

REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN OF DARIEN

DECEMBER 2, 2020

MINUTES OF THE DARIEN TOWN BOARD: Supervisor Stephen Ferry Jr, Council Members Michael Grant, David Krzemien, Timothy Benten, Michael Fix and Town Clerk Alice Calmes.

A regular meeting of the Darien Town Board, County of Genesee and State of New York was held at the Town Hall, 10569 Allegany Road, Darien Center, NY on December 2, 2020

PRESENT:	Stephen Ferry Jr	Supervisor
	Timothy Benten	Councilman
	Michael Fix	Councilman
	Michael Grant	Councilman
	David Krzemien	Councilman
	Alice Calmes	Town Clerk

ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Neil Marzolf – Highway Superintendent; Sue Galbraith – Alden Advertiser; and members of the public

At 7:30 PM the Supervisor called the meeting to order and recited the Pledge to the Flag.

RESOLUTION #140

MEETING MINUTES

Councilman Fix offered a resolution to accept the minutes from the November 4, 2020 meeting as corrected & read; second by Councilman Krzemien.

AYES 5	Fix, Krzemien, Grant, Benten and Ferry	NAYS 0
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RESOLUTION #141

2021 EMPLOYEE WAGES

Supervisor Ferry offered a resolution to authorize the Supervisor to implement the 2021 employee wage increase package included in the 2021 Adopted Budget; second by Councilman Grant.

AYES 5	Ferry, Grant, Krzemien, Benten and Fix	NAYS 0
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RESOLUTION #142

HEALTH INSURANCE

Supervisor Ferry offered a resolution set the employee contribution rate for health insurance at 5% of the cost of their monthly premium to be added as a deduction on their paycheck starting with the first paycheck of 2021 for those eligible employees accepting the insurance and not covered by a collective bargaining agreement; second by Councilman Krzemien.

AYES 5	Ferry, Krzemien, Grant, Fix and Benten	NAYS 0
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RESOLUTION #143

SEWER RENTS

Supervisor Ferry offered a resolution to activate the Sewer District #1 sewer rents effective January 1, 2021 in accordance with the adopted resolution; second by Councilman Fix.

AYES 5	Ferry, Fix, Benten, Krzemien and Grant	NAYS 0
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RESOLUTION #144

FIXED ASSET SYSTEM

Supervisor Ferry offered a resolution to set capitalization limit for Fixed Asset System of \$6500.00; second by Councilman Benten.

AYES 5	Ferry, Benten, Fix, Grant and Krzemien	NAYS 0
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Notifications

The town offices will be closed for the holidays on December 25th an January 1st

The Town Board’s Year End meeting will be held at the Town Hall on Wednesday, December 30th at 7:30PM

The 2021 Town Board Organizational meeting is scheduled for January 6th, 2021 at 7:30PM.

HIGHWAY – everything is in good working order; trucks taken care of last month. Used the spare truck for hauling stuff. Did tree cutting for 3 or 4 days, had a ton of ash trees that needed to be taken down in the right of way. Excavator out with the brush hog on to clear out ditches. All the mowing is done. Now going through all of them to get maintenance done; will probably order tires soon. Councilman Grant let Neil know he went through the Holiday lights and put aside ones that aren’t working. Discussion was held with Neil and Board about looking into replacements. Also recommended maybe have the Spring be appointment based for the brush drop off.

TREATMENT PLANT – numbers are good. As far as dealing with the DEC, Supervisor Ferry stated that he will call Michelle Vincent, she was supposed to come today for an inspection. There are a couple spots in the plan that she needs more information and has reached out to Bruce, but he hasn’t gotten back to her yet.

ZEO – Jerry is looking into a Zoom account to get enough people in meetings for the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals in case we must go fully remote for meetings again. If go remote, would need to reaffirm actions once back to in person meetings.

ATTORNEY – is finalizing the legal petition for the Townline Road Water District and will need to do a meeting with some residents to carry the petition.

CLERK – will be leaving early on Saturday, December 12.

ENGINEER – Steve Mountain has the map, plan and report pretty much done for the Townline Road Water District. Bruce, the Sewer Engineer, has the plan in but still needs to satisfy the DEC

Councilman Krzemien asked if the town has loans for the water districts or sewer district that could be up for refinancing due to the interest rate being so low. Supervisor Ferry explained that those loans are structured over 30 years and we only have loans for the two water districts. At this point the interest isn’t very much, it’s the principle on those loans. We will need a loan for the sewer treatment plant project, but the Townline Road Water District will be funded through Alexander.

Supervisor Ferry announced that he talked to Kathy Dear, the grant writer with Labella. Right now, the July and September deadlines have already passed, and the State didn’t even open them up. Rural Development is the only one open, so she’s going to apply there. CBDG grant has a max of \$750,000, if we could get the CBDG grant, Rural Development would decrease their funding package.

Councilman Benten investigated allowing part time employees to participate in the Town health insurance policy; didn’t find any issues. Would like to see a due date set for the premium payments, rework the Employee Handbook, exclude all part time employees from the in lieu of stipend and/or HRA card. How do we cancel if a payment isn’t made?

Councilman Grant wanted to make sure that it is clear the part time employees would pay 100% of the premium and agreed there should be no in lieu of stipend or HRA for part time employees.

RESOLUTION #145

REVISE HANDBOOK

Councilman Benten offered a resolution to revise the Employee Handbook to state that the in lieu of stipend for not taking health insurance is not available to any part time employee; second by Councilman Krzemien.

AYES 5 Benten, Krzemien, Grant, Fix and Ferry

NAYS 0

RESOLUTION #146

PART TIME INSURANCE

TOWN BOARD MEETING

DECEMBER 2, 2020

Councilman Benten offered a resolution to offer Part Time employees Health Insurance in the Town's Group Plan with the stipulation that the full premium is paid no later than the 15th of each month prior to the month for which participation in the group plan is expected; second by Councilman Krzemien.

AYES 5 Benten, Krzemien, Grant, Fix and Ferry NAYS 0

RESOLUTION #147

CANCEL INSURANCE

Councilman Benten offered a resolution that obligates the Town Clerk to cancel health insurance for any part time employee opting into the Town's Group Plan that has not paid the full premium on the 15th of the month before participation; second by Councilman Krzemien.

AYES 5 Benten, Krzemien, Grant, Fix and Ferry NAYS 0

RESOLUTION # 148

REVISE HANDBOOK

Councilman Grant offered a resolution to revise the Employee Handbook to state that part time employees are not eligible for the HRA plan; second by Councilman Krzemien.

AYES 5 Grant, Krzemien, Benten, Fix and Ferry NAYS 0

RESOLUTION #149

EFFECTIVE DATE

Councilman Grant offered a resolution that the previous 3 resolutions are effective for the enrollment date of January 1, 2021; second by Councilman Benten.

AYES 5 Grant, Benten, Fix, Krzemien and Ferry NAYS 0

RESOLUTION #150

CASH REPORT

Councilman Fix offered a resolution to accept the Supervisor's Cash Report for October 2020; second by Councilman Krzemien.

AYES 5 Fix, Krzemien, Grant, Benten and Ferry NAYS 0

RESOLUTION #151

ABSTRACT

Councilman Fix offered a resolution to pay General Fund 291 – 311 for \$61,402.24; Highway 141 - 152 for \$40,681.94; Sewer District #1 96 – 102 for \$6,791.59; and Water District #3 2 for \$11,677.25 in accordance with the abstract; second by Councilman Krzemien.

AYES 5 Fix, Krzemien, Grant, Benten and Ferry NAYS 0

RESOLUTION #152

ADJOURN

At 8:39PM, Councilman Grant offered a resolution to adjourn; second by Councilman Benten.

AYES 5 Grant, Benten, Fix, Krzemien and Ferry NAYS 0

Alice E. Calmes, Town Clerk