December 13, 2023

The annual budget hearing and regular meetings of the Preston Town Board were held on Wednesday, December 13, 2023.  Those present were:

Zachary Meseck – Supervisor Eileen Andrews - Councilman

Charles Stein, Sr. – Councilman Steven Palmatier – Councilman

Daniel MacIntosh – Highway Superintendent Sheri Howe – Bookkeeper/Dep. Clerk Jennifer Funk – Town Clerk

Mr. Meseck called the regular meeting of the Preston Town Board to order at 7:08 p.m.

Mr. Palmatier made the motion to accept the Town Clerk’s minutes. Seconded by Mr. Howe and carried.

Mr. Palmatier made the motion to approve the Supervisor’s report. Seconded by Mr. Howe and carried.

Mr. Palmatier made the motion authorizing the Town Clerk to certify Abstract #12 containing the General Fund- Audits Nos. 91-100 totaling $5,129.82 and Highway Orders Nos. 129-138 totaling $6,820.77 and authorizing the Supervisor to pay said claims. Seconded by Mr. Howe and carried.

Mr. Meseck stated that NBT has a new high yield savings account. Ms. Howe stated that her concern is how many withdrawals per month are allowed with that type of account. Mr. Meseck will look into it.

Mr. Meseck stated that Mrs. Utter discovered a Revolutionary War Veteran is buried in the Poorhouse Cemetery, so they are reapplying for Historic designation through the Pomeroy Foundation. If approved, Mrs. Utter stated that vehicle access will be needed beyond the material piles. The Town Board discussed the possibility of adding a walking path/access road from the park instead and will need to investigate the insurance liability of both.

The Town Board had a brainstorming session regarding potential 2024 Town events. The Town Cleanup day is tentatively scheduled for April 21st in conjunction with Earth Day. The Town could also have a celebration that day for the new playground with the added possibility of a Touch-A-Truck event with local companies. The Easter event was also discussed. Ms. Sitts may know someone interested in the Youth Director position, however, they don’t live in Preston. It was stated that Board members would like to see if a Preston resident was interested first. The Annual Town Picnic will be later in the summer and Mr. Meseck suggested that the Town recognize Mr. Stein’s many years of service.

Mr. MacIntosh presented the board with his monthly highway report and sick time report for the highway employees.

Mr. MacIntosh stated he had been contacted by NYSEG inquiring about a road bond. They will be replacing the high lines on Tamarac and will be utilizing heavy equipment. Mr. MacIntosh stated that the value of replacing the road if damaged would be about $750,000 and requested a $1 million bond. Mr. Palmatier requested the Town document video condition of the road prior to work in June.

Mr. MacIntosh stated the new truck box was delayed. The Highway crew built a new sanding chute to help get the truck through the winter.

Mr. MacIntosh stated the CHIPS funding came in.

Mr. Palmatier made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Stein and carried.