

WORK SESSION
APRIL 23, 2019

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Work Session at 5:30 P.M. on April 23, 2019, at the Conklin Town Hall. Mr. Dumian, Supervisor, presided.

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

Town Counsel	Cheryl Sacco
Town Clerk	Sherrie L. Jacobs
Highway Superintendent	Brian Coddington
Secretary to the Supervisor	Lisa Houston
Code Officer/Dog Control Officer	Nick Vascello
Parks/Water & Sewer Supervisor	Tom DeLamarter

GUESTS: **Country Courier** Elizabeth Einstein
Broome County Office for Aging Lisa Schuhle
Laurie Francisco
John Colley

HIGHLIGHTS/ "STATE OF THE COUNTY" ADDRESS

Lisa Schuhle of the Broome County Office for Aging presented highlights from Broome County Executive Jason Garnar's "State of the County" address. She stated that there are many new developments in Broome County, many due to the "power of partnership." Ms. Schuhle highlighted many of these new developments, including the demolition of an old, dilapidated Endicott Johnson building in Endicott, the revitalization of Washington Avenue, and the push to develop affordable housing. She stated that the economy in Broome County is up, with the possibility of a tax cut in the 2020 Budget, and unemployment is down. Ms. Schuhle stated that Executive Garnar is looking for a "team approach" from everyone. She stated that his "Buy in Broome" program, encouraging people to buy from local retailers, has increased revenue from sales tax.

Ms. Schuhle stated that one issue in Broome County is the need for skilled workers to fill the four thousand jobs that are available. She stated that the new "Clean Sweep" program will help people acquire the necessary skills. Ms. Schuhle stated that another new initiative is the "Welcome Wagon," which showcases the best Broome County has to offer to new businesses. She stated that the Executive's office has been working with the airport, adding that the new FlyBing Program has increased air traffic from the regional airport.

Ms. Schuhle stated that the County is also working with veterans' services, adding that the former Vestal Hills Country Club in the Town of Binghamton will be converted into a facility for veterans services. She added that the Clear Path Program will offer transportation to veterans to facilities to receive services. Other shared services include central arraignment, now done at the Broome County Jail instead of in individual municipal courts. Ms. Schuhle stated that Public Safety radio equipment is being updated, which has been a need for several years. She stated that the County has been working with small communities grant programs to obtain funding for needed projects.

Ms. Schuhle stated that the County Executive has focused a great deal of effort in combating the heroin epidemic, noting that there were fewer fatalities from overdoses in 2018. She spoke about COMPASS, a hybrid high school/drug recovery program. Ms. Schuhle stated that the BroomeIncludes Program aims at making Broome County more inclusive, with an emphasis on improved housing, particularly senior housing. She stated that there is a push to revitalize

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neighborhoods, with JumpStart JC in Johnson City being the first project. Ms. Schuhle stated that the Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce and The Agency have been particularly encouraging in helping to encourage young people to stay in this area.

Mr. Dumian spoke to the issue of shared services, stating that he would like to see a return to a mutually financially beneficial agreement in which the Town of Conklin Highway Department would plow Broome County roads within the Town, as well as Town roads, with reimbursement to the Town for the plowing of County-owned roads. He stated that this would provide a much higher level of safety for residents than the current situation of the Town plowing Town roads and the County plowing County roads, often crossing each other's paths to do so.

In regard to the fight against the heroin epidemic, Mr. Dumian asked how many law enforcement officers have been added. He stated that the County needs to get to the root cause, distribution, adding that there is a "big drug culture in Conklin."

Mr. Dumian stated that in his dealings with Deputy County Executive Kevin McManus, Mr. McManus has always been "super responsive" to requests for assistance for the Town.

COMMUNITY AGE-FRIENDLY SURVEY

Assuming her role with the Office for Aging, Ms. Schuhle spoke about the Community Age-Friendly Survey, a community needs assessment for residents aged 55 or older. She stated that Binghamton University is partnering with her office to process data from these surveys of "what your seniors are saying." Ms. Schuhle stated that work groups will be formed in late summer to provide data to the individual communities and to work on issues such as housing, transportation, parks and open spaces, and social inclusion. She stated that one big need addressed by responders to the survey is the need for middle income affordable housing, adding that seniors are looking for first floor townhouses. Mr. Dumian stated that the Town has a new project in the works, referencing the new Community Center, adding that he hopes to add senior or veterans housing to the site.

Ms. Schuhle stated that volunteers will be sent to targeted areas, including the Town of Conklin, to try to get more responses to the survey, noting that only 45 people in Conklin responded. She added that of the 45 that responded, 22.5% is 60 years old or older. One major concern that emerged from the survey is the need for some form of subsidized home repairs, which would allow people who do not have the means to make repairs themselves or hire someone to do the repairs to stay in their homes.

OPENING DAY CELEBRATION AT SCHNURBUSCH PARK

Mr. Dumian stated that the Opening Day for Town of Conklin Softball and Baseball will be May 4 at Schnurbusch Park, starting with a parade at 10 A.M. The Town will serve hamburgers and hotdogs. Mr. Dumian invited all elected officials to attend and help at the Opening Day festivities.

UPDATE/DAYCARE & COMMUNITY CENTER

Mr. Dumian stated that the Town and GOSR (Governor's Office for Storm Recovery) are working to be able to go out to bid on this project soon.

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UPDATE/SALT BARN

Mr. Dumian stated that Highway Superintendent Brian Coddington is in the process of obtaining three quotes for construction of the Salt Barn.

WINDSTORM DAMAGE

Mr. Dumian, who was out of town when the severe windstorm hit Conklin on April 14, stated that he had been contacted by the Broome County Director of Emergency Services. He noted that the Highway Department was out working on clearing downed trees. Mr. Dumian stated that he also received a phone call from the Governor's office asking if the Town needed assistance and he replied that the Town needed help with removing the many trees that were downed by the storm, but added that no help was forthcoming.

SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS

Mr. Dumian stated that the Town has not received any applications for the position of School Crossing Guard. He stated that the Town may have to move to having only one Crossing Guard, which means the school district would need to reconfigure where the students cross Conklin Road. Other suggestions included speed bumps in front of the school and flashing lights.

MICROPHONES/SOUND SYSTEMS

Mr. Dumian stated that he met with Bob Dengler to discuss the sound system in the Board Room, adding that it may be necessary to purchase microphones on small stands in front of each Board member. He noted that the current microphones cannot always be heard by the public and added that the current mics use batteries quickly, making them expensive to use.

Mr. Dengler is also reviewing the sound systems at the Little League and lighted fields, noting that the sound systems need to be upgraded, which would cost approximately \$1300 per field. The Town is getting three quotes for repair/replacement of the sound systems. This led to a discussion regarding the Town's procurement policy, with Mr. Dumian suggesting that the Board consider raising the limit from \$1,000 to \$1,500 before three quotes are required.

PAVILION/STAGE AT OLD COMMUNITY CENTER

Mr. Dumian stated that he spoke with Frank Evangelisti of Broome County Planning Department regarding a grant for \$15,000 that could be used toward building a new stage/pavilion near the current Community Center. This would provide a space for entertainment at both the Conklin Fair, which usually has to rent a stage, and at Concerts in the Park. It would also be another source of revenue for the Town, as the pavilion could be rented as the other pavilions are in Schnurbusch and Conklin Forks Parks. Mr. Dumian stated that Town of Binghamton Code Officer Nick Pappas may be able to pour the concrete pad for the stage/pavilion. Mr. Dumian asked if the Conklin Fair Committee has \$3,000 to commit toward the project and Mr. Platt, a member of the Conklin Fair Committee, stated that the Committee cannot commit this amount until after the 2019 Fair in July.

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
APRIL 23, 2019

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin held a Regular Town Board Meeting at 6:30 P.M. on April 23, 2019, at the Conklin Town Hall. Mr. Dumian, Supervisor, presided. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Town Board Members Boyle, Farley, Platt, Francisco, Dumian
Town Counsel Cheryl Sacco
Town Clerk Sherrie L. Jacobs
Highway Superintendent Brian Coddington
Secretary to the Supervisor Lisa Houston
Code Officer/Dog Control Officer Nick Vascello
Parks/Water & Sewer Supervisor Tom DeLamarter

GUESTS: Country Courier Elizabeth Einstein
Laurie Francisco
John Colley

MINUTES: APRIL 9, 2019 REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

Highway Superintendent Brian Coddington stated that he misspoke about the dates of the White Goods and Brush Pick-up, which he originally stated would be held May 1 through 11. He noted that May 11 is a Saturday, and the Pick-up event only runs through Friday, May 10, thus a correction would be needed on page 3 under "Municipal Clean-up Days" in the April 9, 2019 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes.

Mr. Platt moved to approve the April 9, 2019 Regular Town Board Meeting minutes with the noted correction.

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

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

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mr. Dumian stated that he received a news release from the Small Business Administration advising that there are small business disaster loans available to small business owners whose properties were damaged in the August 2018 flash flooding event. More information is available on the Town of Conklin website.



PUBLIC HEARING
TO RECEIVE INPUT REGARDING PROPOSED LOCAL LAW 1, 2019
“A LOCAL LAW AMENDING PERMITTED USES IN R-15 ZONING DISTRICT”

PRESENT: Same as on page one.

Notice of Public Hearing having been duly advertised, Mr. Dumian declared the Public Hearing open at 6:35 P.M. and asked those present to speak either for, or in opposition to, proposed Local Law 1, 2019, "A Local Law Amending Permitted Uses in R-15 Zoning District."

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There being no questions or public comments, Mr. Dumian declared the Public Hearing closed at 6:36 P.M.

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Town Attorney Cheryl Sacco stated that the Town received comments back from Broome County in response to the Form 239 submission, which included an opinion that there is no County-wide effect from the proposed law and which suggested creation of an overlay district and consideration of worst case scenario in terms of increased traffic. Ms. Sacco stated that this concern is addressed in individual cases by site plan review. She led the Board through the long-form Environmental Assessment Form for SEQR (State Environmental Quality Review) and the Board answered all of the questions indicating potential negative impact to the environment as “No.”

RESO 2019-59: ADOPT LOCAL LAW 1, 2019/ “A LOCAL LAW AMENDING PERMITTED USES IN R-15 ZONING DISTRICT”

PRESENT: Supervisor William Dumian, Jr.
Councilman Willis M. Platt
Councilman Charles Francisco
Councilman Dell Boyle
Councilman William Farley

ABSENT: None

Offered By: Councilman Boyle

Seconded By: Councilman Francisco

The Town Board of the Town of Conklin, duly convened in regular session, does hereby resolve as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town Board held a public hearing at Conklin Town Hall, 1271 Conklin Road in said Town, on April 23, 2019, commencing at 6:35 P.M. to hear all interested parties on a proposed local law entitled “A Local Law Amending Permitted Uses in R-15 Zoning District”; and

WHEREAS, notice of said public hearing was duly advertised in the official newspaper of the Town, and posted on the Town Clerk’s signboard; and

WHEREAS, said public hearing was duly held at 6:35 P.M. on April 23, 2019, and all parties in attendance were permitted an opportunity to speak on behalf of, or in opposition to, said proposed local law, or any part thereof; and

WHEREAS, the Local Law was referred to the Town Planning Board and the Planning Board recommended approval of the same; and

WHEREAS, the Broome County Planning Department reviewed the Local Law pursuant to GML § 239-m, and found no county-wide impacts; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Part 617 of the implementing regulations of the State Environmental Quality Review Act, it has been determined by the Town Board that adoption of the proposed Local Law constitutes a Type I Action, as defined under said regulations. The Town Board has considered the possible environmental impacts of the Local Law. The adoption of said Local Law will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment and the Town Board adopts a negative declaration with respect to the Local Law; and

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WHEREAS, the Town Board, after due deliberation, finds it in the best interest of the Town to adopt said local law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin hereby adopts Local Law 1-2019 entitled “A Local Law Amending Permitted Uses in R-15 Zoning District”; and further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk be and hereby is directed to enter said local law in the minutes of this meeting, publish notice of said adoption, and to give due notice of the adoption of said local law to the Secretary of State; and

RESOLVED, that this resolution will take effect immediately upon filing with the Department of State.

CERTIFICATION

I, Sherrie L. Jacobs, do hereby certify that I am the Town Clerk of the Town of Conklin and that the foregoing constitutes a true, correct, and complete copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Conklin at a meeting thereof held at the Conklin Town Hall, 1271 Conklin Road, Conklin, New York, on April 23, 2019. Said resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote:

Supervisor William Dumian, Jr.	YES
Councilman Willis M. Platt	YES
Councilman Charles Francisco	YES
Councilman Dell Boyle	YES
Councilman William Farley	YES

Dated: April 23, 2019
Town of Conklin Seal

Sherrie L. Jacobs, Town Clerk
Town of Conklin, New York

CORRESPONDENCE (CONTINUED):

Mr. Dumian acknowledged receipt of a letter of resignation from Code Officer and Dog Control Officer Nick Vascello, effective May 3, 2019. Mr. Vascello has accepted a position as Supervisor of the Broome County Forum and Assistant Supervisor of the Broome County Arena. Mr. Dumian stated that the Board wishes him well in his new endeavor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESO 2019-60: CANCEL WORK SESSIONS/TOWN BOARD MEETINGS

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

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Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin approves cancellation of the following Work Sessions and Town Board meetings: May 28, June 25, July 23, and August 27, 2019.

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

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

2019 CONCERTS IN THE PARK

Parks Supervisor Tom DeLamarter reported that the 2019 Concerts in the Park are all booked, and Town Clerk Sherrie Jacobs added that the dates are on the Town website and the program has been sent to the printer. There will be seven concerts total, weather permitting. Mr. DeLamarter stated that four of the seven bands had asked for an increase in payment from \$350 to \$375, but Mr. Dumian stated that it will remain at \$350 for this year.

REPORT: HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Highway Superintendent Brian Coddington stated that his department has been busy paving, cleaning ditches, and picking up brush. He stated that the Board should be prepared to receive phone calls about dead trees caused by damage from ash borers, as he has seen quite a few areas that are affected in Conklin.

REPORT: PARKS DEPARTMENT

Mr. DeLamarter reported that he received an estimate of \$19,000 to repave the tennis courts at Julius Rogers Park. Mr. Platt questioned whether it is worth the cost to repave the courts. Mr. DeLamarter stated that the Board should either “maintain the park as safe or close it.” Mr. Dumian suggested turning the tennis courts into batting cages.

RESO 2019-61: AUTHORIZE STORTI CONSTRUCTION/REPAVE JULIUS ROGERS TENNIS COURTS/NOT TO EXCEED \$19,000

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin authorizes Storti Construction to repave the tennis courts at Julius Rogers at a cost not to exceed \$19,000.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

SOUND SYSTEM/LITTLE LEAGUE & BIG FIELDS/SCHNURBUSCH PARK

Ms. Sacco stated that the Supervisor could be authorized to choose the “best value,” technically and financially, for the sound system for the Little League and big fields at Schnurbusch Park. The Town is waiting for a third quote for the sound systems.

RESO 2019-62: AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR/CHOOSE “BEST VALUE” FOR PURCHASE & REPAIR OF SOUND SYSTEM/SCHNURBUSCH PARK

Mr. Farley moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin authorizes the Supervisor, in accordance with New York State Town Law, to choose the “best value” for the purchase and repair of the Little League field and “big field” sound system in Schnurbusch Park and to execute any agreement and documents necessary.

Seconded by Mr. Platt.

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

RESO 2019-63: RATIFY PAYMENT/DELTA ENGINEERS/COMMUNITY CENTER & DAYCARE CENTER JANUARY 2019 ENGINEERING SERVICES

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin ratifies payment of check #123, account code HS1620-2, in the amount of \$33,534.00 to Delta Engineers, PC, for payment for engineering services performed in January 2019 for the Community Center/Day Care Center, Purchase Order #19-00455, GOSR payment request CC05.

Seconded by Mr. Farley.

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

RESO 2019-64: AUTHORIZE PAYMENT/BILL LIST/\$105,411.58

Mr. Boyle moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin authorizes payment of the following Bill List in the total amount of \$105,411.58:

General	\$ 43,089.45
Highway	5,025.52
Light Districts	14,712.66
Sewer District	35,481.22
Water District	<u>7,102.73</u>
Total	\$105,411.58

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

TOWN/CONKLIN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION EASTER PARTY

Town Clerk Sherrie Jacobs reported that the Easter Party sponsored by the Town and the Conklin Business Association went very well and was well attended.

RESO 2019-65: RECESS FOR LEGAL ADVICE/EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Boyle moved to close the Regular Town Board meeting and recess for legal advice and move into Executive Session at 7:15 P.M. to discuss potential hiring of a particular person.

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 7:15 P.M. with Supervisor William Dumian, Jr., 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.

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A discussion was held pursuant to Public Officers Law section 100 of the State of New York regarding the potential hiring of an individual.

RESO 2019-66: RE-OPEN REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

After this discussion and recess for legal advice, Mr. Dumian moved to close the Executive Session and re-open the Regular Town Board Meeting at 8:06 P.M.

Seconded by Mr. Francisco.

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

RESO 2019-67: AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR/ENTER AGREEMENT/TOWN OF BINGHAMTON/DOG CONTROL SERVICES & CODE ENFORCEMENT

Mr. Francisco moved for the following resolution:

Be It Resolved: that the Town Board of the Town of Conklin authorizes the Supervisor to enter an agreement with the Town of Binghamton regarding Dog Control Services and Code Enforcement, effective May 3, 2019.

Seconded by Mr. Platt.

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 8:08 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherrie L. Jacobs
Town Clerk