

TOWN OF OAKFIELD
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 12, 2021

ROLL

CALL: Supervisor Martin
Councilman Carroll
Councilperson Glor
Councilman Kabel

OTHERS

PRESENT: Town Clerk Haacke
Superintendent of Highways Schultz
Assessor Flansburg
CEO/ZEO Mikolajczyk
Jean DiCenso, Resident
Dan Luker, Resident
Joel D’Alba, Resident
Matthew Santy, Resident
Kevin Covert, Resident
Doug Hensel, Resident
Laurie Nanni, Resident
Robert “Buck” Hilchey, Resident
Makayla Hilchey, Resident
Robin Hilchey, Resident
Karl Dilcher, Resident
Lorraine Dilcher, Resident
Josh Finn, Resident
Robert Ostrander, Resident
Deb Martin, Resident

Supervisor Martin called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm; followed by the Pledge to the Flag.

Minutes of the September 8, 2021 Regular Board Meeting: **MOTION** Councilperson Glor, second Councilman Carroll to approve the minutes as submitted.

Ayes: Martin, Carroll, Glor, Kabel

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUS VOTE (4-0)

LAURIE NANNI, OAKFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Cemetery tour had 60 people in attendance
Re-opening went well
7th grade Native American Tour
Saturday, 10/23 is the Native American Tour, currently half full
Tonawanda Reservation Historical Society likes what has been done, doing a ceremony
Book on Indian Woods is for sale

Opening one day per month, will be Sunday until close
Will close second week in December

STATEMENT FROM TOWN BOARD REGARDING FIRE AGREEMENT WITH VILLAGE OF OAKFIELD

At this time, the Town has not been served with any legal action

For 5 years, the Town of Oakfield has been trying to work with the Village of Oakfield to come to a fair and equitable Fire Agreement. The Town would like to see

A three year contract

A service contract only—not to include capital because the Village owns all Fire Equipment.

The Town Board disagrees with the content of the letters being circulated, including the \$1.62 being allocated to Fire Protection to the Village residents. The total taxable value of the Village is \$52,040,355 (for bills sent out in June 2021)

Based on the Mayor's statement that \$1.62 of the village rate is for fire, they raised \$84305.38 for Fire Service within the village alone.

The Village Budget for 2021-2022 for Fire is \$95,000.00. Of that 95K, \$10,320 is earmarked to go into a truck reserve. If you take that out of the \$95k you are left with \$84,680 for a total operating budget. So 58% (Town) is \$49,126.

So, if the Village collected \$84,680 and the Town owes them \$49,126 then the total budget would be \$133,806. What are they doing with the other \$39K they collected if they did in fact collect it.

This should make the Village fire tax rate 0.89 cents/1K

We also disagree with there being 10 structure fires within the Town of Oakfield. When a fire happens within our boundaries both the Assessor and Code Enforcement Officer is contacted. Neither have been contacted for structure fires with the Town.

Finally, in an attempt to sit at the table with the Village and negotiate an agreement, the Town sent the Village a check for \$39,322.36 (half of the \$78644.71) the Town collected. The Village still has the check, refuses to cash it and will not entertain a discussion.

After the statement was read by Councilperson Glor, Supervisor Martin opened the floor to public comment.

Buck Hilchey stated that the tax payer must come first, what is the Town's plan come November 30th?

Supervisor Martin stated the following:

Currently being handled by attorney
Researching the situation

This has never been an issue before, why now? Mr. Hilchey feels the Town should pay what is owed as the Fire Department performed well.

It was stated that the Town has no issue with the Fire Department. The issue is with the agreement and that the Village continues to cut the Fire budget. The Town has budgeted \$15,874 more than what the Village put in their budget because the Town feels the Fire Department needs more funding.

Mrs. Hilchey again asked the question, "but what happens on November 30th if this isn't resolved?"
Councilperson Glor assured the Town residents that they will not be without fire protection.

Ms. DeCenso asked if there is not a resolution if the school would be taken care of as it is in the Town.
The answer is "no" because the Fire Department cannot leave the village boundaries.
Chief Downey stated that the Village cannot pick and choose where the Fire Department goes.

Karl Dilcher asked about what this is going to do to homeowner insurance if this is not resolved.

Joel D'Alba stated that if the Town collected the money it should be paid. Then asked what the fire tax rate will be in 2022.

Assessor Flansburg stated it will 0.49 cents/1000 based on the proposed Town Budget of \$65,000

Dan Luker then stated that there is no reason the fire issue has come to this, "I don't believe that the Village has cut the budget by 50%. Why is the Town taking issue with the Fire Department?"

Assessor Flansburg again stated that the Town has no issue with the Fire Department, we want to resolve this issue.

Supervisor Martin stated that the Village refuses to meet on this subject.

Chief Downey confirmed that the Village in fact cut the fire department budget by 58%.

Mr. Luker stated that he will look into all this, but the Town accepted the service for a year so the money should be paid.

Chief Downey, too wanting to resolve this situation asked the Town Board if a meeting was set with the Fire Department, Mark Butler (Fire Department Attorney), Town of Oakfield, Town Attorney, and Village and their attorney would they come to the table. All Board members in attendance welcomed that offer.

YOUTH RECREATION

Joel D’Alba stated that the Youth Commission would like to meet with the Town Board Councilperson Glor stated that she, Melissa Haacke and Melissa Domoy met Mr. D’Alba stated that Mrs. Domoy showed the Youth Commission the list of concern and they want to address them.

ROAD CONCERN

Matt Santy of Lockport Road asked Superintendent of Highways Schultz if anything will be done to correct the issue in front of his driveway. There is quite a “lip” since the County widened the road. Superintendent Schultz stated that he called the County, but is unsure if they will correct the issue.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Chief Downey reported the following for the month of September:

20 EMS Calls

2 auto alarms

Welcome new members Riley D’Alba and Annette Johnson

Community Events the Fire Department attended and on stand by
Powder Puff Football game and Bon Fire
Homecoming Football game
911 Memorial Walk with USG-participants
Fire Prevention at the elementary school
Trunk or Treat on October 16th at Pudgie’s Green House

Engine 71 update—repairs made to the governor; pump operators should familiarize themselves with it. Inspection and pump test completed.

Ladder testing complete

Training on Hutton Road, roof ventilation, breaching walls

CODE/ZONING ENFORCEMENT

Mr. Mikiolajczyk’s report is available for review

SUPERINTENDENT OF HIGHWAYS

ROADWORK UPDATE

Hauling Blacktop for County

Fixed driveway in Cary Cemetery with millings, fixed Reed Cemetery driveway too

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS:

Everything in working order

CEMETERIES:

Town bought three plots back from Reed and sold one in Cary
One cremation

PARKS:

Keeping water on until after Halloween
Hawk trapped in netting, Barry got it out. Someone called DEC and they came to look

EQUIPMENT UPDATE:

Trucks are being inspected and serviced at Buffalo Mack

LIBRARY:

Put in new light bulbs

MISCELLANEOUS:

Snow and Ice seminar on the 6th of October, was conducted here by NYMIR
Ordered 1thousand ton of salt, mixed and stored and paid for!

Councilperson Glor thanked Superintendent Schultz for working on the cemetery driveway.

TOWN CLERK

Abstract 10-2021—MOTION Councilman Kabel, second Councilman Carroll to authorize the following:

General Fund	2225-2239	\$19,462.32
Highway DA	767-771	\$ 2,291.57
Part Town B	260	\$ 528.67
Highway DB	358-359	\$ 1,329.32
Youth Recreation	69	\$ 41.68
	TOTAL	\$23,616.56

Ayes: Martin, Carroll, Glor, Kabel

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUS VOTE (4-0)

Beverly Higgins sold back three (3) plots in Reed Cemetery, she purchased one gave in Cary Cemetery. A refund check including interest will be cut to her.

Enumeration:

The Village portion of the enumeration is ready to be turned over to the Genesee County Animal Shelter. They will go door to door to those who did not return their blue card and those who do not have licensed dogs. It is estimated that 2/3 of the Village residents did not respond.

The Town portion is still being compiled and will be sent to the Genesee County Animal Shelter within the next week.

An additional \$25 enumeration fee will be added to all dogs found unlicensed.

Election equipment will be delivered October 29th in the afternoon.

Town offices are closed on Tuesday, November 2 for Election Day.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-2021—APPROVAL OF OFFICIAL UNDERTAKING FOR TAX COLLECTION OFFICER

Councilman Carroll offered the following:

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Oakfield, County of Genesee, State of New York, do hereby approve the attached undertaking or bond as to its form, manner of execution, amount and sufficiency thereof, and to the sureties names thereon. Said undertaking or bond shall be conditioned that the collector of the taxes shall well and truly keep, pay over and account for all moneys and property coming into her hands as such collector.

Second: Councilperson Glor

Ayes: Martin, Carroll, Glor, Kabel

APPROVED UNANIMOUS VOTE (4-0)

RESOLUTION NO. 27-2021—ACCEPT TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR 2022

Councilman Carroll offered the following

WHEREAS, the budget for the year 2022 has been reviewed and discussed, let the budget be accepted as tentative as written.

Second: Councilman Carroll

Ayes: Martin, Carroll, Glor, Kabel

APPROVED UNANIMOUS VOTE (4-0)

MOTION Councilman Kabel, second Councilman Carroll to set the Public Hearing for the 2022 Fire Budget and 2022 Town of Oakfield Budget. Public Hearing on the Fire Budget will be at 6:00 pm November 4, 2022, followed at 6:15 pm with the Town of Oakfield Budget and at 6:30 pm a Special Meeting to approve the 2022 Fire and Town Budget.

Ayes: Martin, Carroll, Glor, Kabel

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUS VOTE (4-0)

SUPERVISOR

MOTION Councilperson Glor, second Councilman Kabel to approve the Supervisor's report as submitted.

Ayes: Martin, Carroll, Glor, Kabel

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUS VOTE (4-0)

LIBRARY LIAISON

Meeting is October 13, 2021

Adjournment: MOTION Councilman Kabel, second Councilman Carroll to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa M. Haacke,
Town Clerk

