

**Official - Town of Montezuma
Board Meeting Minutes
February 21st, 2023
At 6pm**

Town Supervisor David Corey opened the meeting, led by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Councilman/Deputy Supervisor: Lee Brew
Councilman: Tom Fitzsimmons
Councilman: Tom Hitchcock Jr.
Councilman: Joel Glimpse (ABSENT)

Others Present: Town Clerk Marie Cronin
Highway Superintendent: Ken Cook
Highway Deputy Superintendent: Dave Ware
Water Operator: Stan Longyear
Historian: Cheryl Longyear
Code Enforcement Officer: John Greer

Lydia & Bruce Ruffini, Ben Ware, Daniel Dennis, James & Kathy Decker, Pam & Mason Cook, Charles & Candis Cook, Chris Howard, Marvin King, Kelly Thurston, Patti Verdi, Nancy Kratz, Cassie Schualm, Dawn Bisgrove & June Smith.

Lydia Ruffini (Rep) of Cayuga County Legislature gave report on what's going on in the County. The County still has \$200,000.00 of ARPA money left for the small businesses. The committee that was working on these grants are working on getting the process repeated. Tuesday 2/28/2023 at 6pm is the next county Legislature meeting, they will be voting on the Cayuga County Deputy Sheriffs Police Associations bargaining agreement. Lydia received notification that at the Weedsport High School cafeteria on March 8th, 2023 from 6pm to 8pm The Cayuga County Planning & Economic committees will be talking about the Erie Canal Project.

Code Enforcement Officer John Greer gave report, 1 permit issued in January 2023 (Tax map #98.00-1-31) and after inspection of the framing John had to give a stop work order as they are not building as stated on the permit that was issued.

Highway Superintendent Ken Cook gave report: see attached minutes. The loader is showing signs of a need for new tires. Ken Cook has gotten 3 quotes for the tires. 1st Quote was for \$1,388.80 per tire, 2nd quote was for \$1,800.40 per tire, 3rd quote was for \$9680 for 4 tires. The tires are on the state contract. Per Ken Cook we also need the new forks for the loader which were \$1,250.00 at the John Deere comp. and \$873.00 from Bobcat of the Fingerlakes, after speaking with Dave Corey (Supervisor) the highway dept. purchased the forks from Bobcat. The Highway Dept. hired Tom Young on full time, he was a part time employee and he already knows the routes and what needs to be done. Truck #3 needs work to be done as stated on my report. Looking into a spring clean up will know more by next months meeting in March. Motion made by Tom Fitzsimmons second by Lee Brew to start the application for the

grant for the salt barn. Motion carried 4/0. Town Hall parking lot is beyond sealing. The parking lot will need to be paved instead of sealed, Ken Cook will get quotes on this. Ken Cook would like to take some of the stone away from the Town Hall building that is holding the water in and rotting the bottom of the building.

Historian Cheryl Longyear gave report: see attached minutes. Working on the final draft book on the records retention.

Vote on the Code of Ethics Policy: Motion made by Tom Fitzsimmons second by Lee Brew to adopt this policy. Motion carried 4/0.

c2ae company stated that they mailed out 376 water survey letters to the Town residents whom would like to have water and only received 167 responses back, 120 yes and 43 no. See the map attached.

Computer Outlet North, Inc. - vote on hiring them. Motion made by Lee Brew second by Tom Fitzsimmons to hire this company. Motion carried 4/0. We can use some of the ARPA funds and some out of the Budget to pay for the services needed to accomplish this new system.

Voting on the water meter letter. Maybe we the Town Board of Montezuma, should add a fine to the letter so if the public does not let the engineer into their home to replace the water meters then they will be fined. April 2023 the meters should start being replaced. We have a limited time to install meters 6 to 8 weeks. All the old meters will be scrapped and the money put back into the water fund. The water meter letter needs to be amended before we can mail them out. Kelly Thurston concerned that we cannot take time off work to be home for this. Town will have to see if we can ask if the engineer can do some Saturdays. We have 215 customers.

Appointment of Candis Cook to be the Town Clerk Deputy and Record room assistant. Motion made by Lee Brew second by Tom Hitchcock Jr. to appoint Candis Cook for deputy clerk and records assistant effective immediately. Motion carried 4/0.

The Town of Montezuma Board has approved the creation of the position of Part Time Typist. Motion made by Dave Corey and second by Tom Hitchcock Jr. Motion carried 4/0.

Per Dave Corey, the Town Board has been given a copy of the Tax Collectors (Donna Burleton) report. See attached. Total Taxes reported and distributed.

Approval of Bills: The repairs done on the Highway garage bathroom and the electrical work also should be charged to the A5132.4 (garage contractual) account. The boot allowance for the Highway employees should also come out of the A5132.4 account. Tom Fitzsimmons to speak with the Assessor (Jeff Lowe) about, Mentz church cemetery and Route 90 cemetery, both should be taken off the tax bill as neither spot

will be getting water lines installed. Motion made by Lee Brew second by Tom Hitchcock Jr. to approve the bills as amended. Motion carried 4/0.

Approval of Supervisors Report: Street lighting bill is high this month. Treelanders Tree Service, whom cleaned up the Brush pile should be taken out of the General Fund Account but unsure which one to take it out of at this time, not out of the Highway Fund DA5110.4 account. Motion made by Lee Brew second by Tom Fitzsimmons to approve the Supervisors report. Motion carried 4/0.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Lee Brew second by Tom Hitchcock Jr. to approve minutes as amended. Motion carried 4/0.

Executive session: Motion made by Dave Corey at 7:10pm to go into Executive Session, second by Tom Hitchcock Jr. Motion carried 4/0.

Motion made by Tom Hitchcock Jr. at 7:48pm to end the Executive Session second by Tom Fitzsimmons, decision made to appoint Chris Howard to fill Joel Glimpses Town Board Position April 1st, 2023 for the rest of this year. The Town Clerk (Marie Cronin) will swear Chris Howard in at the March meeting. Motion carried 4/0.

Motion made by Tom Hitchcock Jr. second by Lee Brew at 7:49pm to reopen Board Meeting. Motion carried 4/0.

Public comments and concerns: Kelly Thurston concerned about the amount of cars and other things in the way at a residence on rt. 90 (Tax Map #91.00-1-11. It makes it hard for the fire department to get around them when on a fire/ambulance call. Can our Code Enforcement Officer do anything about it. Per Dave Corey the Code Enforcement officer is aware.

Adjourn Meeting: Motion made by Lee Brew second by Tom Fitzsimmons to adjourn meeting. Motion carried 4/0.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by

Town of Montezuma Clerk: Marie L. Cronin