

AGENDA
Galway Town Board Meeting
May 12, 2015
7:30 p.m.

Call to order – Supervisor Lent

Roll Call – Town Clerk DeFoe

Pledge to the flag – All

Approval of minutes of previous meeting 4/14/15

Communications Received – Town Clerk DeFoe

REPORTS

Town and County – Supervisor Lent

Public Safety – Councilman Wilday

Property – Councilman Arnold

Buildings and Grounds – Councilman Smith

Highway – Superintendent Costanzo

Historian – Phyllis Keeler

Assessor – Victoria Hayner

Code Enforcement – Chet Ciembroniewicz

LIAISON REPORTS

Youth Commission – Councilman Arnold

Planning Board – Councilman Wilday

Zoning Board of Appeals – Councilman Smith

Senior Citizens – Councilmember Grant

Budget Report

Vouchers and Report

1. Approval of General Abstract of Vouchers Fund A – Townwide
2. Approval of General Abstract of Vouchers Fund B – Town Outside Village
3. Approval of General Abstract of Vouchers Highway Fund DA – Townwide
4. Approval of General Abstract of Vouchers Highway Fund DB – Town Outside Village
5. Approval of General Abstract of Vouchers Fund SL – Lighting District
6. Supervisor's Budget Report

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RESOLUTIONS

OTHER BUSINESS

Discussion of Local Law for residency of appointed positions

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – OPEN

ADJOURN

Next meeting June 9, 2015

REGULAR MEETING
MAY 12, 2015
GALWAY TOWN HALL

Supervisor Lent called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The following Town Board Members were present:

PRESENT: Supervisor Paul Lent Councilman Fred Arnold
 Councilman Rod Wilday Councilman Michael Smith
 Councilwoman JoAnne Peregrim-Grant

OTHERS PRESENT: P. Keeler, Historian; K. Lovelass; R. Sleeper; S. & K. Young; D. Baxter; C. Ciembroniewicz, Building Inspector; T. O'Brien, Dog Control Officer; Officers R. Schoonmaker & F. Scheidt from Galway Village Police Department & M. DeFoe, Town Clerk.

Pledge to the Flag

A motion was made by Councilman Smith seconded by Councilman Arnold to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2015 Regular Meeting as submitted.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Communications – Town Clerk stated that Board Members received copies of the following correspondence: Building Department Goals for 2nd Quarter of 2015 along with Permit Report covering 1/1 – 4/30/15; Complaint letter from Christopher Myers of Whitesides Road regarding Town Board taking no action on Real Property Tax Reduction for Persons with Disabilities; Weekly updates from NYS Comptroller dated 4/19; 4/26; 5/3 & 5/10/15; Dog Control Officer's Report for March & April; Saratoga County List of Salaries Paid to Town Officials for 2015; Highway Department Report for April with schedule for May along with 2 quote from Nortrax for a John Deere 624K wheel loader off State Contract at a cost of \$148,970 would allow trade in of \$50,000 for 2003 Cat 938G wheel loader at a final cost of \$98,970 & Assessor Report for May. The following correspondence was also received information from NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation working on updating their Statewide Trails Plan, gave information to Highway Department and Youth Commission; Legal Notice placed in Daily Gazette on March 14, 2015 advising of Temporary Order Limiting Roads to 4 Ton on Town of Galway Roads.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: County & Town – Supervisor Lent stated that things were quiet at County level. **Public Safety** – No Report. **Property** – No Report. **Building & Grounds** – Councilman Smith stated ball field is progressing very nicely. Bleachers have been set along with new benches. Supervisor Lent stated bleachers were purchased off Federal Surplus for \$125. **Highway** – Supervisor Lent stated the Roadside Clean-up was held May 2nd, with 80 bags of garbage & 7 tires. **Historian** – Phyllis Keeler stated she attended the Saratoga County Historian's Meeting on May 6th. Her History exhibit was well received at the 75th Anniversary Celebration for St. Mary's Catholic Church on May

REGULAR MEETING, GALWAY TOWN BOARD, MAY 12, 2015

9th. Phyllis will be attending the Heritage Hunters History Day on May 16th; her History exhibit will honor the Town of Galway & Joseph Henry. **Assessor** – Supervisor Lent stated written report was received. With regard to exemption letter request, Supervisor Lent stated that it was too late to do anything regarding this now but would like to review it for next budget. Supervisor Lent stated that 9 other Towns in County offer this exemption benefit and it looks to be a very minimal impact on budget. Councilman Smith stated without being disrespectful to anyone, the Town needs to figure out where to draw line on added exemptions. **Code Enforcement** – Nothing in addition to written report.

LIAISON REPORTS: Youth Commission – No Report. Family Fun Day will be held June 20th here at Town Hall. Councilman Arnold stated that he would order 2nd port-a-potty for start of Farmer's Market. **Planning Board** – No Report. **Zoning Board of Appeals** – No Report. **Senior Citizens** – No Report.

Councilman Arnold made a motion, seconded by Councilman Smith to approve the General Abstract of Vouchers (A) dated 04/02/15 thru 04/30/15 for a total of \$12,531.35.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilman Smith made a motion, seconded by Councilman Wilday to approve the General Abstract of Vouchers (B) dated 04/01/15 thru 04/30/15 for a total of \$3,994.91.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilman Wilday made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Grant to approve the Highway Abstract of Vouchers (DA) dated 04/01/15 thru 04/30/15 for a total of \$50,316.04.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilwoman Grant made a motion, seconded by Councilman Arnold to approve the Highway Abstract of Vouchers (DB) dated 04/01/15 thru 04/30/15 for a total of \$14,817.39.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilman Arnold made a motion, seconded by Councilman Smith to approve the Special District Abstract of Vouchers (SL) dated 04/01/15 thru 04/30/15 for a total of \$114.79.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilman Smith made a motion, seconded by Councilman Wilday to approve the Tri-Town Gravel Facility Abstract of Vouchers (TT) dated 04/01/15 thru 04/30/15 for a total of \$153.46.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Councilman Wilday made a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Grant to approve the Supervisor's Operating Statement for the period ending 4/30/15.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION #: 18-2015 – Schedule Public Hearing on Proposed Local Law No. 1-2015. Supervisor Lent stated that Town Board discussed this information last month as suggested by Association of Towns to address the residency requirements for all appointed officials within the Town. On a motion of councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Arnold the following resolution was ADOPTED: AYES – 5 NAYS – 0

RESOLVED that the Galway Town Board authorize the Town Clerk to place a legal advertisement in the Daily Gazette advising the public of a Public Hearing to be held at 7:15 p.m. on June 9, 2015 to review Proposed Local Law No. 1-2015, A Local Law to establish the residency requirements for all appointed officials within the Town of Galway.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION #: 19-2015 – Authorization for purchase of server hardware & software. Supervisor Lent stated this was a budgeted item our current IT vendor has matched or beaten the State contract price for these items. On a motion of Councilwoman Grant, seconded by Councilman Arnold the following resolution was ADOPTED: AYES – 5 NAYS – 0

RESOLVED that the Galway Town Board authorize the Supervisor to purchase the server hardware and software at a price not to exceed \$8,000 to be charged to 1680.2 Data Processing EQ.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Supervisor Lent stated that Sunday on the Farm will be held at the Smith Farm on Jockey Street on June 21st. County Fair will start July 21st. Town Clerk stated that program booklets are here for Fair. Supervisor Lent stated that many new building have been built. They will let people rent space in new horse barn for winter storage of boats/campers/cars.

Privilege of the Floor – Supervisor Lent stated that there were a couple Village Police Officer's present tonight that would like to make a presentation to Town Board. Captain, Rick Schoonmaker & Officer Fred Scheidt were present. **Captain Schoonmaker** would like to increase the coverage for their Police Department to include the Town. He felt the need for police coverage was there for the Town. Captain Schoonmaker stated that they have been answering many calls in Town because they are around and the State Police & Sheriff's Department can be 20 minutes away. They sponsor a Little League Team for Galway. Officer Scheidt is the school representative. **Councilman Arnold** questioned the over length trailer of 48 feet indicated on April Report. Captain Schoonmaker stated that NYS D.O.T. Law states that Route 29 & 147 are not designated roadways for trailers over 48 feet. **Officer, Fred Scheidt** introduced himself and felt that the Mayor & the Chief had crafted a service that would be economically beneficial for the Town. Officer Scheidt felt that Police presence within Town would increase the safety for residents. They would be more accessible should an emergency arise than the State Police or Sheriff's Department. Officer Schoonmaker stated that they are suggesting 40 hours per week which would primarily take place during the day. He talked about grant programs. **Supervisor Lent** stated that he had a meeting with Rick and went over some of the concerns he has with Police Department. Supervisor Lent had the County do some

research for him regarding crime rate and Galway came out at around the bottom three Towns for crime in the entire County. Galway doesn't have the growth potential issues of other Towns since we have no Town water & sewer. Supervisor Lent has had numerous conversations with non-residents of our Town and the consensus is Galway is not a Town you want to go to. Supervisor Lent is a previous Police Officer himself and felt that a balance is needed. The fiscal costs to the Town in just insurance would be an increase of \$18,000 the day contract is signed. The Town's total insurance cost presently are \$26,000. **Councilman Smith** stated he was torn in a couple different directions with this request. He has had some negative experiences with Village Police Department in the past. He stated that his constituents have voiced that a Police presence is not a bad thing, but they feel Village Police is more of a harassment. Appreciate that the Police Department is working with the School Superintendent. **Supervisor Lent** stated that the single largest complaint he has received since taking office has been with the Village Police Department. **Kevin Lovelass** introduced himself to the Police Office, neither Kevin or the two Police Officer knew each other. Kevin felt this was a problem since they claim to be community oriented Village Police and don't know who he is when his parents have owned the Galway Market for almost 40 years and he works there 60 hours a week. Kevin talked with the Mayor today for an 1 ½ hours and he advised Kevin that he has no wishes for his Police Department to expand themselves to Town. He further stated to Kevin that if they chose to do so, they would no longer be his Village Police Officers. The Village Police car would not be used for Town of Galway or Providence. Kevin asked Captain Schoonmaker again if Mayor knew he was here tonight and he stated that he did. He stated that his business and that of other businesses have been negatively impacted by excessive Village Police representation. He feels these Officers don't have any valuable community representation. They don't live here; shop here; belong to any community based organizations; rake a ball field; coach a ball team all they do is harass the community. **Rick Sleeper** owner of Cock & Bull Restaurant another business in Town drastically impacted by Village Police for last decade. Rick stated that he did meet Captain Schoonmaker about a year ago and he had extended himself to Rick to try and work thru some of the issues that he was having with Police. However, the rest of the Police force has done nothing but harass his clientele. They park by the tennis court and pull people over coming & going to his business. Rick himself has been pulled over by Village Police at least 30 times over the years never to be ticked. The Village sign for ever was located heading south after the entrance to the old bus garage. It appears the Village line has somehow changed over the years as the sign is now located north of entrance to old bus garage. Two days this past week a Village Officer has pulled out of this school parking lot and followed Rick three times up and back to Wild Apple Mulch; never to be stopped just followed. He would not like to see the aggravation & harassment he has dealt with be extended to Town residents. **Captain Schoonmaker** stated that this was an issue from the past that he addressed with him over a year ago and rectified. The Police Officers park their cars at the school bus garage located on the road his business is on. Rick stated that these issues have continued. **Dan Baxter** questioned if Village Police pay school to house their vehicles. Captain Schoonmaker stated that they did not. **Scott Young** Village resident stated that he has lived in the Village for almost 20 years and has never met any Village Police Officer. He talks with numerous people


that have camps on Sacandaga or in Wells that have indicated to him that they would not be going thru Galway anymore. Audience in general questioned 220 tickets in a 20 day period in an area that consists of 1 square mile. **Captain Schoonmaker** stated that anyone could ride with him to see that these are legitimate tickets being issued. **Dan Baxter** suggested that they extend some courtesy to visitors of Town and give more warnings instead of initiating a ticket automatically. **Supervisor Lent** stated that Towns have received enormous pressure from the State not to offer new services; they want to see more consolidated services. When attending meetings with Zone Commander, Sheriff & State Police Supervisor Lent feels the Town of Galway has adequate coverage the way it sits right now. Supervisor Lent stated that he can't envision a scenario where at this point he could support this proposal. All tickets written for Village have an adverse affect on the Town, we don't get any fine money we get the expense. Town & Village courts are consolidated, but the Town absorbs the net cost with nothing coming back to them. Supervisor has been in talks with Mayor to rectify issue, but nothing has been approved by Village. Supervisor Lent stated that if he outsourced the Town Court & Justice positions he could eliminate about \$26,000 per year in Town expense; while still collecting the small amount of fine money from another court. This would also include paying another Court to administer for Galway. **Kelly Young** resides in village referenced vandalism they had in their yard a few years ago; were told by Village Police that Sheriff's Department needed to handle situation. She felt if Sheriff's Department was needed in this scenario, why have a Village Police Department to begin with. **Kevin Lovelass** again questioned Officer's with reference to Village Mayor having knowledge of proposal given to Galway Town Board and his knowledge of tonight's presentation. Captain Schoonmaker stated that Mayor Hyde & Chief were both shown the information he presented to Town Board tonight. **Councilman Arnold** as a resident of the Town for 46 years referenced a time when there were several Town Constables and it didn't work out and the positions were abolished. **Captain Schoonmaker** stated that with the degree of training & schooling required now the Police Departments are much more knowledgeable. **Chet** stated as a summer resident of Lake for his entire life he has great concerns with the degree of speed he has seen the Village Police travel when pursuing someone from Village. He has experienced two very scary traffic issues with the Village Police in pursuit of a vehicle on Perth Road & Sacandaga Road. **Supervisor Lent** stated that Town Board would take information under advisement and let them know outcome.

Councilman Smith made a motion, seconded by Councilman Arnold to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m.

All ayes.

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,



Margaret L. DeFoe
Town Clerk