

At the regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Elmira, Chemung County, New York held Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 7:00 PM at 1255 West Water Street, Elmira, NY, there were present:

Supervisor: Neil Milliken joined via zoom
Councilmember: Thomas Milliken
Councilmember: Scott Bush
Councilmember: Albert Lucarelli
Deputy Supervisor Ron Allison

Others present
Town Clerk- Tammy Stein
Attorney- Scott Moore
Police Chief- Robert Richards
Code Enforcement Officer- Eric Crandall
Recreation Coordinator- Patty Carozza
Highway Superintendent- Matt Mustico

Resolution #53-21

Minutes

By Mr. Bush

Seconded by Mr. Lucarelli

Motion was made to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 19,2021 and a workshop on February 8, 2021.

Aye- Bush, T. Milliken, Lucarelli, Allison

No- None

Deputy Supervisor Allison asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Town Clerk Stein replied yes there will be a resolution added regarding an over paid Sewer Bill indicated in a letter from Chemung County Real Property received on February 16, 2021.

Resolution #54-21

Financial Report

By Mr. T. Milliken

Seconded by Mr. Bush

Deputy Supervisor Allison reviewed the Town's Financial position as of January 31, 2021 and stated we are in a good financial position. The January 2021 bank statements and year to date Fund Balance reports were provided to the board. Motion was made to accept the Supervisor's report for January 2021. He also informed the board that the January books are still open with the County so there will be some changes made with outstanding obligations still being recorded.

Aye- Bush, T. Milliken, Lucarelli, Allison

No- None

Resolution #55-21

Audit of Bills

By Mr. Lucarelli

Seconded by Mr. Bush

Resolved that all claims in the total amount of \$978,172.28 were audited and approved for payment when in funds.

Aye-Bush, T. Milliken, Lucarelli, Allison

No- None

Communications:

Deputy Supervisor Allison read Tom Barr's Resignation letter

Department Reports:

Police Chief- Robert Richards reported on the calls, stops and other business that the Police department has done in January.

Recreation Coordinator, Patty Carozza informed the board that the Community Center had been closed for a long time and has recently been getting small groups in such as sewing and ARC. They are all following the protocols set. She also stated that they have a few reservations set for the upcoming months. The Boy Scouts will be using the building and in return will do work in the garden. She discussed the Summer camps and is hoping they will be able to run this summer. Code Enforcement Officer, Eric Crandall said he issued 11 permits. The Planning and Zoning board have been busy with a couple new business' in Town. The Board and Eric discussed cars in Lawns and the rules for that.

Highway Superintendent, Matt Mustico reported that He hired a wingman as one of his employees will be out due to surgery. He also stated he has been helping the County with Covid clinic sites. The New Truck is working well. Matt received a letter regarding CHIPS and the Town lost 20 percent due to cuts but will be receiving 15 percent of that cut back.

Councilmember Lucarelli spoke to Matt regarding the parking on Chapman place. Matt, Eric and the Board discussed how narrow the road is and how parking is not good. Councilmember Bush inquired about the gas company being used at the highway garages. Matt is going to check pricing and get back to the Board.

Discussions:

Deputy Supervisor Allison read the following letter on behalf of the Town Board regarding Police Chief Barr's resigning.

With sadness we want to share with our residents that Thomas Barr is leaving the position of Police Chief for West Elmira to pursue another career opportunity. Tom has been a part of this community for 11 years. He started out in 2010 as a traffic district officer patrolling and protecting our streets. He then became Police Chief in 2019. Tom has been a huge asset to this department as well as this Town. Above being part of keeping the streets safe Tom enjoyed helping in community events such as the opening day parade for baseball/softball, the events at Hendy school, as well as escorting Santa and the Easter Bunny through the town.

Although Tom will be moving on, you may still see him as he has graciously agreed to stay on as a part time officer. Tom has left the Police department in good hands as the Town Board will be appointing Robert Richards as the acting Chief at this time.

We would like to thank Tom for his years of service and wish him luck in his next endeavor.

Deputy Supervisor Allison also thanked GETA and Chris Klee for their donation of six new Tennis Court nets.

Mr. Chris Klee has made a donation of six new tennis court nets to GETA (Greater Elmira Tennis Association) who in turn has donated the nets to the Town for use in Pirozzolo Park. Many thanks for their generosity!

Public Comments: Joe Coletta, Hendy Ave. thanked Mr. Mustico and the Highway Department on the great work with the roads. He also asked about the Flashing school lights on Water and Church street. Eric and Robert responded to his questions. Mr. Coletta also asked about the electric charger in which Eric responded.

Lynn Pirozzolo, W. Church Street spoke to the board regarding a compost pit on a neighboring property. She expressed her concerns and asked if there’s any codes for such thing. Eric and the board discussed the compost and Eric will look into it further.

Resolution #56-21

Set date for March Town Board workshop

By Mr. Lucarelli

Seconded by Mr. Bush

Motion was made to set the date of March 8, 2021 at 7pm for the Town Board workshop.

Aye- Bush, T. Milliken, Allison, Lucarelli

No- None

Resolution #57-21

Approve Tax Adjustments per Chemung County Real Property

By Mr. Bush

Seconded by Mr. T. Milliken

Motion was made to adjust the Tax bills on 4 properties per a letter received to the Receiver of Taxes for the Town of Elmira from Chemung County Real Property Tax Service Agency. The mentioned properties paid their school taxes during the open warrant however they were not received from the School tax collector until the warrant was closed. Therefore, the County had to make adjustments to the Town of Elmira tax roll causing the Receiver of taxes for the Town of Elmira to have to make changes to the four tax bills.

		Original	Adjusted
Daniel and Marlene Bryan	144 Parkwood Ave, Elmira Heights	126.50	\$38.33
Daniel and Marlene Bryan	142 Parkwood Ave, Elmira heights	126.50	\$38.44
Daniel and Marlene Bryan	287 W 9th Street, Elmira Heights	2240.83	\$679.07
East Resource Inc. C/O Shell Oil Company - Outside Plant		817.22	\$269.07

Aye- Bush, T. Milliken, Allison, Lucarelli

No- None

Resolution #58-21

Approve refund of overpaid Sewer monies per Chemung County Real property

By Mr. Lucarelli

Seconded by Mr. Bush

Motion was made to approve a refund of \$124.94 for an over payment of a Sewer Tax to William and Kathleen Ingram per a letter received from the Chemung County Real Property Tax Service Agency to the Town’s Receiver of Taxes.

Aye- Bush, T. Milliken, Allison, Lucarelli

No- None

Resolution #59-21

Accept Resignation of Police Chief Thomas Barr

By Mr. T. Milliken

Seconded by Mr. Lucarelli

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Motion was made to accept Thomas Barr's resignation effective February 19, 2021 as Police Chief. Tom will stay on as a Part Time Traffic officer with a rate of \$22.37 per hour.

Aye- Bush, T. Milliken, Allison, Lucarelli

No- None

Resolution #60-21

Appoint Robert Richards as Provisional Police Chief

By Mr. Bush

Seconded by Mr. T. Milliken

Motion was made to appoint Robert Richards as provisional Police Chief effective February 16, 2021.

Aye-Bush, T. Milliken, Lucarelli, Allison

No- None

Resolution #61-21

Appoint John MacBeth as Provisional Sergeant

By Mr. Lucarelli

Seconded by Mr. Bush

Motion was made to appoint John MacBeth as provisional Sergeant effective February 16, 2021 with a stipend of \$2000.00.

Aye-Bush, T. Milliken, Lucarelli, Allison

No- None

Resolution #62-21

Appoint Thomas Holden as Full Time Traffic District 1 Officer

By Mr. T. Milliken

Seconded by Mr. Lucarelli

Motion was made to appoint Thomas Holden effective February 16, 2021 providing he passes his background check and physical with a probationary period of 12 months.

Aye-Bush, T. Milliken, Lucarelli, Allison

No- None

Motion was made by Councilmember Bush at 7:43pm and seconded by Councilmember T. Milliken to enter into an executive session in which Supervisor Milliken would lead. All in favor, Motion carried

Motion was made by Councilmember Bush at 8:10pm and seconded by Councilmember Allison to reconvene the Town Board meeting. All in favor, Motion Carried

Resolution #63-21

Set a Salary for Robert Richards

By Mr. Bush

Seconded by Mr. Allison

Motion was made to set a salary for Robert Richards at \$70678.00 with a \$3000.00 stipend as Chief.

Aye-Bush, T. Milliken, Lucarelli, Allison

No- None

Resolution #64-21

Set a Salary for Thomas Holden

By Mr. Lucarelli

Seconded by Mr. Allison

Motion was made to set a salary for Thomas Holden at \$48,227 as Provisional Traffic District 1 Officer with a probationary period of 12 months.

Aye-Bush, T. Milliken, Lucarelli, Allison

No- None

On a motion by Mr. Lucarelli and seconded by Mr. Allison the meeting was adjourned at 8:12PM.

Tammy Stein, Town Clerk