

**Town of Charlton
Saratoga County
Town Board Meeting**

June 13, 2022

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Charlton, Saratoga County, New York was held at the Town Hall, 758 Charlton Road, Charlton, NY and called to order by Supervisor Grasso at 7:32 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: Supervisor Grasso, Councilman Glavin, Councilman Robbins, Councilman St. John, Councilman Tasse

Also present: Town Clerk Brenda Mills, Attorney Craig.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION #113

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Councilman St. John

Seconded by Councilman Tasse

BY MOTION the Town Board approved the minutes of the Town Board Meeting on May 23, 2022.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays, Grasso Abstained. **CARRIED**

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR FOR AGENDA ITEMS

No one chose to speak.

SUPERVISORS REPORT

Supervisor Grasso said that he had a busy month with many County meetings. The County Law and Finance Committee that he serves on is granting two million dollars to non-profit entities in the County as COVID relief funding. The awards will be between \$5,000.00 and \$50,000.00. There have been 178 respondents. The Committee will seek approval of the awards by the end of June and will aim to disburse the funds by the end of July.

Supervisor Grasso said that the Town is looking to form a Land Use Advisory Committee and had solicited names of interested residents last month. He has received 17 responses. He is looking to appoint 6 or 7 people to the committee and hopes to do that in the next couple of weeks.

Supervisor Grasso said that the Town would like to form a Community Center Advisory Committee. The Town has completed the initial studies of the Center to get an idea of the scope of the rehabilitation that needs to be done. There is currently a grant application for funding that is pending Presidential approval. There is a long list of items that need to be done to rehabilitate the building. The Board needs to put together a charter or memorialize what the objectives of the committee will be. There has been a group of interested residents and the Supervisor would like to appoint them to the committee. He plans to have a resolution at the next meeting to form the committee.

Supervisor Grasso said that last weekend was a great weekend full of events in Charlton. On Friday, June 3, Congressman Tonko did a walk-through at the Community Center as part of his support of the grant application for funding the rehabilitation of the building. On Saturday, we had the 5k race. Many thanks to Marshall Heritage and the Highway Department for the great job that they did to get Maple Avenue paved and done in time for the weekend. Party in the Park was another successful event. The Supervisor received many good comments from residents. The parade was held on Sunday. Many thanks to John Hussey for organizing the parade which he has done for the past several years. Supervisor Grasso said that he appreciated the Town Officials that participated. Following the parade, a ceremony was held and a Town proclamation was read to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Charlton Fire Department. There were also proclamations from the State Congress and Senate. Jason and Dana Nemec held Open Houses this weekend at the Main Street studio, formerly the Charlton Fire House. They displayed their amazing woodworking and art gallery.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Town has been notified by NYS Tax and Finance that the Town's Equalization Rate has dropped to 63%. Supervisor Grasso said that this does not affect tax bills, but is used for comparison of values against other Towns. Supervisor Grasso said that the lower equalization rate translates to greater sales tax revenue, which is much of the Town's revenue. The Town may consider a revaluation in the future.

DEPARTMENT, COMMITTEE & COUNCILMAN REPORTS

Courts – For April, the Courts collected \$9,696.00 for which \$4,755 was remitted to New York State and \$4,941 was retained by Charlton. Justice Hart collected \$7,756 in fines and Judge Ketchum collected \$1,940 in fines.

Town Clerk – Clerk Mills reported that her office took in \$738.50 for the month of May. \$537.42 was paid to the Supervisor's office as revenue, and \$201.08 was paid to other Governmental agencies.

Technology – Councilman Tasse said that there is a new fiber optic provider in Clifton Park called Green Light. He said it is always good to see new technology providers in the area. He also noted that there will not be any additional charges for the Highway Department IP upgrade.

Town of Ballston Library – Rebecca Darling gave the following report:

The Summer Reading Program kick-off will be June 27th from 4-7pm at Elmer Smith Park. There will be games, face painting, food trucks, story time etc. Everyone is welcome. This summer the library will be offering 90 programs free of charge.

Charlton Seniors – Torben Aabo said that the Seniors would like to propose a summer concert on July 13th and would like the Town to pay for it. Councilman Robbins said that there is a Summer Concert planned for August 2nd, however he asked Mr. Aabo to send the information to the Board to review.

Summer Concert – Councilman Robbins said that there are plans for a concert at Gideon Hawley Park on August 2nd. They have chosen Soul Provider as the band for the concert.

Highway – Superintendent Marshall Heritage submitted the following report for the month of May:

1. Sweeping roads
2. Mowing Town lawns and cemetery
3. Upgrading the fuel system
4. Working on Maple Ave prepping for paving
5. Getting Elmer Smith Park ready for party in the park
6. Had trees taken down on Crooked Street and Komar Drive
7. Repaired and paved bad spots on Eastern Ave and Packer Road

8. Paved Maple Ave to Packer Road
9. Repaired the fence at the Gazebo
10. Put up the banners for party in the park
11. Hauling rubble
12. Shouldering Maple Ave
13. Spring maintenance on the trucks

Councilman Robbins said that the Town pit is still closed on Route 67 and may reopen this coming Wednesday. He thanked Mr. Heritage for the nice job done on the repaving of Maple Avenue. Mr. Heritage said that the increase in asphalt prices this year cost the Town and additional \$42,000 to repave the road. The Department still has plans to repave lower Division Street and lower Cook Road.

Parks – David Pohl thanked the Highway Department for all of the work that they put into getting the park ready for Party in the Park.

Party in the Park – Councilman Robbins said that that parking was handled differently this year by using the lower lot. He feels that it worked well. The Party in the Park Committee will have a wrap-up meeting to review how things went and get thoughts and suggestions for next year. He thanked the Rotary Club for supervising the inflatable obstacle course. He also thanked Mary Wilson, the Charlton Constables, Bob Killeen and the Highway Department for their help with the weekend.

Town Hall – Councilman Robbins said that a sound system was recently purchased for Town events. He thanked Bob Legere for securing the system for the Town.

Water: Councilman Glavin said that the back-up chlorination system has been installed. They have started testing the system and are being very cautious not to inject too much chlorine through the system. The final step for the project completion is to have the Department of Health do a final inspection.

Constables – In May, there were 3.097 miles traveled, 26 patrols, 21 complaints received, 10 911 calls and 2 accident/3 EMT calls responded to, and 35 tickets were issued (16 on Route 67).

Dog Control – In May, there were 9 dog related calls and 4 other calls received, and one dog bite reported. Responded to call concerning the presence of a turtle in a resident's yard, a call concerning loose chickens in the road, and a call concerning a cat with kittens in a pickup truck on a resident's property.

Planning Board: Councilman St. John read the following report:
Davidson Application public hearing was closed. Request for additional updates on the survey map were made by the PB. Concerns over the size of the two acre lot and proximity to wetlands were also discussed. A 2011 request for a Phase 1 evaluation of the then Grabo property was mentioned by the board. Davidson's representative will review an evaluation conducted by CT Male at the time and submit the results next month. The Heflin Application is waiting on wetland crossing permit approval.

MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS & AUTHORIZATIONS

Supervisor Grasso said earlier this year the Town had received an Exceptional Use Permit (EUP) application from Conrad Bernard for the Route 67 Café. A Public Hearing was held but the applicant was not present. The Town Board has kept the Public Hearing open to give the applicant time to give feedback. The Town Board has not heard anything from the applicant. The Supervisor suggested that the Board close the Public Hearing which gives the Board 62 days to render a decision on the application, unless the applicant grants an extension. Many times the applicant will grant an extension to give themselves more time to respond or gather necessary information. If no extension is granted then the Board will need to make a decision within the 62 days or the application is automatically approved. Supervisor Grasso said that he does not think that this application is one that the Board would want to approve without getting additional feedback from the applicant.

MOTION #114

Motion to close the Public Hearing on the Conrad Bernard/Route 67 Café EUP application

Motion by Councilman Robbins
Seconded by Councilman Glavin

BY MOTION the Town Board closed the Public Hearing on the Exceptional Use Permit application from Conrad Bernard for the Route 67 Café.

Roll Call: Councilman Glavin: Aye, Councilman Robbins: Aye, Councilman St. John: Aye, Councilman Tasse: Aye, Supervisor Grasso: Aye. **CARRIED**

ABSTRACT OF CLAIMS

MOTION #115

Approval of Abstract of Claims

Motion by Councilman Tasse
Seconded by Councilman Robbins

BY MOTION, the Town Board approved the processing of Abstract 111, voucher numbers 299-337 in the amount of \$310,903.61 which was audited by Town Board members.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. **CARRIED**

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Torben Aabo, resident, said that he felt that it was a good meeting with Congressman Tonko at the Community Center, and Mr. Aabo felt that the Congressman wanted to see more work done than what is planned. Mr. Aabo said that the mold report revealed a lot of mold in the crawl space. A clean building is less than 2,000 spores per cm, and the crawl space had 1,767 spores per cm. Mr. Aabo recommended that they remove the cover to the crawl space to allow circulation of air. He also said that the Town is looking at drainage around the building and he hopes it will be done this fall. He feels that there needs to be a master plan of what work needs to be done.

Supervisor Grasso said that the Town Hall parking lot is in desperate need of sealcoating and striping. He will work with the Town Board on securing a contractor to get it done this summer.

MOTION #116

Motion to adjourn the meeting

Motion by Councilman Glavin
Seconded by Councilman Robbins

BY MOTION the Town Board adjourned the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays. **CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Mills
Town Clerk