

REGULAR MEETING
TOWN OF DAYTON
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2021
7:00 P.M.

- PRESENT: Angie Mardino-Miller, Supervisor, Bruce Drajem, Christine Rupp, Jake Hansen-Ivett, Paul Luce Town Council, Ruth Bennett, Town Clerk, Tom Chupa, Highway Superintendent, John Grennell, Attorney, Tina Chupa, Lee Ellis, Bailiff, Carrie Tomczak, Assessor
- CALL TO ORDER: Supervisor Mardino-Miller called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All stood and said the Pledge to the Flag. Supervisor Mardino-Miller then wished Highway Superintendent a Happy Birthday.
- Due to the Governor's executive order 202.1, we can allow a limited number of the public to attend our meeting this evening, hopefully by next month the COVID-19 is manageable enough that will have changed.
- MINUTES: Clerk Bennett gave each member of the Board a copy of the minutes to be read before the meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Councilman Hansen-Ivett, seconded by Councilman Drajem. A vote was taken on the motion, Carried.
- HIGHWAY: Highway Superintendent Chupa reported they had to put a new rear end on the 450 truck #2, put a new work bench in the shop, mixed more sand and salt, we have been putting up new air lines in the shop, put new batteries in the loader, and plowing snow almost every day.
- ASSESSOR: In January we completed renewal applications for the Agricultural assessment and exemption for nonprofit organizations are being returned to our office. Because these renewals are due by March 1st, notices will be mailed mid-February to all applicants who have not yet given us a renewal.
- All senior citizens who had the senior citizen exemption in 2020 were contacted by my office, either by phone or mail. We told applicants that they did not have to reapply this year, but if they now have a lower income that reapplying could increase their exemption.
- If you have not already, please let me know what your decision is concerning the resolution I explained in last month's report. This resolution allows me to remove senior citizen exemptions due to owner death, a new owner added to the deed, owner changed their primary residence, or the property transferred to a new owner. If this is not passed, then new property owners, no matter their age or income, will be allowed to keep exemptions that they would otherwise not be entitled to. Also if you have passed the resolution and have not yet given me a copy, please do so.
- Because many towns do not require building permits for agricultural buildings, many property owners think that agricultural buildings are not taxable. This is not true—agricultural buildings are generally taxable. Property owners can apply for a full exemption on certain limited use agricultural structures, such as silos, manure storage and handling facilities, bulk milk tanks, feed grain storage bins, and commodity sheds. Additionally, newly built agricultural buildings that meet certain requirements can be exempt for 10 years if the property owner applies for the exemption within one year of completion and meets other requirements. An informational pamphlet about farm buildings is available. All other agricultural buildings are taxable and we ask that Code Enforcement Officers let farmers know that they should contact my office whether or not a permit is required.
- CLERK: Clerk Bennett reported the Court heard 4 Vehicle & Traffic Law, 3 Town Law, and 2 Penal Law a total of 9 cases and collected \$218.00.
- We received a letter from Cattaraugus County DPW, they are closing the

shoulders of Dayton Culvert No. 25, on County Road #2(Cottage Road) approximately .25 miles west of the Edwards Corners Road intersection. The shoulder closures will take effect as of February 5 and remain in place until further notice.

We also received correspondence from Cattaraugus County regarding the implications of large solar installations and leasing on farmland. There is a zoom webinar on Friday, February 12, 2021 from noon to 1 p.m. regarding this subject. One of which is farmers with an agricultural assessment that helps to reduce your taxes. Have you been approached by a solar company to build a large solar array on your land? If so, you will want to talk to your Assessor before signing anything. When you change your land from farming to something else, you have to pay back the amount of tax savings plus interest. In many cases, the solar company will pay this for you, but if they don't know about it, then you may get stuck with a large penalty.

We received a letter from Dan Martonis regarding changes to the Solar/Wind exemptions (RPTL 487) which has to do with battery storage. The County has previously opted out of this exemption and now that there have been additions, the County has re-opted out of the exemption to include the latest additions. This exemption is a 15 year "tax free" exemption for these energy companies if a taxing entity does not opt out of 487. If you opt out, then the corporation will have to seek a PILOT and you will then at least get some revenue from them building within your boundary.

A motion was made by Councilman Luce, seconded by Councilman Hansen-Ivett to opt out of the tax free option for energy companies. A roll call vote was taken on the motion, Luce-aye, Hansen-Ivett-aye, Drajem-aye, Mardino-Miller-aye, Rupp-aye. A public hearing will be held at the next board meeting to pass a Local Law regarding this subject.

A motion was made by Councilman Hansen-Ivett, seconded by Councilman Drajem to audit the Supervisor records. A vote was taken on the motion, Carried.

TRANSFERS: A motion was made by Councilman Drajem, seconded by Councilman Hansen-Ivett to transfer \$420.00 from A1220.4 to A1620.1. and \$653.00 from A9040.8 and \$1,348.00 from A1910.4 to A9060.8. A vote was taken on the motion, Carried.

RESOLUTION #2: A motion was made by Councilman Luce, seconded by Councilman Hansen-Ivett to audit the Town Justice books. A roll vote was taken on the motion, Luce-aye, Hansen-Ivett-aye, Drajem-aye, Mardino-Miller-aye, Rupp-aye.

CEO: no report this month.

BILLS: A motion was made by Councilman Drajem, seconded by Councilman Luce to pay General Funds claims #13-32 in the amount of \$124,311.94 as set forth in Abstract #2, dated February 10, 2021, Highway Fund claims #13-38, in the amount of \$19,205.35 as set forth in Abstract #2 dated February 10, 2021, as set for in Abstract #1 dated January 13, 2021. A vote was taken on the motion, Carried

Read letter from Eustolia Santana regarding the speed limit on Route 62. The Board decided to table this until March to give Board members a chance to do their own research.

The Town Clerk and Supervisor reports for January, 2021 was received by the Board.

ADJOURN: A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Luce, seconded by Councilman Drajem, at 7:27 p.m. Carried. The next meeting will be March 10, 2021 at 7 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

