

MINUTES March 26, 2020

Minutes of the emergency meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Durham held March 26, 2020 by telephonic conferencing at 7:30pm.

Present, called in: Shawn Marriott, Supervisor
Joan Breslin, Deputy Supervisor
Linda Sutton, Council member
Scott Hulbert, Council member

Recording Secretary called in: Janet Partridge, Town Clerk

Others called in: Karen Terpak, Bookkeeper
Tal Rappleyea, Attorney
Patricia Handel, County Legislator
Joe van Holsteyn, Highway Superintendent
Maryellen Brooks, Assessor's Clerk
9 community members

Supervisor Marriott called the meeting to order at 7:37pm.

Marriott thanked everyone for joining the telephonic conference meeting and having patience while everyone joined in. He let everyone know this was a trial run to see if the board could hold meetings during this crisis through a phone conference. He asked for participants to please send feed back to him, it would be greatly appreciated.

The purpose of this meeting is to approve payment of the March bills and to go over and approve the insurance binder.

A motion was made by Deputy Supervisor Breslin to pay the March 17th bills, seconded by council member Sutton, all in favor, motion carried. (4 Ayes – Marriott, Breslin, Sutton, Hulbert)

Marriott mentioned he emailed the board about the Insurance binder that is coming due on April 20th and would need to be signed and sent in. The cost increased 3% from last year. The cyber quote is not included in the price he sent them because the town gets protection from BAS. Marriott was looking for a motion to approve the insurance quote from Marshall and Sterling for the period from 4/20/2020-4/19/2021.

A motion was made by Breslin to approve signing the insurance binder from Marshall and Sterling for the Town of Durham for the period from 4/20/2020 to 4/19/2020, seconded by council member Hulbert, all in favor, motion carried. (4 Ayes – Marriott, Breslin, Sutton, Hulbert)

Marriott read an email from Dan King explaining:

On March 20, 2020, the State of New York received a Major Disaster Declaration FEMA-4480-DR from President Trump for the COVID-19 Incident. They will begin holding applicant briefings in your region/county via WebEx in the very near future. The NYS Division of Homeland Securities and Emergency Services would like the county to please notify all potential eligible applicants within its region/county of the

MINUTES March 26, 2020

scheduled Applicants Briefs so they can attend and gain this important information.

Marriott would like this information to be uploaded to the Town of Durham's website and an email blast to go out.

Marriott read another email he received from a Durham resident, Karen Rothmyer. Rothmyer, Bernard Rivers, and Lawrence Byrne are working together to set up a volunteer list to help residents with shopping and errands during this crisis. They will be setting up a website and a Facebook page. They encourage anyone who could volunteer to please reach out to them and if there is anyone in the community who needs help, please contact them and they will set up a volunteer to help. Marriott would like this information uploaded onto the town website.

Breslin asked if the Durham highway department was still running on a 50% workforce. Marriott said yes and it will continue through next week.

Marriott asked Legislator Handel to give an update from the county. Handel reported the legislators are remotely conferencing at 2:30 and 5:30pm every day. As of today, there have been 9 positive cases of coronavirus in Greene County, but luckily 3 of them are off the quarantine list. There are 38 people in quarantine that are being monitored. Hand Sanitizer has been consistently distributed. Greene County Mental Health has their support services set up for members of the county. The county building has been sanitized and will be closed from Friday through Sunday, over 72 hours as a precaution. Town Clerk Partridge asked if the hand sanitizer distribution was for the public. Handel explained it is for all county, town, and village buildings along with fire departments, nursing homes, and other emergency services. It would be too difficult to distribute to the public.

Marriott asked if there were any questions from the community. Kevin O'Dea, a 30 year resident, asked if the county had any plans to reduce taxes. Handel reported there was nothing in place as of today. Attorney Rappleyea explained the NYS law has set taxes in a certain manor where the county can't put into effect a full reduction of taxes without an executive order. Marriott explained the governor passes an executive order suspending laws on a day to day basis, so anything in reference to that would come from the state, to the county and then to the town. Handel will ask on the county level if they have any information.

Breslin asked of the tax roll deadline of April 15th still in effect. Rappleyea said as far as he has seen, yes. The governor's staff will update him and if there is a change, he will let us know, but as of now the time frame is still the same.

The next meeting will be on April 7th, at 7:30pm. Information on the meeting will be on the town website.

Hulbert made a motioned to adjourn at 8:02pm, seconded by Breslin, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Partridge
Town Clerk/Collector