

Pine Plains Town Board Meeting

June 16, 2022

The Town of Pine Plains Town Board convened for the regular scheduled meeting at the Pine Plains Town Hall at 7 p.m. Supervisor Walsh, Councilman Ambrose, Councilman Bartles, Councilwoman Jones, and Councilman Zick were present. Also present were Attorney to the Town Warren Replansky- present via Zoom, Building Inspector Drew Weaver, Officer in Charge John Hughes and Sargent Mike Beliveau, PPWIA Ray Jurkowski. Guest speaker Roger Connor from Altice. Along with 10 members of the public.

Supervisor Walsh call the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was done.

Supervisor Walsh open the Public Hearing to discuss the renewal of the franchise of Cablevision Systems Dutchess Corporations in Pine Plains NY. Attorney to The Town Warren Replansky let the public know he had been in negotiations with Roger Conner from Altice. Replansky also had the Public Service Commission review the contract. Guest Roger Connor introduced himself and took questions from the public. Stan Hirson commented about the multiple service providers. Also, that broadband should not be a luxury in a rural community. Hirson also voiced concern about not being able to have fiber high-speed internet at home, then it should be provided somewhere in town for free. Vikki Soracco and Betsy Zimring asked about the time frame for the new infrastructure. Conner explained Altice is putting in millions of dollars to change cooper to fiber, but will be a few years before getting to Pine Plains. Matt Finley had concerns pertaining to the contract such as infrastructure, option to changing to Spectrum, and the effect of weather on the current equipment from Altice. Attorney to the Town Warren Replansky asked Finley to send him suggestions from the Broadband Committee. Warren Replansky suggested that the contract does not need to be voted on at this meeting and wanted to keep the Public Hearing open. Motioned by Councilman Zick to keep Public Hearing open second by Councilwoman Jones. 5-0 Motion carried.

Acceptance of the Town Clerks May 2022 report and approval of May 19 2022 Town Board minutes with changes from “tables” to benches motioned by Councilman Ambrose, second by Jones 5-0 Passed.

Approval of General Bills 19352-19378, Highway Bills 19379-19397, and PPWIA 3127-3128. Motioned by Jones to pay those bills second by Ambrose 5-0 Passed.

Supervisor Walsh read his statement. (On file).

Public Comment- Vikki Soracco wanted to discuss the Beautification budget. Specifically, \$4,000 for tree removal. Jones said the Board was still looking into it and the issue is still open. Zick brought up an e-mail received by Ethan DiMaria (on file) pertaining to suggestions for crosswalks in Town. Councilman Bartles explained Dutchess County did a study of crosswalks and would like to compare the suggestions to Dutchess County’s study. Supervisor Brian Walsh had a comment from an e-mail asking about the Pine Plains Fire Department filling homeowners pools specifically on May 28 2022. Where does the water come from, and who pays for the water? PPWIA- Ray Jurkowski explained on that date there was no increase of usage of water. Jurkowski also explained the Water Department provides the Town to be able to purchase water for pools, then the homeowner is billed per load. The Water Department does not obtain the Pine Plains Fire Department for services. The homeowner needs to contact the PPF, then the

PPWIA. Michael Cooper spoke on behalf of the PPF and said on May 28 2022 the Fire Department was performing drill in Stanfordville and obtained the water from a pond there. Rachel Minkoff wanted to ask about the Central Sewer System project and if the Town received maps from consultants. Ray Jurkowski had talked to Tighe and Bond about the map plan report for creating the district. Tighe and Bond suggested to Town to obtain property for the treatment center before moving forward. Bartles wanted to let the public know the website is getting updated and trying to make it more user friendly. Stan Hirson- suggested to the Board to purchase a Carbon Dioxide meter for \$250.00 from Air n Ford.

Town Attorney- Attorney to the Town Warren Replansky let the Board know he will be sending a memo out to guide them how to fill the Highway Superintendent position. The Board will have to appoint someone until the end of the year and the position will go on the next ballot for a one-year unexpired term. Councilman Bartles asked Replansky to include residency requirements for the interim appointee. Replansky also discussed that he was waiting for the final draft of the Solar Law from the planners and the Part I of the EAF for the adoption of the Local Law. Also, by next month should have the Marijuana Law Regulations from the planners.

Department Reports- Highway Report on file. Supervisor Walsh notified the Town that the Beaver traps have been removed along with the signs.

Building Inspector Drew Weaver read report. (On file). Weaver also let the Board there has been 10 property maintenance complaints and 2 have been noncompliant. Weaver also discussed 21 Hoffman Rd; the wife of the owner has been in court trying to obtain administration of property for the insurance company.

PPWIA/Engineer- Ray Jurkowski read water report (On file). Engineering was discussed prior pertaining to Tighe and Bond.

Recreation Director- Michael Cooper presented Lifeguards and Recreation Assistants and pay for the Summer of 2022 (On file). Motioned by Zick to accept employees with pay rate, second by Bartle 5-0 Passed. Cooper also asked for \$6114.00 for Summer Camp Trips, motioned to pay by Zick, second by Jones 5-0 Passed. Recreation Director also let the public know the Tri-Athlon was the last Sunday in June at 8 a.m. and was looking for volunteers. Councilman Bartles asked about the Dug-Outs, and the ice rink liner.

Animal Control- Report on file.

PPPD- Officer in Charge Hughes read report (on file). Sargent Beliveau asked to Board to purchase Patrol Rifles. Beliveau explained to Board there is money in the budget to purchase the rifles. Councilwoman Jones discussed the previous Board had voted against the rifles and expressed she was opposed to more guns. Councilman Zick motioned to allow the Police Department to purchase Patrol Rifles, second by Ambrose. 3-Aye (Walsh, Zick, Ambrose) 2-Nay (Jones, Bartles) motion carried.

Old Business- Councilwoman Jones has been attending a Tri-Town Coalition for affordable housing prospects in Town. If anyone had ideas to e-mail her at sjones@pineplains-ny.gov. Bartles feels it is not a Town level.

New Business-Betsy Zimring wanted guidance on who she should contact from the State pertaining to the speed on Route 199 and Route 82.

Ambrose motioned to accept Heather Emerich resignation letter and Mary Ann Lennon retirement letter, second by Jones. 5-0 Passed

Motioned by Zick to move into executive session and invite Recreation Director Michael Cooper, second by Bartles 5-0 Passed.

Motioned by Zick to return to regular session, second by Jones 5-0 Passed.

Motioned by Zick to adjourn, second by Jones. 5-0 Passed.

Supervisor Walsh

Town Clerk

Councilman Ambrose

Councilman Bartles

Councilwoman Jones

Councilman Zick