

Present: John A Pfeffer, Supervisor
Charles E. Davis, III Councilman, Deputy Supervisor
William J. Heim, Councilman
Jean M. Bond, Councilwoman
Richard A. Bernstein, Councilman
Patricia R. Dashnaw, Town Clerk
Tim Engels, Highway Superintendent
Larry Feldman, Code Enforcement Officer

Others present: Joseph Pillittere, Susan Feldman, Max Borsuk, Paul Bembia, Bryan Bower, Andrea Mellon, Carl Stiles, Joseph Mondo, Belladara Mondo

A regular meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance to the United State Flag at the Ashford Community Center at 7:30pm with John A. Pfeffer Town Supervisor presiding.

A moment of silence was held for Pauline Engels, mother of Highway Superintendent Tim Engels.

RESOLUTION 13-2020
APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Councilman Bernstein seconded by Councilwoman Bond the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Pfeffer, Heim, Bernstein, Bond, Davis
 Nays 0

Resolved the Town Board of the Town of Ashford hereby approve the agenda with the following additions:

- Planning Board begin Solar Law preparation
- Agreement for the Expenditure of Highway Moneys
- Verizon Wireless inquiry to install small cell project
- 2 more additions to Executive Session for personnel

Ashford Town Justice Carl Stiles gave a presentation regarding recent changes effecting issues handled by Town Court. These changes should not alter justice court revenue to the Town. Some municipalities have communicated to New York State Officials regarding these changes. Supervisor Pfeffer will draft a letter prior to the March meeting.

Bryan Bower, WVDP DOE, gave updates regarding continued decommissioning at the WVDP. Budget amounts have been submitted.

Paul Bembia, Director WVDP NYSEDA gave update on Proposed Solar Facility. Changes are being made as a result of the wetlands not initially identified.

Joe Pillittere, CHBWV, presented art sets for contest winners of the Town Seal and confirmed bikes would be available this year for prizes at the Bike Rodeo.

Supervisor Pfeffer thanked NYSEDA for creating a map of the trestle of what it would take to bring it to an at grade crossing, and that it probably was not possible.

RESOLUTION 14-2020
APPROVAL OF CONENSUS ITEMS

On motion of Councilman Davis seconded by Councilman Bernstein the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Pfeffer, Heim, Bernstein, Bond, Davis
 Nays 0

Resolved hearing no objections, Agenda Item F1 through F8 be and are approved by the Town Board of the Town of Ashford, and shall be listed individually as follows in the minutes of this meeting:

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. January Assessors Report | 8. December Audit the Claims: | |
| 2. January Code Enforcement Report | General Fund No. 17 through 50 | \$34,430.25 |
| 3. January Constabulary Report | Highway Fund No. 9 through 22 | \$106,799.30 |
| 4. January 8, 2020 Minutes | Light District No. 2 | \$1,358.97 |
| 5. January Town Clerk Report | Trust & Agency No. 1 through 10 | \$10,352.23 |
| 6. January Supervisors Financial Report | Water District No. 3 through 16 | \$8,866.75 |
| 7. January Highway Expense & Fuel Report | | |

SUPERVISORS MANAGEMENT REPORT:

- 5 Star Management System is acceptable as is to Board Members
- Town Branding/Seal: WVCS has been contacted and prizes have been donated
- Government Accountability Office meeting was held in Town of Ashford: list of questions concerning WVDP has been provided to board members. This meeting gave opportunity for the attendees to spend a little time in the Town of Ashford.
- ECRT/GOBIKE are seeking a county wide trail system and matching grants are available to proceed with the project.
- West Valley Inn, LLC grant has been received by the Town of Ashford and submitted to the West Valley Inn, LLC. The Town of Ashford is the pass through agency. The amount is \$143,756.00.
- Armstrong Communications has had some issues with National Grid to resolve regarding pole replacements costs. Data had to be reverified. Armstrong is considering Ashford as an office location. It is not clear when work in Ashford will begin. Residents may at any time contact the Public Service Commission with concerns.
- National Grid will install 3 different lumen street lights at different locations and request feedback from residents on which is preferred.
- Easements need to be completed to proceed with the street light at Miller Road.
- Jack Searles, Cattaraugus County Administrator will be at the Chamber of Commerce Meeting in February
- Prior Notice of road condition has been received regarding Folts Road
- Verizon has sent request to complete a project at the Ashford Community Center to increase cell coverage in the area. The town attorney will be given the documents.

RESOLUTION 15-2020

AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO PROCEED WITH VERIZON CELL PROJECT

On motion of Councilman Davis NOT seconded NOT approved

Resolved the Supervisor proceed with the Verizon Cell Project once research is completed and found to be a benefit to residents.

RESOLUTION 16-2020

APPOINT HIGHWAY EMPLOYEE

On motion of Councilman Davis seconded by Councilwoman Bond the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Pfeffer, Heim, Bernstein, Bond, Davis
Nays 0

Resolved the Ashford Town Board approve the appointment of Shawn Pokorski for the vacancy with the Ashford Highway Department on the recommendation of Highway Superintendent Engels per NYCL HWY § 140 (4), § 142-c, § 151

Gerwitz and McNeil Electric submitted a quote to replace the electric panel and quotes for generator and automatic switch. All of these are for the highway barn. Councilman Bernstein has questions regarding upgrades and cost benefits to completing upgrades with these projects. Highway committee will research this issue prior to commencing project. Highway Superintendent Engels stated the highway department could do some of the work in house.

RESOLUTION 17-2020

AUTHORIZE AGREEMENT TO SPEND TOWN HIGHWAY FUNDS

On motion of Councilwoman Bond seconded by Councilman Davis, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Pfeffer, Davis, Heim, Bernstein, Bond
Nays 0

Resolved the Ashford Town Board authorize agreement to spend highway funds.

Other committee reports:

- the sidewalk plow was in need of repair and is back in working order, the door is in, and the truck is not been delivered yet.
- Code Enforcement Officer Feldman reported due to the season, he is doing routine work presently.
- Audit committee is in the process of auditing of the Town records.
- Supervisor Pfeffer will research electronic reporting for constables
- Andrea Mellon reported the Planning Board is reviewing the 5 Star Plan and the Grant writer RFP and providing comments. The Planning Board is moving forward with research on Zoning as listed in the Comprehensive Plan.
- Youth recreation committee had a meeting to make plans for summer recreation. Dates planned are 7/6-8/14. Michelle Pfeffer is the new director. Programs will be similar with swimming, lunches, field trips. During the week of the Firemans Convention. WVCS will be contacted as well to seek continued support.
- Water district budgets are being reviewed to insure account solvency.

Grant writer draft submitted last month is acceptable to the Board members. The RFP addresses the mode of payment to the grant writer.

RESOLUTION 18-2020

PLANNING BOARD COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

On motion of Councilwoman Bond seconded by Councilman Heim the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Pfeffer, Davis, Heim, Bernstein, Bond
Nays 0

Resolved Dylan Westfall be appointed to a 1 year term of the Planning Board per NYCL, Town Law –TWN § 271 and further Resolved Alan King be appointed to a 3 year term of the Planning Board per NYCL, Town Law –TWN § 271

RESOLUTION 19-2020

BOARD OF APPEALS APPOINTMENT

On motion of Councilman Davis seconded by Councilman Heim the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Pfeffer, Davis, Heim, Bernstein, Bond
Nays 0

Resolved Nathan Blesy be appointed to a 5 year term to the Board of Appeals per TWN § 267

RESOLUTION 20-2020

YOUTH RECREATION APPOINTMENT

On motion of Councilwoman Bond seconded by Councilman Bernstein the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Pfeffer, Davis, Heim, Bernstein, Bond
Nays 0

Resolved Angela Ghani be appointed to a 6 year term to the Youth Recreation Committee

RESOLUTION 21-2020

AUTHORIZE TRAIL SYSTEM FUNDING

On motion of Councilman Bernstein seconded by Councilman Davis the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Pfeffer, Davis, Heim, Bernstein, Bond
Nays 0

Resolved Ashford Town Board authorize \$2,500 be paid as Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning, and Tourism Municipal Matching Grant Program to promote the GOBIKE Trail System in Cattaraugus County.

RESOLUTION 22-2020

AUTHORIZE SUPPORT OF TRAIL SYSTEM

On motion of Councilman Bernstein seconded by Councilwoman Bond the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Pfeffer, Davis, Heim, Bernstein, Bond
Nays 0

WHEREAS Erie Cattaraugus Rail Trail has secured a long-term (90 year), interim use agreement with Buffalo-Pittsburgh Railroad to convert its former 27-mile rail corridor-- extending from the Town of Orchard Park, NY in Erie County to the Town of Ashford in Cattaraugus County -- into a multi-use recreational trail

WHEREAS Erie Cattaraugus Rail Trail has partnered with GObike Buffalo, the Ralph C. Wilson Foundation and Alta Design & Planning to undertake a feasibility study and community engagement process along a proposed 80-mile trail which incorporates the Erie Cattaraugus Trail and extends from Buffalo, NY to Olean, NY (DBA the Southern Tier Trail).

WHEREAS a goal of the Town of Ashford and Erie Cattaraugus Rail Trail is to evaluate, restore and promote the high-trestle bridge spanning Cattaraugus Creek, connecting Erie to Cattaraugus County, as an exceptional, regional tourist destination

WHEREAS a goal of the Town of Ashford is to expand opportunities for small business development, attracting beneficial investments, new residents and visitors

WHEREAS a goal of the Town of Ashford is to provide healthy community-based recreational opportunities for its children, youth and adult residents of all ages and abilities

WHEREAS a goal of the Town of Ashford is to link its community assets to those in adjacent municipalities, leading to regional growth in tourism and related recreational, cultural and economic growth opportunities

WHEREAS a goal of the Town of Ashford is to honor the history of the community while embracing a future which provides beneficial cultural, educational, recreational and economic opportunities for its residents

NOW BE IT RESOLVED: We the undersigned parties support the Town of Ashford's participation with Erie Cattaraugus Rail Trail and the proposed Southern Tier Trail in their efforts to develop a multi-use recreational trail.

RESOLUTION 23-2020

AUTHORIZE BUILDING PERMIT FEE CHANGE

On motion of Councilman Bernstein seconded by Councilman Heim the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Pfeffer, Davis, Heim, Bernstein, Bond
Nays 0

Resolved code enforcement fees remain unchanged with the exception of a penalty of 50% of the cost of the permit will be added if the project is started before a permit was issued.

Vehicular traffic has attempted to travel on seasonal roads as GPS suggests the route. Additional signage could alleviate the issue. Supervisor Pfeffer will try to contact Garmin to help with this issue. Signage is also needed by the trestle.

RESOLUTION 24-2020

AUTHORIZE ADVERTISE FOR CEMETERY MOWING

On motion of Councilwoman Bond seconded by Councilman Heim the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Pfeffer, Davis, Heim, Bernstein, Bond
Nays 0

Resolved the Town Clerk advertise for mowing of the Ashford Hollow Cemetery.

RESOLUTION 25-2020

APPROVAL OF WNYSSB MEMBERSHIP

On motion of Councilwoman Bond seconded by Councilman Bernstein the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Pfeffer, Davis, Heim, Bernstein, Bond
Nays 0

Resolved the Town Board approve of membership to the Western New York Southtowns Scenic Byway.

RESOLUTION 26-2020

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Councilman Bernstein seconded by Councilwoman Bond the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 5 Pfeffer, Davis, Heim, Bernstein, Bond
Nays 0

Resolved the Board move into an Executive Session at 8:55pm per Public officers Law Article 7 §105 for four issues:

1. Discussion regarding proposed, pending or current litigation
2. the financial history of a corporation, or matters leading to the appointment of a corporation
3. personnel issue with employment contracts
4. personnel issue with employment contracts

Justice Carl Stiles was invited to be present at Executive Session. Councilwoman Bond left at 9:15pm for personal reasons

RESOLUTION 27-2020

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION

On motion of Councilman Davis seconded by Councilman Heim the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Pfeffer, Davis, Heim, Bernstein
Nays 0

Resolved the Board return to regular session at 9:23 with no action taken in Executive Session.

A motion was made by Davis seconded by Bernstein and carried that the meeting be adjourned at 9:23pm. (All aye)