

**REGULAR MEETING, TOWN OF REDFIELD, March 10, 2020**

The regular monthly meeting of the Redfield Town Board was held on March 10, 2020 at the Redfield Municipal Building starting at 7:30pm. Roll call was taken and the following board members were present:

- Tanya Yerdon - Supervisor
- Carla Bauer - Councilwoman
- Elaine Yerdon - Councilwoman
- Erwin Webb - Councilman
- Matthew Tompkins - Councilman

In addition, Susan Hough -Town Clerk, Russell Montieth -Highway Superintendent, Michael Yerdon - Code Enforcement Office/County Legislator, Ed Montieth, and Angie Kimball - Tug Hill Commission.

Pledge of the Allegiance was said.

**Resolution 20-18**

Motion was made by Erwin Webb and seconded by Carla Bauer that the  
 General Fund Bills - Abstract #03 Vouchers 071-085,090,091,094-096,100-104  
Totaling \$ 35,938.93 and  
 Light District #1 - Abstract #03 Vouchers 099 Totaling \$ 787.17

Be paid.  
 ADOPTED Ayes 5 T. Yerdon, E. Yerdon, E. Webb, C. Bauer, M. Tompkins  
 Nays 0

**Resolution 20-19**

Motion was made by Carla Bauer and seconded by Elaine Yerdon that the  
 Highway Fund Bills - Abstract # 03 Vouchers 086-093,096,101,105,106 Totaling \$ 54,977.64  
 Be paid.

ADOPTED Ayes 5 T. Yerdon, E. Yerdon, E. Webb, C. Bauer, M. Tompkins  
 Nays 0

**Resolution 20-20**

Motion was made by Matthew Tompkins and seconded by Erwin Webb that the Supervisor's Report and Payroll Sheets be accepted as presented.

ADOPTED Ayes 5 T. Yerdon, E. Yerdon, E. Webb, C. Bauer, M. Tompkins  
 Nays 0

**TOWN CLERK – SUSAN HOUGH**

Susan had 1 DECALS, 8 Dog Licenses and Mike had 1 Building Permit. Town Clerk handed out Code Enforcement Officer - Mike Yerdon's report.

**Resolution 20-21**

Motion was made by Elaine Yerdon and seconded by Erwin Webb to approve the January 14, 2020 regular meeting as presented.

ADOPTED Ayes 5 T. Yerdon, E. Yerdon, E. Webb, C. Bauer, M. Tompkins  
 Nays 0 03/10/2020 pg. 1 of 7

## **CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER - MICHAEL YERDON**

Mike - Everyone has his February report. He has filed the New York State Annual Report, he should be receiving the shorten version of it otherwise its 42 pages long. He has one small project a pole barn. He's been busy this month with paperwork, not with permits.

## **OSWEGO COUNTY LEGISLATOR - MICHAEL YERDON**

The Governor has included a budget modification that could be devastating to Towns & Counties, "Accelerated Renewable Energy Growth and Community Benefit Act". This Act would be automatically passed with the Budget. The Act would remove the Communities voice, will lose Home Rule. Mike handed out a Resolution that the County of Oswego has passed opposing the Accelerated Renewable Energy Growth and Community Benefit Act. He encourages the Town to adopt this resolution, the two Villages he represents have passed it. He also has a Local Law #1 of 2020 he encourages the Town to pass as soon as possible. He has talked to Mr. Barclay and some other Attorneys regarding the Law. All the Wind Mill projects would be tax exempt unless you enact an exemption from the Law of 2017. If this is passed the Town has no more control, the State Budget will be passed April 1<sup>st</sup>. There will be no middle men - it will be just the State and Company. Supervisor Tanya Yerdon - The Town will not have anyone on the Siting Board, everything we have put in place will be nullified. We would need to have a public hearing and pass the law before the State Budget passes April 1<sup>st</sup>. CW Elaine Yerdon - How can this Act be part of the Budget? Supervisor Tanya Yerdon - He quietly put it in. Tom Jones - Any proposed Renewal Energy project would go before the State and nothing else? Supervisor Tanya Yerdon - yes, they don't have to go thru the Article 10 phase, they would skip everything and go right to the State Committee, they could use Eminent Domain - find it necessary for the better of the Community. CM Matthew Tompkins - the Private Developers will be allowed to do that, Governor has been upset with the Wind Farms being challenged, he wants the State Green by 2030, there's a lot of seminars for Wind in Albany, what it's going to do for the State, pushing this and has a large group on board. Supervisor Tanya Yerdon - regarding Intervenor Funds - Melody was contacted by a Finance person asking if the Town of Redfield wanted to extend their contract with Avangrid, could not file anymore invoices up to December 2020, contacted Albany, Melody did not follow-up on it, Tanya is not signing anything, they have released some of the funds to other Towns and Interest Funds, she talked to Doug Barclay, Cuomo has found ways to go right around us.

## **HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT - RUSSELL MONTIETH**

Highway Superintendent - Russell Montieth would like weight limits posted on the Highways.

### **Resolution 20-22**

Motion was made by Tanya Yerdon and seconded by Erwin Webb to authorize Town Clerk Susan Hough that pursuant to Article 41, Section 1660, Paragraph 11 of the NYS Vehicle and Traffic Law, all Town Roads in the Town of Redfield, Oswego County, are temporarily closed to any vehicle with a gross load in excess of five (5) tons per axle. Under this restriction, will be effective immediately, once the signs are posted on the roads, any vehicle (including load) in excess of five (5) tons per axle will not be permitted to operate on the Town Roads in the Town of Redfield.

ADOPTED    Ayes 5                    T. Yerdon, E. Yerdon, E. Webb, C. Bauer, M. Tompkins  
                 Nays 0

03/10/2020 pg. 2 of 7

Russell has already talked to the Loggers up North, as of Friday they will be gone. The new air compressor has been installed and is working great. Hastings Heating - replaced one of the heating units and serviced the other ones, we only have one unit left to replace. He had a dumpster brought in for scrap to clean the property up. He removed the radio in the 1995, more utilized in the 2015, we need to be able to communicate - Russell installed the radio and had to buy an antenna. United Radio came out for the radio in the Loader - there was a ground issue, the 24 Invertor was the issue, 90 day warranty started over. Got the 2007 back February 26, 2020, the coolant lines were bad, Russell had them replace all the lines. They got the plow and wing back on that night and the sander back on - loaded with sand and it ran good Thursday night - Friday & Saturday the check engine light came on, Delong came up - the air cleaners were freezing, changed them out, the inner air cleaner sucked snow up into it, everything is good, finished out 500 mile 75% load, ordered steal to repair tie downs, it's running good no antifreeze usage. He hasn't received the invoice from Delong's, he talked to them they don't have everything together, it's a lot of money to be sitting on for another month. CW Elaine Yerdon - asked it Russell had an estimate for the invoice. Russell estimates \$ 21,000 - \$ 22,000, the head was re-buildable - hadn't gotten the price of the head yet. He talked to the Insurance Company to see if they could list it separately so the value would reflect the money we have into it. The 2014 has been an issue, Terry and Dale have been complaining about it smelling, they tore it apart - ordered a new control \$ 314.17, two weeks to get it here, no more smell, they had been complaining for a while, housing is cracked, leaking gear oil out of the back, rubber hose leaking oil, \$ 35 Henderson - input shaft/cover \$ 40.22. Brighter note - thanked Sue for bringing up a recall that Paul had mentioned to her. Supervisor Tanya Yerdon - had mentioned the recall to Paul a couple different times, Paul said there was no problem. Russell - the class action lawsuit involves 2011-2014 EGR Valves & EGR Coolers. Basically what was spent on the 2014 last fall is what's covered, the paperwork needs to be sent in completed by May 2020. Have spent in excess of \$ 37,000 not including oil changes. We are having the same problems with the 2017, same check engine codes. Like Tanya said this truck will be in the same place as the 2014. International is not the only Company with these problems. There's certain criteria for the recall - we could get up to \$ 14,991.19, he's coming down tomorrow to work on it with Sue, she's done a lot of extra work on this. Angie Kimball - a lot of Towns have gone to leasing, they turn them over quicker. Mike Yerdon - the County put new signs up on County Route 2, stop signs, only put back 500 feet. He also asked about the bridge on County Route 17 - Cottrell Creek Bridge where it stands for repair, it's under structure is secure, they would like to make it wider, it's on the schedule/agenda.

### **TUG HILL COMMISSION – ANGELA KIMBALL**

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, many training sessions, meetings and gatherings of all kinds have already been cancelled or may be cancelled in the near future depending on the progression of this public health emergency. These announcements will look a little different than usual as a result.

#### **Resources Available:**

The Commission staff as well as your CTHC circuit riders are working from home and are, as always available to help you with whatever you need. We have created reference documents to help you through some of the new issues that are cropping up during these unusual times. They are available on the Commission website at [www.tughill.org](http://www.tughill.org) (anyone needing a hard copy let me know and I will print and mail you the documents) and include:

- 1) An overview of **Public Meetings and COVID-19** – In short, an Executive Order from the Governor has relaxed the requirements of the Open Meetings Law to allow meetings without

allowing in person attendance of the meeting by the public and allowing video and telephone conference attendance by board members. However, there are still requirements to allow the public the ability to be able to listen in to the meetings and to require that meetings held remotely or without the public present to be recorded and then transcribed. The information sheet outlines the requirements and offers some solutions for Boards to use to meet remotely.

One of the options that is available for towns is to use a service called Zoom to allow the Board and anyone from the public who desires to video/phone conference for meetings/public hearings. The Commission has purchased a business subscription of the service and will offer this service free to charge to our municipalities. A THC staff member would help set up the meeting and the Board and whomever else desired to watch (up to 300 people) could join the video conference. The service includes a recording of the meeting and a transcription service. Anyone interested in utilizing this service for their meeting/public hearing, contact me as soon as you are able to and I will get you more information and we will help you get set up. You also have the option of holding your meeting in person if that works best for your municipality, but please remember the federal advisory to keep attendance at 10 and under and to use social distancing of 6 feet if at all possible. It is also advised from many sources that if you do choose this manner of meeting that you deal only with the bare bones of business needed to keep your municipality functioning and postpone things of lower priority. The link to the paper is <https://www.tughill.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Public-Meetings-in-NY-and-COVID-19-March-23-2020.pdf>.

2) An overview of **Municipal Employees and COVID-19** which discusses the work from home requirements, how to determine essential vs. non-essential employees, paid leave and other subjects. The link to the paper is <https://www.tughill.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Municipal-Employees-in-NY-and-COVID-19-March-24-2020.pdf>.

3) An overview of **Land Use Issues and COVID-19** dealing with planning and zoning issues. The link to the paper is <https://www.tughill.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Land-Use-Applications-in-NY-and-COVID-19.pdf>.

4) An overview of **Court Matters and COVID-19** dealing with current location of courts, and various court related issues. The link to the paper is <https://www.tughill.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Court-Matters-in-NY-and-COVID-19-March-25-2020.pdf>.

5) Many links to other resources to help with any other issues you may be experiencing including links to the Association of Towns, NYCOM and Cornell Local Roads as well as the State and our County Departments of Health.

### **Finally, Announcements:**

**6) Save the Dates:** -So far, the date for the CTHC spring meeting remains April 30th and the meeting will be held at the Steak and Brew in Turin. This date is subject to change depending on how this situation with COVID-19 progresses. We will keep you informed – invitations will be out soon for the original date and any other information will be sent as it becomes available. -The date for this year's Black River Watershed Conference is still in effect at this point. The conference will be held June 3rd and 4th at the Savory Downtown in Watertown if all goes forward as planned. Stay tuned for more information as it becomes available.

7) The Commission's Local Government Conference was cancelled, as you know. The information from some of the presenters is available now on the Commission's website (see link above for address). More presentations will be added as they become available.

8) The latest edition of Headwaters, the Commission's annual report has been sent out via email and US mail to those we don't have an email address for. If you didn't receive a copy or if you need me to send you a hard copy, let me know.

Everyone stay safe and well and if we can help with anything, please let me know. Angie is working on Special Area Maps and Official Road Maps with various Towns, the DOT updated maps, the Official Road Maps need to be filed with Oswego County. The Town of Worth has many new Officials - Supervisor, Highway Superintendent, Clerk/Tax Collector and two Board Members- they have been asked by SWEB - Wind Developer to amend their use permit. There was discussion regarding SWEB.

### **SUPERVISOR - TANYA YERDON**

Tanya discussed the resolution with the Board.

### **RESOLUTION 20-23**

Councilman Matthew Tompkins moved that the following Resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, Governor Cuomo has proposed the "Accelerated Renewable Energy Growth and Community Benefit Act;" which, despite its name, would negatively impact renewable energy host communities by removing local home-rule rights and controls, and by fast-tracking wind and solar projects that could potentially harm local economies and environments; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Act was added to the State Budget proposal only after budget hearings were completed, giving State Legislators insufficient time to examine the proposal and identify its negative consequences; and

WHEREAS, although the inclusion of renewable energy sources within the State's energy plan, and the streamlining of bureaucratic processes are commendable initiatives, the proposed Act goes too far by essentially gutting Article 10 and empowering the State to force medium and large wind and solar projects into local communities that don't want them; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Act would:

- Create a new State bureaucracy to handle the permitting and siting of wind and solar projects, which would not be responsive or accountable to the local communities impacted, and which would be susceptible to influence from deep-pocket domestic and foreign energy corporations and their lobbyists; and
- Override and nullify County Local Laws and Town/City/Village Ordinances that were adopted by local governments to responsibly guide development of energy projects within their jurisdictions, in accordance with the wishes of their citizens and businesses; and
- Remove the voices of the local citizens and their elected representatives from the siting process; and

- Endanger the ability of local governments to receive fair property tax revenues from renewable energy facilities; and
- Establish undefined and unquantified host community benefits and create workforce training programs, "subject to available funding," which are geared toward non-existent green energy jobs.
- Allow corporations whose proposals are already going through the Article 10 process to opt into the new fast-track process, thereby avoiding legitimate and valid objections and concerns of the local impacted communities and circumventing vital processes that hold project proposers accountable; and

WHEREAS, as an example of this proposed Act's deficiencies, a proposal that could be fast-tracked to great detriment of Oswego County's economy and environment, is Avangrid Renewables LLC' proposed 350 megawatt Mad River Wind Farm in the Town of Worth in Jefferson County and the Town of Redfield in Oswego County - a project that would clear cut great swaths of 20,000 acres of pristine Tug Hill forest recreation areas, and place in danger of contamination the headwaters of the Salmon River, one of North America's top sport fisheries and the region's economic driver.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Redfield opposes the misleadingly-named Accelerated Renewable Energy Growth and Community Benefit Act, and urges the New York State Legislature to reject the proposal; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Town of Redfield shall forward copies of this resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Senator Patty Ritchie, Assembly Minority Leader Will Barclay, Assemblyman Brian Manktelow, Oswego County Administrator Philip Church and the New York State Association of Towns.

Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Carla Bauer and a roll call of the Town Board was taken with the following results:

Supervisor Tanya Yerdon	Aye
Councilwoman Carla Bauer	Aye
Councilman Erwin Webb	Aye
Councilwoman Elaine Yerdon	Aye
Councilman Matthew Tompkins	Aye

The foregoing resolution was duly carried on March 10, 2020.

**Resolution 20-24**

Motion was made by Carla Bauer and seconded by Matthew Tompkins to authorize Town Clerk Susan Hough to advertise for a Public Hearing on Wednesday, March 25, 2020 at 6:30pm for the purpose of reviewing Local Law #1 of 2020 - A Local Law Opting Out of the Tax Exemption Under Real Property Tax Law §487. A Special Meeting will directly follow this Public Hearing to review the Local Law #1 of 2020 and any other business that may come before the board.

ADOPTED Ayes 5 T. Yerdon, E. Yerdon, E. Webb, C. Bauer, M. Tompkins  
Nays 0

Supervisor Tanya Yerdon - the dehumidifier in the records room is broke, Mitch looked at it and we need a new one. CW C. Bauer - have you looked into Healthway? Supervisor Tanya Yerdon - No - they seem to be burning out every two years. CM M. Tompkins - maybe we need a bigger one. Supervisor Tanya Yerdon - the books are ready to be audited, the Judges Books need to be completed tonight.

**Resolution 20-25**

Motion was made by Carla Bauer and seconded by Matthew Tompkins to approve Judge - Dory Dumas's 2019 books.

ADOPTED Ayes 5 T. Yerdon, E. Yerdon, E. Webb, C. Bauer, M. Tompkins  
Nays 0

**REDFIELD SNOWMOBILE CLUB - EDWARD MONTIETH**

Ed - the Snowmobile Club would like to use the building to have a meeting on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. The Board agreed it would fine, Town Clerk will get a key to Ed.

The Assessor has received her laptop and the County has installed the program on it. Tanya talked to Betsy - as the Town Clerk received an email regarding the roll, Tanya texted Becky and she will contract Betsy tomorrow - Betsy told Tanya this is Becky's roll and she is responsible for it. Becky will be here Friday. CW E. Yerdon - was Becky happy with the laptop. Supervisor Tanya Yerdon - yes she was.

Motion was made by Erwin Webb seconded by Tanya Yerdon to adjourn the meeting at 9:06pm.

ADOPTED Ayes 5 T. Yerdon, E. Yerdon, E. Webb, C. Bauer, M. Tompkins  
Nays 0

The next Town of Redfield Town Board meeting will be held Tuesday, April 14, 2020 at 7:30pm.

March 10, 2020  
Susan Hough, Town Clerk

03/10/2020 pg. 7 of 7