 MR. BENSLEY: Aye.

17 MS. CONKLIN: Councilperson Nye.

18 MR. NYE: Aye.

19 MS. CONKLIN: Council Supervisor

20 Rounds.

21 MS. ROUNDS: Aye.

22 MS. ROUNDS: Resolution is passed.

23 On to recognition of -- the last
24 fast work session which was March 3rd. Did

Town Board Work Session

1 anybody have any questions concerning the
2 work session?

3 MS. XLANDER: No.

4 MR. BENSLEY: No.

5 MS. ROUNDS: On communications and
6 announcements, there's really nothing on any
7 of the Associations of Towns. Monthly
8 meetings have been postponed at this point.
9 This Friday is Good Friday, so this actually
10 was the day off for the town employees. So
11 the highway garage is making some changes in
12 the schedules.

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

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

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

23 MS. ROUNDS: Yes. Unless -- yes.
24 If -- it depends on this week and the

Town Board Work Session

1 highway department, they were called back or
2 never called back. And one of them didn't
3 come back for one day, so they would have to
4 use their personal time for that day.

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

7 MS. ROUNDS: No.

8 MR. NYE: -- this package?

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

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

21 MR. NYE: Okay.

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

24 MR. NYE: Okay. I thought we

Town Board Work Session

1 might be entitled to some compensation from
2 this federal package.

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

8 MR. NYE: Yes. Yes.

9 MS. ROUNDS: I am pretty -- Alan,
10 maybe you can correct me if I'm wrong, but I
11 didn't think that that was for public
12 entities.

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

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

24 So we are really not -- haven't

Town Board Work Session

1 incurred, you know, anything -- and to be
2 honest with you, obviously, sales tax
3 revenue and things like that, that's
4 something we will be looking at losing. But
5 that's...

6 MR. NYE: Highway workers are
7 being paid which is good, but they are not
8 providing any services to the town in their
9 40- or 37.5-hour week. And I thought
10 perhaps the town might be entitled to some
11 compensation from this federal stimulus
12 deal.

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

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

24 MR. NYE: But the half of the

Town Board Work Session

1 employees that are not working and are
2 hopefully at home, they are being paid by
3 the town --

4 MS. ROUNDS: Correct.

5 MR. NYE: -- and not providing a
6 service to the town and not charging their
7 credits.

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

12 MR. NYE: Right.

13 MS. ROUNDS: And, obviously, they
14 qualify as far as the size of our town
15 because we have 500 employees. But I do
16 remember when I was reading over the
17 information when I was submitting my
18 application, because I thought about that,
19 too, and for some reason I don't think this
20 was for public entities.

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

Town Board Work Session

1 reimbursed.

2 MS. ROUNDS: With who? I am
3 sorry.

4 MR. NYE: You meet with the Broome
5 County, with Jake Garner and the other
6 towns, Associations of Towns.

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

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

18 MR. NYE: Right. Right. Okay.

19 MS. ROUNDS: Okay.

20 On to officials and committee
21 reports. So just to tell you, the planning
22 board and zoning board does have their
23 quarterly meeting that's going to be held
24 this Monday. So I am reaching out to Chris

Town Board Work Session

1 and Jerry to have them have all of the
2 members download Zoom. And Alan is going to
3 do a half-hour -- 40-minute, half-hour
4 educational.

5 And, actually, one of the things
6 that Alan and I spoke about today was that
7 it would be a good idea for him to make a
8 presentation about the Corona -- the
9 COVID-19 in the sense that what happens if,
10 for some reason, you know, we have to have a
11 planning board meeting with a resident or
12 zoning board with a resident and we have to
13 do it through Zoom. So we are going to do a
14 short educational meeting on Monday.

15 So you will be getting an
16 invitation, because I can host the meeting
17 and it will be the same thing like we did
18 today. But just all the board members will
19 have to download Zoom for the planning board
20 (inaudible).

21 UNKNOWN CHK: Elizabeth, I did one
22 in the Town of Chenango. I did a public
23 hearing in (inaudible) so I'll join Alan and
24 talk about how that went.

Town Board Work Session

1 MS. ROUNDS: Okay. So that would
2 be good. You know, hopefully, I think the
3 communities will start to be reopened. But
4 in some cases, we still may not exceed the
5 threshold of participants. You know, we may
6 be able to reopen but only have the three
7 people or four people in a room, in a meeting
8 at a time. So we might have to have a
9 meeting through Zoom.

10 Youth commission. Of course,
11 everything is on hold. I have been in
12 contact with Chris about that. We would love
13 to have a short season. Again, you know, we
14 are all trying to have some kind of normalcy
15 back in our lives, once we get back to our
16 lives. So it's not -- we are not ruling it
17 out. They did put it out there that we
18 refund anybody money who had already paid for
19 the registration for this season.

20 I don't believe anybody has
21 requested it yet. So we, of course, for
22 sure, would do it. But we will wait and see
23 if they can at least have a short season of
24 some sort, you know, just to structure

Town Board Work Session

1 something. Maybe it's a month long or six
2 weeks long. It still would be something,
3 better than nothing. So that's happening
4 there.

5 Code enforcement/building and
6 grounds. You know, Nick is doing his thing.
7 Zack -- Zack (inaudible) Tim Holly from the
8 highway department have spent the last three
9 days -- well, last Thursday and then Monday
10 and today going around and picking up trash
11 on our town roads. And also doing it on
12 Hawleyton and Park Avenue, because we did
13 call the county and asked if the prisoners
14 were coming out to do that and that was
15 unknown.

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

24 So -- and Mike's here from the

Town Board Work Session

1 highway department. So you guys have to tell
2 me -- he is sitting ten feet away from me.
3 If you can hear.

4 MR. DONAHUE: Can you hear me?

5 MR. NYE: Elizabeth.

6 MS. ROUNDS: What?

7 MR. NYE: Elizabeth. Nick...

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

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

18 MS. ROUNDS: No. I mean,
19 obviously, that was all done in the midst
20 of, you know, the world coming to an end
21 here. And so Nick and I were going to talk
22 about it. It is a good payback on --
23 because we, obviously, we want to update the
24 town park as well. So I'll be honest to

Town Board Work Session

1 you, I haven't talked to Nick about it. I
2 did get those documents as well.

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

9 On that note, I don't know if you
10 guys know this, but in the vouchers today
11 when we had the NYSEG for our lamps, the
12 bill in the past had been \$2,800. And now
13 with the new LED lights, it came out to be
14 \$1,600.

15 MS. XLANDER: Oh, wonderful.

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

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

23 MS. ROUNDS: Well, I'll be honest
24 with you, anything that needed to been done

Town Board Work Session

1 has been put on pause because --

2 MR. NYE: Okay.

3 MS. ROUNDS: -- every industry and
4 everything.

5 MR. NYE: Yep.

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

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

10 MR. BENSLEY: Hi, Mike.

11 MS. CONKLIN: Hi.

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

15 MS. XLANDER: We are having
16 trouble hearing.

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

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

21 MR. DONAHUE: All the employees
22 are going to come back on the 20th.

23 (Inaudible) so breaks and stuff like that so
24 they won't CHK (inaudible) by that time it's

Town Board Work Session

1 pretty much passed our threshold. There are
2 some projects we are going to start working
3 on so they can foresee those.

4 One of the good things is the state
5 budget passed of (inaudible) has. They did
6 allow all the money for CHIPS program from
7 this year. There's a couple of programs
8 that Pave New York and Extreme Winter is all
9 about revenue. They have it at 25 percent
10 of their locations were supposed to be and
11 then see in July what their state revenues
12 were at that point so the CHIP program is
13 100 percent funding on that CHK.

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

16 MR. DONAHUE: Extreme Winter.

17 MS. CONKLIN: Stream land?

18 MR. DONAHUE: Winter. Winter.

19 MS. CONKLIN: Winter, okay. Thank
20 you.

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

23 MS. CONKLIN: Okay.

24 MR. DONAHUE: That's pretty much

Town Board Work Session

1 about it. You all have your agendas with
2 you?

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

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

7 MS. CONKLIN: Yes.

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

10 MS. CONKLIN: Okay.

11 MR. DONAHUE: Highway pipelining.
12 We need to authorize the bid for the highway
13 pipeline. The bids will be due May 4th at
14 12:00 and the bid results will be read out
15 loud at 12:01.

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

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

19 MS. CONKLIN: On May 8th.

20 MR. DONAHUE: May 5th, sorry.
21 That would be on Monday. And then do the
22 awards. So you'll need to bid for the
23 motion.

24 MS. CONKLIN: But, Mike, but did

Town Board Work Session

1 you say the bids are due May 12th -- I mean,
2 May 4th at 12:00 PM?

3 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

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

6 MR. DONAHUE: Yes.

7 MS. CONKLIN: Okay. Thank you.

8 MS. ROUNDS: So we need to make a
9 motion to adopt the resolution for the
10 highway department sanitary pipelining bid,
11 authorize the bids to be called out and be
12 due back in by May 4th at 12:00, with the
13 reading of the bid May 5th at 12:01, and
14 authorization of the bid winner on May 19th,
15 which is our regularly scheduled board
16 meeting at 7:01.

17 MR. NYE: So moved.

18 MS. ROUNDS: Second.

19 MS. XLANDER: Second.

20 MS. ROUNDS: Any discussions?

21 (Whereupon there was no response)

22 MS. ROUNDS: Roll call vote,
23 please.

24 MS. CONKLIN: Deputy Supervisor

Town Board Work Session

1 Xlander.

2 MS. XLANDER: Aye.

3 MS. CONKLIN: Councilperson

4 Bensley?

5 MR. BENSLEY: Aye.

6 MS. CONKLIN: Councilperson

7 Leighton?

8 Councilperson Nye.

9 MR. NYE: Aye.

10 MS. CONKLIN: Supervisor Rounds.

11 MS. ROUNDS: Aye.

12 Motion carried. Resolution is
13 passed.

14 And so, Mike, we are going to also
15 have him go down now and (inaudible) on a
16 new business and talk about the Kubota
17 tractor.

18 MR. DONAHUE: We would like to
19 issue the tractor and the Kubota excavator
20 (inaudible).

21 MS. XLANDER: Having trouble
22 understanding you, Mike.

23 MR. DONAHUE: Authorize the Kubota
24 tractor and the Kubota excavator be deemed a

Town Board Work Session

1 surplus so we can sell it on auction
2 international.

3 MS. XLANDER: Okay.

4 MS. ROUNDS: We need to make a
5 resolution to put the Kubota tractor and the
6 Kubota excavator on auction, auction
7 international vote.

8 So moved?

9 MR. NYE: So moved.

10 MS. ROUNDS: Second.

11 MS. XLANDER: Second.

12 MS. ROUNDS: Roll call vote.

13 MS. CONKLIN: Deputy Supervisor
14 Xlander.

15 MS. XLANDER: Aye.

16 MS. CONKLIN: Councilperson
17 Bensley.

18 MR. BENSLEY: Aye.

19 MS. CONKLIN: Councilperson
20 Leighton.

21 Councilperson Nye.

22 MR. NYE: Aye.

23 MS. CONKLIN: Supervisor Rounds.

24 MS. ROUNDS: Aye.

Town Board Work Session

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

3 On to the supervisor's report.
4 Obviously, there's not really -- I mean,
5 obviously, everybody probably is staying
6 updated on their own for the Corona virus.
7 I would like to -- Mike and I thought it was
8 a good idea that maybe we could have a
9 moment of silence to think about what our
10 country has been going through and the
11 12,000 people who have died this last month.
12 So I would like to take a moment to
13 acknowledge that.

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

19 MS. XLANDER: I consulted with
20 Nancy.

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

Town Board Work Session

1 So if you want to give me a call, I have
2 somebody in mind.

3 MS. XLANDER: Okay.

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

10 MS. XLANDER: Yep.

11 MS. ROUNDS: Okay. Moving on to
12 unfinished business. Cleanup days. There
13 was an announcement that the Broome County
14 landfill was just -- excuse me, postponing
15 the municipalities for their drop-off dates.
16 So I will speak to Carol over the next week
17 and see, but we did -- Nick and I talked
18 about doing something maybe a little
19 different, so when we are able to schedule
20 that, we will talk to everybody about it and
21 see what we all think. Right now we want to
22 have it on June 16th. So they are just not
23 scheduling anything right now. So we will
24 have to wait and see.

Town Board Work Session

1 And then on to we need to
2 re-approve the town clerk of the -- the
3 New York State Clerks Association annual
4 conference. We need to give Vickie CHK
5 authorization to attend. It's been
6 rescheduled for August 23rd to the 26th of
7 2020.

8 Vickie, do you remember how much
9 that was?

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

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

19 MR. NYE: So moved.

20 MS. ROUNDS: Second.

21 MS. XLANDER: Second.

22 MS. ROUNDS: All in favor.

23 MR. BENSLEY: Aye.

24 MS. XLANDER: Aye.

Town Board Work Session

1 MR. NYE: Aye.

2 MS. ROUNDS: Opposed?

3 (Whereupon there was no response)

4 MS. ROUNDS: Motion passed.

5 MS. CONKLIN: Thank you.

6 MS. ROUNDS: Okay.

7 MR. NYE: Anything for you,

8 Vickie.

9 MS. ROUNDS: Now, we need to --
10 excuse me just one second. So we had gotten
11 before everything kind of -- we had gotten a
12 message from Palma, Linda Armstrong, and she
13 worked with the CDBG grant and we need to
14 adopt section 4 -- or 504 of the grievance
15 procedure. So we need to adopt the
16 resolution that we are providing a
17 grievance.

18 We are complying with the CHK of
19 section 504 and basically section 504 of the
20 rehabilitation act of 1973 prohibits
21 discrimination on the basis of disability
22 and programs and activities conducted by the
23 U.S. department of housing of urban
24 development or that receives assistance from

Town Board Work Session

1 HUD. This includes the New York State
2 development block grant program funded by
3 HUD, and under which the Town of Binghamton
4 has received financial assistance.

5 So I did speak to Mike Bensley and
6 he would be our compliance officer. So that
7 if someone did feel that they had been
8 discriminated against due to a disability
9 and they can file a grievance. And I did
10 print out the procedures for -- the filing
11 complaint. And then I do need to read a
12 resolution that we need to sign and get it
13 back to them so we have that on file. So I
14 am going to read the resolution and bear
15 with me and then we will take the motion and
16 then we can discuss this any further.

17 Section 504 of the rehabilitation
18 act of 1973 prevents discrimination on the
19 basis of disability and programs and
20 activities conducted by the U.S. department
21 of housing and urban development or by
22 grantees that receive financial assistance
23 from HUD. And whereas part A of the title
24 of the code of federal regulations 24 CFR

Town Board Work Session

1 requires adoption of procedures to address
2 complainants that feel they have been
3 discriminated on the basis of disability and
4 also requires the provision of notice of
5 such grievance procedure and whereas it is a
6 policy of the Town of Binghamton not to
7 discriminate against any individual, person
8 or group on the basis of disability and the
9 intent of the town to address any complaints
10 that may arise pursuant to section 504.

11 Now, therefore, be it resolved that
12 the Town of Binghamton does hereby adopt a
13 resolution in terms of grievance procedure
14 provide a prompt and ethical resolution of
15 complaint of any action prohibited by
16 section 504 of the rehabilitation act of
17 1973 of the department of health and human
18 resources regulations and presenting the
19 act.

20 Be it further CHK that the Town of
21 Binghamton does hereby designate Mike
22 Bensley as our grievance coordinator in the
23 Town of Binghamton who shall be responsible
24 for receiving and addressing complaints

Town Board Work Session

1 which CHK procedure adopted hereby and
2 attached hereto.

3 And, finally, it be revised that
4 the Town of Binghamton will place its
5 employee: That the potential beneficiary of
6 certain federal programs unnoted by certain
7 acts that will include but not be limited to
8 providing a copy of the grievance procedure
9 to its employee; putting the public on
10 notice by placing the notice of the town's
11 official newspaper sent to adopt this
12 procedure; three, place the copy of the
13 procedure and the location in the front of
14 the -- usually you put them -- Vickie, in
15 the front of...

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

19 MS. ROUNDS: Okay.

20 -- place copies of the procedure in
21 the lobby in the town hall and on the sign
22 board in the town hall for review and
23 dissemination and for any language to
24 federal program procedures to ensure all

Town Board Work Session

1 potential programs beneficiaries are aware
2 of the town's adopted grievance procedure.

3 So moved.

4 MR. NYE: So moved.

5 MS. ROUNDS: Second.

6 MS. XLANDER: Second.

7 MS. ROUNDS: Any discussion?

8 (Whereupon there was no response)

9 MS. ROUNDS: No laughing, Rose.

10 MR. NYE: Rose is in charge and
11 keeping you out of trouble.

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

14 (Whereupon there was no response)

15 MS. ROUNDS: Roll call, please,
16 then.

17 MS. CONKLIN: Deputy Supervisor
18 Xlander.

19 MS. XLANDER: Aye.

20 MS. CONKLIN: Councilperson
21 Bensley.

22 MR. BENSLEY: Aye.

23 MS. CONKLIN: Councilperson
24 Leighton.

Town Board Work Session

1 Councilperson Nye.

2 MR. NYE: Aye.

3 MS. CONKLIN: Supervisor Rounds.

4 MS. ROUNDS: Aye.

5 Motion carried. Resolution has
6 been amended.

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

13 MR. NYE: Yetter?

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

16 So I did ask Mike today if he could
17 contact Dave and just tell him that we are
18 interested in having him take the position.
19 But it would be -- we wouldn't probably meet
20 with him for a few weeks and then we will
21 when, you know, we get the community center
22 back up. Because Nick has been letting
23 people now -- like people who had rented it
24 for April, we, obviously, had to cancel that

Town Board Work Session

1 Mike, and just tell him we'll let him know
2 when we are back in business.

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

5 MS. ROUNDS: Yeah, good.

6 MR. BENSLEY: Vickie Xlander?

7 MS. XLANDER: Yeah.

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

10 MS. XLANDER: I did.

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

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

15 MR. BENSLEY: He rolls old school,
16 you know, it was kind of funny.

17 MS. XLANDER: Yep.

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

21 MR. BENSLEY: So just so that the
22 board understands, I knew Dave Yetter when I
23 worked at NYSEG and he worked in corporate
24 communications, so he is an articulate

Town Board Work Session

1 fellow. And I am fairly well convinced that
2 he knows how to use a computer.

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

9 MS. ROUNDS: Okay. Perfect.

10 The next item is the Hickory Common
11 School District just needs our approval to
12 use the town hall if possible, May 12th at
13 7:00 and May 19th at 7:30. The May 12th
14 meeting is just their annual meeting that
15 they present their budget and then on the
16 19th they have to budget or vote on that
17 budget.

18 MR. BENSLEY: Yep.

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

23 MS. XLANDER: So moved.

24 MS. ROUNDS: Second.

Town Board Work Session

1 MR. NYE: Second.

2 MS. ROUNDS: Any questions?

3 (Whereupon there was no response)

4 MS. ROUNDS: All in favor?

5 MS. XLANDER: Aye.

6 MR. NYE: Aye.

7 MS. ROUNDS: Opposed?

8 (Whereupon there was no response)

9 MS. ROUNDS: Motion carried.

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

15 MS. CONKLIN: Correct, yes. So we
16 need to make it retroactive to October 1,
17 2019.

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

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

24 MR. POPE: Just a motion.

Town Board Work Session

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

6 MS. CONKLIN: I am sorry. October
7 1st.

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

11 MS. XLANDER: So moved.

12 MS. ROUNDS: Second.

13 MR. NYE: Second.

14 MS. ROUNDS: Any discussion?

15 MR. NYE: Is this a paid position?

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

19 MS. XLANDER: \$50,000 competing?

20 MS. ROUNDS: They only meet -- you
21 know, they only meet with the residents when
22 it's -- their assessment reviews. I mean,
23 it is in the budget, but I can't tell you.
24 But it is a paid position.

Town Board Work Session

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

3 MS. ROUNDS: No.

4 MR. NYE: Okay. What's the
5 difference between that and the zoning board
6 of appeals?

7 MS. ROUNDS: Because this is a --
8 a zoning board of appeals is dealing with
9 variances either area or CHK used variance.
10 The town assessment is dealing with the
11 grievances of some assessment property.

12 MR. NYE: So the ZBA would never
13 hear a grievance, it's strictly fiscal
14 property?

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

18 MR. NYE: I thought that was the
19 case, just wanted to confirm.

20 MS. ROUNDS: Yep.

21 MR. NYE: Thank you.

22 MS. ROUNDS: Yep. All in favor?

23 MR. NYE: Aye.

24 MR. BENSLEY: Aye.

Town Board Work Session

1 MS. XLANDER: Aye.

2 MS. ROUNDS: So moved.

3 Does anyone have anything else --
4 wait, hold on. Oh, yeah. So -- so Mike had
5 posted it on our website, our next billing
6 cycle for the water and sewer starts May 1st
7 and then they get their bills, and so then
8 they have the month of May to pay them. So
9 we are going to take credit cards or checks.
10 They have to be mailed in, you know, not in
11 person.

12 And I was going to call govpay and
13 I will do that this week because they
14 paid -- we get charged 3 percent. And this
15 -- we are doing this because of the COVID
16 19, you know, not taking cash, so maybe they
17 would be willing to reduce their rate for
18 just one month so that our residents -- it
19 can't hurt to ask. So I was going to ask
20 them if they would reduce their rate for
21 just this one time, you know, as a courtesy
22 for us. So we will see.

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

Town Board Work Session

1 MS. ROUNDS: I've been telling my
2 kids that my whole life.

3 Unless there's anything else, I
4 would like to make a motion to adjourn the
5 meeting.

6 MR. NYE: So moved.

7 MR. BENSLEY: Moved.

8 MS. ROUNDS: Second.

9 All in favor?

10 MS. XLANDER: Aye.

11 MR. NYE: Aye.

12 MS. ROUNDS: Opposed?

13 (Whereupon there was no response)

14 MS. ROUNDS: Motion carried.

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

20 MR. NYE: The 28th, maybe?

21 MS. ROUNDS: No, it's the 21st. I
22 am sure we are going to do it this way
23 because there is an executive order, you
24 know, staying in place until April 29th. So

Town Board Work Session

1 we will see you back on the big screen.

2 MR. NYE: Drive save, Alan.

3 MS. ROUNDS: Everybody have a safe
4 ride home.

5 MR. NYE: Bye-bye.

6 MR. BENSLEY: Take care.

7 MS. XLANDER: Be healthy.

8 - - - - -

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

1 STATE OF NEW YORK :

2 COUNTY OF BROOME :

3

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

9

10

11

_____

12

JESSICA BRIELMEIER

13

Shorthand Reporter

14

Notary Public

15

CZERENDA COURT REPORTING, INC

16

71 State Street

17

Binghamton, New York 13901-3318

18

19

20

21

22

23

24