

The August 8th, 2023 Town of Tioga board meeting was brought to order at 7:00pm.

Present were Councilman Robert Strong, Councilman, Councilman Drew Griffin, Councilman Paul Welch with Supervisor Lewis Zorn presiding.

Also present was Highway Superintendent Russell Story, Constable Jerry Pierce, Allen Bill, Kerry Root, Kris Morris and REAP Rep Pat Hansen.

Councilman Strong made the motion to approve the July 11th, 2023 board minutes as presented, Councilman Griffin seconded, carried.

Councilman Strong made the motion to approve the June Planning Board minutes as presented, Councilman Welch seconded, carried.

Councilman Strong made the motion to approve the July reports as given, Councilman Welch seconded, carried.

Roll call vote:

Councilman Hyatt – Absent

Councilman Strong – Aye

Councilman Griffin – Aye

Councilman Welch – Aye

Update from Superintendent Story:

- New pickup was delivered.
- CHIP sealing and milling done
- Working on drain tiling
- Taking care of trees from the recent storms
- Got a quote from Northeast Equipment for a saw attachment for the excavator in the amount of \$21,500.00 for the shear, plate and rotator. This attachment will handle trees up to 9.5” diameter and Northeast Equipment will supply the hoses with the Town supplying the connectors.
- Wiles Valley Weather provided a yearly quote for their app service that would supply personal updates for weather conditions specifically for our area. The yearly cost of this service is \$1,500.00.

The Board has tabled the discussion on the saw for the excavator until next month’s meeting.

The lawsuit in the matter of NY-Tioga I and NY-Tioga II, LLC against Denise Spaulding, Sole Assessor and Town of Tioga was discussed.

Councilman Strong made the motion to recommend the Planning Board declare a moratorium on solar farms for six months. There was no second on this motion, motion not carried.

Any actions will be taken on this matter until speaking with our Town Attorney, Robert McKertich.

REAP Rep Pat Hansen presented the Board with information regarding the School and Community Grant through the NYS Department of Health. The focus of this grant is to increase safe and accessible physical activities in eligible municipalities. One requirement of the grant is the Town would need to

adopt a Complete Streets Policy, which was presented to the Board this evening for review. Applications must be submitted by August 25th with acceptance being announced in September.

Councilman Welch made the motion to adopt the Town of Tioga Complete Streets Policy as presented, Councilman Griffin seconded, carried.

Roll call vote:

Councilman Hyatt – Absent

Councilman Strong – Aye

Councilman Griffin – Aye

Councilman Welch – Aye

TOWN OF TIOGA

COMPLETE STREETS POLICY

The Town of Tioga hereby adopts this policy as a guiding principle for the improvement of our transportation infrastructure. The Town supports the development of a complete street system of bikeways, pedestrian facilities and shared use roadways, and safe crossings to connect residences, businesses and public places. The Town encourages bicycling and walking for health, environmental sustainability, transportation and recreation. Pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and bus riders of all ages and abilities should be able to safely move along and cross a complete street. The Town will strive to create a connected network of facilities accommodating each mode of travel that is consistent with and supportive of the local community, recognizing that all streets are different and the need of various users will need to be balanced in a flexible manner. The Town will develop its street projects in an affordable, balanced, responsible and equitable way that accommodates and encourages travel by motorists, bicyclists, public transit vehicles and their passengers and pedestrians of all ages and abilities.

“Complete Streets” are streets that are planned, designed, operated and maintained to enable safe access for all users. While different features may be necessary or feasible to complete a given street, the goal of accommodating everyone remains the same. A complete street may include: sidewalks, bike lanes(or wide paved shoulders), special bus lanes, comfortable and accessible public transportation stops, frequent and safe crossing opportunities, median islands, accessible pedestrian signals, curb extensions and ramps, narrower travel lanes and more.

The Town of Tioga Highway Department will follow, to the extent practical, accepted design standards when implementing improvements intended to fulfill the Complete Streets Policy. Innovative or non-traditional design options which provide a comparable level of safety for users will be considered. The implementation of this policy shall reflect the context and character of the surrounding built and natural environments and enhance the appearance of the neighborhood. Complete Streets should be designed to help manage storm water runoff and landscaping and amenities are encouraged to provide shade, create buffers and promote aesthetically welcoming environments within the public right-of-way. In cases where the existing right of way does not allow for sidewalks, bike lanes, path or other improvements, potential alternatives may include the appropriate use of paved shoulders, signage and other traffic calming measures.

The Town of Tioga Highway Department shall be designated as the lead department in implementing the Complete Streets Policy. The Highway Superintendent should prepare recommendations for changes to standards, design criteria, planning ordinances or other guidelines that may be needed to further the goal of providing Complete Streets. When preparing for a street improvement project the Department will evaluate how well the project streets and transportation network are serving each category of users and how well they conform to the Complete Streets philosophy.

In all Town of Tioga new construction, reconstruction and maintenance road projects consideration should be given to the accommodation of the transportation needs of all users, regardless of age or ability, including those traveling by private vehicle, mass transit, foot and bicycle. The Town of Tioga Highway Department will review all utilities both above and below ground for the most feasible location. The Town of Tioga Highway Department will provide a summary to the Town of Tioga Town Board of viable enhancements recommended for inclusion in the subject project and the estimated costs of each. Enhancements to the complete streets network should be made unless:

1. The Town of Tioga Highway Superintendent determines that there is insufficient space within the right-of-way to safely accommodate new facilities.
2. The cost of adding a component or enhancing a complete street would be excessive or disproportionate to the cost of the larger street project, as determined by the Highway Superintendent.
3. The Highway Superintendent determines that inclusion of new facilities would create a public safety risk for users of the public right-of-way.
4. The street project is limited to routine or seasonal activities such as mowing, sweeping and spot pavement repairs, including oil and stone and crack seal activities.
5. The existing and planned population, employment densities, traffic volumes or level of transit service around a particular roadway as documented by the Highway Department is so low that probable use of the roadway will not include increased numbers of pedestrians, public transportation, freight vehicles or bicyclists.

Documentation for each street project shall be publicly available and the justification for exceptions to the inclusion of complete street facilities for Town street projects shall be specifically stated. Planning studies or engineering reports for Town street projects prepared by consultants on behalf of the Town should include recommendations and documentation of compliance with this policy.

All complete street facilities that are implemented will be provided and maintained in accordance with guidelines adopted by the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT), New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) and the American Association of State Highway & Transportation Officials (AASHTO). Subdivision reviews conducted by the Town of Tioga Planning Board shall incorporate this Complete Streets Policy as a review criteria.

Councilman Welch made the motion to apply for the School and Community Grant through Tioga County Health Department, Councilman Griffin seconded, carried.

Roll call vote:

Councilman Hyatt – Absent

Councilman Strong – Aye

Councilman Griffin – Aye

Councilman Welch – Aye

On the motion of Councilman Strong and seconded by Councilman Griffin and carried the following resolution#1-2023 amendment was made in regards to Camille Mattison-Corneby:

AMENDED RESOLUTION #1-2023

STANDARD WORK DAY AND REPORTING FOR ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS

The resolution will be posted on the bulletin board in The Town Hall located at 54 Fifth Ave; Tioga Center, NY for 30 days from the date of adoption.

Kerry Root from 2 Guys Heating, Plumbing and AC provided a quote to purchase and install three heat pump/AC units in the Town Hall for the total amount of \$19,542.47.

Councilman Strong made the motion to accept the quote from Kerry Root for the purchase and installation of three heat pump/AC units within the Town Hall for the amount of \$19,542.47, Councilman Griffin seconded, carried.

Roll call vote:

Councilman Hyatt – Absent

Councilman Strong – Aye

Councilman Griffin – Aye

Councilman Welch – Aye

Kris Morris from the Tioga Center Fire Department is requesting the Town to share expenses with the fire department to upgrade the water filtration system for their well that we share with the department. Mr. Morris will present the Board with quotes at the October town board meeting.

Councilman Strong made the motion to pay the General Fund in the amount of \$44,398.57 Councilman Griffin seconded, carried.

Roll call vote:

Councilman Hyatt – Absent

Councilman Strong – Aye

Councilman Griffin – Aye

Councilman Welch – Aye

Councilman Griffin made the motion to pay the Highway Fund in the amount of \$125,092.19

Councilman Welch seconded, carried.

Roll call vote:

Councilman Hyatt – Absent

Councilman Strong – Aye

Councilman Griffin – Aye

Councilman Welch – Aye

Councilman Griffin made the motion to close the meeting and go into executive session at 8:40pm for personnel discussion, Councilman Strong seconded, carried

Roll call vote:

Councilman Hyatt – Absent

Councilman Strong – Aye

Councilman Griffin – Aye

Councilman Welch – Aye

Councilman Strong made the motion to close the executive session at 9:00pm and reopen the board meeting, Councilman Welch seconded, carried.

Roll call vote:

Councilman Hyatt – Absent

Councilman Strong – Aye

Councilman Griffin – Aye

Councilman Welch – Aye

Councilman Welch made the motion to adjourn August 9th at 9:42am, Councilman Griffin seconded, carried.

Tiffany Middendorf
Tioga Town Clerk