

Minutes of the regular monthly meeting of the Jerusalem Town Board held on October 21, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. PRESENT were: Councilors Castner, Jones, Martin, Stewart, Town Clerk McMichael, Highway Superintendent Hurd.

Supervisor Sisson via Zoom.

GUESTS: Stephen Green, Ritchie Lent, Tim Cutler, Peter Bekisz, James Bobreski, Annette Toaspern, Barbara Lyon, Sara Lyon, Randy Rhoads, John Christensen; *Chronicle Express* Reporter, Doug Paddock.

Supervisor Sisson called the meeting to order with the Pledge to the Flag at 7:03 P.M.

RESOLUTION #115-20  
CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

On a motion of Councilor Jones, seconded by Councilor Stewart, the following was

ADOPTED       Ayes       5   Castner, Jones, Martin, Sisson, Stewart  
                  Nays        0

Resolved an Executive Session to discuss contract negotiations and approval of the October 1 and 6 meeting minutes be added to the agenda.

RESOLUTION #116-20  
APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion of Councilor Stewart, seconded by Councilor Castner, the following was

ADOPTED       Ayes       5   Castner, Jones, Martin, Sisson, Stewart  
                  Nays        0

Resolved that the minutes of the September 16, 2020 meeting and September 23, 2020 Special meeting be approved as read.

RESOLUTION #117-20  
APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion of Councilor Jones, seconded by Councilor Martin, the following was

ADOPTED       Ayes       5   Castner, Jones, Martin, Sisson, Stewart  
                  Nays        0

Resolved that the minutes of the October 1, 2020 and October 6, 2020 Special meeting be approved as read.

RESOLUTION #118-20  
AUDIT OF CLAIMS

On a motion of Councilor Jones, seconded by Councilor Stewart, the following was

ADOPTED       Ayes       5   Castner, Jones, Martin, Sisson, Stewart

Nays 0

Resolved that the bills be paid as presented in the following amounts:

General:	\$14,486.13
Outside Village	\$ 753.90
Highway DB:	\$96,352.48
Sewer:	\$59,038.36
Water:	\$ 6,865.50
Branchport Light	\$ 250.81

September Utilities:

General:	\$ 405.96
Outside Village:	\$ 86.45
Sewer:	\$ 149.97
Water:	\$ 225.84
Trust:	\$20,570.54

RESOLUTION #119-20

SUPERVISOR REPORT

On a motion of Councilor Stewart, seconded by Councilor Martin, the following was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Castner, Jones, Martin, Sisson, Stewart  
Nays 0

Resolved that the Supervisor's Report on the Town's finances for the month of September 2020 be accepted as presented.

PRESENTATION - ANNETTE TOASPERN

Councilor Stewart read the proclamation adopted by the Town Board on August 19, 2020 recognizing Annette Toaspern for her work in creating the "Tour of Jerusalem History Trail" adding we owe a debt of gratitude to Mrs. Toaspern for all she has done for the Town.

Mrs. Toaspern thanked the Town Board and John Christensen for the article in the *Chronicle Express* promoting the trail. The Historic Marker Trail can be found on the Town website, [www.jerusalem-ny.org](http://www.jerusalem-ny.org). She encouraged the Board to make recognizing those who do good deeds for the town to make it a better place to live an annual event.

RESOLUTION #120-20

PUBLIC HEARING - 2021 PRELIMINARY TOWNWIDE, WATER & SEWER BUDGETS

On a motion of Councilor Stewart, seconded by Councilor Castner, the following was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Castner, Jones, Martin, Sisson, Stewart  
Nays 0

With proof of notice having been duly published and posted, Supervisor Sisson opened the Public Hearing at 7:08 P.M., asking for comments on the 2021 Preliminary Townwide, Water & Sewer Budgets.

Financial Advisor Chuck Bastian presented the 2021 budget summary. The tax rate per thousand of assessed value will increase from \$2.143 in 2020 to \$2.186 in 2021. Increased use of fund balance kept the rate down.

- General A due to COVID-19 related reduced spending in 2020.
- General B for a new hire as part of the succession for a planned 2022 retirement.
- Highway DB for a one-time equipment purchase.

Randy Rhoads requested further explanation on the total budget and how it changed.

The hearing was left open.

#### TOWN OFFICIALS

##### HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

- Written Budget Highway report on file in the Office of the Town Clerk.
- Winter preparations are underway.
- The John Deere tractor has been ordered. The International plow truck should be built by the end of November.
- The driveway issue at 614 Prospect Avenue has been fixed.

##### WATER/SEWER REPORT

- Teamsters Union contract negotiations are underway.
- The Water/Sewer Department is flushing hydrants and rebuilding grinder pumps.

##### ASSESSOR

- Report on file.

##### COUNCIL

- Councilors Castner and Jones will meet to discuss a local law revising 160-73 to add more specific requirements for ZBA notices so that the details wanted by the Town Board are not up for deliberations.
- A Zoning Subcommittee will be established to review marijuana dispensary regulations in anticipation of New York legalizing the adult use of recreational marijuana.
- Councilor Jones stated his displeasure with Penn Yan Mayor's statement regarding the proposed Keuka Housing Council project.

The Mayor has addressed individual Board members, but not the Town Board collectively.

- Councilor Jones stated it is time to address the property maintenance concerns at 3742 Italy Hill Road.

SUPERVISOR

- Supervisor Sisson met with the Keuka College Associates Board.
- Discussions continue with the Finger Lakes Museum on future plans that include incorporating the Town Office at their site and coordinating activities with our Summer Recreation Program.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE

Subcommittee Chair Cutler stated the Comprehensive Plan community survey will be sent out for printing and mailed this winter.

RESOLUTION #121-20

KEUKA PARK SEWER & WATER RELEVIES

On a motion of Councilor Stewart, seconded by Councilor Martin, the following was

ADOPTED	Ayes	5	Castner, Jones, Martin, Sisson, Stewart
	Nays	0	

Whereas, the Jerusalem Town Code provides for the collection of delinquent water and sewer bills by the County of Yates by the relevy of those accounts on the January tax bills; and

Where, the Town Sewer & Water office has compiled a listing of the 2020 water and sewer delinquent accounts in the following amounts:

Water	\$20,956.07
Sewer	\$12,197.35
Relevy Fee	\$ 4,200.00
	<u>\$37,353.42</u>

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Jerusalem Town Board does hereby approve the transfer of these delinquent accounts the County for relevy on their 2021 tax bills.

RESOLUTION #122-20

DECLARE HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT AS SURPLUS

On a motion of Councilor Stewart, seconded by Councilor Jones, the following was

ADOPTED	Ayes	5	Castner, Jones, Martin, Sisson, Stewart
	Nays	0	

Resolved the following items be declared as surplus equipment and the Highway Superintendent be authorized to advertise the sale of said items:

8 porcelain light fixtures  
2002 Sterling 10-wheeler VIN# 2FZHAZAN12AK03908  
2003 International 6-wheeler VIN# 1HTWAAAR13J071140  
8 used truck tires  
2.5" portable water pump  
30 old service manuals  
Broom hydraulic reservoir and pump  
Oil tank  
Valve grinder seat

Resolved that the proceeds from this sale will be deposited into the Highway reserve fund.

RESOLUTION #123-20

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING - 2021 TOWNWIDE, WATER AND SEWER BUDGETS

On a motion of Councilor Stewart, seconded by Councilor Jones, the following was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Castner, Jones, Martin, Sisson, Stewart  
Nays 0

With all persons desiring to be heard, Supervisor Sisson closed the hearing at 7:35 P.M.

The regular meeting was reconvened.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Peter Bekisz, Keuka College Associate Vice President for Advancement, Communications, and Technology provided an update on the closing of the campus due to COVID. Approximately 125 students remain on campus for a variety of reasons.
- Barbara and Sarah Lyon, representing Lyon Smith Brewery, expressed disappointment on how they have been received in our town. They displayed their vandalized signs and questioned why their project was watched, photographed and reported to the Code Enforcement Officer.
- The County is drafting an agreement with the Town and Cardinal Disposal to allow moving the dumpster site to the County Highway Barn for the winter months.
- 2021 County budget workshops were held. The tax levy is flat.
- The petition filed for a speed study on Guyanoga Road requires a resolution from the Town Board.
- The County Legislators provided a letter of support for the Keuka Housing Council Vineyard Hill funding application.

RESOLUTION #124-20

ADOPT 2021 TOWNWIDE, WATER AND SEWER BUDGETS

On a motion of Councilor Stewart, seconded by Councilor Jones, the following was

ADOPTED   Ayes    5    Castner, Jones, Martin, Sisson, Stewart  
              Nays    0

Resolved the 2021 Townwide, Water and Sewer Budgets be adopted as presented.

RESOLUTION #125-20

MOVE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion of Councilor Stewart, seconded by Councilor Jones, the following was

ADOPTED   Ayes           5       Castner, Jones, Martin, Sisson, Stewart  
              Nays           0

Resolved that this meeting be interrupted to enter into Executive Session to discuss contract negotiations.

Ritchie Lent was invited to attend.

The Executive Session convened at 8:03 P.M.

RESOLUTION #126-20

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

On a motion of Councilor Stewart, seconded by Councilor Jones, the following was

ADOPTED   Ayes           5       Castner, Jones, Martin, Sisson, Stewart  
              Nays           0

Resolved that the Board return to regular session.

The Board reconvened in regular session at 9:09 P.M.

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

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Sheila McMichael, Town Clerk