

**Online Zoom Meeting Only**

The November 19, 2020 Town of Bethel Regular Town Board Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Daniel Sturm at 7:30 p.m. Online Zoom Meeting.

Council members zooming in - Vicky Simpson  
Lillian Hendrickson  
Bernie Cohen  
Dawn Ryder

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Monthly Audit of Bills**

<u>Funds</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Check(s) #</u>
General Fund	\$301,702.19	9657-9741
Highway Fund	\$536,823.19	2706-2749
Kauneonga Lake Sewer District	\$ 39,337.93	2109-2134
Kauneonga Lake Light District	\$ 2,347.15	1057
Capital Special Projects-Town Hall	\$ 24,799.10	1001-1002
Capital Special Projects-Sewer Rehab	\$ 78,946.00	1006
Planning & Zoning Escrow	\$ 3,574.65	1231-1233

Motion by Mrs. Simpson to approve the audit of bills.  
Seconded by Mr. Cohen, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

**Supervisor’s Monthly Report – October**

Mr. Sturm stated the Town is almost to the end of the year. The General Fund is down 2.8% in revenue. The Town is up 80% in safety inspection fees. Refuge is up over \$80,000. Interest and earnings are up approximately \$4,000. Fines, tickets and bail is down at approximately \$50,000 versus last year it was \$75,000. Parks and Recreation is down due to COVID. This year \$10,000 versus last year \$60,000, but the Town of Bethel did have a program and everyone was safe. Expenses are down 10% from last year. The Town reacted very well to the loss in revenue.

The Highway Department revenue is good. They spent \$15,000 more in chip money, but we do get it back. They did purchase two rollers. The Highway Department has spent 88% of their budget.

Motion by Mrs. Simpson to receive and file the Supervisor’s Monthly Report as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Cohen, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

**Town Clerk Monthly Report – October**

Total fees for October, 2020	\$9,924.66
State Share	\$1,865.81
Town Share	\$8,058.85

Motion by Mrs. Hendrickson to receive and file Town Clerk’s Monthly Report as submitted. Seconded by Mrs. Ryder, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

**Resolution to adopt 2021 Sewer District Relevy**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE RELEVY OF UNPAID SEWER RENTS FOR KAUNEONGA LAKE SEWER DISTRICT ON THE 2021 TAX ROLL**

**WHEREAS**, that the Town Board of the Town of Bethel has adopted the following resolution for the relevy of unpaid sewer user charges in the Kauneonga Lake Consolidated Sewer District,

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Bethel does hereby authorize the Supervisor to transmit to the Sullivan County Legislature for presentation the following list of properties against which there are past due sewer user charges owed to the Kauneonga Lake Consolidated Sewer District for 2020,

**FURTHER**, that the County Legislature relevy as unpaid sewer user charges the sum specified against the properties as identified by section, block and lot number preceding the amount of arrears on the 2021 Tax Roll of the Town of Bethel as attached.

**Kauneonga Lake Consolidated Sewer District     \$126,593.85**

Motion by:     Mrs. Hendrickson  
Seconded by:   Mrs. Simpson  
Adopted the 19<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2020

**Resolution to adopt 2021 Sewer Extension Relevy**

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE RELEVY OF UNPAID SEWER RENTS FOR KAUNEONGA LK SEWER DISTRICT EXTENSION ON THE 2021 TAX ROLL**

**WHEREAS**, that the Town Board of the Town of Bethel has adopted the following resolution for the relevy of unpaid sewer user charges in the Kauneonga Lake Sewer District Extension,

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Bethel does hereby authorize the Supervisor to transmit to the Sullivan County Legislature for presentation the following list of properties against which there are past due sewer user charges owed to the Kauneonga Lake Sewer District Extension for 2020,

**FURTHER**, that the County Legislature relevy as unpaid sewer user charges the sum specified against the properties as identified by section, block and lot number preceding the amount of arrears on the 2021 Tax Roll of the Town of Bethel as attached.

Motion by:     Mrs. Simpson  
Seconded by:   Mrs. Ryder  
Adopted the 19<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2020

**Resolution to adopt relevy for Stephen Ottway**

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF BETHEL TOWN BOARD TO AUTHORIZE SPECIAL RELEVY ON THE TOWN OF BETHEL 2021 TAX ROLL FOR REMOVAL OF UNSAFE STRUCTURE**

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Bethel hereby adopts the following resolution to relevy the cost of engineering fees as authorized by the Town of Bethel Code Chapter 113-10, Buildings, Unsafe,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Sullivan County Legislature relevy the following property in the amount specified on the Town of Bethel 2021 Tax Roll, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Clerk shall file this resolution with 2021 budget submitted to the Sullivan County Legislature and to file a copy with the Sullivan County Clerk.

<u>Owner</u>	<u>S-B-L</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Stephen Ottway 810 Blooming Grove Tpke. Apt. 87 New Windsor, NY 12553	48.-3-6	\$30,544.25

Motion by: Mrs. Hendrickson  
Seconded by: Mrs. Simpson  
Adopted the 19<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2020

**Resolution to adopt relevy for Lee Cole Home Corp.**

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF BETHEL TOWN BOARD TO AUTHORIZE SPECIAL RELEVY ON THE TOWN OF BETHEL 2021 TAX ROLL FOR REMOVAL OF UNSAFE STRUCTURE**

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Bethel hereby adopts the following resolution to relevy the cost of engineering fees as authorized by the Town of Bethel Code Chapter 113-10, Buildings, Unsafe,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Sullivan County Legislature relevy the following property in the amount specified on the Town of Bethel 2021 Tax Roll, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Clerk shall file this resolution with 2021 budget submitted to the Sullivan County Legislature and to file a copy with the Sullivan County Clerk.

<u>Owner</u>	<u>S-B-L</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Lee Cole Home Corp. Attn.: Efraim Kaufman 348 Marcy Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11206	#9.-1-4	\$21,684

Motion by: Mrs. Simpson  
Seconded by: Mrs. Hendrickson

**Resolution to adopt relevy for Eugene Hafner**

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF BETHEL TOWN BOARD TO AUTHORIZE SPECIAL RELEVY ON THE TOWN OF BETHEL 2021 TAX ROLL FOR REMOVAL OF UNSAFE STRUCTURE**

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Bethel hereby adopts the following resolution to relevy the cost of engineering fees as authorized by the Town of Bethel Code Chapter 113-10, Buildings, Unsafe,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Sullivan County Legislature relevy the following property in the amount specified on the Town of Bethel 2021 Tax Roll, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Town Clerk shall file this resolution with 2021 budget submitted to the Sullivan County Legislature and to file a copy with the Sullivan County Clerk.

<u>Owner</u>	<u>S-B-L</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Eugene J. Hafner 19 Grandview Avenue Glen Rock, NJ 07452	#41.-25-18	\$13,684

Motion by: Mrs. Ryder  
Seconded by: Mrs. Simpson  
Adopted the 19<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2020

**Resolution to adopt relevy for Stevensville Water District****RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE RELEVY OF UNPAID WATER RENTS FOR OUT OF DISTRICT USERS OF THE STEVENSVILLE WATER DISTRICT ON THE 2021 TAX ROLL**

**WHEREAS**, that the Town Board of the Town of Bethel has adopted the following resolution for the relevy of unpaid water rents for out of district users in the Stevensville Water District,

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Bethel does hereby authorize the Supervisor to transmit to the Sullivan County Legislature for presentation the following list of properties against which there are past due water rents owed to the Stevensville Consolidated Water District for 2020,

**FURTHER**, that the County Legislature relevy as unpaid water rents the sum specified against the properties as identified by section, block and lot number preceding the amount of arrears on the 2021 Tax Roll of the Town of Bethel as attached.

**Stevensville Water District                      \$1,124.53**

Motion by:    Mrs. Hendrickson

Seconded by: Mrs. Ryder

Duly adopted the 19<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2020.

**Resolution to adopt relevy for Swan Lake/Briscoe Road Sewer District****RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE RELEVY OF UNPAID SEWER RENTS FOR OUTSIDE USERS SWAN LAKE/BRISCOE ROAD CONSOLIDATED SEWER DISTRICT ON THE 2021 TAX ROLL**

**WHEREAS**, that the Town Board of the Town of Bethel has adopted the following resolution for the relevy of unpaid sewer rents for outside users in the Swan Lake/Briscoe Road Consolidated Sewer District,

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Bethel does hereby authorize the Supervisor to transmit to the Sullivan County Legislature for presentation the following list of properties against which there are past due sewer rents owed to the Swan Lake/Briscoe Road Consolidated Sewer District for 2020,

**FURTHER**, that the County Legislature relevy as unpaid sewer rents the sum specified against the properties as identified by section, block and lot number preceding the amount of arrears on the 2021 Tax Roll of the Town of Bethel as attached.

**Swan Lake/Briscoe Road Consolidated Sewer District    \$1,059.29**

Motion by:    Mrs. Simpson

Seconded by: Mrs. Hendrickson

Duly adopted this 19<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2020.

**Notice of Liquor License & request for 30-day waiver Catskill Distilling Co. - Distillery**

Certified letter received from Rezzonator Services, (SVG 26 LLC) apply for a Farm Distiller "D", Distiller "A1" and 2 On-Premise Full Liquor Licenses. Note, that this notification is specifically for the ON PREMISES license tied to the Bar located in the Tasting Room of the Distillery. This is a simple change of ownership and of operations. SGV 26 LLC is the winner of bankruptcy.

**Notice of Liquor License & request for 30day waiver Catskill Distilling Co. – Restaurant**

Certified letter received 9/17/2020 from Rezzonator Services (SVG 26 LLC) apply for a Farm Distiller “D”, Distiller “A 1” and 2 On-Premises Full Liquor Licenses. Note, that this notification is specifically for the ON PREMISES license tied to the restaurant that is located on the same property as the distillery. The restaurant is currently called “Dancing Cat Saloon.”

Motion by Mrs. Simpson to receive, file and approve both the requests to waive the 30 day notification for a liquor license for the Catskill Distilling Co., Distillery, and the Catskill Distilling Co. Restaurant known as the Dancing Cat Saloon.

Seconded by Mr. Cohen, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

#### **Ag & Markets Municipal Shelter Inspection Report**

Letter dated 11/2/2020 from NYS Agriculture and Markets stating than a shelter inspection was done on 10/23/2020 and rated satisfactory.

#### **Ag & Markets Dog Control Officer Inspection Report**

Letter dated 11/02/2020 from NYS Agriculture and Markets stating that an Officer inspection report as done on 10/23/2020 and rated satisfactory.

Motion by Mrs. Hendrickson to receive and file both requests rating both the shelter and officer inspection reports “satisfactory.” Seconded by Mr. Cohen, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

#### **Request to lower speed limit on Hubert Road**

Mr. Sturm read an email from Erica Kaskel residing on the Hubert Road addressing traffic and speed limit signs. This has become a secondary route to avoid the one lane road work being done on Route 52 going into Jeffersonville.

The Town Board of the Town of Bethel, by a resolution adopted on November 19, 2020, and the County Superintendent of Highways of the County of Sullivan, hereby requests the Department of Transportation, pursuant to Section 1622.1 of the Vehicle and Traffic Law, to establish a lower speed limit at which vehicles may proceed on Hubert Road (TR 13). A town owned highway, between Briscoe Road (CR144) and Swiss Hill Road (T/O Callicoon line), a distance of approximately .88 miles.

Upon receipt of the notice that the regulation herein requested has been established, the Town of Bethel, will provide, install and maintain signs in accordance with the Vehicle and Traffic Law and conforming to the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices of the Department of Transportation.

Motion by Mr. Cohen to forward Erica’s request to NYSDOT for a review and determination. Seconded by Mrs. Hendrickson, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

#### **Spectrum Internet Service – Murphy Road**

Mr. Sturm had a second request from A. Field regarding Spectrum high speed in the area. Mr. Sturm said he would send a letter to Spectrum regarding the issue.

Motion by Mrs. Simpson to have the supervisor contact Spectrum regarding the request. Seconded by Mr. Cohen, put to a vote and carried.

#### **Discussion on Tax Collector vacancy**

Mr. Sturm said unofficially (election results are certified in December) that Susan Brown Otto was elected to fill the vacancy in the Tax Collector position for the unexpired

term expiring December 31, 2021. Mr. Sturm suggested to appoint Mrs. Brown-Otto tonight effective December 3, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

Motion by Mrs. Hendrickson to approve appointment of Susan Brown Otto as Tax Collector effective December 3, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

Seconded by Mr. Cohen.

Duly passed with 5 ayes and 0 nays upon a roll call vote as follows:

	AYE	NAY
Mrs. Ryder	Yes	
Mr. Cohen	Yes	
Mr. Sturm	Yes	
Mrs. Simpson	Yes	
Mrs. Hendrickson	Yes	

**Notice from NYS Dept. of Transportation – Lt. Brender Hwy.**

Letter dated 10/21/2020 from NYSDOT regarding the speed limit reduction on Lt. J.G. Brender Highway, CR73 is as follows:

Notice of Order 11 48.07 establishes 30 MPH as the maximum linear speed for Lt. J.G. Brender Highway, CR 73, between the Liberty/Bethel town line and a point 0.4+/- mile south of the Liberty/Bethel Town line, a distance of 0.4+/- mile, and

Notice of Order 11 48.07 (al) establishes 40 MPH as the maximum linear speed for Lt. J.G. Brender Highway, CR 73, between a point 0.4+/- mile south of the Liberty/Bethel Town line and Fraser Road, TR33, a distance of 2.0+/- mile.

Note, Sullivan County will be responsible for signing the new speed limit signs in accordance with Title 17Bof the NYS official Compilation of Rules and Regulations (NYS Supplement to the National Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

Motion by Mrs. Hendrickson to receive and file notice from NYSDOT regarding the reduction of Lt. J.G. Brender Highway, CR73, speed limits in accordance with Notice of Order 11 48.07.

Seconded by Mr. Cohen, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

**SAM Grant Award for Pine Grove Road Culvert**

Mr. Sturm stated the replacement of a culvert under Pine Grove Road is critical. The State has awarded the Town of Bethel a State and Municipal Facilities Program (“SAM”) grant in the amount of \$125,000. This is part of the DASNY program. We will rebid and modify the specification for this project. We thank Hon. Aileen Gunther for getting us the DASNY program.

Motion by Mrs. Simpson to receive and file letter dated 11/6/2020. Seconded by Mrs. Hendrickson, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

**Road Repair Agreement**

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
  - (a) On the road commencing at dead end and leading to 17B a distance of 7,980 feet , there shall be expended not over the sum of \$115,000, type #1 stone oil mix, width of traveled surface 17 feet, thickness 3 inches, subbase pavement. Repair road with A #1 stone oil mix, seal road with 1'As surface treatment tie in driveways with crusher run.

Motion by Mrs. Hendrickson to receive, file and approve Road Repair Agreement Commencing at dead end and leading to 17B (Pucky Huddle Road).

Seconded by Mr. Cohen, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

### **SEQR for Pine Grove Road Culvert Project**

Correspondence dated 11/18/2020 from Glenn L. Smith, P.E. regarding Pine Grove Road Culvert SEQR as follows:

The culvert replacement project would not qualify as a Type I Action under SEQR regulations. It could be a Type II where no action is necessary by town board as Lead Agency, see pg. 11 of SEQR book, para. ©(2). If you want to be conservative, board could make a determination by resolution that this is an Unlisted Action, then resolve to issue a negative declaration and be done with it. There's no coordinated review with other agencies or the 30 day notice period. If DASNY or other agencies are involved in approval process, they should be added in box #2 on page of the Short EAF to use for Unlisted Action.

Motion by Mrs. Hendrickson to receive, file and approve correspondence from Mr. Smith regarding the Pine Grove Road Culvert SEQR.

Seconded by Mr. Cohen, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

### **Town Board Comments**

Mrs. Simpson asked how are we going to handle the tree lighting in the Town Square? Mr. Sturm – Very low key, no ceremony.

Mr. Cohen - The Highway Department used a cold base, not a hot base on Pucky Huddle Road and it came out good.

Mrs. Ryder - On Wednesdays between 4:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. for \$5.00 you can walk the 1-mile Bethel Woods Light Show.

Mr. Sturm announced that he just was notified before our meeting tonight that a Bethel Highway Department may have been in contact with someone who tested positive for Corona Virus. Out of pre-caution the highway employee(s) are to get tested and the Bethel Town Hall will be closed on Friday, November 20, 2020.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further items on the agenda, motion by Mrs. Simpson to adjourn the Town of Bethel Town Board meeting. Seconded by Mr. Cohen, put to a vote and carried 5-0.

Respectively submitted,

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Rita J. Sheehan, Town Clerk