

WORK SESSION
JANUARY 22, 2019

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Work Session at 5:30 P.M. on January 22, 2019, at the Conklin Town Hall. Mr. Dumian, Supervisor, presided. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Board Members Boyle, Farley, Platt, Francisco, Dumian

Town Counsel	Cheryl Sacco
Town Clerk	Sherrie L. Jacobs
Secretary to the Supervisor	Lisa Houston
Code Officer/Dog Control Officer	Nick Vascello
Crew Leader	Tom DeLamarter

BUILDING REPAIRS

Mr. Dumian stated that John Stilloe of John Stilloe Construction was able to complete some work on the roof of the Castle. The remainder of that project will be completed when the weather gets warmer.

It was noted that the generator for the Town Hall still needs to be tested. It was estimated that this would take approximately one hour. Mr. Dumian suggested that the test be scheduled for a Friday before a holiday weekend. Mr. Boyle stated that the generator should be brought to the Town Hall and stored in the back corner of the parking lot. Mr. Francisco was concerned about exhaust fumes from the generator being too close to the intake for the building's heating system. Mr. Boyle stated that the Town could install a stack on the generator or a flexible exhaust hose. It was noted that the cable for the generator is approximately 20 feet long.

Mr. Dumian stated that the front door on the Castle needs to be replaced, noting that Mr. Francisco had begun work on this project several years ago, but then the project was put aside as other repair work was more urgent. Mr. Francisco stated that he had been consulting Rufus T. Hall on Susquehanna Street in Binghamton regarding the door replacement, with an estimated cost of \$2,200. Crew Leader Tom DeLamarter, who has oversight of Parks and Water and Sewer Departments, stated that he worked with Henley on Griswold Street in Binghamton to have doors installed on buildings in Schnurbusch Park. Mr. Dumian asked if the door must have a historic appearance, since the Castle is on the federal and state rosters of historic buildings. Town Attorney Cheryl Sacco will research this question. The Board agreed to repair or replace the door in the spring. Mr. Francisco stated that masonry work also needs to be done in that area of the building and added that the door jamb needs to be replaced.

LOSS OF AIM (AID AND INCENTIVES FOR MUNICIPAL FUNDING) FUNDS

The Board discussed Governor Cuomo's proposal to take away AIM (Aid and Incentives for Municipal Funding) funds from municipalities, noting that this would result in a loss of \$43,000 in funding for the Town of Conklin. Mr. Dumian stated that the amount of AIM funding is based on a per capita rate, adding that the Governor's move is intended to force municipalities to use shared services. He stated that the Town of Conklin "already runs lean with few people." Mr. Dumian added that money must be fronted for some FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) repair projects and that money is required for unfunded mandates from the State.

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Mr. Dumian stated that a good use of shared services would be a return to the agreement of the Town plowing Broome County roads within the Town and being reimbursed for the plowing, instead of the current system of the Town only plowing Town roads and the County plowing County roads. Mr. Boyle suggested consolidating polling places as a means of cutting costs. Ms. Sacco distributed copies of a draft resolution she had written for the Upstate Association of Towns requesting restoration of AIM Funding in the New York State 2020 Budget. The Board made some changes to the draft resolution and will consider it for the February 12 meeting.

UPDATES

Mr. Francisco reported that everything is going well with the Conklin Seniors Club.

Ms. Sacco stated that her colleague Bill Graves is working on a potential lease agreement for the new Community Center/Child Care facility in Corporate Park.

Mr. Dumian stated that he met with the new Youth Commissioner, Justin Parker, as well as Mr. Farley and representatives from the Towns of Conklin, Binghamton, and Kirkwood Youth Commissions, adding that it was a “good meeting,” with the group working to unify rules among the Town teams, which he stated will result in a better program. Mr. Farley stated that the wrestling program will be moved back to the Town of Conklin from the Town of Binghamton, adding that the fee for the participants will be less in Conklin. Mr. Farley stated that the teams practice at Susquehanna Valley High School, adding that there will be more help available with moving the program.

Secretary to the Supervisor Lisa Houston stated that she has submitted the first P.W. (Project Worksheet) for the August 2018 flash flood event to FEMA for review, and expects a decision soon. She stated that this PW is for debris removal after the flash flood, and, if approved, would bring the Town \$26,000.

Ms. Houston stated that FEMA representatives will also be doing site inspections on Town roads, adding that Highway Superintendent Brian Coddington will be obtaining quotes for repair work. She added that FEMA will also be inspecting the Parks. Ms. Houston stated that the FEMA Audit will begin next week. Mr. DeLamarter stated that all is well with the Parks equipment.

Mr. Francisco stated that he asked NYSEG (New York State Electric and Gas Corporation) for a new contract for replacement LED (Light Emitting Diode) street lights, adding that it would be white light. He stated that the salvage rate is non-negotiable.

Mr. Boyle asked about the drainage project at Schnurbusch Park, asking when the project could be started. Mr. Dumian stated that the berm needs to be removed, as it is preventing water from flowing into the diversion ditch, as was originally intended, adding that this is a maintenance project. Mr. Dumian will meet with Mr. Boyle, Mr. DeLamarter, and Town Engineer John Mastronardi.

Mr. Boyle stated that he received a mailer urging residents to sign an agreement with the solar farm. He asked if the Town has researched this offer and whether any actual savings could be obtained.

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Mr. Dumian stated that he received the new contract renewing the agreement with Broome County to allow the Meals on Wheels program to utilize the Community Center for food distribution.

ICE RINK

Mr. Dumian stated that the Conklin Ice Rink is currently closed because of the damage done to the ice surface by the recent sleet, but added that the anticipated rain will smooth out the ice and the rink will probably re-open this weekend. The Conklin Kiwanis Club has scheduled a Skating Party for February 2 from 10 A.M. until 1 P.M. at the rink, with free hot dogs and hot chocolate, and free skate rental.

OPENING DAY/PITCH-HIT-RUN

Town Clerk Sherrie Jacobs stated that she spoke with Youth Commissioner Justin Parker and he stated that Opening Day will be in April, with a parade and hamburgers and hot dogs for the players. She stated that Mr. Parker will work with the Conklin Kiwanis Club for the Pitch-Hit-Run competition, which he is scheduling for the weekend after Opening Day weekend.

Mr. DeLamarter stated that Andre and Sons has given him a quote of approximately \$14,000 to strip the grass field, adding that new dugouts are also needed. The Board discussed the possibility of stripping the field in house. The Town would like to entice softball tournaments to return to Conklin, adding that two portable pitching mounds would be needed for this to happen, as well as three fields. The pitching mounds would be needed for baseball, as softball requires no pitching mounds.

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
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The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Regular Town Board Meeting at 6:30 P.M. on January 22, 2019, at the Conklin Town Hall. Mr. Dumian, Supervisor, presided. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Board Members Boyle, Farley, Platt, Francisco, Dumian

Town Counsel	Cheryl Sacco
Town Clerk	Sherrie L. Jacobs
Secretary to the Supervisor	Lisa Houston
Code Officer/Dog Control Officer	Nick Vascello
Crew Leader	Tom DeLamarter
Planning Board	Chris Ostrowsky

GUESTS: **Country Courier** Elizabeth Einstein
Laurie Francisco
John Colley

MINUTES: JANUARY 8, 2019 REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

Mr. Farley moved to approve the January 8, 2019 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes as presented.

Seconded by Mr. Platt.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mr. Dumian acknowledged receipt of correspondence from Binghamton Mayor Rich David regarding Governor Cuomo's proposal to remove AIM (Aid and Incentives for Municipal Funding) funding from municipalities.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

REQUEST TO REZONE/C. OSTROWSKY

Chris Ostrowsky requested that the Board allow him to rezone four parcels, totaling 2.97 acres, on his property at the intersection of Conklin Forks Road and Conklin Road from R-15 (Residential) to General Commercial. He stated that there is an easement owned by New York State on the property in question, but added that the State may return ownership of this easement to the property owner. Ms. Sacco stated that Mr. Ostrowsky "can't rezone what he doesn't own" (the easement). She explained that any rezoning must be done through a local law, with an application submitted through the Town Code Department and referred to the Planning Board. She stated that she will look at Mr. Ostrowsky's application for the February 12 meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

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MEETING WITH GOSR/DAY CARE CENTER

Mr. Dumian stated that Bill Graves from Coughlin & Gerhart will meet with representatives from GOSR (Governor's Office of Storm Recovery) to discuss the proposed Day Care facility to be constructed near the new Community Center in the Corporate Park. He added that he spoke with BCIDA (Broome County Industrial Development Agency) Chairman Kevin McLaughlin and they agreed that the trees on the property should be cleared soon.

REPORT: CODE OFFICER

Code Officer Nick Vascello stated that he has been working on fire inspections and on issuing parking tickets during winter storm events.

Mr. Boyle stated that fire vehicles and ambulances were not allowed to drive during the recent snowstorm because Governor Cuomo placed a travel ban on trucks. Mr. Dumian explained that the ban had only been on tractor-trailers and buses on the interstate highways, and therefore did not affect local traffic. He stated that the reason emergency vehicles were unable to travel on County owned roads was because "Broome County is not getting their roads plowed." He stated that the County should reconsider returning to the agreement in which municipalities plowed County owned roads within their municipality and were reimbursed for doing so. Ms. Sacco suggested talking to the Broome County Legislator for our district about the possibility of reopening dialogue about a plowing agreement.

RESO 2019-13: AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR/SIGN CONTRACT RENEWAL/OFFICE FOR AGING/MEALS ON WHEELS

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin authorizes the Supervisor to sign the contract renewal for the Office for Aging to lease space in the Floyd Maines Community Center for the Meals on Wheels program, CA 292-423.

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

RESO 2019-14: AUTHORIZE PAYMENT/2018 & 2019 BILL LIST/\$504,323.79

Mr. Boyle moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin authorizes payment of the following 2018 and 2019 Bill List in the total amount of \$504,323.79:

General	\$ 173,238.11
Highway	30,782.12
Fire Protection	218,297.44
Sewer District	1,644.40
Water District	8,702.72
Water District 6	1,485.00
Non-Budget	<u>70,174.00</u>
Total	\$ 504,323.79

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Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

RESO 2019-15: AUTHORIZE MODIFICATION/BUDGET LINES/12-31-2018

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin authorizes modification of the stated From and To Budget Lines as of December 31, 2018 (see attached).

Seconded by Mr. Platt.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

RESO 2019-16: AUTHORIZE APPROPRIATION/UNANTICIPATED REVENUES

Mr. Boyle moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin authorizes the appropriation of unanticipated revenues (see attached).

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

RESO 2019-17: RATIFY MEDICAL ABSTRACT PAYMENTS/2018

Mr. Platt moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies the medical abstract payments for 2018, accounts codes A9060.802, DA9060.802, and SW9060.802 (see attached).

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

RESO 2019-18: ASK THAT AIM FUNDING BE RESTORED IN NEW YORK STATE 2020 BUDGET

Mr. Boyle moved for the following resolution:

Whereas, “Aid and Incentives for Municipal Funding” (“AIM”) is essential to the Towns and Villages that receive such funding; and

Whereas, AIM is key state funding that Local Governments have relied on for years; and

Whereas, AIM affects not just Local Governments but the communities that they are located in; and

Whereas, Governor Cuomo’s proposed 2020 budget plan eliminates AIM funding for Local Governments that rely upon AIM funding for more than two (2) percent of their budgets; and

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Whereas, it is believed that such a cut will save New York State \$60,000,000 in its budget but it will dramatically impact 1,328 of New York State's 1,465 Towns and Villages; and

Whereas, many Local Governments are already struggling financially, especially those in Upstate; and

Whereas, Local Governments must create and pass budgets that navigate a number of difficult financial stressors that include: the New York's Tax Cap, increasing health insurance costs, high contribution rates for the New York Retirement System, prevailing wage, competitive bidding and procurement obligations, the Wicks Law, the Taylor Law, and Workers Compensation; and

Whereas, in addressing its budget and its Local levy, Local Governments must face limited avenues for revenue generation, limited economic development in its boundaries, Payments in Lieu of Taxes, an aging population often on limited incomes, a diminishing population, potential business opportunities that are fleeing high taxes and thus leaving New York State and often unpredictable sales tax distribution and/or generation; and

Whereas, the loss of AIM is magnified for those Local Governments which already have all or part of their 2020 budgets set; and therefore be it

Resolved that the Town of Conklin, on behalf of its residents, recognizes the important role of AIM funding in Local Governments; and be it further

Resolved that the Town of Conklin enthusiastically encourages the New York State Governor, the New York State Assembly, and the New York State Senate to consider the consequences of the proposed reduction of AIM for Local Governments and demands that such funding be replaced in the Budget; and be it

Resolved that a certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to Governor Cuomo, Senator Frederick J. Akshar II, Assemblyperson Clifford W. Crouch, County Executive Jason Garnar, the Upstate New York Towns Association, the New York State Association of Towns, and the New York Conference of Mayors.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

WRESTLING PROGRAM

Mr. Farley stated that the Town of Binghamton has been notified that the Wrestling Program will move to the Town of Conklin beginning next season.

RESO 2019-19: EXECUTIVE SESSION/PERSONNEL ISSUE

Mr. Boyle moved to close the Regular Town Board Meeting and move into Executive Session at 6:55 P.M. to discuss a particular personnel issue.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes, Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

An Executive Session of the Town Board of the Town of Conklin was held at the Conklin Town Hall at 6:55 P.M. with Supervisor William Dumian presiding. Present were: Supervisor Dumian, Mr. Boyle, Mr. Farley, Mr. Platt, Mr. Francisco, and Attorney Cheryl Sacco. Ms. Sacco assumed duties of secretary of the meeting.

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
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A discussion was held pursuant to Public Officers Law section 100 of the State of New York regarding the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation.

RESO 2019-20: RE-OPEN REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

After the discussion, Mr. Francisco moved to close the Executive Session and re-open the Regular Town Board Meeting at 7:16 P.M.

Seconded by Mr. Boyle.

VOTE: Boyle – Yes, Farley – Yes, Platt – Yes, Francisco – Yes. Dumian – Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Dumian moved for adjournment, seconded by Mr. Francisco. The meeting adjourned at 7:16 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherrie L. Jacobs
Town Clerk