

The August 26, 2020 Town of Bethel regular Town Board meeting was called to order by Supervisor Daniel Sturm at 7:30 p.m. at the Dr. Duggan Community Center meeting room.

Council members present: Vicky Simpson
Lillian Hendrickson
Bernie Cohen
Dawn Ryder

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Comfort Station Bid Results

The \$100,000.00 grant from Jen Metzger, NYS State Legislature, is on hold. At this time, we cannot approval to spend the \$75,000 (gravel, ground work, excavation, etc.). State needed a budget.

Sealed bids were publicly open and read on August 24, 2020 at 11 a.m. at the Town Clerk’s Office. The following bid was received:

M and P Builders \$157,500
Electric \$ 9,000

Mr. Sturm stated at this time, we should table this item for 30 days.

Motion by Mr. Cohen to table this project at the present time. Seconded by Mrs. Simpson, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

Mr. Sturm said we won’t be building this fall, probably in the spring.

Correspondence from DOT regarding speed limit request

Letter from NYS DOT, Pamela Gendron, P.E. dated 7/29/2020 regarding a request for speed limit reduction on CR-73 in the Town of Bethel. The Traffic Safety and Mobility Office will perform a review of the area. Notification of the results of the review will be forwarded to the Town of Bethel.

Motion by Mrs. Simpson to receive and file. Seconded by Mr. Cohen, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

Correspondence Town of Lumberland Public Hearing for LL #1

Letter received from the Town of Lumberland, dated 8/13/2020, Town of Lumberland’s Resolution #79-2020 regarding Town of Lumberland’s Local Law 1 of 2020 for a public hearing on 9/9/2020. Subject to impose a six month moratorium on the processing of applications for and the issuance of any approvals or permits for solar farms and solar power plants in the Town of Lumberland.

Motion by Mrs. Ryder to receive and file. Seconded by Mrs. Simpson, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

Correspondence from Thomas Riffaldo re: Bethel Heritage Trail

Email received from Thomas Raffaldo, West Hurley, NY dated 8/19/2020 complimenting the Town of Bethel for establishing the Bethel Heritage Trail commemorating locations associated with the Woodstock 1969 Festival.

Motion by Mr. Cohen to receive and file. Seconded by Mrs. Simpson, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

Certification of Daniel Gettel as State Certified Assessor

Letter and certificate received for NYS Department of Taxation and Finance, Real Property dated 8/20/2020 congratulating Daniel Gettel on completing the requirements of the basic course of training for the designation of State Certified Assessor pursuant to the Real Property Tax Law and 20 NYCRR 8188. Copy has been given to the Bookkeeping office for Mr. Gettel's personnel file.

Motion by Mrs. Ryder to receive and file. Seconded by Mrs. Simpson, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

Mr. Sturm congratulated Dan Gettel on doing an excellent job as Assessor.

Notice of Intent to Proceed to Construct a Solar Energy System

Received Notice of Intent to Proceed to Construct Solar Energy System on a parcel of land located within the Town of Bethel at 608-636 Old White Lake Turnpike and identified as SBL Nos. 18-1-25.2 and 18-1-26.1, from James Falsetti, Director, BQ Energy Development, LLC.

BQ Energy Development, LLC is negotiating a payment in lieu of taxation agreement (PILOT Agreement) with the County of Sullivan IDA. BQ Energy will make payments to the IDA in lieu of taxes each year from 2022 through 2041 (PILOT Payments). Pursuant to the PILOT Agreement, the IDA will then remit to Sullivan County, the Town of Bethel, and Liberty Central School District the PILOT Payments in the same proportion as real estate taxes would have been allocated by for the IDA's involvement. \$25,000 a year. Residents will receive or 13% reduction in electric bills.

Motion by Mrs. Simpson to receive and file the Notice of Intent to Proceed to Construct Solar Energy System at 608-636 Old White Lake Turnpike (SBL Nos, 18-1-25.2 and 18-1-26.1.

Seconded by Mrs. Hendrickson, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

Proclamation - 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution - Women's Right To Vote

TOWN OF BETHEL, SULLIVAN COUNTY, NEW YORK

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, the Unites States women's suffrage movement was initially ignited by the 1848 Seneca Falls Convention in upstate New York; and

Whereas, the State of New York continues to lead the nation in advocating for and securing women's rights, including the right to vote, granted Statewide in 1917;

Whereas, the steadfast work of millions of women across the U.S including Sullivan County, ensured this and other quintessential rights could not and would not be ignored; and

Whereas, 100 years ago on August 18, 1920, the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution was declared officially ratified, giving women across America the right to vote; and

Whereas, the past century has witnessed the growing prominence and strength of women and their concerns in local, Statewide and national politics thanks to the efforts of women and men who believe in equality and unity;

Now Therefore Be it Resolved, that the Town of Bethel Town Board recognizes the immense and important contributions women have made in the Town, County, State and Country throughout their existence; and

Be it Further Resolved, that the Town of Bethel honors the role of the ratification of the 19th Amendment in promoting the core values of our democracy and inspiring future generations to cherish and preserve such hard-won freedoms; and

Be it Further Resolved, that the Town of Bethel Town Board through this proclamation wishes to officially join the present celebrations regarding this historic date in American history, in tribute to and support of women's rights and the ongoing struggle to secure these rights.

Proclaimed this 26th day of August, 2020.

Motion by Mrs. Ryder to adopt proclamation. Seconded by Mr. Cohen, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

Approve Road Expenditure Agreements

Agreement for the Expenditure of Highway Moneys

AGREEMENT between the Town Superintendent of the Town of Bethel, Sullivan County, New York, and the undersigned members of the Town Board.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 284 of the Highway Law, we agree that moneys levied and collected in the Town for the repair and improvement of highways, and received from the State for State Aid for the repair and improvement of highways, shall be expended as follows:

1. GENERAL REPAIRS. The sum of \$483,213.36 shall be set aside to be expended for primary work and general repairs upon 144.67 miles of town highways, including, sluices, culverts and bridges having a span of less than five feet and boardwalks or the renewals thereof.
2. PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS. The following sums shall be set aside to be expended for the permanent improvement of Town Highways:
 - (a) On the road commencing at 17B and leading to 4300' a distance of 4300 feet, there shall be expended not over the sum of \$42,000, Type 7, Width of traveled surface 18 feet, Thickness 1-1/2", Subbase pavement. Dr. Duggan Rd.
 - (b) On the road commencing at Horseshoe Lake Rd. and leading to Mt. Hope Rd. a distance of 2.2 miles, there shall be expended not over the sum of \$150,000., Type 6 & 7, Width of traveled surface 18 feet, Thickness Total 2-1/2", Subbase pavement. Replace 160 feet 12" culvert pipe (4) T & L Road with 1-1/2" of Type 6 Binder, Top with Type 7 Asphalt 1" thick. Old Tacy.
 - (c) On the road commencing at Dr. Duggan and leading to Indian Fields a distance of 1500 feet, there shall be expended not over the sum of \$14,000, Type 7, Width of traveled surface 18 feet, Thickness 1-1/2", Subbase pavement. Indian Fields Rd.

Motion by Mr. Cohen to receive and file approved road expenditure agreements. Seconded by Mrs. Simpson, put to a vote, carried 5-0.

Adjournment

There being no further items on the agenda, Mrs. Simpson made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Mrs. Ryder, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita J. Sheehan, Town Clerk