

April 13, 2020
Workshop Meeting

Highway garage repair and purchase of 12 North Main workshop 7:03 p.m.

Supervisor Cloud called the meeting to order. Added the live stream of Facebook live. All board members were in attendance. Also attending were the Town Clerk and Deputy Clerk. Cloud explained the purpose of the meeting was to discuss if the town should move forward on the repairs being made to the highway garage building. Also, to discuss the purchase of 12 North Main Street property. Supervisor Cloud explained that in the Fund Balance account there was about \$200,000 of discretionary money. Which \$80,000 was budgeted to 8 North Main, \$25,000 was to redo of the park in the center of town, which would leave about \$95,000 in the account. The budget for the repairs to the highway garage building was \$50,000.

Councilman Bartles opened the discussion explaining that he was planning on having a meeting with the Highway Superintendent and the town engineer Ray Jurkowski on the following Wednesday morning to get into more detail about the phases of the project and the best way to continue with the repairs. Also, to get some definite numbers about the phases. His concerns are with the current economic state of the country with the virus and how it was going to affect the fiscal year of 2021. There was discussion between the board about tax revenue. Supervisor Cloud responded that the first quarter of 2020 was much better than the first quarter in 2019. The town is making revenue taxes on the cell tower, and mortgage revenue taxes. Councilman Zick stated he was afraid if the repairs were not done this year, would the damage be beyond repair next year. He also stated he believed that the first phase had already been budgeted for this year. Councilman Bartles responded that the first phase was the roof of the building was completed. He wanted to make it clear he was concerned about the tax levy in general for 2021. He thought we should keep as much money in the account as possible because we do not know where the economy is going. The board discussed about doing minimal repairs to the drains and the walls. Supervisor Cloud stated she had been doing research on current bond rates. She was waiting for responses from banks but believes that bond rates are very low. That it is a good time to be borrowing money. Councilwoman Jones stated she anxious about getting the building addressed. She wanted the numbers from the costs of phasing the project compared to not making a phasing project. The board decided it would be good to discuss this matter again after councilman Bartles had his meeting with the Highway Superintendent and the town engineer. Then the board could discuss at the next board meeting.

Supervisor Cloud stated that even though the board had approved the purchase of 12 North Main Street there has not been a walk through. She was concerned about the asbestos, and the fact that the building will be a complete tear down. Supervisor Cloud stated the purpose of the property combined with 8 North Main, would either be to move the town hall back into town, or to expand for more parking in town. The town was given a good deal, the property was assessed for \$198,000 and was appraised for \$226,000, and the board approved an offer of \$100,000. Councilman Bartles stated he believed we should move forward with the purchase after a walk through. Councilman Chase wanted to know if there would be demolition on both properties. When we did move forward, when the board did the walk through should it be recorded so the town had a chance to see also. Councilwomen Jones agreed to move forward with the project. Also mentioned that the historical society should be contacted to find out if the property was in the historical district. Supervisor Cloud wanted to know the correct bond rates from the banks.

Supervisor Cloud asked if there was anything else the board wanted to discuss. Councilman Zick wanted to know more information on the sewer feasibility survey responses. Supervisor Cloud stated that they

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were missing two businesses from downtown. Cloud also wanted Warren Replansky to explain at the next board meeting the meaning of the district and how the project would be funded.

Councilman Bartles brought up the brush pile at the town. He stated since during this current situation most townspeople were doing a lot of yard clean up and the pile was getting very large. Councilman Bartles suggested that they keep with the same contract with Rancourt from the previous year for the removal of brush pile. Councilwoman Jones made motion to move forward with the same contract. Councilman Bartles second. 5-0 passed.

Some of the publics concerns were that the police chief should not be driving around with his dog in the police car. He has said he would discontinue taking his dog in the police car. Another concern was from councilwoman Jones about posts on Facebook from certain parties shouldn't be allowed on the towns Facebook. Supervisor Cloud stated that it was trying to be fixed. Supervisor Cloud also stated that the Governor of New York has advised at all business establishments should have all employees wearing masks and gloves.

Motion by Councilman Bartles second by Councilman Zick to adjourn. 5-0 passed.