

**TOWN OF COVERT
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
AND
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
7:00 PM ----- JANUARY 11, 2021**

The organizational and regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, January 11, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilwoman Deborah Nottke	Present
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Bill Bishop	Present
	Councilman Brayton Foster	Present

Others Present: Town Clerk Leslie Adams-Compton, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Nottke moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the minutes from December 28th, 2020 Year-end Meeting. Aye-Vann, Aye-Foster, Aye-Nottke and Aye-Bishop.

Public Hearing: Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to open the Public Hearing at 7:03 p.m. to hear any comments on the Variance Request for Andrew Larkin, 9329 Kingtown Beach Road, Trumansburg, who would like to replace existing cottage with a new 26' x 40' residence where lot size is deficient and side set backs are not met by requirements of the Town of Covert Land Management Ordinance (LMO). Vann asked if they'd heard from any of the neighbors. No neighbors had responded to date. Morrell said that the Public Hearing could be adjourned until the next month if there was concern that neighbors may have comments, but that the Town is not obligated. The Board suggested that the Supervisor make phone calls to Larkin and/or neighbors. Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to suspend the Hearing until the February 8th meeting. Vann moved, seconded by Nottke, to return to the Organizational meeting at 7:11 p.m.

ORGANIZATONAL

- 1) Vann moved, seconded by Bishop, that for the year 2021 the Town Board sets 57 cents per mile reimbursement as mileage allowance for personal vehicles used by Town Officers while performing official duties other than attendance at Town Board Meetings or Town Court Proceedings.
- 2) Vann moved, seconded by Nottke, to authorize that Community Bank, N.A., be designated the official bank of the Town of Covert and Town Justice Schmidt and the Supervisor be authorized to invest Town monies consistent with the requirements of New York State and with appropriate consideration given to elements of safety, liquidity and yield.
- 3) Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to authorize Highway Superintendent MacCheyne to spend up to \$750.00 per purchase to acquire equipment, tools, and implements and \$1,000.00 for repairs during 2021 without prior approval of the Town Board.
- 4) Nottke moved, seconded by Vann, to designate the Interlaken Review as the official newspaper of the Town of Covert for the year 2021.
- 5) Foster moved, seconded by Vann, to appoint Christopher Bulmahn as Dog Control Officer at the budgeted Salary and 57 cents per mile to Beverly Animal Shelter for the year 2021. A \$16.00 per day fee for each dog will be charged to the owner upon redemption of impounded dog from Beverly Animal Shelter plus a \$15.00 pick up fee.
- 6) Vann moved, seconded by Nottke, to appoint John Poludniak as Code Enforcement Officer at the budgeted Salary and 57 cents per mile for the year 2021.

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- 7) Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to appoint John Hunt as cleaner to the Town of Covert Municipal Building, at the wage of \$12.50 per hour for the year 2021.
- 8) Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to allow Supervisor Reynolds to file his 2020 annual report with the Town Clerk by the same date and in the same matter as Annual Report is required to be filed with the State Comptroller. Such authorization is allowed by Town Law Section 29 (10a).
- 9) Nottke moved, seconded by Vann, to appoint Mr. Raymond Zajac Sr., Grease Lightning, to mow the lawns at the Municipal Building, Town Hall and Covert Cemetery for an amount not to exceed \$2,080.00 for the year 2021-2022.
- 10) Nottke moved, seconded by Vann, that the salaries of all elected and appointed officers shall be the amount indicated by the currently effective resolution or the amount budgeted in the 2021 budget. The Highway Superintendent shall set wages of hourly highway employees with concurrence by the Town Board, within the limits of the Highway Budget. Payment of salaries and wages shall be at times and dates that are legally permissible and mutually acceptable to the Supervisor and the recipients.
- 11) The Personnel Policy and Procedures Handbook were reviewed with no changes at this time. Vann moved, seconded by Nottke. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster, and Aye-Nottke.

APPOINTMENTS BY ELECTED OFFICIALS

Highway Superintendent MacCheyne appoints Glenn Boyes as Deputy Highway Superintendent for 2021.

Town Clerk appoints Brian Quan as Deputy Town Clerk, Registrar of Vital Statistics, and Tax Collector. Wage shall be \$14.64 per hour.

Town Justice Eileen Schmidt appoints Jeanne Rykbost as Clerk to the Town Justice. Salary shall be as budgeted for the year 2021.

Supervisor Reynolds makes the following appointments for 2021:

Bookkeeper to the Supervisor -- Seneca County Finance Department

Budget Officer -- Michael Reynolds

Deputy Supervisor -- Deborah Nottke

Town Assessment Committee – Michael Reynolds and Brayton Foster

Historian for the Town – John Hunt

Highway Committee -- Bill Bishop, Chairman and Brayton Foster

Courts, Ordinances & Law Enforcement –Brayton Foster, Chairman and Bill Bishop

Utilities & Insurance – Bill Bishop, Chairman and Deborah Nottke

Personnel – Jeffrey Vann, Chairman and Deborah Nottke

Buildings and Grounds--Bill Bishop, Chairman and Jeffrey Vann

Fire and Ambulance –Deborah Nottke, Chairwoman, Jeffrey Vann and Michael G. Reynolds

Planning and Land Management Ordinance- Jeffery Vann, Chairman and Brayton Foster

Any appointments which may have been overlooked shall continue to be filled by the incumbent subject to review by the appropriate appointing authority.

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RETURN TO THE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

MacCheyne gave his monthly report of plowing, sanding, roadwork, and maintenance on equipment.

MacCheyne also said that he spoke with Reynolds about the possibility of employees receiving sick pay when leaving employment with the Town, essentially rewarding those who did not use sick time regularly. He suggested a reward for 50 hours, paid to the employee. The Personnel Policy does not allow for payment for unused sick time. In the past, allowances were made for retirement, such as continued health insurance. Foster suggested that a Policy could be created moving forward. Nottke said that employees have been aware of the Policy and suggested that Reynolds call around to the other Towns for their policies on sick pay. MacCheyne said that other Towns and the County make provisions for unused sick pay.

Adams-Compton said that the payment portal for receiving credit cards in payment of tax bills is working now. The option is provided as a service, but the fee charged to the customer for its use is prohibitive at 2.85% + 40¢.

Reynolds said that a new door was installed at the Town Hall by Fred Schmidt.

Reynolds reminded the Town Board of the Audit of the Bookkeeper's and Town Clerk's books on January 14th at 10:00 a.m. and the Court books on January 18th at 9 a.m.

Vann said that the required "Covid" policy regarding sick time, ordered by Cuomo, should be considered. Reynolds said that law regarding quarantines should also be considered. Morrell said that a judge issues a letter of proof of stay-at-home orders. Bishop said that conceivably the Town could lose the "whole crew". MacCheyne said this has happened to other Towns, with employees "on call". Morrell said that is probably in violation of the Governor's orders. Nottke thought that essential workers are under a different policy. It would be wise for the Town Board to create a Policy.

Nottke shared that Trumansburg Ambulance workers got their first vaccinations. She also reported that the Town of Covert had 6 calls in December, 0 in Interlaken. The whole total for the Trumansburg EMS was 792 for 2020.

Attorney Morrell reviewed the process for SEQR that is required for Variance Requests to the Town.

Resolutions:

Nottke moved, seconded by Vann, to renew Beverly Animal Shelter Agreement for 2021 contingent on review. Aye-Vann, Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Supervisor's Income and Expenditure report for the month of December 2020. Aye-Vann, Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Foster.

Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of December 2020. Aye-Vann, Aye Nottke, Aye-Foster and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Vann, to approve the Town Clerk's report for the month of December 2020. A total of \$807.00 was received and \$242.32 was remitted to the Supervisor for the month of December 2020. Tax Collection in December, 2020 was \$114,483.45. Aye-Vann, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Nottke and Aye-Foster.

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Vann moved, seconded by Nottke, to approve the Dog Control Officer's report for the month of December 2020.
Aye-Vann, Aye-Foster, Aye-Nottke and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Vann, that Highway Fund Vouchers #1-12 in the amount of \$36,378.81 and General Fund Vouchers # 1-18 in the amount \$119,112.96 be approved for payment. Aye-Foster, Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Vann.

Nottke moved, seconded by Vann to adjourn at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
08 February 2021

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, February 8th at 7:00 P.M. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilwoman Deborah Nottke	Present via phone
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Present
	Councilman Bill Bishop	Present
	Councilman Brayton Foster	Present

Others Present: Deputy Town Clerk Brian Quan, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Vann moved, Nottke seconded, to approve the minutes from January 11, 2021. All approved.

MacCheyne reported regular maintenance of roads and equipment, including installation of new pipe and a new driveway; status of bridge work: there are requests for bids from 10 companies with decisions on the bid around June. He received price quotes (International and awaiting one for Western Star) for replacing the 550 and 10-wheeler, advising there is a one-year lead time (agreement to the quote locks the price). Resale on the big trucks is difficult because their size tends to be too big for contractors and exposure to salt takes a significant toll. Foster suggested ordering and putting the 550 on the 2022 budget while using FEMA reimbursement to help fund the 10-wheeler.

Reynolds advised the 2019 Annual Update Document (AUD) should be finalized by the March Town Board meeting.

Vann inquired about the status of the COVID/Pandemic Emergency Plan (required by NYS). Quan advised the work in the Clerk's office is focused on property taxes, but will soon be shifting back to work on the plan.

Reynolds suggested suspending the public hearing for the request of variance by Larkin because of the unavailability of residents. Morrell reminded the time limit on requests of variance to the Land Management Ordinance requires the hearing be made known publicly with residents given sufficient time for responding before the Town Board makes a decision.

Reynolds sought a request of variance referral to the Planning Board for Mahra Parian in bringing up to code for habitability an existing building on the parcel, where only one dwelling, per Land Management Ordinance, is allowed. Foster pointed out this situation is different than previous variance requests for multiple dwellings in that a building already exists on the same parcel, adding it can be made adjoining.

Morrell advised the Senior/Disabilities Exemption changes are intended to be consistent with the county; all towns within the county are doing the same. Reynolds advised the Assessors' office said the change in exemption would only amount to an increase in single digit dollar amounts.

Petitioners:

Dick Westbrook observed MacCheyne investigating part of his yard dug up by a snow plow. MacCheyne advised Westbrook the County was aware of the damage they did. A solution being looked into is to replace the wing blade with a rubber sandwiched steel model.

Resolutions:

Vann moved, Foster seconded, to refer the Variance Request by Mahra Parian to the Planning Board for a 25 February meeting. All approved.

Vann moved, Bishop seconded, to close the Public Hearing at 7:43 P.M. for Andrew Larkin and to designate the Town of Covert Town Board as the lead agency for making SEQR determinations for the approval of the Variance Request for Andrew Larkin, 9329 Kingtown Beach Road, Trumansburg, NY, to replace the existing cottage with a new 26' x 40' residence on an undersized lot. Pursuant to 6 NYCRR 617.13(c)(9) it is hereby determined that the action proposed in this application constitutes a Type II action as defined under said regulation and does not require an environmental impact statement or any other determination or procedure. All approved.

Local Law 1-2021

SECTION 1. The intent of this local law is to provide a real property tax exemption to certain senior citizens in accordance with Section 467 of Real Property Tax Law, and certain disabled persons, in accordance with Section 459- c of Real Property Tax Law, and to increase the income limits to allow the exemptions to be distributed in a more fair and equitable manner.

SECTION 1.a: Effective January 1, 2021, the Town of Covert shall grant a real property tax exemption to certain individuals sixty-five (65) years of age and over, in accordance with Section 467(1)(b) of the Real Property Tax Law.

SECTION 1.b: Effective January 1, 2021, the Town of Covert shall grant a real property tax exemption to certain persons with disabilities and limited incomes, in accordance with Section 459-c of the Real Property Tax Law.

SECTION 2: Effective January 1, 2021, the maximum income eligibility level for the 467 and 459-c exemptions shall be as follows:

ANNUAL INCOME	<u>PERCENTAGE EXEMPT FROM TAXATION</u>
UP TO 23,500	50%
EQ/More\$23,500.01 but less than \$24,500	45%
\$24,500 or more but less than \$25,500	40%
\$25,500 or more but less than \$26,500	35%
\$26,500 or more but less than \$27,400	30%
\$27,400 or more but less than \$28,300	25%
\$28,300 or more but less than \$29,200	20%
\$29,200 or more but less than \$30,100	15%
\$30,100 or more but less than \$31,000	10%
\$31,000 or more but less than \$31,900	5%

SECTION 3. All other provisions of Section 467 and 459-c of Real Property Tax Law of the State of New York shall be in effect for the purpose of Town real property taxation in the Town of Covert.

SECTION 4. This exemption shall be extended to a legal residence owned as a cooperative apartment as provided in such Section 459-C.

SECTION 5. This local law is specifically intended to be in effect for the March 1, 2021, taxable status date for applications received for preparation of the 2022 assessment rolls.

SECTION 6. This local law shall take effect immediately upon its filing in the Office of the Secretary of State.

SECTION 7. In the event of a conflict or inconsistency between this Local Law and any previous Local Law or Resolution, the terms of this local law shall govern.

Effective Date. This Local Law shall take effect immediately.

Nottke moved, Foster seconded, to approve Local Law #1 Senior/Disabilities Exemption. All approved.

RESOLUTION 1-2021

RESOLVED, By the Town Board of the Town of Covert that *Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-1)*, issued pursuant to Article 57-A of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Law, and containing legal minimum retention periods for local government records, is hereby adopted for use by all officers in legally disposing of valueless records listed therein.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that in accordance with Article 57-A:

(a) only those records will be disposed of that are described in *Retention and Disposition Schedule for New York Local Government Records (LGS-1)*, after they have met the minimum retention periods described therein;

(b) only those records will be disposed of that do not have sufficient administrative, fiscal, legal, or historical value to merit retention beyond established legal minimum periods.

Foster moved, Bishop seconded, to adopt Schedule LGS-1 for Retention and Disposition of Town records. All approved.

Nottke moved, Foster seconded, to approve the Covert Town Clerk and Tax Collector's records which were examined on 20 January 2021 and found to be in good order. All approved.

Bishop moved, Foster seconded, that the Covert Town Justice's Court records and dockets were examined on 18 January 2021 and found to be in good order. All approved.

Vann moved, Nottke seconded, to approve the Supervisor's Income and Expenditure Report for the month of January 2021. All approved.

Foster moved, Nottke seconded, to approve the Highway Report for the month of January 2021. All approved.

Foster moved, Bishop seconded, to authorize the Highway Superintendent to order for purchase a 2022 Ford F-550 XL from Van Bortel Ford through an Onondaga Bid for \$97,855.14. All approved.

Vann moved, Bishop seconded, to approve the Town Clerk's Report for the month of January 2021. The Town Clerk received a total of \$1109; \$425 was remitted to the Supervisor. Tax Collector received \$1,845,259.80 to date. All approved.

Nottke moved, Vann seconded, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer Report for the month of January 2021. All approved.

Nottke moved, Foster seconded, to approve the Dog Control Officer Report for the month of January 2021. All approved.

Bishop moved, Nottke seconded, that Highway Fund Vouchers #13-29, amounting to \$15,627.71, and General Fund Vouchers #19-36, amounting to \$350,581.06, be approved for payment. All approved.

Bishop moved, Nottke seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Quan, Deputy Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
March 8, 2021

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, March 8, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilwoman Deborah Nottke	Present via Phone
	Councilman Jeffrey Vann	Absent
	Councilman Bill Bishop	Present
	Councilman Brayton Foster	Present

Others Present: Town Clerk Leslie Adams-Compton, Deputy Clerk Brian Quan, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the minutes from February 8, 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster and Aye-Bishop.

MacCheyne shared about plowing and sanding roads and maintenance of equipment, and repair of mailboxes and road signs damaged by motor vehicle accidents. He will schedule a meeting with the County about letting him know when signs are down, to prevent accidents, and so the Town doesn't get sued. Insurance should cover the property damage.

Adams-Compton reported that Deputy Quan filled in when she was out with Covid. Around 100 tax bills remain unpaid.

Foster questioned the placement of the FEMA cash accounts in the General Fund on the monthly report. He asked if the FEMA expenses come out of the 'Town - outside' expense accounts. It was confirmed that they do, as the Village has applied for FEMA for 2018 flood damage done within the Village of Interlaken limits. Reynolds said they've been receiving the State portion of reimbursements recently.

Foster asked if the \$112,000 in FEMA income was enough to start work on the reparation projects. The big projects will be Booth Road and South Frontenac. It will depend on the cost whether both projects can be worked on soon; the cost will be reimbursed to the Town. MacCheyne said that there are a lot of laid up stone pipe on Booth Road but his main concern is the bigger crossovers. Hydrology studies have been done. The projects should be put out to bid as soon as the specs are ready.

MacCheyne said he would check with DeLong regarding the hand-shake agreement for flood repair work. They would like to see it in writing. If not interested, the jobs have to be "bided back".

Foster also asked about the Generations closed bank account. Reynolds said it was moved to an interest-bearing account.

Nottke said she had asked Chris Fox how the Trumansburg Ambulance was doing. Fox said the runs were up, not Covid related, from 882 - 1300. She said that their PPE supplies are good but they could use a gas grill to cook food on. Morrell was asked if this is something that the Town could 'gift' to them.

Morrell said that it would be okay to make a gift to a municipality. Generally, everything that the Town does with taxpayers' money should have a contract, but a gift to a municipality is okay.

Quan shared that he was working on the Pandemic Plan, as was directed by the Governor. He is using the more simplified template from the County. An email was sent to all board members asking for input on PPE, Essential Functions and Remote Work/Staggered Shifts portion of the Plan. These decisions should be made by the Board. Some supplies are available from the County. Quan said that the plan should include non-respiratory based pandemics as well.

Nottke asked whether the County Board of Supervisors had expectations of this plan. Reynolds said it wasn't discussed. She also noted that the County Plan did not seem to include the Towns.

Morrell said that although the plan should be adopted by April 1st, there is no enforcement in place as yet. He said that Seneca Falls' Plan is still with the department heads. He also said that the Court relies on "Judicial"(NY Courts?) for their direction.

Bishop said the plan should be tailored to each Town.

Reynolds said that he thought the Town has a decent shot at the Bridge NY funds, with CHA Consulting choosing bridge projects for the State and consulting for the Town. Nottke said she would call Chris Fox of Trumansburg Ambulance, the Boy Scouts and Trumansburg Fire to solicit letters in support of the Frontenac Bridge project.

Resolutions:

**Resolution # 2-21
Authorizing Hiring of CHA Consulting, Inc.**

WHEREAS the Town of Covert is in dire need of a new bridge on North Frontenac Rd., and

WHEREAS the Town of Covert is in need of assistance in applying for 2021 Bridge New York funds, now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Town of Covert accepts the Proposal of CHA Consulting, Inc. to be hired for consultation and filing paperwork related to the application process of the 2021 Bridge New York program on behalf of the Town of Covert.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Covert Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to execute all documents necessary to enter into a contract with CHA Consulting, Inc. and to submit an application to the 2021 Bridge New York Program.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Foster.

Bishop moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the Town Supervisor's Income and Expenditure Report for the month of February 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Foster.

Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of February 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster and Aye-Bishop.

Bishop moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the Town Clerk's and Tax Collector report for the month of February 2021. Town Clerk received a total of \$515.00 and \$285.28 was remitted to the Supervisor. Tax Collector received a total of \$1,930,790.22 to date. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Foster.

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to approve the Dog Control Officer's report for the month of February 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, that Highway Fund Vouchers #30-50 in the amount of \$73,035.85 and General Fund Vouchers #37-56 in the amount \$8,229.90 be approved for payment. Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Nottke.

Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
April 12, 2021

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, April 12, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilwoman Deborah Nottke	Present
	Councilman Bill Bishop	Present
	Councilman Brayton Foster	Present

Others Present: Town Clerk Leslie Adams-Compton, Deputy Clerk Brian Quan, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Jack and John Persoon, Mark Benjamin/Seneca Meadows and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Moment of Silence: A Moment of Silence was observed in honor of Councilman Vann, deceased in March. Reynolds shared that Jeff Vann will be missed, he was "the man on the LMO" and he "kept us alive on that quite a bit".

Approval of Minutes: Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the minutes from March 8, 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster and Aye-Bishop.

Presenter: Reynolds shared that Jack and John Persoon of Persoon Dairy would like to put in an approximately 50 acre solar farm on their property behind Hipshot and the Elementary School. Jared of Renovus Solar had met with Nottke, Reynolds and Jack Persoon earlier in the day. They said that the solar farm would not be visible from any roads or houses, trees would be planted if need be. The Persoons wanted to know how the Board members feel about it. They expect that the application process will take about a year, hoping to be approved by June of 2022 through NYSEG, etc. Foster thought that the fact that it will not be visible is a selling point, and that regulations for solar are more favorable than for the oil and gas business. They said that it would be able to tap into the 3-phase lines that go up the old train track bed. Persoons said that they have lawyers to represent them in negotiating the contract. They will supposedly clean up/recycle at the end of the 25 year lease. The lease may possibly be extended an additional 10 years.

Presenter: Mark Benjamin of Seneca Meadows came to update the Town on this year and the future of Seneca Meadows. "Neighbor Notes" were distributed to the Board members. Mark said that they send these newsletters to their immediate neighbors, and this year, to Seneca Falls and Waterloo residents. He shared that their annual Mulch Day will be Saturday, May 8th, 7:00-11:00 a.m. when free mulch is available to Seneca County residents. Open House will be July 25th, 12:00-4:00 when visitors can view the operations, the site, and how the waste, recycling, landfill gas and renewable energy is managed.

Benjamin also shared that this year 5 acres of new landfill liner will be added. Along Rt 414, slope filling operations will be visible on the outside of the landfill. They will be working on the 29 acres of final cover area with 17 acres of synthetic membrane. A clay/synthetic liner and other soil prevents storm water leaching and landfill gas emissions. He said that the process mitigates odor, provides renewable energy for electricity, capturing landfill gas to generate electricity, which is considered a green renewable energy, reducing reliance on fossil fuels. Last year, their renewable energy partner created enough electricity "basically for all of Seneca County".

Benjamin said that Seneca Meadows' permit is up with the DEC in 2025. They have applied to continue beyond the deadline another 15 years. He said that they would continue to fill, moving inside from the perimeter, not changing the footprint as it is now. He said that the DEC would be the lead agency in the environmental impact statement. Foster mentioned that if they were to close, that would mean an increase in cost to our residents.

Benjamin mentioned that they will help the Village of Interlaken with their annual cleanup/Dumpster Day. MacCheyne asked if they also work with Towns on clean-ups. He said they would. He said that they give tours and that they should be scheduled in advance, for as little as 1, as many as 66.

MacCheyne shared of the Highway Department's monthly activities: Plowing, sanding, hauling, brooming intersections, cold patching, cleaned up damaged lawns and shoulders, did maintenance on equipment. He said that he received a couple of calls from residents about a property on Congress St Ext, north of the alpacas, that appears to be used as a landfill with garbage and cars. Foster suggested that Seneca County Code be contacted. Morrell agreed that the Town wouldn't be able to address the situation, probably the DEC should be contacted.

Nottke asked about the Bridge NY process. MacCheyne said that the interview process, as far as classifying, is starting. Nottke had received letters in favor of the Frontenac Bridge restoration from the School, the Boy Scouts and the Fire Department.

Bishop asked about the truck situation that MacCheyne had mentioned prior to the meeting. Tracey Road has a 2022 Western Star truck with Tenco wings that they like, but would have to be ordered soon for acquisition by 2022. They also have another truck with an Everest body with wings not flexible. There is a new truck in the Capital Plan for 2022. Foster thought they should go ahead and place the order since it will be a while. MacCheyne said they had a little over a week to make a decision. Morrell said that they would be able to piggyback on the Onondaga County bid with a resolution.

Bishop was asked regarding anyone interested in the vacant Board member position. He had nothing to report yet. Morrell said that there is not a specific procedure for an appointment to the Board position. Interviews could be conducted by Board members or other people of the Town, or the Board could enter into executive session at a special or regular Board meeting. The vacancy will be on the ballot in the upcoming November election; the term will run to the end of Vann's term, 12/31/23. Morrell also said that there was no requirement to fill the position through the end of this year. A notice would have to be posted if the appointment was to happen at a non-regular Board meeting.

Nottke said that Chris Fox/EMS administrator reported that there are less calls so far this year.

Reynolds shared that the Health Insurance Buyout payments to employees are having employee taxes taken out now per the bookkeepers. MacCheyne says that, with the deductions, it is not enough to pay for him to be on his wife's policy. He would like to see an increase in the payment to compensate for his loss through taxes. They will get the calculations for the next meeting.

Reynolds also said that he joined a zoom meeting with Kathy Burch of NYS and he thinks that the Town is in line for receiving a grant for a salt barn. He's not sure when the money would be received.

Reynolds said that the owners of Auble's Trailer Park want to replace the manufactured homes. Morrell said that there is a trailer ordinance and installing new trailers would not be exempt from the exemption for trailers existing before 1975. A variance can be requested.

Nottke asked Morrell about PILOTs with solar companies and NYS Property Tax Law 487. Morrell said that the installation would be exempt but the property is still taxed. The Town may see a PILOT application along with the Solar Permit application for the Persoons and Renovus. Nottke asked if there was any way for the Town to garner money for the project instead of the County, as the solar company had implied. Morrell didn't think so.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the Town Supervisor's Income and Expenditure Report for the month of March 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Foster.

Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of March 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Town Clerk's and Tax Collector report for the month of March 2021. Town Clerk received a total of \$1270.00 and \$598.68 was remitted to the Supervisor. Tax Collector received a total of \$2,021,504.40, with \$2291.19 of interest included. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Foster.

Bishop moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer's report for the first quarter of 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Foster.

Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Dog Control Officer's report for the month of March 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, that Highway Fund Vouchers #51-71 in the amount of \$17,011.91 and General Fund Vouchers #57-78 in the amount \$8,268.55 be approved for payment. Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Nottke.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
TOWN BOARD MEETING
22 April 2021

The special meeting to approve purchase of a 2022 Western Star with improvements of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Thursday, April 22nd at 12 noon at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call: Supervisor Michael Reynolds Present
Councilwoman Deborah Nottke Present
Councilman Bill Bishop Present
Councilman Brayton Foster Present

Others Present: Deputy Town Clerk Brian Quan and Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 12:04 P.M. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Supervisor Reynolds advised a public hearing needs to be scheduled to amend Local Law 1-2021, Senior and Disabled Partial Exemption for Property Tax because of a typographical error.

MacCheyne spoke of some preferred features not included in the Western Star truck quotation approved during the last board meeting. In particular, a stainless steel body would increase its long term durability; the current truck only has stainless steel corners. MacCheyne noted the Seneca County Highway Department uses stainless steel bodied Western Star trucks. He discussed the benefits manual transmissions over automatic transmissions: it's initial cost is \$11k less, maintenance frequency and costs are lower, reliability is higher; additionally, the driver has more control over engine speed. He noted, though they typically do not go to the lake houses during winter, if the need arose, they would be able to do so with more assurance. Once ordered, the truck is expected to arrive in July 2022.

Bishop advised Todd Wycoff is interested in the vacant Town Board position; Wycoff will be interviewed during the next Town Board meeting. Foster asked if Wycoff would take on Vann's committee assignments, specifically the Planning and Land Management Ordinance; they were amending the Land Management Ordinance to address construction projects without an application for a permit as required.

MacCheyne asked about the Town's property lines around the Highway Barns; he said it would be beneficial to survey the site before more work proceeds on the salt barn project.

Reynolds said he notified South Seneca Ambulance about meeting (via Zoom) with Pam Helming on 16 June between 2 and 3:30, but has not received a response.

Resolutions:

Resolution # 4-21
Authorizing Purchase of 2022 Western Star

WHEREAS the Town of Covert Town Board finds that the Town's Highway Department is in need of a new truck; and

WHEREAS the Town of Covert Town Board finds that Onondaga County is a governmental entity; and


WHEREAS Onondaga County did solicit and award Onondaga County Contract #8996, which has been made available for use by other governmental entities; and

WHEREAS such contract was let in a manner consistent with New York State Law; and

WHEREAS, after the April 12, 2021 Covert Town Board meeting the Town received a new Quotation for a truck that better serves the needs of the Town's Highway Department; now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Town of Covert Town Board hereby rescinds Resolution #3-21, adopted at the April 12, 2021 Town Board meeting;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Covert Town Board hereby authorizes the purchase of a 2022 Western Star truck, pursuant to the attached Quotation from Tracey Road, dated April 20, 2021, pursuant to General Municipal Law section 103(16).



QUOTATION

6803 Manlius Center Road, East Syracuse, NY 13057 phone (315) 437-1471 fax (315) 437-4041

TO:

Customer	TOWN OF COVERT		
Address	3703 CLINTON ST.		
City, State, Zip Code	INTERLAKEN, NY 14847		
Contact Person	JEFF MacCHEYNE		
Phone Number	607-532-4433	Fax Number	
Date of Quotation	4/20/2021	Quotation Price Good Through	5/20/2021
Salesman Name	BRENDAN GEISS		

Stock #	New or Used	Description	Price:
	NEW	2022 WESTERN STAR 4700SF CAB/CHASSIS PER ATTACHED SPECIFICATIONS OPTION: ALLISON AUTOMATIC TRANS. - ADD \$11,135	\$120,337.00
	NEW	EVEREST EQUIPMENT PACKAGE INSTALLED (STAINLESS) PER ATTACHED SPECIFICATIONS OPTION: STEEL ilo STAINLESS - DEDUCT (\$3,607)	\$116,053.00
		QUOTED OFF ONONDAGA COUNTY CONTRACT #8996	
Total			\$236,390.00
Description of Trade-In (Year, Make, Lienholder, Amount owed on unit, Gross Trade-in allowance)			
			\$0

DETAILS OF PROPOSED TRANSACTION:		TERMS AVAILABLE:	
CASH PRICE	\$236,390.00	12mos @	=
-TRADE-IN (see above)	\$0.00	24mos @	=
NET PRICE	\$236,390.00	36mos @	=
SALES TAX (if applicable)	\$0.00	48mos @	=
FET ON NET (if applic.)		60mos @	=
TOTAL PRICE	\$236,390.00		

WE APPRECIATE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO QUOTE YOU. I ASSURE YOU THAT YOUR ORDER WILL BE MOST APPRECIATED AND HANDLED IN A PROMPT AND CAREFUL MANNER. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CALL ME WHEN I CAN BE OF SERVICE...

Sales Representative

Thank You

Nottke moved, Bishop seconded, to authorize purchase of a 2022 Western Star; all approved.

Nottke moved, Foster seconded, to have a public hearing to amend Local Law 1-2021, Senior and Disabled Partial Exemption for Property Tax during the May regular Town Board meeting; all approved.

Bishop moved, Foster seconded, to have Charlie Carroll survey the parcel the Highway Barns occupy; all approved.

Nottke moved, Bishop seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 1:04 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Quan, Deputy Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
May 10, 2021

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, May 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilwoman Deborah Nottke	Present
	Councilman Bill Bishop	Present
	Councilman Brayton Foster	Present

Others Present: Town Clerk Leslie Adams-Compton, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Deputy Clerk Brian Quan, Todd Wyckoff and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 6:58 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the minutes from April 12 and April 22, 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster and Aye-Bishop.

Public Hearing:

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to open the Public Hearing to hear comments on the proposed Local Law 1-2021 revision of the assessment roll date as listed in SECTION 5. There was a clerical error citing "for preparation of the 2022 assessment roll" when it should have been 2021. There were no comments. Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to close the Public Hearing.

MacCheyne reported of plowing, sanding, ditching, cold patching and repair of roads, as well as maintenance on equipment. Seneca Stone donated stone for Lakeview Cemetery, the Highway department used it to fix the cemetery roads. He said the new truck has been ordered. MacCheyne said that a logging company was hauling timber from the Boy Scout camp; he hopes to get them to pay for damaged road. The Town's Gradall was in need of repair so they borrowed Lodi's Gradall for Congress St. work.

Also, MacCheyne said that the engineers have completed the Bridge NY application. They expect the State to inspect the bridge in June and hopefully it will receive another yellow flag, allowing 1 more year for repairs.

Nottke asked if the Highway Department is keeping the 2010 truck. MacCheyne said it just got fixed, it has 78,000 miles on it. The problem is availability of parts.

Reynolds and MacCheyne met the surveyors at the Highway Lakeview St. property where the salt barn would go, but they had the wrong maps and didn't come back.

Nottke shared that on May 20th there will be an Fire/EMS budget meeting with Ulysses and other Towns and on June 24th there will be an EMS roundtable zoom meeting with the politicians.

Reynolds and Nottke spoke with Carol Doolittle of Frontenac Point Vineyard who wanted to know about the handling of recyclables in the Town of Covert and where they end up. Reynolds spoke with Ave Bauder, executive director and recycling expert at Cornell Cooperative Extension. Some is recycled; he'll find out what happens to hard plastics and glass. Nottke would like to see the Town recycle fabric as well.

Reynolds said that he is still waiting for the new figures to use for the Health Insurance Buyout payments to employees. An increase in the payments would compensate for the employees loss through taxes.

Reynolds read Code Enforcement Officer's report. He asked what was happening with the Mikeska and Hertzler violations. Morrell said that they were in limbo; the judge is asking for new paperwork in the cases.

Reynolds explained that money is given annually to the Interlaken Historical Society to help with liability insurance on "the cradle"/Farmers' Museum.

Resolutions:

Local Law 2-2021

SECTION 1. The intent of this local law is to provide a real property tax exemption to certain senior citizens in accordance with Section 467 of Real Property Tax Law, and certain disabled persons, in accordance with Section 459- c of Real Property Tax Law, and to increase the income limits to allow the exemptions to be distributed in a more fair and equitable manner.

SECTION 1.a: Effective January 1, 2021, the Town of Covert shall grant a real property tax exemption to certain individuals sixty-five (65) years of age and over, in accordance with Section 467(1)(b) of the Real Property Tax Law.

SECTION 1.b: Effective January 1, 2021, the Town of Covert shall grant a real property tax exemption to certain persons with disabilities and limited incomes, in accordance with Section 459-c of the Real Property Tax Law.

SECTION 2: Effective January 1, 2021, the maximum income eligibility level for the 467 and 459-c exemptions shall be as follows:

ANNUAL INCOME	<u>PERCENTAGE EXEMPT</u> <u>FROM TAXATION</u>
UP TO 23,500	50%
EQ/More\$23,500.01 but less than \$24,500	45%
\$24,500 or more but less than \$25,500	40%
\$25,500 or more but less than \$26,500	35%
\$26,500 or more but less than \$27,400	30%
\$27,400 or more but less than \$28,300	25%
\$28,300 or more but less than \$29,200	20%
\$29,200 or more but less than \$30,100	15%
\$30,100 or more but less than \$31,000	10%
\$31,000 or more but less than \$31,900	5%

SECTION 3. All other provisions of Section 467 and 459-c of Real Property Tax Law of the State of New York shall be in effect for the purpose of Town real property taxation in the Town of Covert.

SECTION 4. This exemption shall be extended to a legal residence owned as a cooperative apartment as provided in such Section 459-C.

SECTION 5. This local law is specifically intended to be in effect for the March 1, 2021, taxable status date for applications received for preparation of the 2021 assessment rolls.

SECTION 6. This local law shall take effect immediately upon its filing in the Office of the Secretary of State.

SECTION 7. In the event of a conflict or inconsistency between this Local Law and any previous Local Law or Resolution, the terms of this local law shall govern.

Effective Date. This Local Law shall take effect immediately.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve Local Law #2 Senior/Disabilities Exemption. All approved.

Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Interlaken Library Board of Trustees to meet at the Covert Town Hall on the third Tuesday of each month. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Foster.

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to approve an increase in the Insurance Buyout provision to compensate for the loss to the employee due to taxes. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster and Aye-Bishop.

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to approve the "Town of Covert Continuation of Operations Protocol: Public Health Emergency" Plan. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the Town Supervisor's Income and Expenditure Report for the month of April 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the 2021 Interlaken Historical Society Agreement. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster and Aye-Bishop.

Bishop moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the 2021 Interlaken Public Library Agreement. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster and Aye-Bishop.

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of April 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Town Clerk's report for the month of April 2021. Town Clerk received a total of \$1607.00 and \$582.20 was remitted to the Supervisor. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer's report for the month of April 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Foster.

Bishop moved, seconded by Nottke, to approve the Dog Control Officer's report for the month of April 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, that Highway Fund Vouchers #72-81 in the amount of \$11,059.40 and General Fund Vouchers #79-94 in the amount \$6,648.10 be approved for payment. Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Nottke.

Nottke moved, all approved, that the Board break into executive session for a personnel matter/interview for vacant Town Board position. Attendees: Reynolds, Foster, Bishop, Nottke, Morrell and Todd Wyckoff.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to reconvene the regular meeting.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to appoint Todd Wyckoff to the Town of Covert Town Board to serve through December 31, 2021. Aye - Foster, Aye - Bishop and Aye - Nottke.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
June 14, 2021

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, June 14th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	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, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Deputy Clerk Brian Quan, Karen Burcroff/Substance Abuse Coalition, and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Oath of Office: Todd Wyckoff took his constitutional oath of the office of the Covert Town Board. Reynolds appointed Wyckoff to the following committees, replacing Councilman Vann: Personnel, Buildings and Grounds, Fire and Ambulance, and Planning and Land Management Ordinance.

Approval of Minutes: Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the minutes from May 10, 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.

Presenter: Karen Burcroff of the Seneca County Substance Abuse Coalition explained that she is part of a coalition, including 12 sectors of business owners: law enforcement, religious entities, schools, etc. Their purpose is to increase protective factors and reduce risk factors in society (to you). She was there to make the Board aware of the recently adopted NYS Marijuana Law allowing recreational use of marijuana for adults. The Town has an important decision to make: Does the Town want to allow retail dispensaries and on-site consumption locations within the Town? Within the law is the restriction that a dispensary or on-site consumption location (essentially marijuana bar) must be at least 500' from a school and 200' from a place of worship. Each town or village must make its own decision. The decision must be made by 12/31/2021. An Opt-In decision is permanent, an Opt-Out decision can be revisited/changed.

She said that the Village of Union Springs had opted out, Ovid and Fayette have decided to opt out. When opting out, the municipality is also opting out of the tax benefit. Foster, who had read about it in the Association of Towns publication, said he thought it worked out to be 1% for the Town. He said he would make the motion to opt out because of his work in an industry of zero tolerance in the workplace and always hearing that smoking was bad for you.

Morrell said that if the Board chose to opt out, it would be subject to permissive referendum, a Public Hearing, adoption of the Opt-Out law, and 30 days for the public to submit its petition to force referendum on the ballot. This process would have to be completed 90 days prior to the election. A petition can be made available to the public. The Village of Interlaken would have to make its own decision for dispensaries and consumption locations within the Village limits.

MacCheyne reported ditching, roadside mowing, installing driveway, driveway pipe, culvert pipe, and installing a new crossover pipe that collapsed on E Bates Rd. They worked on many of the Town roads as well as helping Lodi with paving. They installed mowers on the tractor and did maintenance on all equipment.

MacCheyne said they have been borrowing Romulus' roller that isn't used much. He would like to have the '88 Sakai Roller, with a '70's motor and '80 roller, declared surplus so he can list in online auction. He thinks he can get \$10,000 for it. The Town can accept or reject any bid.

Foster asked MacCheyne where we stood with the FEMA projects. MacCheyne said they are waiting to hear from the engineers on Kelly's Corners Road.

Nottke shared that a meeting was organized by Pam Helming for this week that would include many assemblymen, senators and local EMS companies. Because of a lack of funds, many ambulances are going defunct. They are looking for financial help from the government, something like a CHIPS program to help. She thanked Supervisor Reynolds for spearheading the discussion.

She also shared that members of the Board went for an educational tour of Seneca Meadows that day. She encouraged people to look into it, what they've done and what they're doing and their projections: pretty impressive. Reynolds said it's a business that handles trash. Seneca Meadows will have an Open House on July 25th, 12:00-4:00 with chicken barbeque.

Reynolds said that Theresa Lahr from STEPS called, asking if he'd like to try for the Health grant again for an electronic sign at the Town's municipal building. He spent Friday working on it. Lahr said they had \$2000 to put toward it.

MacCheyne said that he thought the neighbors had moved the pins at the Highway's Lakeview Street property and, although it was surveyed, he would like another survey done. Reynolds said that he would contact Mike Carlson at the County. Reynolds said that the Cayuga Lake Watershed grant was not a given, but with the Covid Stimulus money, they could apply for anything they want including a salt barn.

Petitioners: Barry Ford asked the difference between a Marijuana dispensary and a bar, and also about a previous ordinance banning bars. No one remembered such an ordinance. Alcohol bars are regulated by the State Liquor Authority.

Resolutions:

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to opt-out of allowing adult-use cannabis retail dispensaries or on-site consumption licenses prohibiting adult-use cannabis licenses from operating within the Town of Covert jurisdiction and to schedule a Public Hearing for the adoption of this Local Law subject to permissive referendum for July 12, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, and Aye-Foster.

Bishop moved, seconded by Foster, to declare the 1988 SV-70-DA-84 Saka Roller surplus to send to auction. Aye-Bishop, Aye-Nottke, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Town Supervisor's Income and Expenditure Report for the month of May 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster and Aye-Wyckoff.

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of May 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the Town Clerk's report for the month of May 2021. Town Clerk received a total of \$1241.00 and \$774.32 was remitted to the Supervisor. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster and Aye-Wyckoff.

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer's report for the month of May 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

Bishop moved, seconded by Nottke, to approve the Dog Control Officer's report for the month of May 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, that Highway Fund Vouchers #82-97 in the amount of \$22,793.76 and General Fund Vouchers #95-113 in the amount \$13,687.88 be approved for payment. Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Nottke.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

Town of Covert, Seneca County
Regular Town Board Meeting
12 July 2021

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

Roll Call:	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, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Deputy Town Clerk Brian Quan, Ian Smith/Seneca Watershed Intermunicipal Organization, and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Public Hearing:

Nottke moved, Bishop seconded, to open the Public Hearing to hear comments on the proposed Opt Out of Allowing Cannabis Retail Dispensaries and On-Site Consumption Sites.

Jim Stewart asked the reason the town is opting out. Nottke advised once you opt in, you can't opt out. Reynolds added the Board is waiting to see what is going to happen and how things are going to work before opting in.

Barry Ford asked the advantages of opting in. Reynolds said the town gets a little bit of sales tax. Foster added the tax is divided between the county and the town, which amount to about one percent for the town. Ford asked what the town receives in sales tax for cannabis sales now. Reynolds and Foster said the town receives no sales tax. Ford commented a little is better than nothing. Foster pointed out it was okay as long as you don't have to spend money to regulate.

Foster said he made the motion to opt out to start the process because, he believes, from a health perspective, encouraging [smoking] is not what the town should promote (through on-site consumption). Additionally, any business opportunity will be overregulated.

When Foster asked Morrell if wineries can sell marijuana, Morrell said he believes alcohol and cannabis can't be sold at the same location.

Carl Pell stated opting out is a good idea because the town can always opt in. He added people interested in [cannabis] are going to grow your own instead of going to the store. Foster said the state does allow growing it, but counting plants in your backyard should be done by the state, not the town's building inspector.

Ford commented Foster's arguments also relate to alcohol and cigarettes, but the town does not abolish it. Foster said he does not disagree. He pointed out wineries that don't sell food are struggling, adding it would be nice if [cannabis] can be added to a winery.

Ford advised the states that opened up dispensaries thought it would be a bigger deal financially than it turned out to be.

Denny Wolfe questioned the Board's position in that it diminishes economic opportunity in a town where there are two gas stations, no bank, no grocery store, no hardware store. He added there aren't a lot of ways to make money in the Town of Covert.

Nottke said the Village of Interlaken can make their own decision, and they opted in.

Nottke moved, Bishop seconded, to close the Public Hearing; all approved.

Approval of Minutes: Nottke moved, Bishop seconded, to approve the minutes from June 14, 2021. All approved.

Presenter: Ian Smith/Seneca Watershed Intermunicipal Organization proposes to create an assessment methodology to quantify conditions in the watershed to determine priorities in improving water quality through increased flow through changes in culvert design or slow flow via hydroseeding. The five year program, starting with a one year assessment period would be followed by three years of implementation, with a one year contingency. He advised there was no certainty to what would be primary focus for the county, but the topography in South Seneca suggests it would be here.

The \$200k county wide tentative budget would be allocated based on the location of the projects. They anticipate working closely with the highway departments in the county because they will likely already have a list of projects. Though SWIO will make recommendations to municipalities, the projects would not be enforceable.

MacCheyne reported ditching on East Bates Road and Tunison Road, assisting with paving for the Town of Romulus and the Town of Ovid, mowing roadsides, and cold patching. Millings were exchanged for crusher run gravel. After receiving a permit from NYS DEC, they removed a beaver dam on Halls Corners. They cleaned up trees on Frontenac Road and the lawn at the Town Hall. Repair and regular maintenance of equipment rounded out the month. He reported they received a couple of yellow flags during a bridge inspection and will fix those. He advised the roller is listed on the auction site, with the bidding close to ending.

Reynolds reported the bookkeepers made adjustments to the health insurance buyout payments to account for employees' loss due to taxes and the policy has been changed. Because Juneteenth is not listed in the personnel policy, he seeks a resolution to include it as a paid holiday.

He awaits details on the American Rescue Plan. The monies can be used for "costs associated with responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency or its negative economic impacts" or necessary investments in infrastructure. He is investigating if the monies can be used for the salt barn, a new boiler in the highway barn, and equipment, such as trucks.

Residents Doug and Kristin Parry spoke with him regarding how bands performing at Finger Lakes Cider House every Friday night create excessive noise and terrible traffic on Hickok Road. Finger Lakes Cider House owner Garrett Miller advised Reynolds he was not aware there was a problem and would speak with the owner and make amends. He added the bands were there for a two hour program with a specific quitting time of 8:30 PM. Reynolds presented this to the Board to see if they should consider a noise ordinance. Morrell advised the noise ordinance work he did for other towns are usually based on the time of day, and therefore, would likely not address situation that is being complained about.

In addition to the music playing for three hours, ending at 9 or 9:30 PM, every Friday between May and October, the Parrys spoke of the cars parking and impeding traffic on Hickok Road. The police noted the noise was excessive, but there was nothing the police could do. The Parrys point out they are not against the performances. They feel if actions are up to the business, they have no recourse if the business does not comply.

Foster asked when does it become a nuisance. Morrell said disturbance is a vague standard; law enforcement can more easily enforce something well defined like a time limit. Resolution of this issue depends on how much the town wants to get involved. He added

the roadway is not a parking lot and should not be overtaken like that; it would be reasonable and doable to have parking regulations. Morrell reported the Mikeska case is making its way through the appellate level, but there has been no news on its progress. Citations are bundled with the case.

Resolutions:

Town of Covert Local Law #3 of 2021

A Local Law to Opt Out of Allowing Cannabis Retail Dispensaries and On-Site Consumption Sites as Authorized under Cannabis Law Article 4

Be it enacted by the Town of Covert, County of Seneca as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Intent

It is the intent of this local law to opt out of allowing cannabis retail dispensaries and on-site cannabis consumption sites in the Town of Covert that would otherwise be allowed under Cannabis Law Article 4.

Section 2. Authority

This local law is adopted pursuant to Cannabis Law § 131 which expressly authorizes the town board to adopt a local law requesting the Cannabis Control Board to prohibit the establishment of cannabis retail dispensary licenses and/or on-site consumption licenses within the jurisdiction of the town and is subject to a permissive referendum, the procedure of which is governed by Municipal Home Rule Law § 24.

Section 3. Local Opt-Out

The Town Board of the Town of Covert hereby opts out of allowing cannabis retail dispensaries and on-site cannabis consumption sites from being established and operated within the Town's jurisdiction.

Section 4. Severability

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or the application thereof to any person, firm or corporation, or circumstance, shall be adjusted by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, or part of this Local Law or in its application to the person, individual, firm or corporation or circumstance, directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

Section 5. Permissive Referendum/Referendum on Petition

This local law is subject to a referendum on petition in accordance with Cannabis Law § 131 and the procedure outlined in Municipal Home Rule Law § 24.

Section 6. Effective Date

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Covert on July 12, 2021

Foster moved, Nottke seconded, to approve Local Law #3 Opt Out of Allowing Cannabis Retail Dispensaries and On-Site Consumption Sites. All approved.

Nottke moved, Bishop seconded, to approve the inclusion of Juneteenth to paid holidays (Personnel Policy - Designated Holidays).

RESOLUTION NO. 5-2021
AUTHORIZING EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT FOR THE ROAD DRAINAGE ASSESSMENT AND
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT GRANT SPONSORED BY THE TOWN OF FAYETTE

WHEREAS, Ian Smith, Seneca Watershed Steward for the Seneca Watershed Intermunicipal Organization and contractual Watershed Manager for the Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization is developing a 2021 NYS Department of State Local Waterfront Revitalization Program grant application; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Fayette, member municipality of the Seneca Watershed Intermunicipal Organization, has agreed to serve as sponsor for said application; and

WHEREAS, said application concerns the assessment, prioritization and improvement of road ditches and culverts throughout Seneca County that lie within either the Seneca or Cayuga Lake watershed to improve water quality; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Covert lies wholly or partly within one or both of these watersheds; and

WHEREAS, any implementation work done within the jurisdiction of said Town would be completed by municipal staff in partnership with the Seneca County Soil & Water Conservation District and/or Mr. Smith; and

WHEREAS, this project concerns an initial assessment of road drainage networks to inform prioritization prior to implementation and therefore no specific commitment in municipal highway staff time associated with any implementation work can be sought or offered at this time; and

WHEREAS, no financial commitment, beyond the In-Kind value of municipal staff associated with any implementation work, would be sought from said Town; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, upon review, discussion and approval, the Town Board hereby officially expresses interest and support in development and submittal of the grant application; and further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to Ian Smith, Seneca Watershed Steward, Finger Lakes Institute, 601 South Main Street, Geneva, NY 14456 for inclusion in the grant application.

Bishop moved, Wyckoff seconded, to support Seneca Watershed Intermunicipal Organization Road Drainage Assessment and Improvement Project Grant. All approved.

Nottke moved, Foster seconded, to approve the Supervisor's Income and Expenditure Report for the month of June 2021. All approved.

Foster moved, Nottke seconded, to approve the Highway Report for the month of June 2021. All approved.

Nottke moved, Bishop seconded, to approve the Town Clerk's Report for the month of June 2021. The Town Clerk received a total of \$1026; \$559.42 was remitted to the Supervisor. All approved.

Nottke moved, Foster seconded, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer Report for the month of June 2021. All approved.

Foster moved, Nottke seconded, to approve the Dog Control Officer Report for the month of June 2021. All approved.

Bishop moved, Wyckoff seconded, that Highway Fund Vouchers #98–107, amounting to \$21,060.38, and General Fund Vouchers #114–133, amounting to \$4,431.02, be approved for payment. All approved.

Nottke moved, all approved, the Board break into executive session to discuss a matter that could affect fair market values of real property. Attendees: Reynolds, Nottke, Bishop, Foster, Wyckoff, and Morrell.

Bishop moved, Nottke seconded, to reconvene the regular meeting and to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Quan, Deputy Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
August 9, 2021

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, August 9th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	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, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Deputy Clerk Brian Quan, Code Enforcement Officer John Poludniak and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the minutes from July 12th, 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.

MacCheyne reported that the Sakai roller sold for \$10,000 at the online auction. He said they helped Lodi with paving, paved Tunison + Halls Corners Road, re-doing some areas where some newly paved road was washed out by recent flash flood. Roads were fixed at the Lakeview Cemetery due to flooding. MacCheyne had spoken with the County about using blacktop for the cemetery entrance. They worked on paving Townline, South Frontenac and intersections on Stout Roads and Halls Corners, and driveways on Tunison. Shoulders on Tunison remain to be done. A hitching post was installed at Town Hall. Regular maintenance on equipment was done.

Nottke asked when he'll hear about the Frontenac bridge. MacCheyne said around October; an inspection was done giving the bridge a yellow flag. Nottke asked who would make the decision on the NY Bridge grants. MacCheyne said the higher-ups in NY state. He said the bridge has been a problem for over 30 years.

MacCheyne said there was an issue with foxes down at the Boy scout camp that the DEC had been involved with. Nottke said that there had been camp activities happening down there. Activities have been shortened to about 2 weeks due to Pandemic.

Ralph Bailey asked if the County could help on the roads at Frontenac. Reynolds said that they are always putting money in to blacktopping down there because it washes out, but the County hired an engineer, they're re-sizing pipes. MacCheyne said that a group of them had walked behind the school after the recent flooding. The pond that used to be there had been filled in and solar panels installed. He thought that even though it was private property, it would have benefited from Watershed experts' approval.

Reynolds said that Dan at the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) thinks he has emergency funds available for emergency flooding, possibly \$200,000. It should be enough to pay for repair of the banks of the stream by the well on Interlaken Beach and the pipes on Mechanic Street. The Village will be cleaning out the creek behind the water tower and down. He said that the Village of Interlaken has discussed putting a retention pond in behind where the water tower used to be. They agreed that there needs to be a comprehensive watershed study done to resolve the Village's flooding issues. Recently, storms have been more intense, with rainfall of 2" at a time. Ford commented that it's shifting the problem from up here to down by the lake. He said the water running through his property on SR 96 are rapids. Nottke asked if another survey had been done yet of the Highway property on Lakeview Street. Reynolds will check with Mike Karlsen again. MacCheyne does not believe that the survey done recently was correct.

Adams-Compton said that 3 tickets were issued for late dog license renewals. None of the owners showed up at their court date, though.

Nottke said that the task force for EMS crisis had not been approved or set up by the NY State government yet.

Reynolds said that Melissa Taylor, Seneca County Emergency Management, told him that some local ambulances received \$1500 from the State.

Reynolds said that Court Clerk Jeanne Rykbost resigned. Justice Schmidt has a replacement to be shared with the Lodi court. Lucille Smith, retired from employment with the Seneca County Sheriff, will require training at the annual court clerk conference in Albany on September 12-15. Lodi will split the cost of the conference.

Reynolds mentioned that the Justice would like to be compensated for the time she has had to do the Court Clerk's job in addition to her own. Morrell said that there would have to be a Public Hearing for a Local Law for that to happen, as would any elected official to receive an increase in pay mid-year.

There was some discussion on whether the Court Clerk could start right away or whether she would need the training beforehand. Without the Clerk, Morrell said that cases would back up, dismissals would happen with the need for speedy trials. Bishop asked whether the Court Clerk's job is considered necessary work to comply with regulations. Morrell said that the Court Clerk controls records for people that affects their future. Bishop thought it would be good to have this kind of compensation the judge has requested in place for now and for future situations.

Reynolds said that he watched many webinars on the Covid stimulus, ARPA, money. The most helpful was done by an Albany lawyer. The Town received \$76,000 this year and expects the same in 2022. The Town can apply for more. He said that it could be used to compensate losses due to Covid, in extra employment, a salt barn, central air for the Town Hall, new boiler, etc., for the Highway barns, video conferencing equipment (such as, what Ulysses uses), new sign at the Town Hall. He said that it could only be used on trucks/equipment if a loss is shown due to Covid.

Reynolds said that the Town received \$2500 from STEPS to be used toward a new sign for Town Hall. An electronic sign would replace the current sign that is deteriorating and difficult to access in winter. An electronic sign would be around \$20,000.

Nottke asked Reynolds how the situation at the Cider House on Hickok Road was on Friday night. Neighbors had complained of noise and traffic at previous Town Board meeting. Reynolds said it was pretty quiet - a string band. Wyckoff, who lives a few thousand feet north of the Cider House, also said he could not hear the band from his house. The music was done by 8:30 pm. Reynolds said he would call the owner to see if the issue had been resolved. Morrell said he didn't find anything to address the situation with a noise ordinance.

No petitions for referendum have been filed to date for the Marijuana Opt-Out law.

John Poludniak addressed the Town Board regarding his significant health challenges over the past year and his future as the Town of Covert Code Enforcement Officer. He said that he had been working as Town Code Enforcement Officer for 15 year, of good experiences and, sometimes, challenging; such as, variance requests that went on and on. He said that he did his best to represent the Town. He had had mostly positive experiences. He shared that he had done the Town of Covert's dog enumeration, that led to him doing it for the Towns of Ovid and Romulus. He joked that he would not recommend a before and after picture for his service.

Poludniak said that since receiving the news last July of his medical condition with a 50% chance of recovery, he has continued to do his best, but has come to the decision to retire, finishing his service as the Town Code Enforcement Officer, working through September. He said that it's been a good experience to face eternal realities. Poludniak concluded by saying "thank you". Those present responded with a standing ovation.

Petitioners: Dick Westbrook commented that the Town Board members had not had much to report the past few years and asked Reynolds if he gives the Town Council assignments. Nottke thought he should delegate more. Reynolds said that he does contact the Board regularly for research and various tasks. Bishop said that the Town is running smoothly now, so not a lot of research to do.

Westbrook also asked why the Board does not report on the bills presented for payment. Foster said that the process had been streamlined so that all the review and signing happens before the meeting and the Public is welcome to observe.

Barry Ford suggested that a copy of the Supervisor's Income and Expense report be left out for the Public to peruse during the meeting.

Ralph Bailey asked why the County Public Safety Board members don't attend the Fire advisory meetings anymore.

Ford asked if there couldn't be a fund to be used for a situation like the need to pay a substitute Court Clerk. There is money in the Justice expense account, and Morrell said money would have to be transferred when using funds, but the main thing is that an elected official is salaried and there are laws about changing an elected official's income mid-year.

Resolutions:

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to hire Lucille Smith as the new Clerk to the Town Justice. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the Court Clerk to go to training from Sept 12-15, 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Town Supervisor's Income and Expenditure Report for the month of July 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster and Aye-Wyckoff.

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of July 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Town Clerk's report for the month of July 2021. Town Clerk received a total of \$1566.00 and \$601.07 was remitted to the Supervisor. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster and Aye-Wyckoff.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer's report for the month of July 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to approve the Dog Control Officer's report for the month of July 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, that Highway Fund Vouchers #108-120 in the amount of \$101,736.01 and General Fund Vouchers #134-145 in the amount \$4,769.46 be approved for payment. Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Nottke.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
September 13, 2021

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, September 13th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	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, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Deputy Clerk Brian Quan and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the minutes from August 9th, 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.

MacCheyne reported on maintenance of equipment and road repair and maintenance. He said that cross over pipe was replaced at the intersections of Kelly's Corners and Tunison Roads following direction from FEMA engineers. Romulus and Ovid were assisted in paving, ripping up paved road, oiling and stoning. Driveway pipe was replaced at Winder's on Kellys Corners Road.

MacCheyne said he spoke with Charlie Carroll regarding the survey he had done for the Town's Lakeview Street property. MacCheyne explained that it couldn't be correct because the stake was placed in the middle of a garage. He plans to meet with Carroll and find out more about a previous survey.

Nottke asked how many roads in the Town are without speed limit signs. MacCheyne said most of them. A few have signs. She explained that people drive way too fast even on Frontenac Road. She asked how to get a sign. MacCheyne said a petition is presented to the Town Board, then the County, then the State. Reynolds said population influences the decisions made. Nottke asked about 'Children at Play' signs. MacCheyne said that they discourage from using now, due to children feeling more at ease playing in the roads when there are signs. She asked if there would be any appropriate signage. Curve signs and suggested speed limit signs have been used.

Paul Flagg spoke about the flooding that happened on Lively Run and on his property in August 2018 and again in July 2021. He said that 9" of mud was deposited in his barn, 24" of water, and that the flood was so strong it took out large boulders he placed for protection. He said \$30,000 in damages occurred in 2018, mostly covered by FEMA and flood insurance, and another \$20-40,000 this year, \$8000 covered by insurance. He's asked for help from Senator Helming. He thanked Supervisor Reynolds for following up with NYSEG to resolve the issue. The pipes by the railroad trestles on the property (owned by NYSEG) by Lakeview Cemetery have been building up debris and clogging for many years. Reynolds said that he met with NYSEG officials who say the problem is too large for them to handle but they or higher ups will get engineers to look at and they agreed that it needs to be fixed.

Flagg also asked about what was being done with the culverts on CR 141 and 153. MacCheyne and Reynolds said that the County (+ NYSEG) would bring in engineers.

Foster reported that he had conversations with the Justice regarding the time she spent to do the Court Clerk's job in addition to her own. Her list of extra hours totaled 50 for the months of July and August. Foster suggested that an increase, possibly a couple thousand, in the Justice Salary should be considered. He said he thought a previous Justice made \$12,000 when he was Supervisor. The current Justice salary is around the same as the Court Clerk's salary. He said that the current Justice has been in her position for her 8th year.

Nottke reported that she and Reynolds went to the Trumansburg Fire and EMS budgetary meeting. She said they had a lot of info. She said that the Town has had 148 total EMS calls to date. Reynolds said that they want to base the Towns' fees on property assessments which would mean that the current \$65,000 fee would be raised to \$100,000 by the third year. Foster said that the service has always been based on number of calls. They say that the increase is for replacing tools within the next few years. Also, because the Village of Trumansburg owns the Fire Department, their fee will go down. They also spoke of changing billing services from MedEx billing. Reynolds said that he has been happy with MedEx Billing. Foster reminded us that the medical billing service has to be certified/qualified.

Nottke mentioned that it is supposed to be a joint venture, but the Town doesn't have much say. Other towns have recently changed fire protection contracts when fees were raised. Also mentioned, Trumansburg Fire Co. is still volunteer.

Wyckoff said that he has spoken to many people who are up in arms about the Seneca County proposed law to establish a septic system inspection program requiring periodic routine inspections of onsite wastewater treatment systems (septic systems). Reynolds said the law came about due to lake properties' failing septic systems. Wyckoff thought it should not be imposed on everybody. Nottke asked about the illegal dumping from boats into the lakes. Ford said he has not seen that ability in many of the boats that he's repaired.

Reynolds said that the County would train an inspector for certifying septic systems. He also said that all the other counties have this requirement/law. Foster said Schuyler County has a "Watershed Inspector".

When asked how he heard about this proposal, Wyckoff said it has been appearing on social media like Facebook. The main complaint is that people can't afford to upgrade their systems.

Bishop said that this law would affect most of Covert. Only Village residents with municipal sewer would be exempt.

Wyckoff has a couple of prospects for a new Code Enforcement Officer. He gave one a job description and received a 75% positive response. The pay was the holdup. He thought if the job was paid as a part-time job rather than as a contractor, it may be more enticing.

Reynolds said that the NYSEG rep for Government/Community Relations has changed. Carlos Valenzuela is the new Finger Lakes-West/3-county contact.

Reynolds said that health insurance costs are going up again and he had been pricing health insurance. The Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium say that they can save the Town \$5000- by going with them for the same plan. They do not carry dental or vision, however. This decision to go with GTCMHIC has to be made by 9/20.

Reynolds said that Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization want a Lake Manager and they intend to raise the membership rate from \$900 to \$2500 in three years.

Regarding the proposed Septic regulations, Foster said that they would need more information, a breakdown of the rules that the County is proposing. He asked for the Supervisor to speak up at the County Board of Supervisors meeting, that members of the Town Board are not in favor of septic inspections for everyone every 5 years.

Petitioners: Ford asked what constitutes a septic system, what about the slurry on farms? Reynolds thought that farms would be regulated by NY Ag and Market regulations, not the County. Ford asked if a Public Hearing will be required for the new regulations. Morrell said there would be a Public Hearing, then a final vote. The County advertises in the Ovid Review and the Finger Lakes Times. It was suggested that it be placed on the Town's website as well.

Resolutions:

Resolution # 6-2021

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF REQUEST FOR A GUIDE RAIL
NEAR 9233 STATE ROUTE 96**

WHEREAS, the property located at 9233 State Route 96 in the Town of Covert sits at the intersection of State Route 96 and Seneca County Road 144A, known as Schier Rd.; and

WHEREAS, the residents of 9233 State Route 96 have previously made a request to the NYS DOT for a guide rail at that location; and

WHEREAS, these requests have been denied after an investigation in 2017 and 2020, without further investigation; and

WHEREAS, due to the unique configuration of the intersection and the high rate of speed that vehicles typically travel in that area, the Town Board of the Town of Covert believes that the health safety and welfare of the community would benefit from the installation of a guide rail at that intersection.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Covert supports the request for a guide rail at 9233 State Route 96 and authorizes the Supervisor to execute any necessary documents on behalf of the Town of Covert to further this request.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop; Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Nottke.

Resolution # 7-2021

**APPLICATION BY THE TOWN OF COVERT TO JOIN
THE GREATER TOMPKINS COUNTY MUNICIPAL HEALTH INSURANCE CONSORTIUM**

WHEREAS, the Town of Covert has performed due diligence for the responsibility it accepts with membership in the Greater Tompkins County Municipal Health Insurance Consortium (GTCMHIC),

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Covert Board hereby directs its officers and appointees to take the following Consortium membership applicant steps:

1. Submit by September 1st, this municipality board resolution authorizing application for membership along with the GTCMHIC "New Group Member Application" completed which states the GTCMHIC Health Benefit Insurance Plan or Plans the Municipal Corporation's employees and retirees will be participating in upon the effective date of participation in the GTCMHIC.
2. As soon as practicable, but no later than September 1st, submit the Town of Covert's two most recent years of State Comptroller AUD reports.
3. As soon as practicable, but no later than September 1st, submit the Town of Covert's most recent monthly premium billing statements from all health insurance carriers providing benefits to all active employees and retirees.

Said premium billing statements should include the name of the Town of Covert and the month for the which the billing is related. In addition, said premium bills must include the number of contracts (employee, employee + spouse, employee + child (children), and family) and the monthly premium rate for each plan of benefit.

Further RESOLVED, if the Consortium Board accepts this Town's/Villages application, the Town/Village will comply with the following action steps:

4. Sign the Municipal Cooperative Agreement of the GTCMHIC upon notification that the GTCMHIC Board of Directors has approved the Town of Covert's application to become a Participant in the GTCMHIC by October 15th.
5. Confirm by October 25th, with the Medical Claims Administrator, Excellus, the names of all employees, retirees, and dependents to be covered in which Consortium's Health Insurance Plans. (Note: a list of those enrolled will be sent to the Town of Covert by the Medical Claims Administrator by no later than November 15th for verification purposes.)

6. By November 1st, notify the GTCMHIC of the name and contact information for the person within your organization for benefit administration; and who will attend a new member orientation between November 15 and December 15.
7. By November 1st, notify the GTCMHIC of the Town of Covert's commitment to utilize the GTCMHIC's on-line enrollment process or to authorize the GTCMHIC to provide, for the Town of Covert's employees and retirees, this function.
8. Submit payment by November 1st to the Consortium of the Town of Covert's proportionate share of the Surplus Account Reserve (5% of annualized premium) as determined by the GTCMHIC and as required by Article 47 of the New York State Insurance Law and the GTCMHIC's Municipal Cooperative Agreement.

(Note: Provided the Town of Covert applying for Membership in the GTCMHIC completes all the requirements set forth in this Resolution by the due dates indicated; the Surplus Account Reserve payment defined above will be credited against the Town of Covert's January premium invoice from the Consortium which is due by December 31st. All Municipal Corporations applying for Membership in the GTCMHIC are hereby advised that missing any of these steps by the due date indicated will result in the Municipal Corporation not being accepted into the Consortium for the upcoming year and will result in the forfeiture of the Municipal Corporation's Surplus Account Reserve payment.)

9. By November 1st, submit a municipal resolution appointing the Director and Alternate to the Consortium.

10. By November 30th, take the necessary steps to comply with the GTCMHIC's dependent verification process.
Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff; Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Nottke.

Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, to re-appoint Wilfred Millard to the Assessment Review Board for a five year term ending 9/30/2026. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to approve the Interlaken Historical Society meeting at the Covert Municipal Building on September 22, 2021. Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Nottke.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Town Supervisor's Income and Expenditure Report for the month of August 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster and Aye-Wyckoff.

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of August 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Town Clerk's report for the month of August 2021. Town Clerk received a total of \$1566.00 and \$601.07 was remitted to the Supervisor. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster and Aye-Wyckoff.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer's report for the month of August 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

Foster moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve the Dog Control Officer's report for the month of August 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, that Highway Fund Vouchers #120-136 in the amount of \$40,837.17 and General Fund Vouchers #146-165 in the amount \$13,813.01 be approved for payment. Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Nottke.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
October 11, 2021

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, October 11th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	Supervisor Michael Reynolds	Present
	Councilwoman Deborah Nottke	Present
	Councilman Bill Bishop	Present
	Councilman Brayton Foster	Present
	Councilman Todd Wyckoff	Absent

Others Present: Town Clerk Leslie Adams-Compton, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Deputy Clerk Brian Quan and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the minutes from September 13th, 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster and Aye-Bishop.

MacCheyne reported of cold-patching, paving with Seneca County Highway, and Lodi, Ovid + Romulus, paving shoulders; they helped with Covert jobs, too. They hauled milling on Rt 89, did ditching on Kelly's Corners and Bassett Rd. Highway employees attended mandatory safety training at Seneca County. They did washing on Hatch Rd. and Little Point and took some millings down there. They completed regular maintenance of equipment and scraped hole sections on dirt road, filling some potholes.

He said that the Town's fuel supplier is bought through State Contract. The State has newly contracted with Buell Fuels located in Deansboro. This location is beyond Utica and he has concern that a lot of times it won't get here, and it is especially concerning with snow plowing. He said that he has Trumansburg School as a backup for diesel. MacCheyne said that companies we have used in the past can deliver but that it is now illegal for the Town to get another supplier to match State prices. He is working with the County and says that all the Towns are in the same situation. He has called the State to see what can be done. In the past, there have been alternate suppliers available, but not this time, as two have backed out. He said that Roy at the County will buy from NOCO. Foster said that he should make sure that Senator Helming knows the situation.

Nottke asked about the Town's Lakeview St. property survey situation. MacCheyne said he spoke with Charlie Carroll regarding the survey he had done. He said they had a situation with the neighbor blocking the drive. He hopes it can be resolved soon.

Reynolds asked MacCheyne about his suggestion that they upgrade the Highway Barn's hot water heater. Reynolds suggested getting an insta-heat system, as they have improved over the years. MacCheyne said they are paying \$4/gallon to run the current system. He said a new line would have to be run. Foster said insta-heat would not be cheap and a conventional heater would be better. Bishop said electric would be cheaper.

Adams-Compton said that the Friends of the Library would like to use the Town Municipal Building for a meeting at 10 a.m. on December 4th. She said that they are working on getting the required insurance.

Bishop expressed concern for a regular occurrence of a speeding automobile on County Road 142. He said that it's reached 100 mph. He would like the County Sheriff's to have more of a presence in the Town. Ford also chimed in that there is a speeding motorcycle that passes by his place on Rt 96 at 5:45 a.m. MacCheyne and Reynolds said they've seen law enforcement run radar on "Betzler's curve", between Kelly's Corners and Halls Corners Roads. Reynolds will contact the Seneca County Sheriff's Dept to see what can be done.

Foster made proposals regarding the Tentative Budget for the Town. He said he would like to see the Town Justice salary raised \$2000, he would like for FEMA revenue to be listed all in the Highway DB account, and would like more tax revenue moved from General to Highway. He also would like to see the current Fund Balances. Reynolds said they are working on it.

Nottke reported that Chris Fox, EMS manager, has stepped down. Joel Fay is helping with scheduling, etc., in the interim.

Nottke also reported that she and Reynolds had gone to a couple of meetings regarding the fate of Camp Barton. She said that the Council have not met to vote to sell it yet. They may be voting at the meeting on October 26th. She said they have explored their options, such as splitting the property and keeping 129 acres. She said that the proposed resolution is to allow time for municipalities, alumni, interested people to work together to fund the preservation of the land. They met with Ulysses that day and came up with the resolution to support preserving Camp Barton for its water, birds, nature, etc. She said that it does have an old sewer system problem. The group would like to explore funding through state and federal sources, including the possibility of combining the land with Taughannock State Park. They would also like to see more publicity about the situation to rally support and fund raising. Another possibility is for the 40 southern acres to be sold for development similar to Oak Harbor. They also thought that the 120 acre Tuscarora Boy Scout property could be sold off instead.

The Boy Scouts say they need \$2 million to pay bills including monies needed as a result of law suits. Reynolds said that \$1.2 million is owed and that the 24 members on the Binghamton council want to sell the property. Currently the property is tax exempt. The bankruptcy judge will make the final decision.

It was reported that Wyckoff said that one of the people he thought would be able to take the Code Enforcement Officer job said 'no'. He will check with another prospect. It was suggested that the job opportunity be advertised on the sign board and the website, as well as in the newspapers.

Reynolds said that he would like to use money in the Highway reserve account for one of the new trucks. MacCheyne said that they won't get the big one until next year. Morrell said, depending on the original conditions on establishing the reserve account, there would have to be a resolution with the money amount stated, and the purpose, subject to permissive referendum and a Public Hearing, in order to use the money.

Petitioners: Meg Jastran inquired regarding the need for insurance in order for the Friends of the Library to use the Town Hall building. What did the Historical Society do for insurance? They said that a rider has been added to their property insurance policy for events. She will look into insurance for the Friends of the Library.

Jastran asked what the Town is doing to mitigate the effects of big storms. Reynolds explained that he has met with NYSEG regarding the railroad trestle and that they have had 3 experts looking into it, and intend to clean out the creek.

Jastran also asked if the Town has pursued how to become a climate smart community, such as NYSERDA proposed years ago. She said that Lodi is working on becoming a climate smart community. Reynolds said they had put in efficient electric lights in the Town Hall and Highway barn and also get their electricity from solar. Reynolds said that the Town applied a few years ago, but that the County received all the money, and he doesn't believe that the Town qualifies anymore. She asked about climate smart vehicles for the Town. Reynolds said they could look in to it. The Town looked into charging stations, paid for by a grant, but the Town would be responsible for servicing of the equipment as well as the electricity to run it.

Ford asked about litigation involving Seneca Meadows and Waterloo. Morrell said that he knows about ongoing litigation with Seneca Falls.

He asked about the Seneca County proposed Septic Law. Reynolds said the proposal is for lake properties' septic to be inspected every five years and that grant money will be available to residents who need it for improvements. A Public Hearing is scheduled for October 12th at 6 P.M at the Ovid 'Papa Bear'.

Resolutions:

**Resolution #8-2021
URGING SUPPORT FOR THE PRESERVATION OF CAMP BARTON**

WHEREAS, Camp Barton Boy Scout Camp owned by the Baden Powell is at risk of being sold to pay our regional Council's share of a Survivors' Trust and to raise funds for an endowment fund to support scouting operations, and WHEREAS, Camp Barton, located in the Town of Covert, just north of Ulysses, is one of the few remaining lakeshore properties on Cayuga lake that affords public access to the water, environmental protections so crucial to the health of the watershed as well as a beautiful and versatile programming facility, and

WHEREAS, protection of the Camp and its undeveloped lakeshore is in the wider public interest beyond the scouts that use the camp, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Covert Town Board urges the Baden Council Board of Directors to defer any action on selling the property until a wider group of municipalities, youth programs, environmental advocates, and private supporters have an opportunity to consider an alternative plan to preserve all or most of Camp Barton for a mix of public and private recreational uses and further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorize Deborah Nottke and Michael Reynolds to participate in discussions with representatives of the Baden Powell Council Board and local advocates to explore the feasibility of saving Camp Barton. Motion: Nottke, Seconded by Foster. Vote: Aye - Bishop, Aye - Foster, and Aye - Nottke.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the use of the Town of Covert Municipal Building by the Interlaken Historical Society on the second Wednesday of each month, for 12 months. Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Nottke.

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to schedule a Budget Workshop for Monday, October 18, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to schedule Budget Workshop and Public Hearing for the 2022 Budget for Monday, October 25, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to advertise in the Seneca Area Shopper and Interlaken Review for a new Code Enforcement Officer. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Town Supervisor's Income and Expenditure Report for the month of September 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Foster.

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of September 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Town Clerk's report for the month of September 2021. Town Clerk received a total of \$4168.00 and \$652.62 was remitted to the Supervisor. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Dog Control Officer's report for the month of September 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, that Highway Fund Vouchers #137-148 in the amount of \$17,658.60 and General Fund Vouchers #166-181 in the amount \$2,271.91 be approved for payment. Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Nottke.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to enter into executive session at 8:09 to hear from Attorney Morrell regarding ongoing litigation.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to come out of executive session and adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
TOWN BOARD MEETING
and PUBLIC HEARING
October 25th, 2021

The 2022 Budget meeting and Public Hearing of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, October 25, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	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, Bookkeeper Halle Stevenson, and Barry Ford.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 6:06 P.M.

Public Hearing: Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to open the Public Hearing at 6:07 p.m. to hear any comments on the 2022 Preliminary Budget as presented by Supervisor Reynolds.

Foster asked about the \$70,000+ appropriated fund balance. He would like to see some of the General Fund balance moved to DA account/Highway to pay for the heavy trucks outright and to steer the Town away from deficit spending. Stevenson said that it is too soon to tell if there will be an excess in General Funds.

Stevenson said that FEMA and ARPA money are in a separate account. FEMA money is used in the DA/DB Funds to the extent that they are needed.

\$73,000 ARPA money was received in 2021 and another \$73,000 is expected in 2022, placed in the General Fund. If the Town decides, it can be used for the loss of ambulance revenue. When ARPA money is freed up from loss of revenue, it can be used for whatever the Town chooses to use it for, no strings attached. There was much discussion between Foster and Stevenson as to how money can be available for the purchase of large equipment. Foster asked if it was appropriate to reduce the tax rate in General in anticipation of other revenues and increase the tax rate in Townwide Highway to help buy trucks, saving the taxpayer the cost of interest on truck purchases. The money can be moved to Highway if needed, once the loss has been determined. All agreed it should stay in General until needed in Highway.

MacCheyne said that since Covid, the price of some parts have tripled. MacCheyne was hopeful that, because the fleet is newer, there may be less Highway equipment expenses now.

Ford asked about the Towns sharing vehicles. MacCheyne said that the 4 Towns: Covert, Lodi, Ovid, Romulus, will rent a mower, each using it a different week. He said sharing vehicles doesn't work out very well; everyone needs them on the same week. MacCheyne said that in his 38 years, about 75% of the roads in Covert are paved now, that used to be dirt.

There was discussion about DA + DB personnel services lines, Winter Recovery funds line, CHIPS and Pave NY, and Bridge NY fund placement.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to close the Public Hearing on the 2022 Preliminary Budget at 7:00 p.m. All in favor.

Nottke mentioned that the Baden-Powell Council will meet Tuesday evening for a vote on the fate of Camp Barton. She provided copies of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Towns of Covert + Ulysses and Trumansburg.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to advertise for a Motor Equipment Operator in the Interlaken Review and Seneca Area Shopper. Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Nottke, and Aye-Wyckoff.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
November 8, 2021

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, November 8th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	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, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Deputy Clerk Brian Quan and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to approve the minutes from October 11th and October 25th, 2021 meetings. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.

Presenter: Gerard Messmer shared about the desire of Diane Bassette Nelson to include in the records of the Town of Covert, all veterans who have served in the United States Military and are linked to this area: schooled, participated in local organizations or buried here. They would like biographical information for all the veterans of this area.

Messmer also read the resolution "Honoring the Veterans of the Town of Covert" that reaffirms the Town of Covert's commitment to preserve the former American Legion Post building for its use as Town Hall and for the townspeople.

Reynolds asked if there was a plan to fix up the World War II Honor Roll memorial sign on the front lawn. Messmer said that Nelson is working on it.

MacCheyne reported paving on Kelly's Corners at Tunison, Townline and Burdick at CR 143. Culvert pipes were also replaced. Roadside and backslope mowing was done. Millings were spread on seasonal W Covert Rd, Cold patching was done on hard surface roads and pads. They did storm clean up after 5" of rain. They fixed a window on the Gradall and did regular maintenance on all equipment.

Reynolds asked if all the FEMA money had been received for Kelly's Corners. MacCheyne said he believed so.

MacCheyne said he spoke with Jim Brady about the BridgeNY meeting. No decision had been made at the end of the meeting. They hope to know who the recipients of the grant will be by the end of the month.

MacCheyne said that, regarding the Town's Lakeview St. property, one survey shows that the Town owns 10' of Overbaugh's garage. He has not heard from Charlie Carroll yet.

Wyckoff asked what the fuel contract situation was. MacCheyne said the State went with Buell but they are only delivering once every 2 weeks, when it should be once a week. Seneca County went with NOCO and he said that they would deliver. He's using Trumansburg School for diesel. He is expecting a call back from OGS. He said that the southern part of the County are all having issues. The Highway Department has a 500 gallon tank, with another 300 gallon tank for diesel.

MacCheyne explained the estimate from Martin's Door Co. The seals need replacing on doors in lower heated shop and doorjambes around overhead doors on upper part. He also said that the roof above the break room has a bad spot. He is collecting estimates for these repairs.

Bishop asked Reynolds if he had any luck getting the Sheriff's Department to monitor CR 142 or SR 96 for speeders. Reynolds said they know about it and will put a police car up there.

Nottke shared about the Memorandum of Understanding that the three municipalities (Trumansburg, Ulysses, Covert) put together to work together for the preservation of Camp Barton. She also said the Council invited people to get a tour of Camp Barton on November 13th at 10 am.

Nottke also shared that the Village of Trumansburg, along with local municipalities, have come up with a resolution of support to establish a NYS rural ambulance task force.

Nottke said that neighbors on Frontenac will be reporting to New York State that eagles have landed around Frontenac Falls.

She said that she had called Seneca Meadows regarding the report that the landfill will be building upward. They say that the intention is that within the 'horseshoe' it will be go up higher, but not adding to the hill already there. She also collected a list of waste material that cannot go in the landfill to post on the website.

Wyckoff reported that he did see that the police were tending the crosswalk in front of the elementary school, in regards to Town money going toward a crossing guard.

Also reported: an excavator was being used to clean out around the NYSEG trestle. They are still waiting for engineers to determine what needs to be done to prevent future flooding down on Interlaken Beach Rd. They may also work to clean out around Flagg's property below.

Reynolds said there were a couple new people interested in the Code Enforcement Officer position, but no applications had been received. Applications had been received through the County for MEO. No applicants in response to the ad.

Morrell asked to keep him apprised of the Code Enforcement position because that is someone who would work directly with him.

Reynolds said that Jamie Vangalio has been Dog Control Officer for the Town of Ovid and Lodi, and he thinks she would be good for the Town of Covert.

If it is decided that the Court Clerk receive a raise, it can be done at the January organizational meeting and come out of Justice-Contractual.

Morrell explained that the resolution (below) would authorize the purchase of the F550 and the use of the Highway Reserve Fund toward its purchase. A Public Hearing would not be necessary to use the funds. \$11,000+ remained in the Fund.

Petitioners: Messmer thanked the Highway department and said they were very pleased with the job done on their entrance on Burdick Road.

Ford asked about the decision regarding Camp Barton. Nottke said that the municipalities and residents have been given three years to work toward a solution, brainstorm and work with State, agencies, and the Council, to preserve the Camp Barton property. They plan to sell 40 acres of South Frontenac. Nottke said we are especially interested in a 90 acre portion of lakefront, dining hall, cabins. She said it is our duty to protect, as we can, and hopes it can continue to be used for boating, fishing, camping, etc. She said that once it's sold to contractors, it's gone. Messmer said that an engineering company in Ithaca has used it for training areas, as well, in the past.

Resolutions:

**Resolution #9-2021
2022 Town of Covert Final Budget**

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop,

THAT the 2022 Preliminary Budget be adopted as the final budget for 2022 and,

WHEREAS, this Town Board met October 25th, 2021 at the time and place specified in the notice of the Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget and heard all persons desiring to be heard thereon;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Town Board of the Town of Covert hereby adopts such Preliminary Budget, as originally compiled with modifications and amendments, as the Annual Budget of the Town of Covert, as for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2022 and that such budget, as adopted, be entered in detail into the minutes of the proceeding of the Town Board, and Be it

FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Town Clerk of the Town of Covert shall prepare and certify in duplicate copies of said Annual Budget, as adopted pursuant to Section 202, Subd.2 of the Town Law, and deliver one copy thereof to Supervisor of this Town to be presented by him to the Board of Supervisors of this County.

Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Nottke, Aye-Wyckoff

Resolution #10-2021

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING For Cooperation Among Municipalities For The Preservation Of Camp Barton

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (“Memo”) is made effective the ____ day of November, 2021 by and among the Town of Covert in the County of Seneca, the Town of Ulysses in the County of Tompkins, and the Village of Trumansburg in the County of Tompkins, each being a municipal corporation under the laws of the State of New York, each being a “Participating Municipality” and collectively the “Municipalities”.

This Memo is intended to foster and facilitate cooperation among the Municipalities with the purpose of finding means to preserve for public use and enjoyment all or a portion of the Boy Scout Camp Barton (“Barton”), located in the Town of Covert and County of Seneca, which is owned by Baden-Powell Council, Boy Scouts of America.

Barton consists of approximately 129 acres of largely undeveloped land, including extensive waterfront on Cayuga Lake, at Frontenac Point. Barton is considered critical to providing public access to Cayuga Lake, particularly to youth organizations, and to the environment and watershed of Cayuga Lake.

Baden-Powell Council is considering or has proposed to sell Barton to raise funds to pay the council’s share of a survivors’ trust consented to by the Boy Scouts of America (“BSA”) in settlement of claims made against BSA in a proceeding pending in United States Bankruptcy Court. The Municipalities believe that the sale of Barton to private parties would be a grievous loss to the public, and wish to find alternatives to its sale.

It would be the intention of the Municipalities to reach out to State and Local government agencies and other viable partnerships that can assist in our continued effort in the preservation of Camp Barton, including, but not limited to, the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, the Finger Lakes Land Trust, Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization, local and regional youth and recreation programs, environmental advocates, inter-municipal officials, and elected officials.

Accordingly, the Municipalities agree as follows:

1. They shall work together to explore, identify and effect alternative plans for Barton with the aim of preserving it for public use and enjoyment in some form.

2. Each of the Municipalities shall nominate two responsible persons to join in a working group to conduct the necessary exploration.
3. On consent of each of the Municipalities, other persons and organizations including but not limited to other municipal corporations, public interest groups, not-for-profit organizations, may join the working group.
4. All communications by and among members of the working group shall be reduced to writing and shall be made available to each of the Municipalities.
5. The working group does not constitute a legal entity or intermunicipal organization of any nature.
6. The working group has no authority to bind in any fashion the participating Municipalities.
7. No Municipality participating shall be required or expected to make any financial contribution to the costs, if any, of the working group.
8. No Municipality shall attract or be subject to any liability, in contract, tort or under any other cause or legal theory, for the actions of any other Municipality participating in the working group.
9. Any Municipality may withdraw from this Memo at any time and for any reason by written notice given to the other Municipalities.
10. This Memo is executed by the persons signing below, each of whom has been authorized to do so by the governing body of the Municipality joining in this Memo.

Town of Ulysses

Town of Covert

Village of Trumansburg

Motion: Foster, Second: Nottke. Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Nottke and Aye-Wyckoff.

Resolution #11-2021

Honoring the Veterans of the Town of Covert

WHEREAS: The Interlaken American Legion Post gave to the Town of Covert and its residents the Legion Building at 8469 Route 96, Interlaken. to be used ever after as the Public Town Hall for use by the townspeople; and

WHEREAS also included in that agreement the Town of Covert was to keep and maintain the Legion Logo signage on the front of the building to identify the building's historic origin in the Town; and

WHEREAS the Town of Covert World War II Veteran's Memorial Sign Board in front of the Legion Building. was a gift from the Interlaken American Legion Post 462 Women's Auxiliary in remembrance of the men and women of the Town of Covert that served our Nation during World War II; and

WHEREAS storage was to be provided in a locked closet for the records and files of the Interlaken American Legion Post 462, and said records would be available for research as needed; and

WHEREAS since its beginnings in the late 1780s when the town was settled by Veterans of the American Revolution and their families and many men and women have since that time served in one or more branches of the American Military, and their histories need to be preserved, NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Town Board for the Town of Covert does hereby reaffirm their commitment to maintain the Legion Building and assist with the preservation of the World War II Honor Board, and BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED that the proposed project to document the histories of the men and women who have served in the US Military since the Town's beginning has the endorsement of this Town Board, including access to the Legion Post records stored within the building.

Motion: Nottke, Second: Bishop. Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Nottke and Aye-Wyckoff.

Resolution # 12-2021
Support for NYS Rural Ambulance Task Force, Senate Bill S3503C

WHEREAS, the Town of Covert Town Board recognizes that ambulance services provide critical emergency health care, particularly in rural communities; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Covert Town Board understands that rural ambulance departments are under unprecedented financial stress which is causing many rural services to close which forces others to take on ever-larger service areas, which negatively impacts response times and the overall service provided to residents; and,

WHEREAS, these pressures on the availability of ambulance services creates issues with the equitable distribution of emergency healthcare that disproportionately affects low income and disadvantaged communities in remote areas of NY State; and,

WHEREAS, the Village of Trumansburg EMS Department budget has increased by more than 40% in the past five years, causing a regressive tax burden on low-income households; and,

WHEREAS, the foregoing issues are shared by rural municipalities and EMS/ambulance departments throughout New York State; NOW

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Covert requests that the Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, sign pending legislation establishing the New York State Rural Ambulance Task Force, Senate Bill S3503C; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution, accompanied by a letter from the Town, be sent to Governor Hochul, Senator Hinchey, Senator Helming, Senator Oberacker, Senator O'Mara, Assemblymember Kelles and Assemblymember Palmesano.

Motion: Nottke, Second: Bishop. Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Nottke and Aye-Wyckoff.

Resolution #13-2021
Authorizing Purchase of 2022 Ford F-550

WHEREAS the Town of Covert Town Board finds that the Town's Highway Department is in need of a new truck; and

WHEREAS the Town of Covert Town Board finds that Onondaga County is a governmental entity; and

WHEREAS Onondaga County did solicit and award Onondaga County Contract #ONGOV-106- 19 2021, which has been made available for use by other governmental entities; and

WHEREAS such contract was let in a manner consistent with New York State Law; and


WHEREAS, The Town of Covert Town Board established the Highway Equipment Reserve Fund in 2015 for the purpose of financing this type of purchase;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Town of Covert Town Board hereby authorizes the purchase of a 2022 Ford F- 550 truck, pursuant to the attached Quotation from Van Bortel Ford, dated February 8, 2021, pursuant to General Municipal Law section 103(16);

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Town Board of the town of Covert authorizes the use of the funds held in the Highway Equipment Reserve Fund for this purpose.

Monday, February 8th, 2021 12:31 PM

Van Bortel 

71 Marsh Rd East Rochester, NY 14445 585-566-7705 Fax 585-566-7706

Vehicle Purchase Proposal

Attention: **Jeff MacChewy**
 Town of Covert
 PO Box 285
 3703 Clinton St
 Interden NY 14456
 Phone: 607-532-4333 Fax: 607-532-4303
 Mobile: 607-275-7615 Email: jmacchewy@jahoo.com

Purchase Order#: **ESTIMATED QUOTE#11 31773**
 Onondaga Bid ONGOV-106-19 2021

Item Description	Code	Qty	Your Price	MSRP
2022 Ford F-550 XL Reg Cab 4x4 145 WB 60 CA Estimated Pricing	F5H	1	\$ 36,998.04	\$ 46,445.00
Paint, Vermillion Red (Fleet Only) (Estimated 6+ Weeks to Production Time)	PE4	1	\$ 594.00	\$ 660.00
6.7L Diesel F550 Chassis Cab	99T	1	\$ 8,392.50	\$ 9,325.00
TorqShift Ten-Speed 10R140 with Neutral Idle Automatic	44G	1	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Platform Running Boards (w/ Regular Cab)	18B	1	\$ 288.00	\$ 320.00
Cloth 40/20/40 Split Bench - (XL Only) (Regular Cab)	1S	1	\$ 90.00	\$ 100.00
Rapid-Heat Supplemental Cab Heater	41A	1	\$ 225.00	\$ 250.00
Trailer Towing Package (XL)	531	1	\$ 40.50	\$ 45.00
Transmission Power Take-Off Provision (Auto Trans only) W/99T	62R	1	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Dual Extra Heavy-Duty Alternator w/ 47A, 47L, 47J or 47A	67B	1	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Remote Start System	76S	1	\$ 225.00	\$ 250.00
Power Equip Group on XL (Reg & Super Cabs)	90L	1	\$ 776.50	\$ 855.00
Daytime Running Lamps (Chassis Cab Rear only)	99Z	1	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00
Chassis Cab Upgrade (CCU)	99Z	1	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00
L724570R-18.55 BSW (S) (Std)	TCK	1	\$ 193.50	\$ 215.00
Axle, Limited Slip 4.10 Ratio (6.7L)	XAN	1	\$ 324.00	\$ 360.00
Western 9' Pro Plus Plow		1	\$ 5,950.00	\$ 8,500.00
Delivery to Region 1		1	\$ 180.00	\$ 160.00
1) Tenco Truck Body includes: Rear Camera, Grease Line Extensions, Lights in Rear Corner Posts, (STT) Fenders, Lights in Rear and on Top, Pintle Hook, Outside and Inside Ladder and Powder Coat Painting of the Body,..... 1) 25 Gallon Frame Mounted Reservoir,..... 1) Belt Pump w/ Electric Clutch,..... 1) 2 Section Cable Controls,..... 1) CS-520 Sander Control (Research)				
Term is Net 15 Days A.R.V. Delivery from factory to dealer is estimated at 16-20 weeks. This Quote Expires In 60 Days or final Order date, whichever comes first. Any attempt in cancelling an order is subject to the manufacturers ability to cancel the order.				
Quantity on this Order: 1				
Total Price:			\$ 97,855.14	
Grand Total:			\$ 97,855.14	
Suggested Items Below				
Option 1. SS 8' Body Upgrade				
	Code	Qty	Your Price	MSRP
	1	1	\$ 8,610.00	\$ 0.00

To place an order please sign and date this proposal and return it to Van Bortel Ford along with a valid Purchase Order, Voucher, or Letter of Intent. Thank You!

Accepted By: _____ Title _____ Date _____

Van Bortel Ford Inc (WBE) Federal ID 16-1609363 Salesperson: George Lunney Quote 31773

Arrived @ Tenco on the 25th
 July 26th
 August 7th

Motion: Nottke, Second: Foster. Aye-Foster, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Nottke and Aye-Wyckoff.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to appoint Jamie Vangalio as Town of Covert Dog Control Officer at the budgeted Salary and 57 cents per mile, effective November 1, 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.

Bishop moved, seconded by Nottke, to declare the Ricoh Aficio copier as surplus contingent on it not belonging to Justice Court .Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.

Deb moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve placement of ad for Code Enforcement Officer and Motor Equipment Operator in the Seneca Area Shopper. Aye- Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the door repair estimate from Martin's Door Service LLC, not to exceed \$3077.00. Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Nottke and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve the Town Supervisor's Income and Expenditure Report for the month of October 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Foster.

Foster moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of October 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Foster and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Town Clerk's report for the month of October 2021. Town Clerk received a total of \$1444.00 and \$563.28 was remitted to the Supervisor. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve the Code Enforcement Officer's report for the month of October 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.

Foster moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Dog Control Officer's report for the month of October 2021. Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, that Highway Fund Vouchers #149-159 in the amount of \$22,938.41 and General Fund Vouchers #182-200 in the amount \$4,464.30 be approved for payment. Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Nottke.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to enter into executive session regarding a matter to impact the value of real property at 8:04.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to come out of executive session and adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
December 13, 2021

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, December 13, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	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, Highway Superintendent Jeffrey MacCheyne, Town Attorney Patrick Morrell, Deputy Clerk Brian Quan and other interested citizens.

Call to order: Supervisor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M. All rose for the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve the minutes from November 8th, 2021. Aye - Wyckoff, Aye - Nottke, Aye - Bishop and Aye - Foster.

Presenter: Linda Blossom shared regarding bill A8378 introduced to the NY Assembly by Assemblyman Dinowitz which would mandate children from 2 months to 18 years be vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine if they attend a school or are in a day care facility. She said the vaccine is still experimental and the 3 year trial, which did not include 2 month old children, was stopped at 6 months. Blossom said that there have been at least 9000 deaths and 14,000 cases of myocarditis from the vaccine. She said that the CDC's reporting system is cumbersome for medical professionals to report adverse reactions on; reporting one case can take 1/2 hour. She said that one in 26 cases have adverse reactions to childhood vaccinations according to a Harvard study, but the Covid vaccine has shot up the stats for deaths in children. She suggested the National Vaccine Information Center for information. She said that vaccine producers are protected by the government and cannot be sued. She said that remdesivir, a failed Ebola drug, was okayed to use for covid-19, but Fauci did not allow approval of many proven Covid treatments. She asked for everyone to contact their representatives to asked them to oppose A8378.

Blossom mentioned bill H.R.550, which passed the House, going to the Senate , that will set up a vaccine tracking system, sharing with all levels of government. She says that the "Immunization Infrastructure Modernization Act of 2021" would be an invasion of privacy and the next step to requiring vaccine passports.

Reynolds said he would bring it up at the Board of Supervisor's meeting.

MacCheyne reported on ditching on East Bates Road. He said that Seneca County Soil And Water helped rearrange stones and that the houses below need a barrier to stop water from going into their yards. He reported of hauling stone, mowing, sanding and plowing, cold patching and maintenance and repair on equipment. He said that the 2012 F450 was back but could not be fixed; the anti-lock brakes were disabled. He hopes that the new truck will be ready within the next month.

MacCheyne said that he spoke with Jim Brady regarding the Bridge NY grant. Governor Hochul wants to visit the Bridge recipients personally.

MacCheyne mentioned that a neighbor of the Town's Lakeview Street property only has a right-of-way for use of driveway. There was question as to whether the Carroll survey was based on surveys or just the pins placement. MacCheyne and Morrell discussed the necessity of survey map, not just pins, to determine the Lakeview property's boundaries. Morrell would like the survey sent to him.

Adams-Compton said that she spoke with Dalynn at the Beverly Animal Shelter. They would like to collect applications and money to license dogs for the Town before releasing any seized dogs to the owners. They would mail the forms with

money to the Town Clerk, who would then issue licenses to the owners. This would eliminate the unsatisfactory reports they get from NYS Ag + Market.

Adams-Compton said that the Town Clerk/Tax Collection office would like to take credit cards in payment of all Town Clerk items, as well as taxes. She would like to go with a company called Value Payment Systems. The cost to the customer would be an additional 2.75% of transaction. There would be no cost to the Town, unlike the current company, Systems East/Xpress Pay. They will continue to use Xpress Pay until the new company is set up.

Nottke and Wyckoff had interviewed a couple candidates for the Code Enforcement Officer. They agreed that Roger Ward was well-qualified for the job.

Nottke mentioned that Bill #3503C, authorizing the office of fire prevention and control to establish the New York State Rural Ambulance Services Task Force, had been delivered to Governor Hochul on Friday.

Nottke also said that the Memorandum of Understanding between the 3 municipalities, along with a letter, regarding Camp Barton properties, had been presented to Representative Anna Kelles and delivered to the Governor's team. Nottke asked for people to call or write representatives requesting a 90 acre portion of Camp Barton be transferred into Public ownership. Previous appraisal of the property was 2.3 million. The property was recently appraised, but Nottke did not have the recent assessment. A petition will be available on Change.org.

Foster asked if there would be a management team to maintain the Barton property and buildings. Nottke said that after the transfer was approved a management team would be established. She said that Katelyn Olson, the newly elected Supervisor for Ulysses has experience with this, coming from the Adirondacks.

Reynolds said that Dan Bakker is retiring from the Planning Board. A new member will be needed to complete the 7 member team.

Morrell said that, besides the annual discussion regarding requirements for Public Hearing of the fire contracts, he had just received a new filing in the Guttman/Mikeska lawsuit, that has once gone to the Supreme Court and come back.

Morrell also said that he will keep the new Code Enforcement Officer informed of any litigations.

Reynolds said that the 2019 Annual Financial Report has been okayed by the State. The bookkeepers will now work on 2020.

A Yearend meeting is scheduled for December 27th, 2021 at 7:00 PM. An audit of the Court and Town Clerk/Tax Collector Town Books is scheduled for January 17th at 9 AM. The Bookkeepers' audit to be decided.

Resolutions:

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to schedule a Public Hearing for the Village of Interlaken, Town of Covert and Town of Ovid Fire Contract, and the Village of Trumansburg and Town of Covert Fire and Ambulance Contracts at 7:00 p.m. on December 27th, 2021. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve Beverly Animal Shelter to collect dog license applications and money for the Town for the release of impounded dogs. Money and applications will be forwarded to the Town Clerk. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve Town Clerk/Tax Collector to accept credit card/e-check payments for Town Clerk fees and taxes using Value Payment Systems. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to appoint Roger Ward II as Town of Covert Town Ordinance Enforcement Officer (aka Code Enforcement Officer) at the budgeted Salary and 57 cents per mile, effective immediately. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to approve Brandon Green as full-time Motor Equipment Operator at \$18.00/hr. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to approve Application for Development (ADP) #32 for David Johnson to erect a 16' x 24' storage shed at 8903 Lone Retreat Rd, ADP #33 for Kristina Dresser to erect a 12' x 20' storage shed at 8699 State Rt 89, and ADP #34 for Kathleen MacCheyne to construct a 12' x12' deck with steps at 3994 CR 141. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster, Aye-Wyckoff and Aye-Bishop.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve the Seneca County/Town of Covert Memorandum of Understanding to establish procedures for referring actions to the County Planning Board. Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve the Supervisor's Income and Expenditure report for the month of November 2021. Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster.

Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to approve the Highway Superintendent's report for the month of November 2021. Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to approve Town Clerk report for the month of November 2021. Town Clerk received a total of \$1806.00; \$335.62 was remitted to the Supervisor. Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Wyckoff, to approve the Dog Control Officer's report for the month of November 2021. Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, that Highway Fund Vouchers #160-175 in the amount of \$21,382.47 and General Fund Vouchers #201-222 in the amount of \$27,219.87 be approved for payment. Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster.

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk

TOWN OF COVERT, SENECA COUNTY
YEAR END TOWN BOARD MEETING
December 27, 2021

The yearend meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Covert was held Monday, December 27th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Covert Municipal Building, 8469 South Main Street, Interlaken, New York.

Roll Call:	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 and Interlaken Fire Department representatives, Chris Nelson and Wendi Bass, and 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 Foster, to approve the minutes from December 13th, 2021 regular Board meeting. Aye-Nottke, Aye-Foster and Aye-Wyckoff.

Public Hearing: Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to open the Public Hearing at 7:03 for the purpose of hearing comments on the 2022 Fire Protection Agreement between the Village of Interlaken, the Town of Ovid and the Town of Covert. Reynolds said there was no change from previous years. Foster said, 'Keep up the good work.' Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to close the Public Hearing at 7:05.

Public Hearing: Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to open the Public Hearing at 7:05 p.m. for the purpose of hearing comments on the 2022 Fire Protection Agreement between the Village of Trumansburg and the Town of Covert. Reynolds commented that the cost went down for the same coverage. The fire districts were explained and a comment made that they have been the same since 1957. Foster moved, seconded by Nottke, to close the Public Hearing at 7:10.

Nottke reported that NY Assembly Member Kelles, NY Senator Helming, Tompkins County Legislator Koreman have all signed the letter to Governor Hochul regarding the preservation of Camp Barton. She also mentioned that Interlaken Mayor Rich Richardson also would be interested in offering support for the camp's preservation.

Reynolds said that Camp Babcock-Hovey is also closing.

Barry Ford asked what the goal for the preservation of the Camp is. Nottke said it would be for kayaking, camping, outdoor activities, not swimming, for rental of the camp, not for the general public's use. Nottke said that Trumansburg and Ulysses have summer camps. Ford asked about the upkeep. Nottke said that they were still in the early stages of the thought process. She said that the 3 entities would not own the camp, the State would. The aim is to keep it from going to bigger corporations.

It was noted that Taughanock Park started out being free, then it became free to residents, now everyone pays.

Reynolds said the annual Town Board's audit of the Supervisor's books would be on Wednesday, January 19th, 2022 at 10 a.m.

Resolutions:

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, to appoint Katherine Sender to the Planning Board for 7 years, beginning 1/1/2022, ending 12/31/2028. Aye - Wyckoff, Aye - Nottke, Aye - Bishop, Aye - Foster.

**Resolution #14-21
Highway Hourly Resolution**

WHEREAS the Town of Covert Highway Department appointed employees have all maintained acceptable work levels, now THEREFORE BE RESOLVED that the Town of Covert Town Board does hereby accept the recommendation of the Highway Superintendent that the following full-time employees will be given an increase in their hourly rate; part-time employees rates will be the minimum wage.

Employee:	2021		2022	
	Reg./hour	3% increase	Total Reg.	O.T.
Roger Ike	\$21.40		\$22.04	\$33.06
Glenn Boyes	\$18.00		\$18.54	\$27.81
Brandon Green	\$18.00		\$18.00	\$27.00
			Minimum	
Thomas Hayward	\$12.50		\$13.20	

Motion-Foster, Seconded by Bishop. Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster, Aye-Nottke

**Resolution #15-21
Yearend Transfers**

WHEREAS good fiscal policy dictates that all expenditure accounts are at or above a zero balance at fiscal year-end, and

WHEREAS a number of accounts are currently in a negative state and others in the same department area have excess funds,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the bookkeeper is hereby authorized to make the following adjustments for fiscal year-end 2021

Increase	A5010.4	Highway Superintendent - Contractual	\$	224.64
Decrease	A5010.2	Highway Superintendent - Equipment	\$	224.64
Increase	B3260.4	Safety Inspections - Contractual	\$	69.63
Decrease	B3260.41	Safety Inspections - Inspections	\$	69.63
Increase	DA5130.4	Machinery - Contractual	\$	11,755.89
Decrease	DA5130.2	Machinery - Equipment	\$	11,755.89
Increase	DA3501	Chips O&M	\$	15,100.00
Increase	DA9055.8	Disability Insurance	\$	100.00

Increase	DA9060.8	Medical Insurance	\$	6,000.00
Increase	DA9060.81	Health Savings Account	\$	3,000.00
Increase	DA5142.1	Snow Removal - Pesonal Service	\$	6,000.00
Increase	DB9060.8	Health Insurance	\$	4,687.27
Decrease	DB5110.1	Maint of Roads - Personal Service	\$	4,687.27
Increase	DB3960	State Emergency Disaster Fund	\$	30,716.58
Increase	DB5148.4	FEMA Contractual	\$	30,716.58
Increase	DB3501	CHIPS	\$	51,505.81
Increase	DB5112.2	Road Construction - CHIPS	\$	51,505.81

Motion-Foster, Seconded by Nottke. Aye-Wyckoff, Aye-Bishop, Aye-Foster, Aye-Nottke

Nottke moved, seconded by Foster, that Highway Fund Vouchers #176-188 in the amount of \$12,348.58 and General Fund Vouchers #223-230 in the amount \$1794.04 be approved for payment. Aye-Foster, Aye-Nottke, Aye-Bishop and Aye-Wyckoff.

Nottke moved, seconded by Bishop, to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Adams-Compton, Town Clerk