

Minutes of the Town of Chesterfield Regular Town Board Meeting Held on Tuesday, March 16th, 2023 at the Town of Chesterfield Offices ,1 Vine Street, in Keeseville, County of Essex, State of New York, Pursuant to Due Notice.

Supervisor Barber called the Town Board Meeting to order at 4:00 PM

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance

Those Present:

Supervisor	Clayton Barber
Town Clerk	Bruce Bourgeois
Councilman	David Gload
Councilman	Richard Klages
Councilman	Patrick “Bill” Mitchell
Councilman	John Casey (Excused)
Town Attorney	Michael McCormick
Supt. Of Highways	John “Jay” Champine

Guests Present:

Edward & Annette Giddings

Walter Chmura

Upon a motion by Councilman Klages and seconded by Councilman Gload and unanimously carried it was

#42 Resolved: That the reading of the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting of February 14th, 2023 be dispensed with.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board that Robert Russell, who previously served on the Town of Chesterfield Board of Assessment Review and John Clark, who previously served on the Town of Chesterfield Planning Board have passed away.

Upon a motion by Councilman Gload and unanimously seconded it was

#43 Resolved: To recognize the service of Robert “Bob” Russell, not only as Chairman and member of the Town of Chesterfield Planning Board and Board of Assessment Review, but also for his 25 years of service to his country in the United States Navy and to extend the Town Board of the Town of Chesterfield’s condolences to his family.

Upon a motion by Councilman Mitchell and unanimously seconded it was

#44 Resolved: To recognize the service of John Clark as member of the Town of Chesterfield Planning Board, his service to his country in the United States Army during the Korean Conflict and as teacher and principal for many years and to extend the Town of Chesterfield Town Board’s condolences to his family.

Supervisor Barber welcomed everyone in attendance and opened the floor for public comment.

Ed Giddings representing Ed’s Concrete presented the Board with an offer of \$20,000 to buy Lot 5 of approximately 4 acres in the Chesterfield Commerce Park for storage units. Lot # 5 is not in the front of the park and set back as to not be visible from Route 9. After some discussion, Supervisor Barber will approach the Essex County IDA for input. No decision was made at this time.

Walter Chmura reminded the Board of the Town of Jay’s outreach to voters, asked if ROOST funds could be used for improvements to Watson Park in Port Kent. He mentioned Frisbie Golf would be one idea and asked about dog control.

Supervisor stated the Town had put money and effort into the Park with improvements to the playground, a new ice rink liner, a new tennis net and landscape improvements.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board Clerk to the Supervisor Ocasio received a call from a concerned citizen regarding the Town Highway Department plowing the Knights of Columbus lot even though the lot nor the building is owned by the Town of Chesterfield. He stated the primary reason is the Knights of Columbus Hall is the Emergency Shelter for the Town of Chesterfield and needs to be kept

clear in the event of a disaster. The Hall also provides Senior Citizen lunches 5 days a week, meals for Meals on Wheels are prepared in the kitchen and elections and rabies clinics are held on site.

Highway Superintendent Champine added other community organizations are aided as well but all, including the Knights of Columbus Hall are not priorities and only plowed when the plowing on Town roads are completed.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board the water meters for Town of Chesterfield and Port Kent water districts have been read. Due to supply chain issues, Port Kent is not 100% metered yet but getting closer every day. The readings were done over only one day, a marked improvement over previous readings. All water districts are getting closer to improved efficiently to account for water usage and losses. As an example, Supervisor Barber informed the Board, at a previous reading, 9,560,000 gallons of water was produced but only 1,430,000 gallons of water were billed.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board the EFC met with Rob Wick, Brad Noviski, Laura Squires, Town Attorney McCormick, Douglas Goodfried and himself to discuss transitioning from BAN to BOND status on the Town of Chesterfield water project 185275. The Town is requesting an extension until the water intake portion of the project is completed.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board of a finance school sponsored by the Association of Towns and New York State Comptroller's Office May 8th and 9th in Geneva, NY. Clerk to the Supervisor Ocasio would like to attend.

Upon a motion by Councilman Klages and seconded by Councilman Mitchell and unanimously carried it was

#45 Resolved: To reimburse Clerk to the Supervisor Laura Ocasio for mileage, meals and lodging to attend the finance school in Geneva, NY May 8th and 9th.

Supervisor Barber gave the Board a breakdown of the funds the Board resolved to transfer from Glens Falls National to NY Class and informed the Board the Town earned \$4,238.63 in interest in only ½ month.

From the General Fund	\$300,000.00
From the General Reserve	\$24,236.58
From the Highway Fund	\$300,000.00
From the Highway Reserve	\$3,018.44

From the TCWD \$200,000.00

From the TCWD Reserve \$101,577.87

For a total transfer to NY Class \$928,832.89.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board as per guidelines set forth by Essex County and the State Comptroller, ROOST funds are now to be kept separate in its own fund rather than the General Fund. Fund # 16 has been established and funds received from ROOST will be spent under guidelines set forth by Essex County and approved by Essex County Board of Supervisors. The intent of ROOST funds is to bring people and businesses to the area. The Town is receiving extra this year but cannot be counting on the same amount every year.

Supervisor Barber presented the Board with a suggestion of a Town Clock Tower naming Chesterfield with the year of establishment, 1802, maybe at Veteran's Park. Highway Superintendent Champine suggested it be done before re-seeding. Councilman Gload mentioned maybe using funds for the Senior Van?

Supervisor Barber asked Town Attorney McCormick if the easements for the TCWD had been completed.

Town Attorney McCormick responded in the negative as no one has talked to the owners yet. Supervisor Barber volunteered to reach out to them.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board the Unifirst uniform contract is ready to renew. Unifirst informed him the agree 5% increase per year was not enough to cover costs and countered with a 25% increase which brings the annual cost to \$3,777 which is still significantly lower than previous contracts.If the Town give the workers a uniform allowance of \$750 per employee per year would be \$7500. Supervisor Barber would like to sign the contract this year and renew another 3-year next winter. Highway Superintendent Champine asked if maybe Unifirst could reach out in December instead of 3 months into the contract.

Upon a motion by Councilman Mitchell and seconded by Councilman Gload and unanimously carried it was

#46 Resolved: to enter into a one-year contract with Unifirst to provide uniforms and rags to the Town of Chesterfield's Highway and Water Departments for \$3,777.80 with intention of signing a new 3-year contract in December,2023.

Upon a motion by Councilman Klages and seconded by Councilman Gload and unanimously carried it was

#47 Resolved: To accept the completed Supervisor's Financial Report for February ,2023, copies of which can be found in the Town Clerk's Office.

Upon a motion by Councilman Mitchell and seconded by Councilman Gload and unanimously carried it was

#48 Resolved: To accept the completed Supervisor's Financial Report for January,2023, copies of which can be found in the Town Clerk's Office.

Upon a motion by Councilman Gload and seconded by Councilman Klages and unanimously carried it was

#49 Resolved: That all audited bills presented to the Town Board since the last Board Meeting on February 14th,2023 be paid. Bills in the amount of \$67,433.48 were audited and paid from the General Fund. Bills in the amount of \$100,904.96 were audited and paid from the Highway Fund. Bills in the amount of \$21,569.24 were audited and paid from the Town of Chesterfield Water Department. Bills in the amount of \$3,704.26 were audited and paid from the Port Kent Water Departments. Bills in the amount of \$2,338.90 were audited and paid from the Village Debt. Bills in the amount of 60.00 were audited and paid from the Trust& Agency. Bills in the amount of \$40.11 were audited and paid from the Port Kent Light District. Bills in the amount of \$1,978.40 were audited and paid from the Town Water Project. The total of all bills since last meeting was \$198,030.35.

Upon a motion by Councilman Mitchell and seconded by Councilman Klages and unanimously carried it was

#50 Resolved: That all letters brought before the Town be filed.

Supervisor Barber offered the courtesy of the floor to Town Clerk Bourgeois.

Town Clerk Bourgeois informed the Board of the Essex County Rabies Clinic to be held May10th,2023 from 6-8PM at the Keeseville Knights of Columbus. He also reiterated the point that dog owners are very quick to send in deceased dogs but conveniently forget to register new dogs.

Supervisor Barber offered the courtesy of the floor to Town Attorney McCormick.

Town Attorney McCormick asked if we opt in for the cannabis law can we put stipulations or constraints?

Supervisor Barber stated the only stipulations was distances to churches or schools.

Supervisor Barber offered the courtesy of the floor to Highway Superintendent Champine.

Highway Superintendent Champine informed the Board the roller he ordered is on the way. The Highway Department is down one employee. He asked if any news on the charging station?

Supervisor Barber stated the County sets the schedule.

Upon a motion by Councilman Klages and seconded by Councilman Gload and unanimously carried it was

#51 Resolved: To enter into Executive Session to discuss a water billing issue at 5:33 PM.

Upon a motion by Councilman Gload and seconded by Councilman Mitchell and unanimously carried it was

#52 Resolved: To exit Executive Session at 5:41 PM and return to the Regular Board Meeting.

Upon a motion by Councilman Mitchell and seconded by Councilman Gload and unanimously carried it was

#53 Resolved: To settle the water billing issue as discussed.

Upon a motion by Councilman Gload and seconded by Councilman Klages and unanimously carried it was

#54 Resolved: That with no further business to come before this Town Board Meeting, this meeting could be adjourned at 5:48 P.M.

Bruce Bourgeois

Town Clerk

