

March 6, 2017

The Regular Town Board meeting of the Town of Wheatfield was held March 6, 2017 at 7:30 pm at Wheatfield Town Hall, 2800 Church Road, North Tonawanda, County of Niagara and State of New York to audit bills and to conduct any other business coming before the Town Board.

PRESENT: Supervisor Robert Cliffe, Councilmen Larry Helwig, Gilbert Doucet, Arthur Gerbec, Randy Retzlaff, Town Attorney Matthew Brooks, and Town Clerk Kathleen Harrington-McDonell.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

Moved by Councilman Helwig and seconded by Councilman Gerbec to accept the minutes from February 27, 2017 as presented.

This motion was CARRIED: AYES 5 – NAYS 0.

Moved by Councilman Doucet and seconded by Councilman Retzlaff to approve the bill payment for voucher # 20170236 ó 20170281 in the amount of \$32,563.35 as follows:

General Fund	\$ 6,225.79
Highway	\$ 2,705.97
Water/Sewer	\$ 7,646.14

Hold voucher #20170238 - \$261.00

This motion was CARRIED: AYES 5 – NAYS 0.

Moved by Supervisor Cliffe and seconded by Councilman Helwig as follows;

WHEREAS, State Route 425, also known as Shawnee Road, is a main State thoroughfare throughout the Town of Wheatfield; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Wheatfield has been deeply concerned with regard to the recent history of motor vehicle accidents involved by the public on State Route 425, also known as Shawnee Road; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Wheatfield, State Sen. Ortt and other municipal agencies, on various occasions, have requested that the State take action to improve the safety of travel over State Route 425, also known as Shawnee Road; and

WHEREAS, in response to said requests, the New York State Department of Transportation has responded with five (5) points in order to improve State Route 425, also known as Shawnee Road; and

WHEREAS, said recommendations are as follows:

- Installation of both centerline and shoulder rumble strips. This will provide the driver with both physical vibration and an audible warning that they are leaving the driving lane. This will help reduce Run-Off-Road collisions that resulted from vehicles that crossed the centerline and left the roadway on the opposite side, and vehicles that left the roadway off the shoulder;
- Placement of additional Deer Crossing signs at specified intervals to help reduce vehicle/deer collisions;
- Installation of "STATE LAW DO NOT DRIVE ON SHOULDER" signs and installation of cross-hatched pavement markings on the shoulders for both northbound and southbound traffic, in advance of Mapleton Road in order to reduce instances when motorists that use the right shoulder to attempt to pass a left turning vehicle at Mapleton Road;
- Evaluate either re-grading ditches or installing closed drainage at locations where roadside ditches are deep;
- Evaluation locations to install Intersection Warning signs on NY 425 prior to unsignalized intersections; and

March 6, 2017

WHEREAS, that although the Town of Wheatfield has absolutely no control, whatsoever, over any aspect of the design, maintenance or operation of State Route 425, also known as Shawnee Road, and its rights-of-way, the Town is in support of any efforts by the NYS Department of Transportation to improve public safety on said roadway.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town of Wheatfield supports the NYS Department of Transportation's recommended improvements to State Route 425, also known as Shawnee Road, and continues to recommend to the NYS Department of Transportation, additional safety measure to be taken by the NYSDOT for continued improvements in the furtherance of public safety.

This motion was CARRIED: AYES 5 – NAYS 0.

Moved by Councilman Helwig and seconded by Councilman Doucet to approve for sale the bid of \$33,000.00 on Auctions International that was received for the Town's surplus John Deere excavator, and to authorize the Highway Department to complete said auction sale.

This motion was CARRIED: AYES 5 - NAYS 0.

Moved by Councilman Retzlaff and seconded by Councilman Gerbec to authorize the Highway Superintendent to purchase a Caterpillar Excavator 320FL (with thumb) from Milton Caterpillar at a cost of \$207,098 (down payment of \$33,000 and first payment of \$36,797.08 with remaining balance over a five year term).

Moved by Supervisor Cliffe and seconded by Councilman Gerbec to hold Executive Session to discuss personnel issues that include the last motion.

This motion was CARRIED: AYES 5 – NAYS 0.

The next Town Board meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2017 and 7:30 with a Public Hearing at 7:15 pm to discuss rezoning at 2946 Niagara Falls Blvd.

PUBLIC INPUT

none

Moved by Councilman Gerbec and seconded by Supervisor Cliffe to enter Executive Session at 7:56 pm.

This motion was CARRIED: AYES 5 – NAYS 0.

Moved by Councilman Helwig to come out of Executive Session at 8:11 pm.

This motion was CARRIED: AYES 5 – NAYS 0.

Moved by Councilman Retzlaff and seconded by Councilman Doucet to approve hiring of previous employee, Nick Loffredo, for part-time seasonal starting April 3, 2017, at rate of pay and other terms pursuant to the job specifications. Subject to review by Town of Wheatfield Human Resources Department and a Niagara County Sheriff's Department background check.

This motion was CARRIED: AYES 4 – NAYS 1 Supervisor Cliffe.

Moved by Councilman Gerbec and seconded by Councilman Retzlaff to adjourn at 8:12 pm.

This motion was CARRIED: AYES 5 – NAYS 0.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Harrington-McDonell
Town Clerk

March 6, 2017
