

TOWN OF STARK

County of Herkimer

State of New York

703 Elwood Road

Fort Plain, NY 13339

Town Board Meeting minutes for April 11, 2023. Approved May 9, 2023

The Town of Stark Town Board meeting was held on April 11, 2023 at the Town Justice Building. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Richard Bronner at 7:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Richard Smith. Answering Roll Call were Supervisor Bronner, Councilman Grescheck, Councilman Ziaja, Councilman Smith, Councilman Voght, Highway Superintendent Hajczewski, and Town Clerk Rogers.

Also in attendance were Town Wind attorney Bernard Melewski, Review Engineer Frances Kabat and Steven Calocerinos from LaBella Associates, Name unknown from LaBella, Lydia Lake from New Leaf Energy, Tyler Garrity from New Leaf Energy. Public attending were Ken Richards, Ron Klump, Nick Jordan, Sue Jordan, Cheryl Eckler, Bonnie Nestle, Brendan Fahey and Glen Armstrong.

Town Clerk Rogers read the minutes from the March 2023 meeting. Councilman Smith made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilman Voght seconded the motion. All approved. Board members discussed a fee schedule for the the New Leaf project. Councilman Grescheck made a motion to table it until a future date. Seconded by Councilman Voght. All approved the changes.

The public portion of the meeting opened at 7:09 PM.

Bonnie Nestle asked about the wind project web site. Brenard Melewski gave her the website address.

Nick Jordan asked about any new developments. Bernard Melewski said that New Leaf is doing an Environmental Impact Statement, which goes out to the public, followed by either accepting or rejecting the project.

Nick Jordan asked if there were any objections from Town of Springfield regarding roads in the Town of Springfield that will be used for the project. Supervisor Bronner said there have been none to date.

Ken Richards asked if there was an estimated schedule for the project steps. Bernard Melewski said that is dependent upon responses from all those involved.

Bonnie Nestle asked if the Town has been contacted by other wind companies. Supervisor Bronner answered that the Town Board has not been contacted by any other wind company. Glenn Armstrong added that the Town of Warren has no active project.

Ken Richards asked if the PILOT Agreement was part of the project. Mr. Melewski answered that it was.

Ken Richards inquired about the cash flow from the project and was told that it was not available at this time.

Brennan Fahey, representing Owen D. Young Central School District, explained the need for speed radar signs in the school zone. A municipality is required to apply for the permit to work in the state right of way. Supervisor Bronner said the Town would need to be relieved of all liability. After discussion, Councilman Voght made a motion approving the Town apply for the permit, and authorizing the Supervisor to sign on behalf of the Town. Councilman Smith Seconded the motion. All approved. Roll Call vote. 5-Ayes, 0-Nays Supervisor Bronner-aye, Councilman Ziaja-aye, Councilman Grescheck-aye, Councilman Voght-aye, Councilman Smith-aye.

Board members were given copies of the positive declaration, availability of Draft Scoping and Public Comment opportunity. Written Comments on the draft scoping will be accepted by the Lead Agency through close of business May 9.

The Board received an Agricultural Data Statement. The Statement includes the description of the proposed project, the location and property owners within 500 ft. of the Ortensi property.

The open portion of the meeting closed.

The Town received a dog shelter agreement from Herkimer County Humane Society. Councilman Voght made a motion authorizing Supervisor Bronner to sign the agreement. Councilman Ziaja seconded the motion. All Approved.

Councilman Grescheck mentioned a property in the Town of Stark with a large number of unregistered vehicles parked on the property.

Highway Superintendent Hajczewski talked about an emergency fix for a culvert on Jordan Road. The permit is good for sixty days. Replacing half of the culvert would be a temporary fix.

Superintendent Hajczewski mentioned the Highway Department welder should be replaced. Councilman Grescheck suggested having someone look at the welder.

The Board reviewed the Supervisor's report. Councilman Smith made a motion to accept and Councilman Voght seconded. All Approved.

The Board reviewed the Town Clerk's report. Councilman Ziaja made a motion approve. Seconded by Councilman Grescheck. All approved.

The Board review the General Fund vouchers and the Highway Fund vouchers. Councilman Grescheck made a motion to pay the bills. Councilman Voght seconded. All approved.

The next meeting will be held on May 9, 2023.

Councilman Smith made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Councilman Voght. All approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.