

Town of Dayton Board Meeting  
Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
7:00 P.M.

- Present: Angie Mardino-Miller; Town Supervisor, Jake Hansen-Ivett; Town Council, Don Bartlett; Town Council, Christine Rupp; Town Council, Tom Chupa; Town Highway Superintendent, Frank Watson; Town Code Enforcement Officer, Rachelle Cook; Town Clerk, John Grennell; Town Attorney. *Absent: Paul Luce; Deputy Town Supervisor, Lee Ellis; Town Bailiff, Steve Raiport; Town Emergency Preparedness/Disaster Coordinator, Town Assessor*
- Call to Order: Town Supervisor Mardino-Miller called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All stood and said the Pledge to the Flag.
- Minutes: Town Clerk Cook emailed and mailed out a copy of March's minutes to each board member last month. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Councilman Hansen-Ivette and second by Councilwoman Rupp. A vote was taken on the motion, Carried.
- Town Clerk: Town Clerk Cook brought to the board's attention that we needed to remove Ruth Bennett's name off of the bank account at CCB (Cattaraugus County Bank). Town Clerk Cook's request was to keep the Town Clerk's name on the account and add Town Supervisor Mardino-Miller's name to avoid ever having one name on the Town's account again in case of emergencies. A motion to remove Ruth's name off the CCB account, keep Clerk Cook's name, and add Supervisor Mardino-Miller's name was made by Councilwoman Rupp and second by Councilman Hansen-Ivette. All aye-motion carried.
- Town Clerk Cook reminded everyone about the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Local Government Conference put on by Southern Tier West at Houghton College that was mentioned at last month's board meeting. Town Clerk Cook handed out the registration form and training information to those who were interested in attending.
- Code Enforcement Officer: Town Code Enforcement Officer Watson reported that he has handed out 4 violation notices in the past month. Of those 4 violation notices, 3 of them have responded back. Code Enforcement Officer Watson also reported that he received a letter from a tax payer who wanted to appeal the surcharge she was given for having a demolition done on her property without having a permit to do so. After the board discussed this matter, it was unanimous that the appeal be denied. A motion for non-refund was made by Councilman Bartlett, second by Councilwoman Rupp. All Aye- Motion carried
- Assessor: Town Clerk Cook read the assessor's report which read as follows: Due to the recent increase in real estate market trends, small modifications to assessments will need to be made. A 100% equalization rate cannot be maintained without them. No large changes are coming. Without these small adjustments the rate would drop to 93%. Property owners will receive a Change of Assessment Notice the first week of May. As always, we are happy to explain these changes or answer property owner questions Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM. The 2022 exemption deadline was March 1. Reminders were mailed to all Agricultural Assessment and Senior Citizen Exemption applicants who had not returned their renewal mid-February. This notice reminded applicants that renewals would not be accepted after the deadline. No Agricultural Assessments were removed; four Senior Citizen Exemptions were removed. Twenty-nine building permits were reviewed for Roll Year 2022. Additionally, three property owners requested an assessment review, which will take place in April. The Assessing Office has corresponded with several property owners about their assessments, tax bills, and exemptions. Added seven sales for February.
- Highway: Town Highway Superintendent Chupa reported that he and the hwy. dept. have been conducting spring cleanup. All the roads got a first sweeping and potholes were filled with cold patch or gravel. Also, brush and trees on the roadside right of way on Hooker Hill Rd. have been cut. Highway Superintendent Chupa stated that three more beavers were caught on Cabc Rd. A few other matters that were also reported was the highway dept. is hoping the last snow has come and gone. They only had to plow/sand for roughly a week in the last month. The highway crew painted the highway department's breakroom and bathroom floors. Lastly, Highway Superintendent Chupa stated that with fuel prices being over \$5 a gallon, it is going to be hard to stay within budget.

Town Highway Superintendent Chupa expressed to the board his need for an EZ pass. The Town

does not have a credit card. A motion for Tom to call around to Evans Bank and Bahgat and Laurito Bahgat to figure out the best outcome was made by Councilman Hansen-Ivett, second by Councilwoman Rupp. All Aye-Motion carried.

Supervisor:

Town Supervisor Mardino-Miller made a public announcement thanking Highway Superintendent Chupa and the other highway guys for doing such a fantastic job on the Town plow that now sits out front of the Town Hall.

In addition, Town Supervisor Mardino-Miller also made a public announcement thanking Ray from the South Dayton post office for moving the mailbox closer to the building and just being the nice person he is for taking time to stop and check in with us when he is on the delivery route.

Town Supervisor Mardino-Miller addressed the board to pay the monthly bills. General Fund claims-voucher #s 45-59 in the amount of \$4,954.49 as set forth in Abstract #4, dated April 13, 2022, Highway Fund claims- voucher #s 48-65, in the amount of \$13,707.37 as set forth in Abstract #4 dated April 13, 2022, Street Lighting Fund claims- voucher # 5, in the amount of \$201.26 as set forth in Abstract #4 dated April 13, 2022. A motion to pay March 2022 bills was made by Councilwoman Rupp, second by Councilman Hansen-Ivett. All Aye- Motion carried.

Fund transfers: \$548.00 from account A1920.4 to account A1910.4 and \$224.00 from account DA9030.8 to account DA9050.8. Motion to accept these fund transfers made by Councilman Hansen-Ivett, second by Councilwoman Rupp. All Aye- Motion carried.

Town Supervisor Mardino-Miller read to the board, a letter received from the Dayton Volunteer Fire Company stating their appreciation for Town Highway Superintendent Thomas Chupa and the other highway guys for plowing their driveway for the past few months while they were having issues with their plow truck.

Town Supervisor Mardino-Miller addressed the board with an update on our phone situation. The phone lines have been so much better since switching to Spectrum. Unfortunately, the town of Dayton is still unable to fax anything due to the fax machine not working. Town Supervisor Mardino-Miller informed the board that in attempt to cut costs, she is looking into a phone system that will allow us to drop to only 1 phone line instead of 3 and will ultimately save money in the long run.

Town Supervisor Mardino-Miller brought to the board's attention that the audits by the Town Board are still not complete and that they need to be completed as soon as possible. The audits that need to be completed are for the Town Supervisor, Town Clerk, and the Town Justice.

Town Supervisor Mardino-Miller made the board aware that we are currently not covered for backup on our computers. While being in correspondence with Pro Tek, they stated that last year **"The board approved the upgrades and a 36 month support plan but when asked how the town wanted to proceed with the payment aspect it went quite."** Pro Tek cannot give us a quote for 1-2 months and Mr. Hessler who was our second quote, is no longer interested. Going forward, phone calls will be made to see if there may be anyone else available to help us.

Town Supervisor Mardino-Miller spoke regarding ARPA grant/G&G Municipal Consulting and Grant Writing and the possibility of a grant for a salt shed, along with the possibility of a \$35,000.00 grant towards a new snow plow. Looking for Board input, Town Supervisor Mardino-Miller went on to say that G&G Municipal Grant Writing services will cost \$1,300.00. Time was provided for questions and answers. The Town Board unanimously gave permission to Town Supervisor to reach out to G&G regarding Grant Writing Services. A motion was made by Councilman Hansen-Ivett, second by Councilman Bartlett. Roll call vote: Councilman Hansen-Ivett-yes, Councilman Bartlett-yes, Councilwoman Rupp-yes, Town Supervisor Mardino-Miller-yes.

Town Supervisor Mardino-Miller informed the board that multiple board members did not receive their raise in their pay. BLB was made aware and they will send corrected checks to the board members.

Emergency Preparedness/

Disaster Coordinator: Nothing to report.

Attorney:

Town Attorney Grennell addressed the McMaster claim. Attorney Grennell stated that a settlement has been proposed to take the assessment from \$321,000.00 down to \$285,000.00. Town Attorney

Grennell allowed time for questions and answers. A motion to accept this settlement and allow Town Supervisor Mardino-Miller to sign the necessary paperwork was made by Councilman Hansen-Ivett, second by Councilwoman Rupp. Roll call vote: Councilman Hansen-Ivett-yes, Councilwoman Rupp-yes, Councilman Bartlett-yes, Town Supervisor Mardino-Miller-yes.

In addition, a motion to pay Hodgson Russ Attorneys for their services on the real property tax assessment article 7 proceeding, was made by Councilman Hansen-Ivett, second by Councilman Bartlett. Roll call vote: Councilman Hansen-Ivett-yes, Councilman Bartlett-yes, Councilwoman Rupp-yes, Town Supervisor Mardino-Miller-yes.

Councilwoman Rupp questioned Town Attorney Grennell about right-of-way access to the cemetery in Markhams. There was a lengthy discussion regarding access to the cemetery.

Public: Nothing to report.

Justice: No report available.

Adjourn: A motion to adjourn was made by Councilwoman Rupp, second by Councilman Hansen-Ivett, at 8:30 p.m. All Aye- Motion carried.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 11, 2022 at 7 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Rachelle Cook  
Town of Dayton Town Clerk