

TOWN OF BINGHAMTON
TOWN BOARD WORK SESSION
February 6, 2018

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MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF THE TOWN OF BINGHAMTON TOWN BOARD HELD ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2018, 5:00 P.M., TOWN OF BINGHAMTON TOWN HALL, 279 PARK AVENUE, BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Whitesell at 5:12 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

T. Whitesell, Supervisor	Present	N. Yezzi, Deputy Supervisor	Absent
N. Cline, Councilperson	Present	E. Rounds, Councilperson	Present
V. Xlander, Councilperson	Present		

OTHERS PRESENT:

V. Conklin, Town Clerk	N. Pappas, Building Administrator
A. Pope, Town Attorney	1 Guest
M. Donahue, Highway Superintendent	

APPROVAL OF AUDITED CLAIMS:

Councilperson Rounds made the motion to approve the following claims as audited:

<u>2017</u>		
Lighting	Claim No. 1179	\$ 775.39
Sewer	Claim No. 1180-1182	\$ 6,626.03
Water	Claim No. 1181-1185	\$ 1,368.30
Highway Fund	Claim No. 1186-1189	\$ 1,261.22
General Fund	Claim No. 1190-1196	\$ 7,525.48
<u>2018</u>		
Sewer	Claim No. 48-49	\$ 31,984.01
Water	Claim No. 50-56	\$ 804.87
Highway Fund	Claim No. 57-72	\$ 25,109.94
General Fund	Claim No. 73-107	\$ 9,221.64

The motion was duly seconded by Councilperson Xlander. All those present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Presidents' Day – The Town of Binghamton municipal buildings will be closed on Monday, February 19, 2018 in observance of Presidents' Day.

OFFICIALS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Planning Board – The next regularly scheduled quarterly meeting will be held on April 24, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. The annual education for the Planning Board was performed by Kurt Schrader at the last Planning Board meeting.

Zoning Board of Appeals – There is a case that is currently being scheduled for a 239 review.

Youth Commission – The Youth Commission met last week. The football helmets came in. The Youth Commission will contact Evolution Consulting concerning getting background checks started. Councilperson Xlander asked if the Town should continue with the youth football program due to concussions and injuries sustained by players. A discussion was held, and it was decided that the youth football program would continue.

Code Enforcement – Mr. Pappas met with the Land Bank, and filed grant applications for 3492 Margery Street and 2339 Oswego Street to be torn down. The cost of demolishing 2339 Oswego Street is \$24,500, and \$44,000 to demolish 3492 Margery Street. Both properties are privately owned, and have been condemned by the Town. Town Attorney Pope stated that there is a process to go through for condemning a property. Mr. Pappas, with Mr. Pope's assistance, will gather and put forth the evidence in a memo to the Town Board. Then Mr. Pappas will come back to the Board, and the Board will put together a resolution to hold a public hearing. Then a public hearing, with notice to the property owner, will be held. The evidence gets presented at a public hearing (more of a formal hearing to the Town Board). Depending on the Board's decision, the Board may issue an Order directing the building to be torn down by "x" number of days. The cost of demolition will be at the property owner's expense. If the property owner does not demolish the building, then the Town can go in and take action to protect the public.

Going forward Mr. Pappas would like to put forth a clause in the building permit application that whoever holds a building permit will be required to have the correct CO and smoke detectors in their house, or they will not be issued a building permit. Having had a recent carbon monoxide death of a Town resident, Mr. Pappas reached out to Home Depot and Lowe's soliciting donations of CO and smoke detectors. Home Depot donated 120 CO detectors, and Lowe's donated 20 CO detectors. The Town will hold an event, in conjunction with the TOB Volunteer Fire Company, at one of their fire stations on a Saturday to hand out the detectors to Town residents that do not have detectors. Mr. Pappas and Town Attorney Pope will work jointly to change the wording in the current Town ordinance that will require residents to obtain smoke and CO detectors prior to the issuance of building permits. A public hearing will then be set in the very near future regarding the change of wording in the ordinance.

Highway – The Highway Department has been busy plowing and sanding snow covered roads. A discussion was held concerning the increase in sewer rates by the Binghamton/JC Joint Sewage Treatment. There may be an increase in sewer rates of 100% to 150%. Residents in arrears on their sewer bills do affect the price per gallon purchased by the Town. The Town will negotiate a new water contract with the City of Binghamton. Residents have been inquiring about the increase and when their bills will increase. Informational hearings will be held for Town residents concerning the increase of sewer rates.

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

Broome County Association of Towns and Villages – The Broome County Association of Towns and Villages will not hold a monthly meeting in February due to the annual conference in NYC.

NYS Association of Towns and Villages – Annual Conference – The conference is scheduled to begin on Sunday, February 18, 2018. Registrations and room reservations have been completed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

TOB Hance Road Property – Logging Timber Harvesting – Update – Town Attorney Pope informed the Board that Highway Superintendent Donahue was able to find a 19 page Notice of Bid from the Town of Skaneateles regarding logging timber harvesting, which is a little bit different than an RFP, but contains a lot of good material to go forward with. Town Attorney Pope also stated that an RFP is the way to handle this. Highway Superintendent Donahue and Town Attorney Pope will create an RFP to present to the Board for their review.

Highway – Bids for Heavy Duty Dump Truck – Bid Openings February 22, 2018 – Bids have been put out for opening on February 22, 2018 at 12:01 p.m.

There was no further unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

NYS Town Clerks Association – Annual Conference – April 22-25, 2018 – Further discussion will be held on February 22, 2018 at the next Town Board meeting.

Sentry Alarms – Purchase of Security System – Mr. Pappas stated that the DVR player in Supervisor Whitesell's office will not forward or rewind, and needs to be replaced and connected to the four cameras currently installed. Town Attorney Pope will review the proposal. Mr. Pappas also stated that we have been having issues with the security system. The fire panel has a common failure in it. There is dial tone to the building. Sentry Alarms did look at the panel, and said there is nothing they can do with the panel to repair it. Sentry Alarm gave Mr. Pappas a quote of approximately \$3,000 to replace/repair the fire panel. Frank Lisi from Spear Electric checked the panel and confirmed that the fire panel in the Assessor's office has shorted out. Spear Electric did repair the fire panel, but cannot guarantee how long it will work. Spear Electric quoted \$442 for a new fire panel, and \$270 for two new keypads. Mr. Pappas will solicit quotes for a new security system from various vendors. Further discussion will be held on February 22, 2018 at the next Town Board meeting.

Appointment of Interim Deputy Supervisor – Supervisor Whitesell asked the Board's consideration to appoint Councilperson Cline as Interim Deputy Supervisor through April of 2018. Councilperson Xlander made the motion to appoint Councilperson Cline as Interim Deputy Supervisor through April of 2018, and the motion was duly seconded by Councilperson Rounds. Councilperson Cline abstained, with the remaining board members voting in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

There was no further new business.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Councilperson Cline made the motion to go into Executive Session at 6:19 p.m. to discuss a legal matter, and the motion was duly seconded by Councilperson Rounds. All those present voted in favor of the motion. Motion Carried.

At 6:50 p.m. Councilperson Cline made the motion to reconvene, and the motion was duly seconded by Councilperson Xlander. All those present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilperson Cline made the motion to adjourn the meeting, and the motion was duly seconded by Councilperson Xlander. There being no further discussion, all those present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

The next meeting of the Town of Binghamton Town Board will be a regular Town Board meeting to be held on Thursday, February 22, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., at the Town of Binghamton Town Hall, 279 Park Avenue, Binghamton, NY.

Respectfully submitted,



Vickie A. Conklin
Town Clerk