

TOWN OF CHATHAM - COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

COMMITTEE: Finance and Planning Committee

MEETING CHAIR: David Levow

DATE: 1-19-21 **TIME:** 1:00 PM

LOCATION: Virtual meeting

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 1:03 PM by Chairman David Levow

2021 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP: David Levow (chair), Donal Collins (Supervisor), Tammy Shaw, John Breault, Tim Briney, Gabriella Sperry, Deborah Pierce, Maurice Bowerman

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: David Levow (chair), Donal Collins (Supervisor), Tammy Shaw, John Breault, Tim Briney, Gabriella Sperry

2021 MEETING DATES: second Friday of every month except October which is the 3rd Friday (Feb. 12, March 12, April 9, May 14, June 11, July 9, Aug. 13, Sept. 10, Oct. 15, Nov. 12, Dec. 10)

APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES: minutes of 12-11-20 approved unanimously

AGENDA/DISCUSSIONS:

Donal reviewed the preliminary 2020 results from our accounting firm. Awaiting final report after year-end adjustments made.

Broadband Committee – Donal reviewed meeting with Spectrum. Reviewed our map with them and they agreed to add coverage data to 3 areas we identified. Need to follow up after reasonable time.

LED conversion project – David reviewed status, meetings with NYPA, NYSEG and National Grid. David forwarded his analysis to the committee. Need to meet with NYPA to go over their computations.

Community Solar Development Subcommittee – John and Gabriella briefed the committee regarding community solar and the possibility of using town land for a solar installation. They indicated the town should develop a solar master plan and pass a solar law without which no solar company would be interested in coming into the town on a commercial basis.

Electric charging station – question raised about the revenue and expense from the EV charging station. Mostly expense, little revenue. Tammy will check with Kevin to get whatever information and data he may have and Donal will check with Ghent to see how much they charge.

Emergency Services and Parks and Recreation Review (David)

Fire Departments – temporarily on hold but will begin soon starting with Tri-Village Fire which accounts for 56% of total fire contracts in 2021.

Rescue Squads – temporarily on held. Chatham Rescue asked for more time to get the data we requested as they have been unusually busy due to end of year and Covid issues.

Parks – Tim will work on this. Look at all revenue and expenses. Think about how much we charge for the use of the facilities (soccer, baseball, etc.) and also Disc Golf which currently does not pay but maintains the golf course.

Recreation – David reviewed the report. Discussion about the philosophy of charging. Suggestion to have the Recreation Director submit a monthly timesheet.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT COMES BEFORE THE COMMITTEE AT THIS MEETING:

David raised a question about the difference between the 2021 tax increase shown on the adopted budget of 1.67% and the Town Tax Levy increase shown on the tax bills of 2.40%. Tammy will call the county on this.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS: none

NEXT MEETING: Friday, Feb. 12, 2021 at 1PM

ADJOURNMENT: 2:09 PM.

MINUTES PREPARED BY: David Levow