

**Official – Town of Montezuma**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**At 6pm**

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

**Members Present: Supervisor:** David Corey  
**Councilman/Deputy Supervisor:** Lee Brew  
**Councilman:** Tom Fitzsimmons  
**Councilman:** Tom Hitchcock Jr.  
**Councilman:** Chris Howard

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

**Residents and Speakers:** Ben Ware, Kathy & Jim Decker, Dawn Bisgrove, Lydia Ruffini (Cayuga County Legislature Rep.) & Bruce Ruffini, Mark Lincoln & Mike Dubois (Cayuga Indian Nation Law Enforcement).

Lydia Ruffini gave report on what's going on in Cayuga County. The Office of the Aging will be holding a picnic next week to recognize the volunteers whom service our County. Lydia attended a meeting on May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 that was called By our Chairman with David Gould, To discuss the undocumented migrant issues we are facing. In no means do we not have compassion for the migrants, but we have a number of homeless people in Cayuga County that need our help first. Our County is straining trying to provide for our homeless now and could not take on anymore. Cayuga County wrote and emergency order to the State of New York so they would not be able to bus any of the migrants to our County. Residents are also wishing that New York State not send them here. The County is in litigation now as there is 31 Counties that have signed an emergency order to protect our people.

John Greer Code Enforcement Officer gave report: Gave out 3 permits in May. Sent out 4 ordinances and will be back in Court in July for the violation of the junk yard. Attorney Kevin Cox sent follow up paperwork on the situation.

Mark Lincoln spoke to the Town Board on the possibility of renting the Town Hall 6 different days (Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>, Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> and Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>) for a Criminal Jury Trials at the end of October 2023 and beginning of November 2023. Per Kathy Decker the Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Is Election day so need to move these 2 days.

Mark said probably Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> then. The Town Board to discuss this and will give Mark an answer at the July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting. The Town Board would like a written contract and also to add the Town on a insurance policy with the Cayuga Indian Nation as additionally insured to protect our Town Hall and Residents. Per Mark Lincoln they only have a police station and not a courtroom yet. Security will be provided in extent. The Courtroom that was on Rt. 89 was taken over by force in 2010 and in February 2020 we have reclaimed the site. This now a Police Dept and not set up for a Courtroom at this time. Mark Lincoln stated that they are also trying to enter the 911 system to help out our County if they are needed.

Historian Cheryl Longyear gave report: See Attached report. Cheryl spoke with Kritsy LaManche (grant administrator) to do additional projects with the remaining grant money. Proposal of a 20 x 40 foot pavilion in the parking lot area. They will ask for an extension to Sept. 2024, so there is time to complete the pavilion if it is approved.

Highway Superintendent Ken Cook gave report. See Attached. 2012 international 6 wheel dump truck is still leaking and still unable to get a replacement part. HWY dept. does not want to lose a truck for the winter time. Lee Brew concerns of being down a truck for winter also. Ken has been on Auctions International looking for a replacement truck with no luck so far. Chris Howard asking what part is it we need, per Dave Ware it's a thermostat Housing w/bypass and are unable to find, on nation wide back order. Per Chris we should be shopping around. Ken Cook will get quotes. Tom Hitchcock Jr., have a part milled but OEM would not be the same and would shut down the truck. Tom Hitchcock Jr., schedule replacement truck swapping. The Board said Ken to get quotes and the Board will talk more about this at July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting. The Overhead door opener and safety sensor is bad on the highway garage door and Ken has 2 quotes. First quote -Genson overhead doors \$5,116.00 , whom put the door openers and safety sensors in last year & would also replace the broken door & put opener and safety sensor, on this quote, and 2<sup>nd</sup> quote - Overhead Door Comp. \$4,525.00 they only want to replace the belt on the broken door. Comparable quotes but we don't need to take the lowest quote. Lee Brew said that it's a liability if someone gets hurt and we knew that the doors were bad. They should be fixed. Motion made by Dave Corey to accept the Genson Overhead door quote and get doors fixed ,second by Lee Brew. Motion carried 5/0. Ken Cook said we will still need and electrician to run the wires for the door. Ken will contact Mr. Abraham. Proper signage needed to be done in the Town. Lee Brew stating we also need the signs that go before the signs that warn them ahead or yield etc. Salt barn grant will be submitted next month.

Vote on the Town of Montezuma Snow & Ice Policy: Motion made by Lee Brew second by Tom Fitzsimmons to adopt this policy. Motion carried 5/0.

Planning Board report given by Dave Corey for Leah Corey: See Attached. May 2023 minutes.

Approval of the Bills: Motion made by Tom Fitzsimmons second by Tom Hitchcock Jr. to approve the bills. Motion carried 5/0. Town Clerk to make copies of the tax exempt letter for all department heads.

Approval of Supervisors report: Grant deposits go into accounts automatically and bookkeeper Pat Craine may not be aware of this. Dave Corey to inform bookkeeper of this. Computer Rep. contract under buildings contractual account A1620.44 and we purchased them by the hours which we still have hours left to use. Motion made by Lee Brew second by Chris Howard to approve the Supervisors report. Motion carried 5/0.

Supervisors News: Budget modification #2023 – 9: transfer \$74.03 from A1990.4 (contingency acct.) to A1660.4 (central store room acct.). Motion made by Lee Brew second by Tom Fitzsimmons to approve the Budget modification. Motion carried 5/0. Lee Brew wondering if all the new water meters installed yet and how many old ones will we have when they are all put in. Per Stan Longyear they are not all in yet and we will have 220 old meters when done.

Playground mulch is \$23.00 a yard. Comp time for the Highway dept. Pat Craine Bookkeeper made new time sheets that shows all the comp, regular, overtime etc. on them. The Town kids are not using the playground at the Town Hall, it's in a bad location and parents telling the kids not to cross the main road. Spraying for mosquitos tonight as we speak. Gutters installed to the Town Hall on May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Bullet Proof glass for the Town Clerks office, Dave called 2 glass companies about this and they said there is a problem when the glass slides, but will definitely get back to him. Information sent to the electric company that's tied in with New York State Association of Towns to give a quote but has not gotten back to Dave yet. Also no report yet on C2ae company on the pressure testing. Dave to call the boss on this to see if he can get to the bottom of this. Beardsly designs has been awarded the contract for Montezuma Refuge, design phase will take 1 1/2yrs. Barton & Loguidice will be doing the water line and possible meeting in July 2023. Vote in the republican Primary June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Approval of the Minutes: Motion made by Lee Brew second by Tom Fitzsimmons to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried 5/0.

Public comments & concerns: NONE.

Seneca Office supply has our tables ready and the Town Board all agree on the (B) chair they sent to try out.

Adjourn meeting: Motion made by Dave Corey second by Lee Brew to adjourn meeting. Motion Carried 5/0.

Minutes Submitted by Town Clerk: Marie L. Cronin