

Present: John A Pfeffer, Supervisor
 Charles E. Davis, III Councilman, Deputy Supervisor (remote)
 Jean M. Bond, Councilwoman (remote)
 Richard A. Bernstein, Councilman
 Patricia R. Dashnaw, Town Clerk
 Tim Engels, Highway Superintendent
Absent: William J. Heim, Councilman

Others present remotely: Max Borsuk, Joseph Pillittere

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

RESOLUTION 53-2020
APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

Resolved the Town Board of the Town of Ashford approve the agenda with the addition of Road Bond Check in Supervisors Management Report and Establish Petty Cash for Code Enforcement Officer in New Business.

Joe Pillittere reported on back to work policies for the WVDP. Employees will have to check in on arrival and the process has been tested. Some employees are essential and have continued to work on site compliant with CDC guidelines.

RESOLUTION 54-2020
APPROVAL OF CONSENSUS ITEMS

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

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

Resolved hearing no objections, Agenda Item F1 through F6 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. April and March Assessors Report
2. April Code Enforcement Report
3. April 15, 2020 Minutes
4. April Town Clerk Report
5. April Supervisors Financial Report
6. April and March Highway Report

RESOLUTION 55-2020
BUDGET AMENDMENT

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

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

Resolved the following Budget Amendments are approved for the General Account:

From **A9060.8** Medical Insurance to **A1010.4** Town Board Contractual in the amount of **\$4,000.00**

From **A1990.4** Contingent to **A8160.4** Garbage and Refuse in the amount of **\$400.00**

RESOLUTION 56-2020
AUDIT OF CLAMS

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

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

Resolved that the bills be paid on Abstract #5 in the following amounts:

General Fund	No. 99 through 117	\$26,425.80
Highway Fund	No. 57 through 64	\$196,393.34
Light District	No. 5	\$1,076.54
Trust & Agency	No. 34 through 42	\$10,896.22
Water District	No. 32 through 39	\$2,623.36

SUPERVISORS MANAGEMENT REPORT:

- The Memorial Day Celebration has been cancelled in Ashford due to social distancing requirements set by CDC guidelines.
- A letter was sent to the Senate and House of Representatives officials regarding support of financial assistance to municipalities.

RESOLUTION 57-2020
PROVIDE DIRECT COVID-19 RELATED FEDERAL AID TO ALL MUNICIPALITIES

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

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

WHEREAS, the federal government recently enacted the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to address the economic fallout from the coronavirus pandemic in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Section 601 of the CARES Act (P.L. 116-136) provides a \$150 billion fund for states, tribal governments, and units of local government with a population in excess of 500,000 people; and

WHEREAS, less than one-half of 1 percent of municipalities in the entire United States meet this population threshold and are thus ineligible to receive direct funding from the federal government; and

WHEREAS, of the 933 towns in New York, 931 are not eligible for direct federal funding under the CARES Act, including the town of Ashford; and

WHEREAS, towns provide essential services to the 9 million New Yorkers town residents, including, but not limited to, ambulance, police and fire protection services, building and code enforcement, and highway maintenance, and have continued to do so throughout the ongoing health crisis; and

WHEREAS, the coronavirus pandemic has created significant financial stress for local governments in New York as an estimated \$2 billion in sales tax revenue has been lost, as well as other sources of revenue such as permit fees, justice court fines, and mortgage recording tax; and

WHEREAS, the depletion of different revenue sources for local governments, combined with lack of funding, will result in reducing essential services or shifting the cost onto real property taxpayers, many of whom are experiencing their own financial stress;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the town of Ashford calls upon United States Congressional Representatives Thomas W. Reed II, Senator Charles Schumer, and Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, to support federal funding related to the coronavirus pandemic that is directly delivered to all municipalities, regardless of population size.

(Supervisors Management Report con't)

- A resident has submitted a letter of concern regarding the Railroad Culvert and Underpass project which resulted in smaller culvert than what was already in place. A prior notice will be sent to the Railroad regarding the inadequate size which could result in damages.
- Solar Farm-BQ Energy has submitted all the proper permit applications to the Army Corps of Engineers.
- Broadband-Armstrong is moving forward with constructing a HUB in Ashford
- State of Emergency for Ashford will be extended for another 30 days or until rescinded
- Complaints regarding property maintenance are being addressed with letters from Code Enforcement
- Trash dumping is becoming an issue in certain areas of Ashford. Supervisor Pfeffer will be contacting NYSDEC officers to explore options in prevention and prosecution of offenders.
- Food Pantry has had some generous donations and have had increased need as well. A larger location is definitely needed to accommodate. Discussion took place exploring options.
- Wagner hardwoods has requested the \$20,000 Road Bond to be returned. Highway Superintendent Engels determined there was no road damage by Wagner hardwoods therefore, the Road Bond can be released.
- Verizon Wireless small cell tower documents are being reviewed and executed.

Highway Superintendent Engels reported the workers are reporting for work according to CDC guidelines. The five man crew is down one due to the new hires resignations. Discussion took place regarding the Town of Ashford ability to pay for a fifth person.

Constables have been contacted to insure social distancing practices are followed in Ashford.

Planning Board is continuing the Master Plan effort, the Right to Farm, Farmers Market, and Solar Farm Law.

Youth Summer Recreation will have to be cancelled this year due to COVID-19.

Water Law is being reviewed and changes will be made by resolution as required.

A written complaint was sent to the Board members regarding the state of the Ashford Hollow Cemetery. Supervisor Pfeffer will insure the issues are addressed as allowed by the budget for cemetery.

The drain connection to the CCDI needs to be done between the property owners as easements will need to be agreed to before the project can proceed.

RESOLUTION 58-2020
ESTABLISH PETTY CASH FUND

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

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

Resolved a petty cash fund be set up for the Code Enforcement Officer for \$100.

RESOLUTION 59-2020
CORRECTION OF RESOLUTION 50-2020

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

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

Resolved the address be corrected to 5462 Pinecliff Drive not 5456 Pinecliff Drive to reflect accurate billing.

Joe Pillittere asked if the Bike Rally could be held later in the summer. The decision will be made at a later date.

A motion was made by Bond seconded by Davis and carried that the meeting be adjourned at 8:25pm.

(All aye)