

**SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING
TOWN OF AUGUSTA
December 1, 2021**

A special meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Augusta, County of Oneida and the State of New York was held at Town Hall, 2319 North Road, Oriskany Falls, NY on Wednesday, the 1st day of December 2021.

PRESENT: Suzanne Collins Supervisor
 James Dowd Councilman
 Charles Peck Councilman
 Mark Russell Councilman
 Travis Wright Councilman
 Sonya Furness Clerk

ABSENT:

PUBLIC PRESENT: Phil Eaton

The Special meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Supervisor Collins.

Highway Superintendent Eaton proposed a vehicle trade in from Friendly of Hamilton. He would like to trade 2020 Ford F-350 for a 2022 Ford F-350 XLT

Price \$49,348.80

Trade in Value \$49,000.00

Document Fees \$175.00

Final Cost \$523.80

RESOLUTION 78 – 2021

On a motion of Councilman Peck, seconded by Councilman Wright, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 3 Dowd, Peck, Russell, Wright
 Nays 1 Collins

Resolved that Highway Department may acquire the 2022 F-350 XLT with a cost not to exceed \$1000.00 from Friendly of Hamilton.

Councilman Dowd asked that quote (purchase offer) be signed by Business Manager and that vehicle description be changed to 350 XLT instead of 250 XLT

Highway Superintendent Eaton gave additional info regarding the John Deere 6105E Cab Tractor and Diamond Mowers Boom mower for \$138,025.00 w/ a trade in of 16,500. For a total of \$121,525.00. (60 month lease would be \$25,777.68) from Cazenovia equipment.

He stated that it would approx. \$5000 to remove cab and \$30,000 to put mower on old mower. Councilman Wright requests that they come and look again and give an written quote as to the condition of and cost of repair.

Supervisor Collins made a motion at 6:25 PM, seconded by Councilman Peck to enter into Executive Session to discuss the

- 1 .Matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person
2. Matter that will imperil the public safety if it is disclosed
3. Matters relating to collective negotiations under the Taylor Law and
4. Acquisition, lease or sale of real property or securities when publicity would substantially affect the value.

Respectively Submitted
Sonya Furness

The attached Minutes were submitted by Supervisor Collins.

Board came out of executive session at 7:30 pm..

The Town Supervisor thought incorrectly that the Town Board could only discuss what was on the agenda for a special meeting. It was clarified with Dick Parker that as long as the meeting was posted than any old business or new business could be discussed.

State required Sexual Harassment Training: due to **Covid 19** the in person training was not conducted last year. A resolution made by Mark, seconded by Travis that the Town Board is passing the Town of Augusta Policy on Sexual Harassment, in person training will not take place at this time, the policy will be disseminated to all town employees.

Ayes: Mark, Jim, Travis, Sue, Charles. Nay's:

Employee Drug Testing: A motion was made by Jim, seconded by Charles all highway employees must receive pre employment drug and alcohol testing before being approved by the Highway Superintendent for employment.

Ayes: Mark, Jim, Travis, Sue, Charles. Nay's:

Covid 19: The Towns stance is that employee vaccination choices are up to the individual employee. At this time, the town will not be mandating them. Our current stance on the virus safety issue is the Highway Department employees must continue to maintain the log-in forms on a daily basis. Signs are up on doors to notify the public.

Letters will be sent to each member of the Planning and Zoning boards that if they have not received the required training of 4 hours for 2020 and 4 hours for 2021, they risk the possibility of forfeiting their spots on their respective boards. This mandatory training requirement is put in place by the state. Travis gave a very strong example of how this lack of training can reflect badly on the town wherein if a Planning or Zoning Board makes a decision and it comes back on the town in the form of a lawsuit, the fact that an employee has not received the required training for their position, could reflect negatively on the outcome. The Supervisor is charged with the task of contacting the State/County to see how the Town Board could, if need be, arrange for removal of employees from these spots. The training is readily available on-line and could have been done throughout the course of the year, the employees were advised of this in the re-org minutes of 2021 and once during the year.

Charles had to leave at this time. He had a prior commitment.

Town Justice Court: The Board does not have the legal authority to appoint Geri Cook as of this date as Honorable Judge Garry Johnson is serving on the bench until December 31st, 2021. The Board duly appoints Geri Cook to be the Judge effective January 1, 2022 contingent upon her obtaining all of the Take the Bench courses as provided by the 5th Judicial District. Her appointment will be for the entire year of 2022. Geri will be required to contact the Election Board and make whatever arrangements are needed to be eligible to run for election in the next General Election that takes place in the Town of Augusta.

Ayes: Mark, Jim, Travis, Sue. Nay's: None Absent: Charles.

The Town has expended funds for the Town Clerk to create a web site for the town, the site contains meeting minutes, town news, various forms, laws etc. etc. Starting in January the monthly board minutes will not be provided in paper form to the various boards and departments, they will be required to go online to read the minutes and print them out if they so desire.

A letter is drafted to the Codes Officer on some board concerns.

Travis has no information to provide concerning the Knoxboro School.

The Board will review their packets on State Retirement and get back to Supervisor with questions.

A motion was made by Mark, seconded by Travis to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 pm..

Reminders:

Public Hearing 12/15/2021 5:30 pm..

Re-Org Meeting 1/3/2022 6:00 p.m..

Town Board Meeting 1/19/2022 will have visitors with Reval Presentation.