

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING  
February 13, 2024

The Regular Meeting of the Burke Town Board was held on February 13, 2024 at the Burke Town Court House.

Supervisor Bill Wood declared the meeting to order at 5:58 P.M.

Roll Call:

Town Supervisor:	Bill Wood	
Councilman:	Tim Crippen	
	Jim Otis	
	Paddy Wheeler	
	Eric Ashlaw	
Supt. of Highways:	Larry LaPlante	
Town Clerk:	Judy Tavernier	
Bookkeeper:	Linda Trudell	
Code Officer:	Jim Dumont	
Guest Speakers:	Patrick Maquire	Sid G. Spear

This Regular Meeting is being voice recorded by the Burke Town Clerk.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was said.

There were no public comments at this time.

Minutes from the January 9, 2024 Re-organizational meeting were read and accepted on a motion by Tim Crippen and seconded by Paddy Wheeler.

Roll Call: Tim - Aye, Jim - Aye, Paddy - Aye, Eric - Aye, Bill - Aye.

New Business:

1. Pat Maquire and Jessica Breyette from Sid G. Spear were present and outlined the changes to the proposed insurance policy and the increase of 5% for the year.
2. John Carr was not present for the meeting.
3. Paddy Wheeler made the motion to sign the Bangor Sheltering Contract for 2024. Eric Ashlaw seconded the motion.  
Roll Call: Tim - Aye, Jim - Aye, Paddy - Aye, Eric - Aye, Bill - Aye.
4. Jim Otis motioned that the bidding process for mowing be initiated. Tim Crippen seconded. Bids due by March 8, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. Larry will be contact for areas.  
Roll Call: Tim - Aye, Jim - Aye, Paddy - Aye, Eric - Aye, Bill - Aye.
5. Discussion ensued regarding new court clerk and wages. It was decided that budget should be adhered to. Tim Crippen made the motion to hire Sharon Hyde and give her the salary budgeted for the year. Paddy Wheeler seconded the motion. Roll Call: Tim - Aye, Jim - Aye, Paddy - Aye, Eric - Aye, Bill - Abstain. Bill will contact Lorelei Miller and Sharon Hyde of this decision.
6. Policies and Code of Ethics were reviewed and attestations signed by those present. Other town employees will be contacted for signatures. Tim Crippen made the motion to have our attorney review the current policy for junk dealers. Paddy Wheeler seconded. Roll Call: Tim - Aye, Jim - Nay, Paddy - Aye, Eric - Aye, Bill - Aye.
7. Association of Towns training is scheduled for February 18-21, 2024 for those interested in attending.
8. Board reviewed the report of residential sales provided by Tax Assessor Robert Ball. A meeting to discuss this report will be scheduled.
9. The tax re-levy for unpaid water bills has been received from the tax collector.

10. Tim Crippen suggested that we start negotiations with the Burke Volunteer Fire Department to discuss a 3 year contract. He will initiate this.

11. Eric reported that he will fix the soffit on the Town Hall next week.

Old Business:

1. ARPA unspent balance is approximately \$81,424. This amount will be moved to a separate account. Jim Otis made the motion to pay the \$7,790 down payment for the generator for the garage. Paddy Wheeler seconded. Jim Otis amended his motion to include the down payment for the town hall generator, also. Paddy Wheeler agreed to amend his second. Roll Call: Tim - Aye, Jim - Aye, Paddy - Aye, Eric - Aye, Bill - Aye. Tim Crippen made a motion to preapprove the voucher for these down payments. Eric Ashlaw seconded. Roll Call: Tim - Aye, Jim - Aye, Paddy - Aye, Eric - Aye, Bill - Aye.
2. Annual Financial Report is in process.
3. Town Justice Court Audit will be completed. Date to be determined.

Code Officer Report – Nothing to report.

Highway Committee Report – A comprehensive list of equipment, age, and anticipated replacement was distributed. The 2004 Mack is overdue for replacement and a quote of \$256,578 was received. Quote is good until 4/1/2024. Delivery will take 18 months – 2 years. Bill will contact USDA about grants/funds. Jim Otis recommends ordering this year. Also discussed maintaining US Route 122 and associated expenses. Costs will be reduced as much as possible. Future Project is the <sup>sand</sup> storage shed. Bill will discuss with Chateaugay and USDA. We may be able to get a grant through Soil & Water. Suggested extending the lean-to on garage to get equipment under cover. Excess equipment should be disposed of, possibly as scrap metal.

Highway Superintendent Report: Storm damage necessitated cutting trees. Maintenance work done on the 18 Volvo. Spinner shaft on sander was repaired. Replaced the Evap Canister on the pickup. Dozer valve piston broke – ordered parts.

Financial Reports were reviewed. Jim Otis made the motion to accept the Financial Reports. Tim Crippen seconded.

Roll Call: Tim - Aye, Jim - Aye, Paddy - Aye, Eric - Aye, Bill - Aye.

Bank Reconciliation – Paddy Wheeler made the motion to accept the bank reconciliation. Eric Ashlaw seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Tim - Aye, Jim - Aye, Paddy - Aye, Eric - Aye, Bill - Aye.

No Public Comments were made.

Bills were paid.

A motion to adjourn at 8:35 P.M. was made by Tim Crippen and seconded by Paddy Wheeler. Roll Call: Tim - Aye, Jim - Aye, Paddy - Aye, Eric - Aye, Bill - Aye.

Respectfully submitted,



Judy Tavernier, Town Clerk