

Regular Meeting

December 13, 2022

Town of Inlet Town Board

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Frey, at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were: IT Dennis Hudson, Publicity Director Adele Burnett, Park's Superintendent, Mike Bartolotti, George Peterson, Steve Young,

Officials present were: Supervisor Frey, Councilman Levi, Councilman Townsend, Councilman Schmid, Councilman Brownsell and Town Clerk Yvonne Lutz.

PUBLIC HEARING – Supervisor Frey reminded everyone that the public hearing on the Short term rental law and proposed changes is open and will remain open.

MINUTES REVIEW – Supervisor Frey asked if there were any additions or corrections to the November, 2022 Meeting minutes. Hearing none.

MOMENT OF SILENCE – Supervisor Frey asked for a moment of silence in honor of Judge Timothy Schofield. He spoke of some fond memories he has of Tim and added that he was a great man and will be missed.

PUBLIC COMMENT –

FOIL REQUEST - Steve Young thanked the Town Clerk for her response regarding his FOIL request regarding any and all information and read the Town Clerk's email response. As in the Clerk's response stating if he would like further clarification to attend the Board meeting, Mr. Young does want clarification of the project to date and what has transpired. Supervisor Frey explained that any discussion on cutting trees at this point, is premature and he apologized. There will not be any cutting of trees, as they are not at all ready for this. At this point, all conversations have still been both personal parties in discussions (Deming/Frey), and the Town of Inlet is not yet involved. Mr. Deming and Supervisor Frey would still like to see a limited mobility trail and nobody is looking for a large parking lot. It would be limited access. Mr. Young expressed his disappointment in how the residents involved have been left out in the communications and the manner they have been addressed. Mr. Young explained that he is in favor of a handicap type access trail, but feels there are better options in the community. Supervisor Frey acknowledged his concerns and apologized again and stated that when it becomes any type of communication or actions to be taken with the Town, he will have Councilman Schmid act as deputy supervisor and handle things and added that he would love to see Evans Drive residents be a part of any committee formed to start discussions and ideas.

"SEWER LEAK" – George Peterson asked what people were referring too when he heard something about a leak of some kind with the wastewater system. Supervisor Frey clarified that there was a pump failure, something with a check valve failed. There was no "leak". There is question if the malfunction caused contamination to the Inlet Marina's well. At this point, our insurance company is handling the situation and it has been discovered that the well was placed too close to the utilities, however, no determination has been made.

COMMUNICATIONS – Supervisor Frey reported that the towers are up, however, there still is no power and will not have power until Spring. Tarpon Towers will go out to bid for all the equipment. Verizon put 5G on the current Verizon tower in town. There were residents opposed to the idea and Supervisor Frey did not like the fact that they did not tell us the 5G was being placed. Denny Hudson reminded the Board that Verizon stated that they are not obligated to tell the Town and wouldn't. Discussion on the tower followed. Supervisor Frey pointed out that Verizon calls the tower the Eagle Bay Tower because it basically serves Eagle Bay. Denny clarified that changing to 5G is basically a software change and uses less power and causes less radiation.

PARKS DEPARTMENT – Park's department report attached to the agenda. Park's Supervisor, Mike Bartolotti added that he is still waiting for the side by side. The Rink is flooded and hoping for weather that will cooperate with the task of getting it in good enough shape.

LIBRARY BOILER – Supervisor Frey pointed out that there was an emergency authorization to replace the boiler in the library. Utica Plumbing happened to have the right one in stock and Raquette Lake Supply was able to install it. The boiler was about \$4,000 and the installation was about \$2,000. The Library was hoping that the Town would help with this unexpected expense. Councilman Levi made a MOTION to pay for the boiler and the Library would pay the installation costs. Councilman Brownsell SECONDED.

5 AYES 0 NAYS MOTION CARRIED

Councilman Levi and Councilman Brownsell asked some questions of Mike regarding the BTU's the new boiler has and what was being replaced. When the prior boiler is repaired, it will be utilized in the Town Hall, as a new one is needed there.

INFORMATION OFFICE - Report is attached to the agenda package. Publicity Director, Adele Burnett added that there is still nothing new to add on a shopping cart for snowmobile permits and have not heard back from Town of Webb on the options they had looked into. There is another version of the program that is used for the sale of permits available. Adele added that when the internet is down, Inlet Information cannot access the system.

YOUTH COMMISSION - Adele reported that the Fire Department and Inlet Youth Commission delivered gifts to the kids of Inlet in place of the way it used to be done at the Inlet School Christmas Concert. She also added that Sergeant Toby Lindfield arranged for a "Shop with a Cop" in the Town of Inlet with financial support of The Youth Commission and Fulton Chain Trifecta (owned by Mike Bartolotti). Inlet kids from ages 5-8 will shop with a police officer for Christmas.

CHAMPAGNE BUS – Supervisor Frey expressed gratitude to the IABA and the 6-7 businesses (to date) that supported the return of the Champagne Bus.

ASSESSOR/CODES – Supervisor Frey congratulated John Rouse on a 100 on his latest test for codes/zoning.

HELP AT PARKS – Mike Bartolotti asked if there is any room in the budget for a part-time employee to help during the winter months with snow removal. One of the current employee's is not 100% recovered and has difficulty with heavy snow. He is thinking approximately 2 days a week for limited hours so that Mike does not have to have overtime hours. Mike is willing to cover on his days off, but the overtime will cost more in the end and the Board doesn't want him coming in on his days off. Councilman Levi made a MOTION to have some help for approximately 10 hours/week during the winter for the Park's Dept. Councilman Townsend SECONDED.

5 AYES 0 NAYS MOTION CARRIED

HIGHWAY and TRANSFER REPORT – The Town Clerk read the Highway and Transfer report.

Plowed and sanded

Cleared sidewalks, parking lots, etc

Like to thank John Rouse and Patrick Quinn for helping out with snow removal

Hauled garbage and recyclables. Long Lake has their truck back in service.

Finished getting trucks and equipment ready for winter

Stacked sand in salt shed

Assisted Snowmobile Trails putting up snow fence.

We would like to thank all of the private property owners that allow us to have our snowmobile trails cross their property. Without them we wouldn't have the great trails that we do.

Coming Up

Plow and sand

Clear sidewalks, parking lots, etc.

Haul garbage and recyclables

Still waiting for the arrival of our new snow pusher for the skid steer

Like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Transfer Station

Open 4 days a week from 8AM-11:45AM then 1PM-6:45PM Closed from 12-1 daily for lunch. Closed Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Christmas Day and New Years Day.

We loaded all the bailed plastics on a Hamilton County trailer and they hauled them away. We cleaned up the area from the bails we stacked. It looks really good there.

We still have some bailed cardboard that will need to be hauled away. Hoping they can get it soon. waiting for the arrival of our new 30 yard open top bin.

The single stream recycling seems to be going well. It is still a work in progress.

BRIDGE IN RAQUETTE - Supervisor Frey, Highway Superintendent Hansen and Don Townsend went to look at the condition of the bridge in Raquette on Route 28. The beams show significant damage and it appears extremely unsafe for the plow to travel across. If it was a County/Town bridge, it would be flagged. The issue was addressed with Tracey Eldridge, the County Highway Superintendent that handles all the State Road coverage. He informed NYS that the Town of Inlet will not be plowing across the bridge. Tracey also put the State on notice that the bridge is dangerous. The Town of Inlet will lose very little revenue for not covering that section. Supervisor Frey thanked Tracey for his quick action in getting a reply from New York State.

LANDFILL HOURS – Councilman Schmid expressed his concern that the Transfer station will be closed New Year’s Day because it is a Sunday and renters may need to dispose of garbage on that day before they leave. Supervisor Frey will ask Shawn if Peter is interested in covering at all that day as he has done in the past.

SPEED STUDY – The Town Clerk read the letter from NYS DOT that the request from the Town to lower the speed limit on Gilbert and Loomis Road will be honored, however, the request to lower the speed limit between Drake’s and Seventh Lake House further, is not warranted.

NYS ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS SCHOOL – The Town Clerk stated that the paperwork for the training that is given in New York City in February was received and the Board would have to decide who is going to attend to send in the paperwork.

FOIL REQUEST – Peter Bauer of “Protect the Adirondacks” came in the assessor/codes office today to review all building permits issued in the past 10-20 years. They are usually looking for oversized buildings, etc., however, nothing seems to have been found. George Peterson asked who he was and Supervisor Frey explained that he is an environmentalist that works with the organization.

911 ISSUES - The Hamilton County Sheriff is willing to work with the Town of Inlet regarding the 911 call routing problem. Supervisor Frey expressed how upset he is that it seems to be about money, instead of the safety of visitors or residents. Councilman Schmid pointed out that we have a contract with Herkimer County 911 that needs to be addressed. Conversation followed.

VACATION – The Supervisor will be on vacation from December 22 until around the 5th or 6th of January. Therefore, the Organizational Meeting will be January 10 at the regular Board Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT – George Peterson asked who was doing the orange fencing at the boat launch. Supervisor Frey clarified that it was the DEC contractor and not the Town of Inlet. Supervisor Frey expressed concerns that the Nelson property is protected from snowmobiles this winter.

A MOTION to pay highway bills, was made by Councilman Levi, SECONDED by Councilman Townsend

5 AYES 0 NAYS MOTION CARRIED

A MOTION to pay General/Wastewater bills, was made by Councilman Townsend SECONDED by Councilman Levi.

Councilman Schmid questioned the bill for the survey by John Deming for the Townsend Swap. He understood it that we would pay our attorney fees, however, the Townsend Estate would pay for any other expenses. The Town Clerk will look back in the minutes for clarification and hold the bill until it is answered. MOTION CARRIED WITH THIS BILL BEING EXCLUDED.

All business having come before this Board, Councilman Levi made the MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm. Councilman Townsend SECONDED. Next regular meeting will be held January 10, 2023 at 7:30. And will include the 2023 Organizational Meeting.