**Town of Bellmont**

**Regular Meeting**

**January 22, 2025**

A regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Bellmont, County of Franklin and State of New York was held at the Bellmont Town Offices on Wednesday, January 22, at 6:30 p.m.

**Attendance**

**Present:** Sara Titus Town Supervisor

 Jeff Manley Councilman

 Wayne Rogers Councilman

 Harley Titus Councilman

 Lee Davis Highway Superintendent

 Stacey Mailloux Bookkeeper

 Lisa Vanier Town Clerk

 Candy Charland, David Stewart, Deputy J. Prue FCSO, Deputy J. Marshall FCSO, Bruce Burditt

**Absent**: Gregory Langdon, Councilman

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Motion to accept the minutes of the December 16, 2024 Regular Meeting made by Wayne Rogers, seconded by Harley Titus. Motion carried.

**Supervisor’s Financial Report dated November 30, 2024**

* **Budget Amendment #10**

Transfer $1,487.71 from Account A8020.4 Land and Water Use Planning C.E. to, as follows, $0.04 to A1220.1 Supervisor Personal Services, $0.04 to A1355.1 Assessor Personal Services, $236.89 to A1410.4 Town Clerk – C. E., $303.00 to A1420.4 Attorney, $98.00 to A1920.4 Municipal Association Dues, $0.04 to A3620.1 Safety Inspections – Personal Services, $849.70 to A5132.4 Garage C.E.

Motion to approve Budget Amendment #10 made by Jeff Manley, seconded by Wayne Rogers, motion carried.

* **Budget Amendment #11**

Transfer $0.02 from Account SW8330.4 Purification Contractual to Account SW8310.1 Administrator – Personal Services

Motion to approve Budget Amendment #11 made by Harley Titus, seconded by Jeff Manley, motion carried.

* The Town Tax Warrant is $1,338,995.93

Copies of the monthly financial reports were distributed to the board with additional copies available for the public in attendance.

Motion made to accept the Town Supervisor’s Financial Report by Jeff Manley, seconded by Wayne Rogers, motion carried.

**Highway Superintendent’s Report**

* The Highway Superintendent will apply for the Local Highway Salt Reduction Project Grant through Franklin County Soil and Water.
* Parts for the John Deere tractor repair are still on backorder.
* Lee Davis, Highway Superintendent, is still working with Bruce Russell and the FEMA reps to complete town projects, including culverts on the Lake Road.
* Lee Davis is meeting with Cornerstone on January 23, 2025 for an estimate on the air purification system at the Bellmont Center Garage, and has contacted BCool and Upstate.
* There has not been a lot of overtime for the staff, and there is plenty of sand.

**Town Supervisor’s Report**

* Tisdale submitted the 2024 Post Closure Monitoring Report for the Bellmont Landfill. There are broken vents and the well needs repair. Lee Davis, Highway Superintendent, will fix the vents, as he has in the past with no issue with the DEC, and check the issue with the well. The cost quoted by Tisdale is $2,600.00. The Town has yet to receive the Annual Contract.
* 2025 CDBG grants start in early spring. Susan Picard, at CDBG, will complete the grant on the Town’s behalf at a cost of $1,650.

Harley Titus made a motion to move forward with CBDG preparing grant paperwork for the Town of Bellmont. Seconded by Jeff Manley, motion carried.

* The electrical work for the Brainardsville Sewer Project is in place, and there is a wait for the plumbing to be completed from the water source to the office. The submersible pump is currently frozen solid. $117,750 of the grant funds remain with the EFC. A disbursement of $256,000 from the DEC grant was requested by the Engineer. T.J. Fiacco needs at least partial payment in good faith.
* Mark Murray, CEO Liberty Utilities, Steven Wilkinson, REV ING, and Matt Fuller, Attorney for Town of Bellmont met regarding a contract for Liberty Utilities to run methane gas collection lines along County Route 23. Liberty Utilities are willing to pay 100% taxes as assessed per foot for lines laid. The contract as revised by Town Attorney Matt Fuller is now in the hands of Liberty Utilities.
* The Town received a Notice of Intent to file Application from AES, Ellenburg Wind Repowering project. This starts the timeline for the Town to apply for escrow funds and find an attorney. Matt Fuller feels that an attorney with a specialty in wind energy projects would benefit our town, so Sara Titus, Town Supervisor will contact Eric Gustavson, the attorney representing Chateaugay with their wind contracts. There are 4 towers in the Town of Bellmont. The wind company has agreed to come to a Board meeting. The Supervisor will reach out to Mitchell Dangler of AES and Eric Gustavson to try to get the on the Agenda for the next Board meeting.
* Robert Ball is planning on starting reassessment in the spring of 2025, with a goal of completion for mid-2026, using the new assessment for tax year 2027. The Town needs to hire a data collector to work with Mr. Ball. It is preferable to have a non-Bellmont resident. The current rate of pay is $20.00 per hour, with mileage of $.50 per mile for compensation.
* The McDonald Road will be added to Adam King’s plow route. The road is often used as a detour during emergencies.

**Committee Reports**

**Food Pantry:** A $700 Gratitude Grant was received. Judy Nason received updated training on Food Safety, and ordering and reporting to Food Pantry. There are approximately 60 families that benefit from the Bellmont Food Pantry

**Highway:** The Employment Contract has been completed, accepted, and signed. 4th quarter fuel logs have been submitted to the Town Clerk

**Insurance:** Supervisor Sara Titus met with Pat McGuire, the Town’s insurance provider, to discuss insurance on an additional building assessed at $525,000. The Highway Superintendent updated equipment lists and figures.

**Old Business**

There is still a search for a Dam Keeper in Mountain View.

**Public Comment**

Bruce Burditt, of Mountain View Lake Association, shared progress on the milfoil abatement in Mountain View Lake. There will be a Public Hearing on February 18, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the Owls Head Mountain View Community Center regarding Procella COR.

**TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF BELLMONT**

**BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 5 OF 2025**

At a regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Bellmont, a Municipality with offices at 9 Hill St, Brainardsville, Bellmont, New York, duly called (a quorum being present) and held at the Town Hall located in the Town of Bellmont, County of Franklin, State of New York, on January 22, 2025, the following **Resolution** was duly adopted and is now in full force and effect:

**Whereas** it is the intent of the Mountain View Lake Association to pursue the use and application of ProcellaCOR in the Mountain View Lake, Indian Lake, and the channel in between said lakes to address the growth and subsequent spread of the Eurasian Water Milfoil plant;

**Whereas** the Mountain View Lake Association has informed the Bellmont Town Board of progress made in their application process to proceed with the use of ProcellaCOR and is now seeking the approval of the Bellmont Town Board in this pursuit and eventual use of ProcellaCOR;

**Therefore,** the Town Board of the Town of Bellmont resolves to approve of and publicly support the endeavors of the Mountain View Lake Association in their application and potential future use of ProcellaCOR with the understanding that said approval and support does not extend to the Town of Bellmont being financially responsible for the application, purchase, and use of ProcellaCOR.

**Motion by: Wayne Rogers Second by: Jeff Manley**

**Vote:**

**Greg Langdon Abs**

**Jeff Manley Aye**

**Wayne Rogers Aye**

**Harley Titus Aye**

**Sara Titus Aye**

**I certify that the above resolution was passed by the Town Board of the Town of Bellmont on January 22, 2025.**

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**Town of Bellmont Clerk**

Harley Titus expressed concern about the tractor trailers that are hauling manure for Bilow Farms. They are loud and travel very quickly.

Lee Davis is concerned about the speed of traffic on County Route 24 where it passes Hill Road in Brainardsville. The Town will initiate the process of extending the 35 m.p.h. speed zone to make exiting Hill Road safer.

**Town Clerk Report**

Income: Dog Licenses = $85.00

Disbursements: NYS Department of Agriculture Spay and Neuter Program = $9.00

The next regular Town Board Meeting will be held at the Bellmont Town Hall on Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. at the Bellmont Town Hall in Brainardsville.

A motion was made to audit and pay vouchers General Fund Abstract #12 Vouchers #270 - 305 in the amount of $28,255.63 and Highway Fund Abstract #12 Vouchers #194 - 210 in the amount of $216,462.34. Motion was made by Harley Titus, seconded by Wayne Rogers, motion carried.

Motion to adjourn made by Jeff Manley, seconded by Wayne Rogers, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.