

Town of Corning Regular Board Meeting
20 S. Maple St. Corning, NY 14830
September 21, 2021 7:00 PM

Supervisor Feehan called the meeting to order.

Roll call of members as follows:

Present	Absent
Councilman Lon Fiscus	Councilman Mike Brenning (joined at 7:50)
Councilman Stuart Sammis	
Supervisor Kim Feehan	
Councilwoman Jenn Mullen	

Others Present:

County Legislator Carol Ferratella, County Legislator Scott VanEtten, Village Trustee Jamie Cooney, Bookkeeper John Savash, Tim Laskowski from the Keller Group, Water Superintendent Ken Fields via Zoom, and Brad Jacobus.

HRA DISCUSSION

The motion approving the discussion with Tim from Sprague Insurance was made by Councilwoman Mullen and seconded by Councilman Sammis. All in favor to discuss. Motion carried. Mr. Laskowski explained the insurance options available for the employees. The current HRA used by the employees is Proflex. Proflex costs about \$1,000.00 annually and requires an explanation of benefits to verify a deductible has been met. If they do not receive the EOB in a timely manner, they shut the card off and it is unable to be used again until the explanation has been turned in. Lifetime Benefit Plan is much like the Proflex plan at a cost of \$99.00 per person annually and requires no EOB as it is owned by Excellus so all EOB's are automatically submitted. Task is the third option discussed at a cost of \$500.00 annually and no substantiation is needed to verify deductibles are met. This plan requires a set up fee in addition to the annual cost. Mr. Laskowski will check back tomorrow with more information on extending the time of shut off with the Proflex plan and also some training for those who have difficulty with the technical part of uploading EOBs.

HRA APPROVAL TABLED

Agenda item 5 was tabled on a motion made by Councilwoman Mullen and seconded by Councilman Sammis until the October meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

MINUTE APPROVAL

Councilwoman Mullen made the motion to approve the minutes for the August meeting. Councilman Sammis seconded. All in favor. The motion carried.

TOWN CLERK REPORT

The Town Clerk's report was approved on a motion made by Councilman Sammis and seconded by Councilman Fiscus. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY/BUILDING & GROUNDS REPORT

On a motion made by Councilwoman Mullen and seconded by Councilman Fiscus the B&G and Highway reports were approved. All in favor. Carried.

ABSTRACT APPROVAL

The motion to approve the September abstract was made by Councilwoman Mullen and seconded by Councilman Fiscus. All in favor, motion carried.

General Fund	\$37,366.84
General Outside	\$1,213.29
Highway Outside	\$20,154.41
Gibson Light	\$641.09
Elmhurst Light	\$244.96
Corn. Manor Light	\$155.93
Birch Dr. Light	\$176.45
Pine Shadow Light	\$75.91
Pinewood Water	\$1,208.04
Hornby Rd. Water	\$306.04
EC Consol. Water	\$67,254.80

TOTAL: **\$128,797.76**

ROOF REPAIR QUOTES

Councilwoman Mullen made the motion to approve Ken Fields to obtain quotes for roof repair to the water building. Councilman Fiscus seconded. All in favor, motion carried. Mr. Fields will check both shingles and metal options.

RESOLUTION #40

Councilman Sammis made the motion to approve modifying the 2021 budget. Councilwoman Mullen seconded. All in favor, carried.

WHEREAS the Town of Corning received an allocation of \$243,420.00 in CHIPS from New York State for 2021 which the Town of Corning did not include the 2021 Budget.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Supervisor is hereby authorized to modify the budget in the following manner:

DB-510 ESTIMATED REVENUES	
Sub account DB35014 State Aid, Consolidated Highway	\$243,420.00
DB-960 APPROPRIATIONS	
Sub account DB5112.2 Improvement CHIPS	\$243,420.00

RESOLUTION #41

Councilman Fiscus made the motion to approve Resolution #41 of 2021 Closing out the East Corning #2 Capital Project fund(H-11), with Councilwoman Mullen seconding. All in favor, motion carried.

WHEREAS the Town of Corning we to long-term financing on its water projects.

BEIT RESOLVED, the Supervisor is hereby authorized to close out the East Corning #2 Capital Project Fund and transfer the proceeds to the operating fund. The funds will be used to set up a Debt Service Fund which will be used to reduce annual debt payments in SW7-East Corning Water District #2 Fund.

(NYS guidelines this does not require permissive referendum.)

RESOLUTION #42

On a motion made by Councilman Sammis and seconded by Councilwoman Mullen Resolution #42 was approved. All in favor, carried.

WHEREAS the Town of Corning went to long-term financing on its water projects.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Supervisor is hereby authorized to Close out East Corning Capital Project and transfer the remaining proceeds to the operating fund. The funds will be used to set up a Debt Service Fund which will be used to reduce debt payments annually over the next few years in SW5- East Corning Water Operating Fund. (NYS OSC guidelines this reserve does not require a permissive referendum.)

RESOLUTION #43

Councilman Fiscus made the motion to approve this resolution as follows. Councilwoman Mullen seconded. All were in favor and the motion was carried.

WHEREAS the Town of Corning has included in the 2021 budget \$10,000 for the Town Hall Building Reserve and \$7,000.00 for the Accrued Employee Benefit Payout Reserve.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Supervisor is hereby authorized to transfer these amounts into their respective Reserve Accounts.

RESOLUTION # 44

This resolution was approved on a motion made by Councilman Fiscus and seconded by Councilwoman Mullen. All were in favor. Carried.

WHEREAS the Town of Corning would like to set up a Water Repairs Reserve in the Hornby Road Water District.

WHEREAS a dollar amount to fund an annual contribution to this reserve will be established each year in the budget.

BE IT RESOLVED, the Supervisor will set up this reserve and fund the reserve \$5,000.00 which was included in the 2021 Budget. (permissive referendum not required.)

DEWERT RETIREMENT

On a motion made by Councilwoman Mullen and seconded by Councilman Fiscus Dylan DeWerts retirement request for September 30th was discussed. Supervisor Feehan explained that he would like to retire but be reappointed in order to train Ken for the remainder of the year. Councilman Fiscus wonders if he will be able to continue until the end of the year. Councilman Brenning shared that Ken says he has only been in contact with Dylan twice in the last month, both by text. Councilman Brenning says to retire him, it makes no sense to appoint him temporarily. Mr. Savash reminded them he's been an effective employee for more than thirty years and deserves his request. Councilman Brenning agrees but appointing him has to be beneficial and we have to think of the taxpayer and where the money is coming from. Supervisor Feehan says there is money available and reminded them the motion is to accept his retirement. If the Board approves this, the remainder of Dylan's salary will go to Ken on top of his current salary. Next year's salary can be discussed at budget time. Councilman Brenning asked where the money for Dylan will come from. Supervisor says it will come from the A fund. Councilman Mullen asked if they could split the remainder of Dylan's salary between the two of them. Ken says he is receiving \$60,000 plus overtime, if they aren't going to pay him extra, they can find someone else,

because it's a big responsibility, and won't do it for free. Councilwoman Mullen asked him if he needs Dylan or if he's ready to go on his own. He says it's been rough as he had no access to records or anything in that office, so he's had to figure a lot out on his own but thinks he will make it. All were in favor to accept his retirement request. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY CONSULTANT

Councilwoman Mullen made the motion to offer Dylan an hourly rate of \$42.50 as a consultant (not appointing him as superintendent) and not to exceed \$5,000.00 to assist Kenny through the end of the year. Councilman Fiscus seconded. Ken will keep track of hours and turn in a voucher. Those in favor: Councilpeople Mullen, Fiscus and Brenning. Opposed-Supervisor Feehan. Motion carried. Councilman Fiscus believes that since he is willing and wanting to help, he should be able to.

INTERIM HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Councilman Brenning made the motion to approve Ken Fields as interim Highway Superintendent from October 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2022. Councilman Sammis seconded. All in favor. Carried. Ken will receive his current salary plus the remainder of Dylan's (Oct. thru Dec) salary.

MOTION DISCUSSION

The motion to discuss what the Supervisors recommendation was on a previous motion was made by Councilwoman Mullen and seconded by Councilman Fiscus. All in favor to discuss. Motion carried. Supervisor Feehan explained that she believed that Dylan's request should have been approved, but its up to each Board member to do their due diligence on all motions.

DICKERSON RETIREMENT

On a motion made by Councilman Sammis and seconded by Councilman Brenning the letter of retirement for Avonne Dickerson as Deputy Town Clerk, Deputy Registrar, and Planning Board Secretary effective September 23, 2021 was approved. All in favor, motion carried. She will still work but wishes to collect her New York State retirement.

DICKERSON RE-APPOINTMENT

Avonne Dickerson was re-appointed as Deputy Town Clerk and Deputy Registrar (but not Planning Secretary) on a motion made by Councilwoman Mullen and seconded by Councilman Sammis. All in favor. Carried. Supervisor Feehan said her salary will be reduced by the amount of the Planning secretary salary.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Councilwoman Mullen made the motion to discuss the Strategic Plan with Councilman Sammis seconding. All were in favor to discuss. Motion carried. It has been determined that internet is the greatest need in order to improve the quality of life in our area. The team would like to see more playgrounds in residential areas.

WELCOME PACKET UPDATE

The motion to discuss the welcome packet update was made by Councilwoman Mullen and seconded by Councilman Sammis. All were in favor and the motion carried. The welcome packet information is posted on the website and Councilwoman Mullen will check it and update it as need be.

VISITORS COMMENTS

County Legislator Ferratella shared the tax foreclosure sale will be delayed until possibly January, but not definite. The eviction moratorium was moved to January 15th, and it is now mandatory to add a 607 area code for all local calls. County Legislator VanEtten shared the Fema requests for local flooding have been moved to the Federal government, out of the County. There is also a county wide EMS study, report soon to be available.

ADJOURN

Councilwoman Mullen made the motion to adjourn at 8:53 PM. Councilman Sammis seconded. All were in favor, motion carried.

These minutes respectfully submitted by:

Susan Edwards
Town Clerk

