Unadilla Town Board Meeting
Date: September 10th, 2024
6:00 PM Audit of Bills
6:30 PM Open Meeting
Pledge of Allegiance

Call to Order

Supervisor George DeNys called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

George DeNys, Supervisor
Terry Yoder, Town Clerk
Rodney Renwick, Superintendent
Don Cole, Councilman
Jessica Grow, Councilwoman
Allen Anderson, Councilman
Larry Crosier, Councilman
Beth Westfall, Attorney
Sam Rivera, Observer
Vickie Ball, Observer
Michael Ball, Observer
Jackkie Bickos, Observer
Stephen Bickos, Observer
Jen Wheeler, Observer
Gary Shultis, Observer

August 13th

Councilwoman Jessica Grow made the motion to accept the August 13th minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Councilman Don Cole and unanimously carried. Roll Call; 5 Ayes, 0 Noes.

Councilman Don Cole made the motion to accept the August 29th minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Councilman Allen Anderson and unanimously carried. Roll Call; 5 Ayes, 0 Noes.

Audit of Bills

Supervisor George DeNys made the motion to accept and pay the bills. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jessica Grow and unanimously carried. Roll Call; 5 Ayes, 0 Noes.

Audit of Bills

General Fund A	$ 22,669.04
Highway (DB) Outside Village	$ 281,090.07
Highway (DA) Town wide	$ 1,308.43
Riverside Sewer District	$ 78.03
Riverside Lighting	$ 147.19
Rockdale Lighting	$ 26.14
Wells Bridge Lighting	$ 189.78

Committee Reports

Highway

Crew has been working on the culverts and general maintenance work.
Rodney submitted his annual highway inventory report listing assets owned by the Town. The new 10-wheel plow truck was delivered but had to go back to Syracuse for a few small issues. Councilman Allen Anderson brought up an idea of having the elementary school children coming up with a name and painting it on the plow. Each class will choose a name and then a winner will be picked. Art teacher, Mrs. Woods will then paint the name on the plow.

The sale of the 2016 plow truck that was up for bid on Auctions International ended last night with a high bid of just over $60,000.

Councilman Allen Anderson made the motion to decline the bid as there was a higher offer from a nearby town. The motion was seconded by Supervisor George DeNys and unanimously carried. Roll Call; 5 Ayes, 0 Noes.

The Town of Walton submitted an offer of $121,500 to purchase the truck.

Councilwoman Jessica Grow made the motion to sell the 2016 Plow truck to the Town of Walton by accepting their offer of $121,500. The motion was seconded by Councilman Larry Crosier and unanimously carried. Roll Call; 5 Ayes, 0 Noes.

Changing guidelines for CHIPS money for preservation of roads used to be based on a 10 year cycle will now be on a 5 year cycle.

Rodney spoke about putting up solar powered weather cameras to monitor roads in the winter. Having the cameras in place will provide information about the road conditions and if there is a need to go out a couple of times a day to plow. He is looking into the final cost of the cameras along with the monthly software fee that will go with it. Unadilla Center and Wells Bridge would be his first choice of placement to put the cameras.

Finance

August Financial Report was submitted with no questions by board.

Building

Councilman Don Cole reported the annual boiler inspection was this week with no issues. The pressure tank needed to be replaced due to failure of the pressure release valve leaking and age of the tank.
The Town Clerk mentioned how the walls at the end of the building are cracking again due to the hallway sinking more. Don will check to see what can be done to prevent further damage to the building and report back.

Supervisor George DeNys made the motion to accept the Committee Reports. The motion was seconded by Councilman Allen Anderson and unanimously carried. Roll Call; 5 Ayes, 0 Noes.

Monthly Reports

Town Clerk's report was submitted with a check totaling $543.60
Supervisor's Report was submitted
Dog Control Officer's Monthly Report was submitted
Assessor's Monthly Report was submitted

Councilwoman Jessica made the motion to accept the monthly reports. The motion was seconded by Supervisor George DeNys and unanimously carried. Roll Call; 5 Ayes, 0 Noes.

Old Business

Grant Writing Services

Supervisor George DeNys reached out to THOMA to see where we stood with the Grants that we applied for for the Smart Growth and the Affordable Housing Grant. They are hoping to receive a response about the Smart Growth Grant in December and are hoping to hear something regarding the Affordable Housing Grant sooner than December.

Collective Bargaining Agreement for Teamsters

Attorney Beth Westfall provided the final revisions made to the Agreement to the Board for their review and consideration of a vote at next month's board meeting.

Social Media Policy

Attorney Beth Westfall provided a Social Media Policy that she wrote for the Town to aid of the administration for a Facebook page or for any other social media source that was discussed at last month's meeting. This page will be for Town information only with no feedback from the residence allowed. Beth ask the Board to look over the policy to see if she needs to make any changes before next month's meeting.

New Business

Tentative Budget for 2025

Supervisor George DeNys presented the 2025 Tentative Budget to the Town Clerk. The Budget workshop will be held on September 19th at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall.

Schedule Public Hearing for Preliminary Budget

Supervisor George DeNys made a motion to schedule a public hearing for the 2025 Preliminary Budget. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jessica Grow and unanimously carried. Roll Call; 5 Ayes, 0 Noes.

Correspondence

DOT -- Update on new Mirabito's between State Hwy 7 and 8 -- Proposed Septic System

Privilege of the Floor

Stephen Bickos of Unadilla spoke of his desire to open up a Cannabis growing and wholesale business at 1000 State Hwy 7, Unadilla. He stated that moving forward, the Otsego County Code office ask for specifically to provide a letter from the Unadilla Town Board stating that we have no regulations against a cannabis business within our Town. The Town Clerk will write up a letter stating we have no Regulations keeping Mr.

Bickos from opening a cannabis business. Mr. Bickos is hoping to be operational by April of 2025.

Jennifer Wheeler of 754 State Hwy 7, Unadilla wanted the Board to be aware of a dog that has been left behind in a trailer in the park where she resides. Ms. Wheeler has given the dog's owner about 3 months to deal with this situation and feels intervention is required as the owner is in jail for 20 years and the dog is only being fed and watered periodically with no one living in the home. Jennifer has called the sheriff's office, DEC, DCO, Delaware County Humane Society and Town Supervisor for a way rectify this situation. George DeNys has made numerous calls to find a legal resolution to remove the dog from this trailer. George will follow up with calls to Otsego County Department of Health and Ags and Markets to see if there is anything they can do. Attorney Westfall suggested a formal complaint written in letter form would have more impact than a phone call or email. The Board agreed to support Jennifer in the writing of a letter to have the dog removed from this situation.

Gary Shultis from Borden Hose, Mt. Upton Fire Department provided their Annual 990 IRS Audit Report for 2023 along with their list of members and roles within the department. We will need to need to have a meeting to discuss the new contract starting in January of 2026. That should be in place by August of next year, but Gary would like to start earlier in the year.

Michael Ball of Hard Knock Road, Unadilla had questions regarding the Grants that the Town applied for and the amounts for each one. He wanted a better understanding of the process of what we were requesting.

The Town Clerk wanted to thank the Village DPW and other volunteers for helping with the unloading of trucks and assembling of furniture that had to be replaced due to the car being driven into the Town Hall.

Adjournment

Councilman Allen Anderson made the motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Supervisor George DeNys and unanimously carried. Roll Call; 5 Ayes, 0 Noes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terry L. Yoder

Terry L. Yoder, Town Clerk
Time of Adjournment: 7:22 PM