

TOWN OF CHATHAM

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

- **COMMITTEE:** Citizen's Finance and Planning Committee
 - **MEETING CHAIR:** David Levow
 - **DATE:** 4-10-2020
 - **TIME:** 1:00 PM
 - **LOCATION:** Virtual meeting (due to state-wide stay-at-home order secondary to COVID pandemic)
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- **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** David Levow, Deborah Pierce, Donal Collins (Supervisor), Gabriella Sperry, Marley Mills, Maurice Bowerman, Tammy Shaw, John Breault
 - **COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:** Christie Ellis, Cody Anderson, Tim Briney
 - **OTHERS PRESENT:** N/A
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- **CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order at 1:05 PM by Chairman David Levow

- **APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES:** Approved unanimously

- **AGENDA/DISCUSSIONS:**

1. North Chatham Library

The North Chatham Library had requested an additional \$35,000 and had planned to present details of this request to the Town Board. This is now on hold due to the COVID pandemic and the State's subsequent stay-at-home order.

2. Electric car charging station

Tammy spoke with Kevin Weldon. The Town can begin to charge for use of the station as of the end of April. The Climate Smart Committee is working on getting information about the costs per month since it was installed. It is unknown how much it will cost to convert the system to one where users pay. Number of uses is not knowable, only total amount of electricity used.

3. AUD

Due 5/1/2020, Tammy is chasing down some outstanding information.

4. Pavilion Bond

Some of the original \$225,000 bond has been spent on the engineer. The Town Board has approved the Pavilion concrete be poured so that the fences can go in; any necessary plumbing or electrical work will also be done. This can be paid for either through the designated bond or from the reserve; Tammy will confirm this with the bond attorney. There is also \$166,000 set aside in

the capital reserve for Crellin; both this money and the bond money are for Crellin work only. Because of delays in other parts of the Crellin project, Tammy has requested and is awaiting information from the Bank of Green County regarding bond prepayment, repayment, etc.

5. Highway Department

Currently cannot access Highway Dept. bond monies until June, possibly longer due to COVID situation. Committee discussed trade in vs. sale of old grader without conclusion.

6. Projected revenues

Town Supervisor reported that the County is advising municipalities to expect an 11% decrease in tax revenues for the first quarter due to COVID. (2020 budget included \$72,500 in tax revenue). First quarter payment coming in this month.

7. Traffic Light at 295 and Albany Turnpike

Town Supervisor reported that the loan bid for the traffic light work came back very high – only one bid received, at 23% over the engineer’s estimate. Reason is unknown. Town wishes to re-seek bids, awaiting word from DOT on whether this is permissible. Current bid plus cost of bid analysis brings project cost to \$400,000. Town is expecting \$250,000 state and \$93,000 federal reimbursement for the project, but the state money is dependent upon state review after project completion.

Questions raised: (1) can the Town wait 1 to 2 years without risking reimbursement? (2) If the project is delayed, will the Town have any liability issues (there have been 3 previous accidents at that intersection since new bridge was completed)? (3) Is the Town’s insurance carrier aware of the situation? Tammy recommended running the questions by the Town attorney and insurance company.

The issue will be going up in front of the Town Board and they will decide how to move forward.

8. Miscellaneous issues

- Confirmed the Frisbee Golf Course at the Town Hall is not costing the Town any money.
- Summer camp may be cancelled because of COVID, decision needs to be made in a timely manner so parents can plan appropriately. It is possible that the State will issue guidelines or forbid summer camps altogether.
- Tammy reports that the Town mortgage tax revenue for the first quarter was the highest in the past 5 years.
- Fines and forfeitures income for the first quarter is down, primarily because driving is reduced due to COVID stay-at-home order.
- Enhanced Patrol is on hold.
- Marley will update grants search to include municipal reimbursement and small business grants due to COVID.
- Town Supervisor reports Congressman Delgato may be helping with agribusiness finances, he will discuss with the Agriculture Committee.
- Committee Chairman requests that if anyone on the Committee or the Town Board has ideas about how the Committee can be helpful to the Town Board to please let him know.

NEXT MEETING: May 15, 2020. 1 pm. Virtual meeting due to ongoing COVID issues.

ADJOURNMENT: 2:07 PM.

Respectfully Submitted By,

Marley Mills