

TOWN OF BARTON

DONALD FOSTER, SUPERVISOR

MINUTES – DECEMBER 9, 2024 @ 6:30 PM

Via In-Person

Board Members Present: Supervisor Donald Foster, Councilperson Michael Rice, Councilperson Kevin Everly, Councilperson Jeffrey Coleman, Councilperson David Shipman

Board Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Fred Schweiger, Highway Superintendent; Arrah Richards-McCarty, Town Clerk;

Guests:

Andy Aronstam; Waverly, NY

Patty Aronstam; Waverly, NY

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Supervisor Donald Foster.

Pledge of Allegiance

Privilege of the Floor

Village of Waverly Mayor Andy Aronstam discussed the grand opening of the new Waverly Mental Health clinic that is now located in the village hall. The grand opening had a great turnout and the clinic received their first appointments yesterday.

Approval of Minutes: A **motion** to approve last month's regular board meeting minutes (11/13/2024) as submitted by the Town Clerk made by Councilperson Kevin Everly, seconded by Councilperson Mike Rice.

5-Ayes, 0-Noes

Vouchers: A **motion** to approve the vouchers made by Councilperson Mike Rice, seconded by Councilperson Kevin Everly.

<u>FUND</u>	<u>VOUCHER NO'S</u>	<u>TOTAL CLAIM</u>
➤ General Fund	264-293	\$44,258.38
➤ Highway Fund	172-197	\$82,506.13
➤ Water/Sewer Fund.....	66-69	\$4,642.71

5-Ayes, 0-Noes

Personnel:

Town Clerk Arrah Richards-McCarty

1. I would like to formally request the carryover of unexpended funds in my Registrar account (B4020.4) from this fiscal period to cover an upcoming expense next fiscal period. Due to the cost of restoring record's books, my budgeted contractual amount does not cover it in full with all the other expenses. The vendor does not invoice any expense that is under \$1,000. It is necessary to allocate these remaining funds to ensure books are being preserved in a timely manner.

Councilman Everly asked how many more books need preserving and if the town is going to go digital, why spend money on preserving these books. Town Clerk McCarty responded she may have about 40 books to preserve; some in better condition than others.

If the town is interested in going digital, the town would want to apply for a grant to support their efforts in digitizing the business operations. This would be beneficial especially for building permits. Applying for a grant can be a long and complex process, but can be done.

In the meantime, the Town Clerk is requesting the transfer of funds to preserve the town's vital records books.

Motion to approve the transfer of unexpended funds from B4020.4 (Registrar) from this fiscal year to next fiscal year to cover the cost of the preserving a vital record book made by Councilperson Mike Rice, seconded by Councilperson Jeff Coleman.

Roll Call Vote:

Mike Rice	Aye
Kevin Everly	Abstain
Donald Foster	Abstain
Jeffrey Coleman	Aye
Dave Shipman	Aye

So carried.

2. Property tax bills will be mailed out at the end of this month for collection to begin January 2.
3. Legislation to adjust the tax penalty structure was just placed on the Governor's desk on December 2. She has 30 days to sign the legislation, otherwise it is vetoed. The bill relates to setting a minimum and maximum delinquent tax interest rate for payments due on residential real property. Discussion ensued on the possibilities of the Governor signing the bill and what that would mean when tax bills are printed/mailed out.

Highway Superintendent Fred Schweiger

Waiting to hear when he can pick up the new chassis.

Have been plowing snow the last few weeks which is digging into the budget.

New Business

- 1. Water/Sewer Bill Adjustment Due to Leak for Emily George

There was an error in the calculation adjusting the water/sewer account so this resolution will correct that error.

CERTIFIED COPY OF RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE BARTON TOWN BOARD

ADOPTED 12/09/2024

RESOLUTION NO 43-2024

WATER/SEWER BILL ADJUSTMENT- EMILY
GEORGE

WHEREAS, resolution 34-2024 approved Town of Barton water/sewer user, Emily George, water/sewer forgiveness for the property located at 11 Dodge Ave., Waverly, New York due to a paid pool fill; and

WHEREAS, the amount of water that was used to fill an 18-foot pool, one foot deep, was calculated incorrectly; and

NOW THEREFORE upon a motion by Councilperson Dave Shipman, seconded by Councilperson Jeff Coleman and carried; be it

RESOLVED, the Town Board approves the new calculation of water used to fill an 18-foot pool, one foot deep, to be 254 cubic feet; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, an adjustment to the water portion should now reflect \$6.02 and an adjustment to the sewer portion should now reflect \$13.36; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution be forwarded to the Village of Waverly.

Roll Call Vote:

Mike Rice Aye
Kevin Everly Aye
Donald Foster Aye
Jeffrey Coleman Aye
Dave Shipman Aye

- 2. Sewer Bill Adjustment Due to Leak Andrea Kovacs-Rose

The owner found there was a leak under the sink and provided pictures of the floor where the water seeped through the wood. The village validated those pictures.

CERTIFIED COPY OF RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE BARTON TOWN BOARD

ADOPTED 12/09/2024

RESOLUTION NO 44-2024

SEWER BILL ADJUSTMENT DUE TO LEAK-
ANDREA KOVACS-ROSE

WHEREAS, Town of Barton water/sewer landowner, Andrea Kovacs-Rose, requested sewer forgiveness for the property located at 4 Catherine Lane, Waverly, New York due to a leak; and

WHEREAS, Village of Waverly Water Department confirmed this leak did not go into the sewer pipes; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Barton Town Board requests that the Water and Sewer Clerk take the average of the last four consumptions prior to the leak and charge only that average to the landowner; and

NOW THEREFORE upon a motion by Councilperson Mike Rice, seconded by Councilperson Dave Shipman and carried; be it

RESOLVED, the Town of Barton Town Board, Tioga County, New York approves the owner's request to adjust the sewer portion only of the recent water and sewer bill due to a leak beyond their control; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, the sewer bill be reduced to reflect an average consumption of 475 cubic feet, with an adjustment to the sewer portion only, totaling \$341.90; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution be forwarded to the Village of Waverly.

Roll Call Vote:

Mike Rice	Aye
Kevin Everly	Aye
Donald Foster	Aye
Jeffrey Coleman	Aye
Dave Shipman	Aye

3. Update Sexual Harassment Policy

Supervisor Foster gave each of the board members a copy of the proposed legislation updating the sexual harassment policy. He asked the board to look it over and will discuss next month.

Old Business

1. Conversion of Propane to Natural Gas at Well Pump House – No update.
Supervisor Foster requested this to be removed from Old Business until there is an update.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:53 PM made by Councilperson Kevin Everly, seconded by Councilperson Dave Shipman. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Arrah Richards-McCarty

Town of Barton Town Clerk