

TOWN OF MENTZ

REGULAR MEETING

OCTOBER 15, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Supervisor Mark Emerson, who led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and requested a moment of silence.

Members Present: Supervisor Mark Emerson, Councilman Chris Hutchings, Councilwoman Barbara Clancy, and Councilman Matt Poyneer. Absent: Councilman Jesse Lamouroux.

Others Present: Attorney Kevin Cox, Town Clerk Charleen Wood, Deputy Town Clerk/Cemetery Superintendent Lucy Ware, Highway Superintendent David Nielens, Code Enforcement Officer Jay Moose, Polly Lyn Davies, Donna & Walt Trumble, Martha Robinson, Bill & Deb Applebee, Heather Mahunik, Sandy Loveless, David Lipiska, Joyce Decker, Lori Siracusa, Robert Hadden and others that did not sign the roster.

Minutes Approval: Minutes of the September 17, 2024 Meeting:
Motion made by Matt Poyneer and seconded by Barbara Clancy to approve/accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried 4-0 with Jesse Lamouroux absent.

Open Public Hearing 7:05:

Motion made by Barbara Clancy and seconded by Matt Poyneer to open the Public Hearing for the Tax Cap Override. Motion carried 4-0 with Jesse Lamouroux absent.

Discussion on the increases that we are facing, 14 % increase for health insurance, 11% increase for liability and a 2% increase for mosquito spraying.

Matt Poyneer is trying to get competitive pricing for liability insurance by October 22.

David Nielens stated that we are locked in for \$242,000 on the new truck. A new truck today costs \$300,000 or more and by 2035 trucks are forecasted to be all electric.

Audit of Bills: **Motion** made by Barbara Clancy and seconded by Matt Poyneer to approve the following audit of bills. Motion carried 4-0 with Jesse Lamouroux absent.

General A	\$10,739.62	VO 165-182
General B	\$ 1,799. 92	VO 51-52
Highway DB	\$ 3,448.33	VO 56-61

Old Business: None

New Business: **Letter of Support for Brutus Community Center – Motion** made by Matt Poyneer and seconded by Chris Hutchings to write a letter of support for Brutus. Motion carried 4-0 with Jesse Lamouroux absent.

Matt Poyneer thanked the volunteers and Highway Department for their work on the water line for the ballfield. We will have to find the necessary funds to cover the expenses.

The Supervisor asked if there were questions or concerns on the tax cap?

Discussion on the budget and the tax cap override. Why do we need to do an override law? It is a safety net just in case we go over the 2% tax cap.

Discussion on moving funds from the DA fund to an account for a new highway garage.

Matt Poyneer publicly apologized to Jay Moose and the public on the Transfer Station issue. There are several agencies involved with the application. The Town has completed their portion, but the DEC and DOT and other agencies need to complete their portion. He is sorry for any miscommunication.

Reports:

- Highway Department** – David Nielens – Written Report
- Roads & Bridges** – Barbara Clancy – Stated they are preparing for winter.
- Code Enforcement** – Jay Moose – Written Report
- Buildings & Grounds** – Chris Hutchings – Will get the lighting issues resolved.
- Dog Control** – Lucy Ware – Written Report
- Youth Parks & Rec** – Matt Poyneer- Stated things running smooth and again thanked the Highway Department and volunteers for their work.
- Landfill & Recycling** – Jesse Lamouroux – No Report
- Cemetery** – Lucy Ware – Stated that the cemetery will close November 1, 2024, and the funeral directors will be notified by letter.
- Planning Board** – Barbara Clancy - Stated that the meeting was approximately 20 minutes long and that Mr. Morgan was looking

elsewhere for his transfer station. There was no other business. The public stated that there was no Planning Board agenda or minutes.

Matt Poyneer stated that the re-write committee would like to engage Kari Terwilliger to assist in Zoning Ordinance re-write as she has more experience in writing the final draft; 2 hours would be no charge then \$77.00 per hour. This will be electronic. **Motion** made by Matt Poyneer and seconded by Chris Hutchings to hire Ms. Terwilliger at a cap of \$900.00 to assist with the final document. Motion carried 4-0 with Jesse Lamouroux absent.

ZBA Board – Lucy Ware – No Report

Historian – Mike Riley – No Report

Town Clerk – Charleen Wood – Stated that a county Clerk’s meeting was held here on October 7, several towns are facing computer grades and preparing for the budget.

ZBA & Planning Board Liaison – Matt Poyneer – Stated that the re-write committee is working hard on the draft.

Village Liaison – Mark Emerson – No Report

Veteran’s Memorial – Lucy Ware – Stated that 2 bricks had been ordered and will be put in shortly. The flags and poles collapsed will be taken care of after Veteran’s Day.

Motion made by Barbara Clancy and seconded by Matt Poyneer to close the Public Hearing at 8:05 PM. Motion carried 4-0 with Jesse Lamouroux absent.

Motion made by Barbara Clancy and seconded by Chris Hutchings to table the Tax Cap Override until October 22, 2024. Motion carried 3-1-0 with Nay from Matt Poyneer and Jesse Lamouroux absent.

Public to be Heard: 15 Minute Time Frame

Various people commented on a variety of subjects.

Supervisor’s Report: Mark Emerson discussed Election Laws

Attorney for Town: Kevin Cox – No Report

Motion made by Matt Poyneer and seconded by Barbara Clancy to adjourn at 8:30. Motion carried 4-0 with Jesse Lamouroux absent.

Charleen Wood
Town Clerk

