

**TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**

**June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, June 12, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

<b>Roll Call:</b>	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilwoman Deborah Nottke	Present
	Councilman Bill Bishop	Present
	Councilman Brayton Foster	Present
	Councilman Todd Wyckoff	Present

**Others Present:** Town Clerk Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Historian John Hunt, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Town Code Enforcement Officer Roger Ward, other interested citizens.

**Call to order:** Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes:** Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve the minutes from May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Aye - Wyckoff, Aye - Nottke, Aye - Bishop and Aye - Foster.

Town Historian and President of the Interlaken Historical Society(IHS) John Hunt thanked the Town Board for the Town's monetary donation and the use of the Town Hall for its business meetings and Public meetings. He explained that the Historical Society received its income from four sources: the Town of Covert, the Village of Interlaken, Delavan Foundation grants and STEPS grants, as well as private donations. He said that the Historical Society strives to keep the history alive so future generations can know our past. He reported that there were a lot of people visiting the museum during Olde Home Days. He invited all to the upcoming Summer Social/Dish-to-pass on July 23<sup>rd</sup> , hotdogs and drinks provided, and to the Square Dance at Brook Farm on September 16<sup>th</sup> funded by the STEPS grant. Their events are free so all can attend, enjoy, and learn. Hunt said that the old Trumansburg phone building is cramped and crowded; it is rented from the phone company. He said that a plan being developed for the donated Betzler lot next to the Dollar General for their future needs. Donations are being collected and the Village of Interlaken is working on a grant for the new building project. When asked if the IHS needed an additional \$1000 per year, he replied "no, we're doing okay now." Upwards of \$700,000 will be needed for the new building.

**Highway Superintendent:** MacCheyne reported that the Highway Dept. hauled ROC for summer road work, spread stone and sprayed with dust oil on dirt roads, cut shoulders, replaced driveway pipes on Savercool and Arden Roads, cut rebates for paving projects, and did cold patching on Burdick, West Covert and Arden Roads. They did maintenance on all equipment. They did repairs and installed side flail mower on tractor. He said that he has been pricing replacement shell for the mower. They do not make breakaway shells anymore.

MacCheyne said they hauled stone to fill in the engineers' test holes created for testing the ground for new Frontenac Bridge supports. He will check with Jim on what the next step will be.

**Town Clerk:** Adams-Compton said that the Cayuga Lake Triathlon is scheduled for August 6<sup>th</sup> and will happen on Rte 89 and County Rd 141 in the Town of Covert.

**Committees:** Nottke shared draft minutes of the Three Falls LDC meeting on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

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Foster questioned a comment in the minutes about requiring more funding from the members and reminded them that they are not enthusiastic about that possibility. He said he hoped that the Park is planning on other means of revenue.

Nottke said there is a tentative 10-Year agreement between the NY Parks and the Three Falls LDC. She said the Boy Scouts have given their Memorandum of Understanding with the LDC for when the Parks take over. They would like access to the park on certain days and access to the boat house. She said all the Boy Scouts' personal items will be removed. Nottke said the shooting range lead abatement is not finished yet.

Nottke said Carrie Pollak has been hired as lawyer for the LDC. She announced the next meeting of the Three Falls LDC will be at 9:30 AM, June 29th.

Nottke plans to attend a meeting for the economic development for the local municipalities. She said the meetings provide for exchange of ideas between the municipalities for economic development and investment.

Wyckoff asked what the County's stance on the migrant situation is. Reynolds said the County will not take any action yet, such as declaring a state of emergency. He said that the County has "housed out" 150 people to other counties. Willard was mentioned as a possibility for housing, but it could only accommodate 60 people and the building is only a shell. He said there is concern at the County Board of Health. Who would provide shots and translators?

**Supervisor:** Reynolds re-visited the request from Interlaken Library for \$1000 more annually. They would like to receive \$2500/year from the Town for the next few years.

Reynolds said Cayuga Lake Watershed membership is paid by the County. Bishop said that the Library handles more people than the Historical Society.

Reynolds reported that they have had a couple meetings with the new Assessors, Al Fiorille and Sandy Hagin, and the State. Sandy Hagin will be the named Sole Assessor, as there can only be one for the Town. He said they came to observe Grievance Day.

The Assessors have requested the Town provide for them a laptop. Seneca County IT, Laprade, suggested the state bid Lenova laptop. Deputy Quan had suggested the Framework laptop that has replaceable parts. Reynolds said that the State will program the computer for them. The assessors have also requested cell phones for each of them. Reynolds said Verizon would provide them for ≈\$30.00 each.

Reynolds said they have a Variance Request from Sara and Jon Sanders, 8923 Lone Retreat Rd, Interlaken, to tear down a cottage and build a new home where the acreage is short the required one acre under the Land Management Ordinance. They can apply for a demolition permit with the County before the variance proceedings with the Town.

**Petitioners:** Barry Ford asked about where the County was with Sales Tax sharing. Reynolds said it was tabled until tomorrow. A resolution will be presented that provides for sharing what's left after the County uses what it needs.

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Ben Guthrie asked what the lawsuit mentioned by Morrell was about. Morrell said he spoke of the ongoing suit between neighbors, Guttman vs. Mikeska and the Town. It is now in the hands of the Rochester court.

**Resolutions:** Foster moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve the revision to the 2023 Interlaken Public Library Agreement, increasing the annual payment to \$2,500. Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster.

Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the State bid purchase of Lenova laptop for the Assessors' use. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff, and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve the purchase of two Verizon cell phones for the Assessors' use. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff, and Aye-Bishop.

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to refer the Variance Request for Sara and Jon Sanders, 8923 Lone Retreat Rd, Interlaken, to construct a new home, to the Planning Board for June 29<sup>th</sup> at 7PM and schedule a Public Hearing for July 10<sup>th</sup> at 7PM. Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve the Supervisor's Income and Expenditure report for the month of May 2023. Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of May 2023. Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve Town Clerk report for the month of May 2023. Town Clerk received a total of \$1253.00; \$568.02 was remitted to the Supervisor. Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve Code Enforcement Officer's report for the month of May 2023. Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, that Highway Fund Vouchers #73 - 82 in the amount of \$8,189.33 and General Fund Vouchers #110 - 128 in the amount of \$20,465.58 be approved for payment. Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

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