

Town of Murray Public Hearing

November 15, 2021

Present: Supervisor Joseph Sidonio, Councilmen Randall Bower, Lloyd Christ, Paul Hendel and Michael Mele, Attorney John Sansone, Town Clerk Cindy Oliver, Highway and Water Superintendent Dirk Lammes, Legislator Ken DeRoller, John Fitzak, William Moroz, Sandy Shaw, Dave Knapp, Tim Hungerford, Cheryl Hungerford, Art Knab, Mike Christopher, Louise Passarell, Annette Curtis, Scott Underwood, Kerri Neale, Amy Machamer, Doris Allport

Public Hearing – 2022 Town Budget

Motion by Hendel, Seconded by Mele to open the public hearing at 7:02 p.m.
Motion Carried

Copies of the 2022 preliminary budget were available to the public. No questions regarding the preliminary budget from those present.

Motion by Hendel, Seconded by Mele to close the public hearing at 7:03 p.m.
Motion Carried

Town Board Meeting

Motion by Christ, Seconded by Bower to open the regular town board meeting at 7:03 p.m.
Motion Carried

Motion by Mele, Seconded by Bower accepting the minutes of the October 18th budget workshop meeting as submitted Motion Carried

Motion by Hendel, Seconded by Mele to accept the October 18th town board meeting minutes with the following change to the first paragraph of page three: Replace *Councilman Hendel, member of the Orleans County Planning Board informed all that County Planning did approve resolutions for sales and mortgage tax abatement* with ***Councilman Hendel, member of the Orleans County Economic Development Agency informed all that the EDA did approve resolutions for sales and mortgage tax abatement.*** Motion Carried

Motion by Mele, Seconded by Bower accepting the minutes of the October 28th work meeting as submitted Motion Carried

Supervisor Sidonio wanted it on the record that the 2020 payroll folder that was reported as missing at the June 21st meeting has been found.

Guest Speakers:

Legislator Ken DeRoller was present to talk about the Orleans County Housing Study that was completed in June. All were given the Orleans County Snapshot packet. As Legislator DeRoller will be retiring at the end of the year, he assured the Board that Cory Winters and Jim Bensley will help facilitate this housing needs for our area.

Kerri Neale entered the meeting.

Types of housing needed, what the county needs to improve upon in order to entice people to live in our county was discussed. Legislator DeRoller stated that each municipality has something to offer.

District Attorney Joseph Cardone presented the basics of a plan for court consolidation within the county. Mr. Cardone spoke briefly about the history of our court system. There are presently 13 town justices in Orleans County as the village courts in Medina and Albion have been eliminated.

Amy Machamer entered the meeting.

If this were to happen, the Justices must be attorneys as there has been a concern that presently, justices are elected and many have no training in the law. Is this fair to the defendants? With a district court system there would be a higher quality of justice taking place in a central location. All towns would not have to agree to move to a district court system but hopefully there will be a couple towns that can begin the process. This is something that is at the very beginning stages and is only being discussed. All judges and the magistrate's association are aware that this is being looked at.

Councilman Bower asked if the county had enough attorneys to fill the positions of justices and if our county judge is in favor of this. Mr. Cardone said the number of attorneys in Orleans County could present a problem as the justices have to live in our county. The county judge hasn't taken a stand either way. Where the court would be located depends on which towns partake.

Standing Committee Reports

Councilman Mele informed all that interviews for Code Enforcement Officer will take place next week.

Regarding the open Attorney for the Town position, the town board would like John's input as to the candidates we have thus far.

Town Clerk

Receipts for October totaled \$1,000.00 with \$489.16 going into the general fund.

The office is getting prepared for tax collection. We have already received many tax bill requests from banks and mortgage companies.

At the request of the Supervisor, Cindy has discontinued the service agreement for the color copier in the code enforcement office. Diane said a color copier is not needed and it is also too large. We can leave it up to the next Code Enforcement Officer to decide if a copier in that office is needed.

Assessor's Office

It is a very slow time in the office currently. Sales in the town are still good and selling prices are still high, but not as high as they were six months ago.

Highway and Water

The water department found two more leaks; one was very significant. A small leak was found in the area of Hurd and Telegraph Road. A valve was leaking as it was open part way. They will continue to look and listen for leaks.

All trucks are ready for snow and salt has been ordered so they are in good shape.

Dirk asked the Board for a resolution for a back hoe and resolution for a medium duty dump truck with a plow and box.

John Sansone said he will draft the resolution.

Motion by Hendel, Seconded by Bower that Highway Superintendent Dirk Lammes work with John Sansone and put a bid out for a medium duty chasse dump truck with plow.

Motion Carried

The back hoe will be ordered on state bid.

John will have the back hoe resolution for next meeting.

New Business

Supervisor Sidonio would like to schedule a public hearing on the proposed comprehensive plan and zoning amendments. Councilman Hendel is in agreement but he wants to see the documents that show the changes to both prior to the public hearing.

Councilman Randall Bower moved adoption of the following resolution; Councilman Michael Mele seconded the motion:

WHEREAS the tentative budget for the year 2022 has been duly presented to the Town Board by the Budget Officer, and a duly publicized hearing was held on the 15th day of November 2021 at 7:00 p.m. on the preliminary budget prepared by the Town Board; and

WHEREAS at which time, all persons desiring to be heard were heard;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, pursuant to Section 109 of the Town Law of the State of New York, the Town Board of the Town of Murray hereby

ADOPTS THE PRELIMINARY BUDGET, as amended, altered, and revised, as the Budget for the Town of Murray for the year 2022.

Upon being put to a roll call vote, the resolution was unanimously adopted.

Motion by Mele, Seconded by Bower appointing Chad Fabry as interim Code Enforcement Officer.

After being put to a vote, the motion was unanimously adopted.

Motion by Christ, Seconded by Hendel that the following resolution be adopted:

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Murray hereby appoints the following people to the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Steering Committee:

- Robert Batt
- James Bensley
- Amy Machamer
- Michael Mele
- Alexis Penna

Upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Ayes	4	Bower, Christ, Hendel, Sidonio
Nays	0	
Abstain	1	Mele

The resolution was thereupon adopted.

Motion by Bower, Seconded by Mele to terminate the public Wi-Fi contract with RTO/Microsoft. Motion Carried

Councilman Paul Hendel moved adoption of the following resolution; Councilman Lloyd Christ seconded the motion:

WHEREAS, the Town of Murray, with the assistance from Tetra Tech, Inc., has gathered information and prepared the Orleans County Hazard Mitigation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Orleans County Hazard Mitigation Plan has been prepared in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Murray is a local unit of government that has afforded the citizens an opportunity to comment and provide input in the Plan and the actions in the Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Murray has reviewed the Plan and affirms that the Plan will be updated no less than every five years;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by Murray Town Board of the Town of Murray adopts the Orleans County Hazard Mitigation Plan as this jurisdiction's Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, and resolves to execute the actions in the Plan.

After being put to a vote, the resolution was unanimously adopted.

Motion by Hendel, Seconded by Christ scheduling a public hearing on December 1st at 7:00 p.m. on the 2021 proposed comprehensive plan and the 2021 zoning amendments.

Motion Carried

The Town of Murray are being recognized with an award from the Landmark Society for the Fancher War Memorial. The annual awards will be presented through zoom on December 12th. The link will be forwarded to the Board so they can attend.

Public Comment

Dolores Allport, representing the Eastern Orleans Community Center, was present to request a financial donation from the Town for residents in need that the Community Center serves. A donation would be a huge help. The Town Board is unsure if a donation can legally be made. It will be put on the agenda for next meeting.

Councilman Hendel said that we need to keep an eye on the current COVID rates in the county. One town has already gone virtual with their meetings. We should discuss this at our next work meeting.

Louise Passarell informed the Board that she has had an ongoing harassment complaint against the Supervisor that is five months old and has yet to receive a response. She quit her job because of this and she finds it unbelievable that it doesn't seem to be important, or a priority to the Town Board. Attorney Sansone informed Louise that he is doing them all together and the responses will be filed by the end of the month.

Kerri Neale spoke of his concerns that prisons in the state are closing and where the people in the prisons are being transplanted to.

Sandy Shaw, Director of the Community Free Library informed all that the library will not be having a Christmas party due to the high COVID numbers. There are gifts at the library for those in need and also a hat and mitten tree. The donated hats and mittens will be taken to the school to be distributed to those children who need them. There is currently a basket fund raiser taking place. Come to the library and put our name in the baskets to possibly win one.

Art Knab said that Channel 13 News reported that municipalities will be the last to receive trucks that they order. If the Town needs a truck, the order should be submitted.

Motion by Hendel, Seconded by Bower to approve the Supervisor's financial report

Motion Carried

Motion by Hendel, Seconded by Bower that the general fund bills totaling \$22,596.07 be approved and paid Motion Carried

Motion by Bower, Seconded by Mele that the Board enter into executive session at 8:55 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter Motion Carried

Motion by Christ, Seconded by Bower that the Board return to regular session at 9:50 p.m. with no action taken Motion Carried

Motion by Hendel, Seconded by Mele appointing Diane Herzog as Provisional Clerk, Part-Time for the water and highway departments until such time that fourth quarter billing is completed or the position is filled with a permanent Clerk, Part-Time. Motion Carried

Motion by Hendel, Seconded by Bower to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 p.m.
Motion Carried

So, adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cynthia L. Oliver