

Minutes of the Town Board for August 18, 2020

**TOWN OF PITTSFORD
TOWN BOARD
AUGUST 18, 2020**

Proceedings of a regular meeting of the Pittsford Town Board held on Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. local time. The meeting took place with Board members participating remotely using Zoom.

PRESENT: Supervisor William A. Smith, Jr.; Councilmembers Kevin Beckford, Cathy Koshykar, Katherine B. Munzinger and Stephanie M. Townsend.

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Staff Members: Cheryl Fleming, Personnel Director; Jessie Hollenbeck, Recreation Director; Robert Koegel, Town Attorney; Brian Luke, Finance Director, and Linda Dillon, Town Clerk.

ATTENDANCE: Also in attendance were sign language interpreters and staff members, as well as Victor-Pierre Melendez, representing Joule Community Power, Susan Hughes-Smith representing Rocricity, and Richelle Acker, Jerry Walters, Scott Youngman and John Byrd representing Power Management

Supervisor Smith called the Town Board meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and led members in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Town Clerk noted all Town Board members present.

PROCLAMATION FOR 19TH AMENDMENT CENTENNIAL

Supervisor Smith thanked Councilmember Townsend for proposing a celebration of the Centennial of the Ratification of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution and for organizing a Committee for this purpose, working with Deputy Supervisor Munzinger and the committee on planning the event. The Supervisor asked Councilmember Townsend to read the Proclamation of the Town Board recognizing the centennial. Councilmember Townsend then read aloud the following Proclamation:

Proclamation

in celebration of Women's Suffrage and the

19th Amendment Centennial

Whereas, the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution was ratified in 1920, giving women one of the most fundamental rights of citizenship – the right to vote; and

Whereas, the women's suffrage movement was launched at the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848, where the Declaration of Sentiments proclaimed that "all men and women are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" and demanded that all women be afforded "the equal station to which they are entitled" and the "inalienable right to the elective franchise," and

Whereas, in 1869, a new group called the National Woman Suffrage Association was founded by Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony; this group began the fight for a universal-suffrage amendment to the U.S. Constitution; and

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Whereas, the women's suffrage movement had an active and committed history in Pittsford, formalized in 1902 by the founding of the Pittsford Political Equality Club; and

Whereas, on August 18, 1920, the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified and on November 2 of that year, millions of women across the United States voted in elections for the first time; and

Whereas, the full inclusion of women as citizens and guaranteeing the protection of women's rights are essential for the success of democracy; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Known, that the members of the Pittsford Town Board recognize and proclaim the value of celebrating on this day the 19th Amendment Centennial Anniversary and further recognize and celebrate, in ongoing commitment, the spirit, principles and efforts espoused by the Women's Suffrage Movement; and

Be it Further Known, that this proclamation was declared adopted by the order of the Pittsford Town Board on August 18, 2020 on the centennial of the 19th Amendment's ratification.

Thereafter, Supervisor Smith invited the public to participate in the celebration, noting that the schedule of events for this weekend and next appears in our eNews and on the Town website. Deputy Supervisor Munzinger thanked Councilmember Townsend and the many staff and community members who participated in planning the event, including: Shelley O'Brien, Town Communications Director; Bonnie Salem; Peggy Brizee; Town Historian Audrey Johnson; Deputy Historian Vicki Profit; Mayor Corby; Jessie Hollenbeck and Allison Burchett of our Recreation Department; Library Director Amanda Madigan. She also thanked Randy Lewis and Charles Moulten of our Maintenance Department, who put up all the signs around town, and the many others who assisted with the project.

PRESENTATIONS ON COMMUNITY SOLAR

JOULE COMMUNITY POWER: Supervisor Smith introduced Victor-Pierre Melendez from Joule Community Power and Susan Hughes-Smith from Roctricity, who presented their proposed program for Community Solar if chosen as administrators for the project. *A copy of their presentation is included in the Town Board file for this meeting.* The presenters answered questions by Town Board members following their presentation.

POWER MANAGEMENT: Supervisor Smith introduced Richelle Acker, Jerry Walters, Scott Youngman and John Byrd of Power Management, which has been the Town's consultant for the past 10 years for obtaining lowest prices for electricity and gas for Town facilities and operations. They presented their proposed program for Community Solar if chosen as administrator for the project. Power Management's presentation is included in the Town Board file for this meeting. The presenters answered questions by Town Board members following their presentation.

Supervisor Smith recommended, and board members agreed, to review both presentations on Community Solar, for discussion and decision at the next meeting.

PRESENTATION ON ELECTRICITY CONTRACT FOR TOWN OPERATIONS

On a different subject, Power Management then discussed a new electricity contract for Town operations, to replace the current contract that expires in September, reviewing bids they had obtained for locked-in electricity prices from 100% renewable sources, showing options for 1-, 2- and 3-year contracts. Richelle Acker noted that the market is at a very good point right now and recommends that the Town contract the purchase of electricity for more than just one-year, given the current opportunity to lock in a low price for a three year period. She explained that the rate for the three-year agreement is slightly higher than for a shorter term, reflecting the risk assumed by the provider, but the rates are so low now that the overall savings make it more beneficial to the Town to lock in with a longer-term agreement. Power Management considers this is a good time to get the best rate for a longer-term agreement.

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Supervisor Smith recommended, and board members agreed, to review Power Management's recommendation for the Town to lock in electricity pricing from 100% renewable sources for the three year period, for decision at the next meeting.

MINUTES

Minutes of the July 21 and August 4 meetings were reviewed and edits were suggested. Councilmember Beckford noted that he declined to suggest potential edits, recognizing the Clerk's task in minuting meetings of nearly four hours' duration, and because video of both meetings is available on demand.

Councilmember Koshykar suggested that, as the Town Clerk had previously discussed, the Minutes of Board meetings could be shortened by focusing on the resolutions proposed and voted on, minimizing notes regarding discussion. The Board agreed. Town Clerk Dillon thanked the Board.

LEGAL MATTERS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were offered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION SET FOR SEPTEMBER 2, 2020

Because an Executive Session previously scheduled had to be cancelled due to illness of a Board member, Supervisor Smith moved to set an Executive Session for Wednesday, September 2, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. at Pittsford Town Hall, to discuss the employment of a particular person, seconded by Deputy Supervisor Munzinger, and voted on by members as follows: Ayes: Beckford, Koshykar, Munzinger, Townsend and Smith. Nays: none.

The Executive Session was thereby set for Wednesday, September 2, 2020 at 5:00 p.m., to be held at the Pittsford Town Hall.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Supervisor Smith asked if any resident wished to comment. No comments were offered.

AUGUST VOUCHERS APPROVED

Following a brief discussion regarding vouchers, a Resolution to approve the August 2020 vouchers was moved by Deputy Supervisor Munzinger, seconded by Councilmember Beckford, and voted on by the members as follows: Ayes: Beckford, Koshykar, Munzinger, Townsend and Smith. Nays: none.

The Resolution was declared carried as follows:

RESOLVED, that the July 2020 vouchers No. 147729 through 148059 in the amount of \$945,972.73 are approved for payment.

OPERATIONAL MATTERS

PUBLIC COMMENT

Supervisor Smith asked if any resident wished to comment regarding the presentation given by Power Management, earlier in the meeting, with respect to the Electricity for Town Operations. No comments were offered.

RECREATIONAL MATTERS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Supervisor Smith asked for any public comments regarding Recreation Matters. There were none.

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FIREWORKS FOR 19TH AMENDMENT EVENT – AGREEMENT WITH YOUNG EXPLOSIVES APPROVED

A Resolution to approve an Agreement with Young Explosives for a fireworks display in celebration of the 19th Amendment Centennial on August 22 at 9 p.m. was offered by Deputy Supervisor Munzinger, seconded by Councilmember Townsend, and voted on by members as follows: Ayes: Beckford, Koshykar, Munzinger, Townsend and Smith. Nays: none.

The Resolution was declared carried as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign a contract with Young Explosives for a fireworks display to be delivered on August 22 at 9:00 p.m. for an amount not to exceed \$3,500.00.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were offered.

ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS STANDARD WORK DAY AND REPORTING RESOLUTION APPROVED

Following a noted correction on appointed officials James Gagnier and Carolyn Casey, to refer to an 8-hour work day rather than 7, a Resolution to approve the Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution for Elected and Appointed Officials was offered by Deputy Supervisor Munzinger, seconded by Councilmember Townsend, and voted on by members as follows: Ayes: Beckford, Koshykar, Munzinger, Townsend and Smith. Nays: none.

The following Resolution was declared carried as follows:

RESOLVED, that based on the logs kept by elected officials required to do so for three months, their New York State Retirement will be credited for service time worked as follows:

Name	Title	Term	Days/Month
William A. Smith, Jr.	Supervisor	Jan 1, 2020 - Dec 31, 2021	21.7
Katherine B. Munzinger	Deputy Supervisor	Jan 1, 2020 - Dec 31, 2023	2.61

And be it further,

RESOLVED, that the following Appointed Officials be approved and credited for the NYS Retirement service credit for full time, as follows:

Stephen Robson	Assessor	Oct 1, 2019 - Sept 30, 2025
Robert Koegel	Town Attorney	Jan 1, 2020 – Dec 31, 2021
Paul Schenkel	Comm. Of Public Works	Jan 1, 2020 – Dec 31, 2021
James Gagnier	Deputy Comm. Of Public Works	Jan 1, 2020 – Dec 31, 2021
Gregory J. Duane	Finance Director	Jan 1, 2020 – July 21, 2020
Brian Luke	Finance Director	July 22, 2020 – Dec 31, 2021
Linda Dillon	Town Clerk/Receiver of Taxes	Jan 1, 2020 – Dec 31, 2021
Karen Ward	Deputy Town Clerk	Jan 1, 2020 – May 31, 2020
Karen Ward	Deputy Receiver of Taxes	June 1, 2020 – Dec 31, 2021
Laura Beeley	Deputy Town Clerk	Jan 1, 2020 – Dec 31, 2021
Suzanne Reddick	Secretary to Supervisor	Jan 1, 2020 – Dec 31, 2021
Carolyn Casey	Dog Control Officer	Jan 1, 2020 – Dec 31, 2021

Form 2417- A and 2417-B are hereby approved and shall be posted for 30 days on the Town's Official Signboard and the Town of Pittsford website as required.

See next page for full New York State Local Retirement System Resolution to be filed with the NYSLRS, after being posted for 30 days, as required.

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HIRING RECOMMENDATIONS

Following a clarification, Supervisor Smith moved to approve the status change recommendations as submitted, seconded by Deputy Supervisor Munzinger, and voted on by members as follows: Ayes: Beckford, Koshykar, Munzinger, Townsend and Smith. Nays: none.

The following Resolution was declared carried as follows:

RESOLVED, that the following employees be approved for a status change as follows:

Name	Position	Reason for Change	Salary	Effective Date
Dylan Martin	Rec Asst II	Promo – Additional title	\$12.60	08/24/2020
Tori Gutzmer	Rec Asst IV	Promo – Additional title	\$15.39	08/28/2020

OTHER MATTERS

Supervisor Smith reported that he has received word from the Village that it is still completing its final review of the joint Town-Village Active Transportation Plan. We expect to hear back from them in the days ahead about a date when we can set a joint Town-Village hearing to give final approval to the Plan, he said. Upon inquiry, Supervisor Smith noted that our staff, particularly the IT Director and the Communications Director, are working diligently with ERCN to set up the infrastructure to allow the Board to resume in-person meetings with live streaming, using the new camera. Following inquiry by Councilmember Koshykar, the board will discuss review of hiring resolutions at its upcoming executive session. Upon inquiry by Councilmember Beckford, Supervisor Smith indicated that once in-person meetings of the Board resume, if a board member must isolate because of potential exposure to COVID, that member can participate by remote connection only upon adequate public notice of the remote participation, and only if the remote site were open to members of the public during the meeting. He explained that the Open Meetings Law requires this. Councilmember Townsend noted as well that unless a new Executive Order by the Governor were to change things, a hybrid in-person / Zoom meeting would not be permitted. Attorney Robert Koegel agreed with the points mentioned by the Supervisor and by Councilmember Townsend.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ginger Sacco offered a comment to the Board.

As there was no further business, the Supervisor adjourned the meeting at 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Dillon
Town Clerk