

TOWN OF READING BOARD MEETING
May 12,2021

PRESENT: Supervisor Miller, Councilperson Gill, Councilperson Richtmyer, B. Everett
C. Stamp, Clerk T. Alger.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

VISITOR'S COMMENTS:

Mark Rondinaro, Schuylar County Legislature, provided sales tax information. 1st Qtr. sales tax payments for 2021 was down by -9.8 % or \$-248,773 from 2020.

Tom & Jami Ford 2395 Chase Rd, Rock Stream
Bob & Ruth Ford- Rt 14A, Rock Stream
Frank & Debra Geluse-2208 Chase Rd, Rock Stream

The visitors listed above represented a group of neighbors with concerns about Upper Chase Road.

1. They are concerned with the increased traffic and safety of students attending the Mennonite School on Chase Rd. They expressed the idea of designating a portion of the road as a school zone to lower the speed limit. Supervisor Miller will talk to our Town Attorney to see if this is an option.

2. They also have complaints about the condition of Upper Chase Rd. The road gets very muddy and can get very difficult to travel on. On the flip side there is a lot of dust on the road. They feel traffic has increased on Chase Rd. due to new businesses, heavy equipment usage, and travelers using it for a shortcut. Supervisor Miller said that hopefully with the extra funds being distributed to Townships and Counties from the NYS DOT that we can apply some to upgrade and improve additional roads in the Town of Reading.

RESOLUTION #33 Councilperson Richtmyer made a motion to accept the April 14, 2021 minutes as written. Seconded by Councilperson Gill

AYES:	Councilperson Gill Councilperson Richtmyer Councilperson Everett Councilperson- C. Stamp Supervisor Miller	NAYS: none
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COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PLANNING: Planning Board – 2 public hearing for minor subdivisions will be held at May 20th meeting.

HIGHWAY: Superintendent Rockwell read his report

LANDFILL: No Report.

CLERK: Clerk Alger read her report

OLD BUSINESS

RESOLUTION #34 Councilperson Stamp made a motion to support the Finger Lakes as a National Heritage Area Designation. Seconded by Councilperson Everett.

AYES:	Councilperson Gill	NAYS: none
	Councilperson Richtmyer	
	Councilperson Everett	
	Councilperson- C. Stamp	
	Supervisor Miller	

WHEREAS, the Finger Lakes form a unique and diverse region in Upstate New York and encompasses a patchwork of cultures and history, as well as spectacular natural, scenic and recreational resources that reflect a unique contribution to the collective American identity, and

WHEREAS, the Finger Lakes is distinguished by eleven pristine lakes formed over 19,000 years ago at the end of the “Ice Age” that have over the years been Native American hunting grounds and villages, rich agricultural lands that inspired settlement, villages and small towns, a world renowned wine industry, which have together formed a unique and distinctive landscape, and

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States has the authority to designate National Heritage Areas that encompasses a region where natural, cultural, historic and recreational resources combine to form a cohesive, nationally distinctive landscape shaped by geography and cultural traditions, and

WHEREAS, the Finger Lakes National Heritage Area Feasibility Study was authorized by the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act of 2019, which directed the Secretary of the Interior to evaluate the natural, historic, cultural, educational, and recreational resources of the Finger Lakes, and

WHEREAS, the legislation identified the following counties to be considered as part of the study: Cayuga, Chemung, Cortland, Livingston, Monroe, Onondaga, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tioga, Tompkins, Wayne, and Yates, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Reading is within the Finger Lakes Tourism region, as designated by New York State law and the National Heritage Area study area and has a plethora of natural, cultural, historic, agricultural and recreational resources pertinent to the study, and

WHEREAS, the Finger Lakes Tourism Alliance has worked since 2014 with regional and area civic organizations, local jurisdictions and local governments, business community and numerous other stakeholders and non-profit groups in submitting the original request to the National Park Service which resulted in the Feasibility Study in 2021, and continues to work the National Park Service to gather input from the public regarding the creation of a national heritage area in the Finger Lakes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Reading supports the Finger Lakes National Heritage Area designation and the inclusion of all fourteen counties including Cayuga, Chemung, Cortland, Livingston, Monroe, Onondaga, Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tioga, Tompkins, Wayne, and Yates counties in the National Heritage Area, and supports Finger Lakes Tourism Alliance in their current and future leadership role in administering the National Heritage Area.

Dumpster Day has advertised in the Watkins Review and Express and the Hi-Lites and will be held May 15, 2021 from 9am til Noon

We are not getting a lot of interest in the Code Enforcement position. One person stopped in and we directed him to the Civil Service Dept. on line to apply.

The Town Board approved to have W. Thompson benefit package to include Health Insurance sponsored by the Town of Reading. He will pay ½ of the monthly premium.

RESOLUTION #35 Councilperson Gill made a motion to allow Supervisor Miller to revise the employee handbook to include individual agreements can now be made between employee and employer regarding health insurance packages, adding a probation period, and enrollment and eligibility in health insurance benefits. Seconded by Councilperson Stamp.

AYES:	Councilperson Gill	NAYS: none
	Councilperson Richtmyer	
	Councilperson Everett	
	Councilperson- C. Stamp	
	Supervisor Miller	

Civil service records were updated for Beverly Stamp and Chris Stamp and a Motor Equipment Operator position was added.

NEW BUSINESS

REACT will take the electronics dropped off for Dumpster Day and we will be billed for their disposal. The Highway Dept. will transfer electronics to their facility in Horseheads.

RESOLUTION #36: Councilperson Gill made a motion to accept the Extreme Winter Recovery Program in the amount of \$25,988.40, CHIPS in the amount of \$114,223.13, and PAVE NY in the amount of \$30,210.68. Seconded by Councilperson Richtmyer

AYES:	Councilperson Gill	NAYS: none
	Councilperson Richtmyer	
	Councilperson Everett	
	Councilperson -C. Stamp	
	Supervisor Miller	

RESOLUTION #37: Councilperson Gill made a motion to sign the Intermunicipal Agreement regarding services to be provided relating to Soil and Water Conservation. Seconded by Councilperson Everett

AYES: Councilperson Gill
Councilperson Richtmyer
Councilperson Everett
Councilperson -C. Stamp
Supervisor Miller

NAYS: none

Councilperson C. Stamp made a motion to allow Supervisor Miller to sign the Dundee Youth contract for Reading Youth that may participate in their 2021 Youth Program. Seconded by Councilperson Everett

Some Reading residents are having water supply issues. Supervisor Miller has reached out to Catherine Rees of RCAP Solutions and Jennifer Vaughn of Hunt Engineering about possible solutions. RCAP has been very helpful. Supervisor Miller is looking at sending out a water supply survey to County Road 30 and other designated areas in the Town of Reading that residents have expressed concerns with their water.

Tom Bloodgood, County Assessor, is reaching out to local Townships to express the need to hire 2 new Appraiser Trainees that they were impressed with instead of 1. The Town Board acknowledges that there will be increased financial ramifications to the Towns, but it will be in our best interest to have 2 Appraiser Trainees to assist the Assessor.

RESOLUTION #38 Councilperson Gill made a motion to pay Abstract # 005 as follows; seconded by Councilperson C. Stamp.

General Town wide	\$	31,167.68
Town Outside Village	\$	217.26
Highway Town wide	\$	2,630.43
Highway Outside Village	\$	6,232.81
Sewer	\$	67.55
Water District	\$	724.55
Total:		\$41,040.28

AYES: Councilperson Gill
Councilperson Richtmyer
Councilperson Everett
Councilperson-C. Stamp
Supervisor Miller

NAYS: none

RESOLUTION #39 Councilperson Richtmyer made a motion to adjourn regular meeting at 9:15 pm Seconded by Councilperson Everett.