



## TOWN OF WILLSBORO

5 FARRELL ROAD WILLSBORO, NY 12996

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### TOWN OF WILLSBORO TOWN BOARD MEETING WILLSBORO TOWN HALL May 10th 2023

**ATTENDEES-** Win Belanger, Polly Belanger, Victor Putnam, Greg Gordon, Travis Crowningshield, Pat McCauliffe

**BOARD MEMBERS-** Steve Benway, Lorilee Sheehan, Lane Sayward, Scott Christian, Shaun Gilliland

**CALL TO ORDER @ 6:30pm**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**Sayward made the motion to accept the minutes. Benway seconded the motion. All in favor.**

**Supervisors Report-**

**Correspondence-**

-NBRC- Willsboro made the final cut in the wastewater treatment for increased tankage and piping.

-Playground RFP responses- there were 2 responses.

**Town-**

-Wastewater Plant hydraulic overflow incident and a major physical screen clog with a major water storm. The town had to report this overage to the DEC.

-Reminder on Justice Court audit

-Alarm system vendor survey of the building. Dan Benoit did not come in to meet with Gilliland regarding our current alarm system. Gilliland has requested that the Alltech security system come to access all the buildings and give us a quote.

-Food Shelf is going to be open 1 day a week from now on. They just do not have the need to be more than that. They will however be available if someone is in need. Fantastic job by Connie Benway, who has organized the food shelf and the volunteers.

- Bay lane water will be turned on May 15th. Although a lot of people have called thinking it should be turned on sooner, our contractual agreement is May 15th- October 15th.

**County-**

-June Republican Primary for County Clerk is June 27th.

-Early voting is only in Lake Placid this year. The law states it must be in the largest population center of the county.

-The new occupancy tax payment should be coming June 1st. These payments will be in June and December each year. County will use these funds toward fairgrounds building, programming, and removal of the old jail. The county will be moving many departments around, there is lots of room in the Public Safety building.

-Records storage has been a problem in the last few years and the county is working on what they will do with this problem. -Gilliland stated he had discussed with the county and state on the assessments and if a town drops below the 100% of assessment, the exemptions start to get cut and the taxes will increase significantly. Sheehan asked if the two days the assessor works enough time for him or does he feel he could use more time. She stated that it is a lot to keep track of everything and a lot is being missed. Gilliland stated he will talk with him, but he works for other towns and had not had time in the past to be in Willsboro more. The Town to save money went from a Full-time assessor to a part time assessor years ago. Gilliland stated there just are not enough qualified assessors, the county is having the same issue.

**Christian made the motion to accept the warrant. Benway seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call- Sheehan, Sayward, Christian, Benway, Gilliland**

**Ayes-5**

**Nyes-0**

**Town Clerk Report-**

The clerk's office in the month of April took in \$31,508.00, paying \$4.00 to NYS Ag and Markets. Decals took in \$1,759.00, of which \$1,713.50 went to the state and the town's commission was \$45.50. On May 1st, I went to the County to settle and made my last payment for taxes. The total amount that was bought in was \$2,813,070.57. Paying The Willsboro Fire District \$279,900.00 and the Town \$1,456,071.54 and the County \$1,077,099.03. The sewer/water bills in April also brought in \$38,963.75. Thompson asked the board if we could purchase a Fire Safety file cabinet to have access to the records and keep them safe. Christian looked up the cost of them online and they are around \$4,200 to purchase. Gilliland will investigate checking with the state contract price.

**Benway made a motion to purchase the Firesafe cabinet. Sayward seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call- Sheehan, Sayward, Christian, Benway, Gilliland**

**Ayes-5**

**Nyes-0**

**AMBULANCE REPORT-** No report was given to the town.

**YOUTH COMMISSION REPORT-** Krissy Leerkes sent a report with pictures highlighting the new golf program to the board and this is in the board packet.

**GOLF COURSE REPORT-** Eric Arnold sent a report on the Golf course and this was put into the board's packets.

**PARKS COMMISSION REPORT-**

**Benway made the motion to place the following question on the ballot to have the voters decide if the Town of Willsboro should take out a taxpayer's bond.**

**"Should the Town take out a taxpayer financed bond of between \$750,000 and \$900,000 (depending on design and costs) to build a playground complex and recreation building facility to host recreational and sports activity 12 months a year at Florence Hathaway Park."**

**Sheehan seconded the motion.**

**Sheehan, Sayward, Benway, Gilliland in Favor.**

**Christian opposed.**

**NEW BUSINESS-**

The board of Assessment Review has an opening on the board and we have had someone come forward that is interested in this position. Mr. Franke is new to the area and has experience with the BAR process in Florida. He is willing to take the training to do this.

**Sheehan made the motion to appoint Franke to the Board of assessment review for a term of 6 years. Benway seconded the motion. All in Favor.**

Cheryl Vanderpool is interested in the position of Cook for the Summer youth Program.

**Sheehan made the motion to hire Cheryl Vanderpool to cook for the Summer Youth Program at a rate of \$20.00 per hour. Benway seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call- Sheehan, Sayward, Christian, Gilliland**

**Ayes-5**

**Nyes-0**

Discussion to change the way a DPW employee uses their sick time. There has never been a policy. The way it had been in the past was you use your current year sick, personal, vacation, comp first, then you can use your sick bank once this was used up. The employees would like to use their sick bank first. After much discussion, Gilliland stated they would have to remove the consecutive days from the union contract. **Christian made the motion that a DPW employee could use their sick bank time, prior to current time, they will have to provide a doctor's note to the supervisor. Sheehan seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call- Sheehan, Sayward, Christian, Gilliland**

**Ayes-5**

**Nyes-0**

**Board Comments-**

Sheehan asked if a porta potty could be put on the point soccer fields for the spring youth sports.

**Public Comment-**

Win Belanger stated the assessor is a pain. Raised taxes 20% last year and 20% this year and he does not return calls and you cannot get in to see him. He asked if the grievance day could be extended. Gilliland stated that it is State law to have it on a certain day. Sheehan stated that there were not a lot of people at 1:00 and still not at 6:00pm when he had evening hours. Gilliland stated that he would be in his office on the following Saturday.

Belanger asked if there was going to be a public hearing for the ballot issue. Gilliland stated the Parks Commission will have informational sessions between now and voting time. The question on the ballot will have the price and location of the project. Belanger also stated that the board of election is looking for workers. The school backpack program, CHAT, will be giving this

program \$500. Per year. The town website does not list the members of the ZBA or Planning board anymore, Belanger asked if this could happen.

**MEETING ADJOURNED @ 7:52pm.**