

**TOWN OF RIDGEWAY
TOWN BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 22, 2019**

The regular board meeting was called to order by Supervisor Napoli at 7:15 P.M. at The Ridgeway Town Hall, Medina, NY.

Those Officers Present:

Brian Napoli
Jeffrey Toussaint
David Stalker
Mary Woodruff
Sarah Fisher

Supervisor
Councilman
Councilman (Excused)
Councilwoman
Councilwoman

Others:

Mark Goheen
Katherine Bogan
Patricia Laszewski
Karen Kaiser
Dan Wolfe
Catherine Cooper

Hwy Superintendent
Attorney
Assessor
Town Clerk
Code Enforcement
Town Historian

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

RESOLUTION NO. 22-1/22/2019

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AGENDA

Offered by Councilman Toussaint, who moved its adoption.
Seconded by Councilwoman Woodruff.

Resolved to accept agenda as presented.

Adopted: 3 ayes

0 nays

RESOLUTION NO.23-1/22/2019

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE MINUTES
OF JANUARY 3, 2019 TOWN BOARD
MEETING**

Offered by Councilwoman Fisher, who moved its adoption.
Seconded by Councilwoman Woodruff.

Resolved to approve minutes of January 3, 2019 Town Board Meeting.

Adopted: 3 ayes

0 nays

Offered by Councilman Toussaint, who moved its adoption.
Seconded by Councilwoman Woodruff.

Resolved to acknowledge Court Audit and send to State.

Adopted: 3 ayes 0 nays

RESOLUTION NO.26-1/22/2019

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE
THE CONTRACT WITH THE
CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER,
AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO
SIGN.

Offered by Councilwoman Woodruff, who moved its adoption.
Seconded by Council Toussaint.

Adopted: 3 ayes 0 nays

Resolved to approve the contract with the Code Enforcement Officer, and authorize the supervisor to sign.

RESOLUTION NO.27 -1/22/2019

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING
THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE
TERMINATION OF ELISSA COX
FROM THE POSITION OF 1ST
DEPUTY TO THE TOWN CLERK
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2, 2019
AND AUTHORIZING THE TOWN
CLERK TO FILL SAID
POSITION AT THE SAME
PAY AND ADVERTISE FOR
SAME.

Offered by Councilman Toussaint, who moved it to its adoption.
Seconded by Councilwoman Fisher.

Adopted: 3 ayes 0 nays

Resolved to authorize the acceptance of termination of Elissa Cox from the position of 1st Deputy to the Town Clerk effective January 2, 2019 and authorize the Town Clerk to fill said position at the same pay and advertise for same.

RESOLUTION NO.28-1/22/2019

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT
THE 2018 YEAREND REVIEW
REPORT FROM CATHERINE
COOPER, TOWN HISTORIAN.
THANK YOU FOR AN
EXCELLENT REPORT.

Offered by Councilwoman Woodruff, who moved its adoption
Seconded by Councilman Toussaint.

3 ayes

0 nays

Resolved to accept the 2018 yearend review from Town Historian Catherine Cooper,
with thanks for and excellent report.

RESOLUTION NO 29.-1/22/2019

RESOLUTION APPROVE
AGREEMENT FOR THE
EXPENDITURE OF HIGHWAY
MONIES. ALL BOARD
MEMBERS TO SIGN. \$287,948.00

Offered by Councilwoman Fisher, who moved its adoption.
Seconded by Councilman Toussaint.

3 ayes

0 nays

Resolved approve agreement for the expenditure of Highway monies, all Board members
To sign. \$287,948.00

RESOLUTION NO. 30-1/22/2019

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE
CONTRACT RENEWALS FOR
FINANCIAL SERVICES AND
CONTINUING DISCLOSURE
WITH MUNICIPLE SOLUTIONS.
AUTHORISE SUPERVISOR TO
SIGN.

Offered by Councilwoman Fisher, who moved its adoption.
Seconded by Councilman Toussaint.

3 ayes

0 nays

Resolved to approve contract renewals for financial services and continuing disclosure
With Municipal Solutions, authorize Supervisor to sign.

RESOLUTION FOR THE
SUPPORT FOR THE
"HOMETOWN HEROES"
BANNER PROGRAM

Offered by Councilwoman Fisher, who moved its adoption.
Seconded by Councilman Toussaint.

3 ayes

0 nays

Resolved to support the "Hometown Heroes" banner program.

OTHER BUSINESS

Town Historian- Catherine cooper presented the following:

2018

Year in Review

Weather

December 2017's frigid temperatures continued into the New Year and through January. A welcome thaw in February highlighted a record breaking high of 67 degrees on February 20th. March roared in with a gusty overnight storm that dropped 6-8 inches of wet heavy snow locally. The weekend of April 14-17 tried everyone's patience with wind, cold, sleety rain, freezing rain, and then more rain.

May began with snow, but we enjoyed a glorious Memorial Day and ended the month with almost record breaking heat and enervating humidity. The first week of July 3, brought us high heat, high humidity and heat warnings, with unseasonable temperatures well into the 90's.

Several sightings of black bears were reported in Western New York during the summer, including one photographed in Knowlesville in August.

By mid-July, the county was officially in 'moderate drought'. Six weeks with little or no rain left stunted crops and burnt out lawns. By September we were truly tired of the phrase "heat advisory" and the humid weather it portended.

A spell of summer weather in October resulted in a record breaking temperature of 83 on October 9. At Thanksgiving, an "Alberta Clipper" introduced a flow of frigid northerly air which resulted in the coldest Thanksgiving on record, with a high of 20 degrees.

A dusting of snow on December 25 was sufficient to qualify for a "White Christmas".

Overall though, local residents were well aware and humbly thankful that our local weather related inconveniences were minor by comparison to those experienced by many throughout the country.

Population

The latest population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau show that Orleans County has the fifth largest population loss among New York State's 62 counties

The population is down 4.4 percent or by 1,900 residents from 42,883 in the 2010 Census. Orleans is now at 40,993, according to the population estimates in 2017. The county is down another 362 people from the 2016 estimate.

The Demographic Statistical Atlas lists the Town of Ridgeway population at 6,588.

Parks and Parades

In March, the landmark World War I cannon at State Street Park was sent to Altoona, Pa. for much needed restoration. The Orleans Renaissance Group spearheaded the project with the assistance of Orleans Ford, the VFW and the American Legion.

A new bandstand which will be available for community events was erected in State Street Park in May.

The Medina Tourism Committee moved its Visitor Center from City Hall to the Santa Claus House at Rotary Park in June. The new location is easily accessible and more visible, particularly for Erie Canal visitors.

A historical marker unveiled in Gulf Street Park in July honors the returning World War II soldiers who in 1945 cleared an overgrown area to create a park for neighborhood children.

The bronze statue of an infantryman led the 10th Annual Parade of Lights in November. The statue, which will be installed in the spring of 2019, pays tribute to the soldiers from Company C and Company F who trained at the Armory.

Bridges

The Knowlesville Bridge re-opened in April with 100% weight limit.

In November, NYS Dept. of Transportation pledged \$10.7 million to rehabilitate seven historic Erie Canal bridges in Orleans County, including the Bates Road Bridge and the Marshall Road Bridge.

Orleans County Legislature approved Keeler Construction of Albion's bid to replace the Portage Road Bridge at a cost of \$588,821. The total cost of this Bridge NY project was \$869,000, the County paid 5% (\$43,450)

The heavily used Lift Bridge was closed to vehicular traffic from July 16 to August 4 while New York State Canal Corporation crews replaced the bridge's cables system and repaired the bridge's lifting system.

Business

In February, the state Dept. of Environmental Conservation announced a \$5.1 million cleanup plan for the former Abex Manufacturing facility on Bates Road. Test results indicated that soil and groundwater at the site were above the DEC's standards for semi-volatile organic compounds and metals. The plan proposes removing 5,700 cubic yards of soil from the 9.5 acre site and replacing it with a foot of cover.

Creekside Floral moved from 422 Main St. to a larger location at 509 Main St. in April. Owner Mary Lewis has been a florist for 12 years. Her first location was on Maple Ridge Road, now Mariachi De Oro. Her new location at 509 Main St. was most recently occupied by Paper Boys and previously by Radio Shack and Goodwin's Pharmacy

O'Brien's Tavern, a Main St. pub with a century long tradition as an Irish bar, closed on March 3, Alicia Hogan had owned the business for over 6 years.

Mile 303, an Erie Canal themed bar located at 416 Main St., opened in May and soon hosted Erie Canal traveler and well-known television personality, Geraldo Riviera. The bar is owned by Tim and Teresa Hungerford.

The Medina Senior Center celebrated its 50th Anniversary in June. Located at the former New York Central railroad depot, the Center's 250 members enjoy dinner meetings, exercise classes and card games, run a gift shop and regularly organize bus trips.

The Canal Village Farmer's Market organized a full slate of local vendors who offered a wide variety of locally sourced products at the weekly market at 129 West Center Street on Saturday mornings from June through October.

The Medina Savings and Loan Association merged with Generations Bank. MSL depositors became depositors of Generations Bank. Two members of MSL's Board of Directors were appointed members of the Board of Directors of Generations Bank and its holding company, Seneca-Cayuga Bancorp.

Kyle Brent of Middleport acquired the former Bernzomatic complex from the Newell Operating Company in October of 2018. He plans to upgrade the 130,000 facility and lease it for office use or as a call center.

Plans for two large-scale solar energy projects were approved. The prospective sites are located on the Baker farm on Beals Road (16.5 acres) and on Allis Rd.,

adjoining the Helena Chemical plant (29 acres). The project will be completed by Borrego Solar Systems.

The Medina Railroad Museum had a successful season with fully booked fall foliage rides, the popular Polar Express trips and a new offering – the Santa/Reindeer train – which proved to be wildly popular also.

Fire Dept.

The following officers of the Ridgway Volunteer Fire Company were installed at the company's Annual Dinner on Jan. 27, 2018: Francis Woodward, Chief, Rick Tuohey, First Assistant Chief and Kristin McAdoo, Second Assistant Chief.

Joe Forder was recognized as Firefighter of the Year.

The newly installed officers of the Ladies Auxiliary were: Tracey Hendrick, President and Melissa Hansler, Vice-President.

People

Cheryl Sills retired from her position as Water Clerk for the Town of Ridgeway following 15 years of service.

Town of Ridgeway Town Clerk Karen Kaiser was one of two Town Clerks in the GLOW region recently honored by the New York State Town Clerks Association for achieving its high educational, experience and participatory requirements.

The death of June Stalker occurred on Jan. 17, 2018. June served as the Ridgeway Town Clerk for 22 years, retiring in 1995.

Robert Roth passed away on Feb. 25, 2018. Mr. Roth was a Councilman for the Town of Ridgeway and served on the Town of Ridgeway Zoning Board for 34 years.

Lorne McMurray passed away on Sept. 19, 2018. He was a Town of Ridgeway Justice of the Peace and served on the Town of Ridgeway Board. He was also an Orleans County Legislator-at-Large and later served on the Town of Shelby Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Cooper, Historian

Jan. 2018

Questions for Historian 2018

- Info. on A.G. Squires, a printer in Medina, 1860's
- Info. on Charissa Swett (died 1855) and Jonathon Swett (died 1865).
- Gentleman hoping to apply for Italian citizenship, looking for grandparent's marriage cert.
- Info. on local Underground Railroad.
- When was the High School built?
- When was the gymnasium added?
- When did Heinz come to Medina?
- Obituary search for Piazza
- Obituary search for Sarah Ticknor and photograph of headstone from Bates Road cemetery, for person seeking to complete lineage for DAR application
- Info. on S.A. Cook Co. for person who had bought a chair.
- Info. on early education of William Hawkins, born 1812.
- Genealogy info. on Dr. Leone's family.
- Is Johann Bartel buried in Boxwood? He was killed in train accident 1873. Where might the inquest be found?
- Info. on 304 West Center St. -- when was it built? Was porch original to house?
- Info. on H.N. Harmon, manager of the Bancroft Hotel and the Hart Hotel.
- Info. on William Walsh.
- Several inquiries on Boxwood, obituaries, what was original color of chapel roof?
- Info. on Jackson family, local connections
- Info. on Whedon family.
- Blueprints for former High School?
- History of Ensign Ave. school building
- Info. on William Ford, early education etc.
- "There's a family story that my grandfather fought Pancho Villa with Pershing and later was on Pershing's staff in France. Could these stories be true?"
- "I am trying to figure out how I am related to Jacob Guttenberg and his wife Anna Friedman. What can you tell me about them?"
- Info. on Mahar brothers and their houses on Park Ave.
- Info. on Sylvester Sherman, lived in Medina 1860's.

Town Clerk- Kaiser stated that the clerk's office is very busy this time of year with tax collection, as well as all the other functions of the Town Clerk's office. We are currently taking applications for the position of 1st Deputy Town Clerk. Kaiser stated many thanks to Joelle Brown 2nd Deputy Town Clerk for stepping up and being such a great help. Kaiser further thanked Councilman Woodruff for all of her assistance in the recent labor matters.

Code Enforcement- Wolfe presented a document to the Town Board for their consideration regarding a change in Zoning that would prohibit erecting an accessory structure ex. (barn or shed) on a property that did not currently have a primary structure, in an attempt to stop non housing structures from being erected and them becoming occupied as a living space.

After looking over the proposed change the Town Board including the Town's attorney thought that the proposed change was a good idea but will require some verbal changes before being acted upon.

Assessor-Laszewski stated that adding to Dan; she encouraged the Town to take a serious look at this application to amend the Zoning. Trisha further stated that Julie is back and, and a big Thank You to Candy Koch for all the help while Julie was out. She further stated that with the update in Yates as well as Ag. Exemptions her office is crazy busy.

Highway Superintendent- Goheen stated that if we saw his highway guys to tell them "Good Job" last week as they worked numerous hours. He further stated that the Highway dept. had a truck go out of service and that it had to be trailered by the County to be looked at. Goheen also said that the Town's Trailer would be going to the Village at midnight that night to aid in snow removal.

Town's Attorney-Kathy Bogan stated that the Trisha forgot to mention that she had also been busy with the solar project and meetings with Emily from the Borrego and that she had also met with Dawn Allen County Real Property and the representative from the Medina Schools regarding the Pilot agreement. Kathy stated that this would be a "Community Solar Project" and that people will have that opportunity down the road to opt in to be in that grid. The representative from Borrego stated that the service life on the panels is approximately 25 years. Bogan further stated that once the project was up and running a large investor will eventually purchase the Solar farm.

Councilman Toussaint- Councilman Toussaint stated that he had nothing to add at this time.

Councilwoman Woodruff- Woodruff stated that she was happy to hear that Julie was back. She further stated that she has been very busy getting the ball rolling and everything together for the anticipated launch off the "Home Town Hero's" Banner program. Mary further stated that everyone that she has worked with have been quite helpful and enthusiastic regarding the project. Trisha Laszewski asked what the price per banner would be and Mary stated that it would cost \$200.00 dollars per banner and that

she anticipated about 4 years of service per banner maybe more. Woodruff stated that she would be meeting with the Village of Medina to get the go ahead, and that she will be sure to tell them that Ridgeway has done a resolution of support for the project. Attorney Bogan offered that Mary should get Tom Rivers of the Orleans Hub to do an article on the banners once the go ahead was given.

Councilwoman Fisher- Fisher stated that the installation banquet for the Ridgeway Volunteer Fire Company is being held this Saturday the 26th at the Ridgeway fire hall. Fisher further stated that the Fire Company fund raiser has raised \$9400.00 so far. She further stated that the fire company was able to trade in their old radios for new ones due to a government grant. The gun raffle will be in the spring and in the fall of 2019 dates to follow. The fire company is also currently searching for the best prices for smoke detectors so that they can purchase them to give out when they are on fire calls. Pat Kelly has decided to take the Fire Chiefs position with Jason Bessel as Deputy chief.

Planning and Zoning- Nothing except to add that he wanted to Thank Paul Chatfield of MRB engineering for all of his help regarding the Solar Pilot.

Supervisor Napoli asked if there was anything else and as there was not he asked for a motion to pay the bills.

Councilwoman Fisher made the motion it was seconded by Councilwoman Woodruff and carried.

Supervisor Napoli then asked for a motion to adjourn, Councilman Toussaint made the motion seconded by Councilwoman Fisher and the motion was carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY

Karen L. Kaiser
Ridgeway Town Clerk