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

Resolution No. 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 everlarger 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.