

May 18, 2020

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Clifton Park was held in the Town Office Building at 5:00 p.m. Supervisor Barrett presiding.

Present: Supervisor Barrett
Councilman Whalen via tele-communication
Councilwoman Standaert
Councilman Romano
Councilwoman Walowit
Town Clerk Brobston

Also Present: Deputy Town Attorney Morelli
John Scavo, Director of Planning
Scott Reese, Stormwater Management Technician

MOTION BY Councilman Romano, seconded by Councilwoman Walowit, to approve the minutes of the May 4 and May 11, 2020 meetings as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Whalen, Councilwoman Standaert, Councilman Romano
Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

MOTION CARRIED

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATION

Supervisor Barrett gave an update on the pandemic workforce mandate which was extended through May 28. He noted Transfer Station hours update. Golf courses and tennis courts are open. He explained summer camps will continue to be assessed and no decision made yet. Ideas are, close all the camps for the season or possibly open with different options that have been previously offered.

Supervisor Barrett thanked the volunteers and town staff for their efforts during this time.

Supervisor Barrett announced a 3rd food drive for this Wednesday, May 20 from 9am-3pm at the Clifton Park Senior Community Center on the Clifton Common. All food items will be donated to CAPTAIN. Also, another mask distribution to be announced.

Councilwoman Standaert thanked the volunteers and Ravenswood Restaurant for the 200 meals donated on Mother's Day.

Supervisor Barrett congratulated Gene Herold on his 90th birthday. He was a Highway employee for 50 years.

PUBLIC PRIVILEGE ON RESOLUTIONS

Town Clerk checked emails, no one wished to be heard.

Resolution No. 103 of 2020, a resolution declaring May 17-23, 2020 as EMS Week and recognizing the Clifton Park & Halfmoon Emergency Corps for their dedication to the health, safety, and wellbeing of the residents of Clifton Park.

Introduced by Supervisor Barrett, who moved its adoption, and seconded by the entire Town Board.

WHEREAS, in 1974, President Gerald Ford authorized EMS Week to celebrate Emergency Medical Services (EMS) practitioners and the important work they do in our nation's communities, and

WHEREAS, May 17-23, 2020, has been designated as the 46th Annual National EMS Week, and

WHEREAS, the theme of this year's National EMS Week is "Ready Today, Preparing for Tomorrow", and

WHEREAS, "Ready Today, Preparing for Tomorrow" reflects what individual EMS professionals and organizations do every day as they respond to calls for help at any time and in any place, and

WHEREAS, EMS professionals and organizations are living that creed every day in 2020 as they are on the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis, planning, adapting, and responding to take care of the residents of Clifton Park and the greater community, and

WHEREAS, EMS professionals and organizations continue to rally to support those affected by the COVID-19 crisis, while still responding to the everyday emergencies that occur in our community, and

WHEREAS, the Clifton Park & Halfmoon Emergency Corps serves more than eighty square miles responding to almost 7,000 calls a year, and

WHEREAS, the Clifton Park & Halfmoon Emergency Corps is now comprised of nearly 90 members made up of paramedics, EMTs, volunteers, and administrative staff operating nine ambulances and two rapid response vehicles 24 hours a day, every day of the year, and

WHEREAS, as part of its vision, "Excellence in Service to All", the Clifton Park & Halfmoon Emergency Corps maintains the highest standards of medical care, providing all levels of EMS care in any type of situation, treating patients both on-site and while in route to area hospitals, and

WHEREAS, National EMS Week brings together local communities and medical personnel to honor the dedication of those who provide the day-to-day lifesaving services of medicine's "front line"; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Clifton Park Town Board hereby declares May 17-23, 2020 to be EMS Week in the Town of Clifton Park; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clifton Park Town Board hereby recognizes the Clifton Park & Halfmoon Emergency Corps for their contributions in keeping Clifton Park a safe and healthy community.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Whalen, Councilwoman Standaert, Councilman Romano, Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 104 of 2020, a resolution authorizing the Supervisor to execute necessary documents and agreements to permit construction of a portion of the Champlain Hudson Power Express Project proposed by Transmission Developers, Inc.

Introduced by Councilwoman Standaert, who moved its adoption, and seconded by Councilwoman Walowit.

WHEREAS, Champlain Hudson Power Express, Inc. (including its successors and/or assigns, "CHPEI") is developing the Champlain Hudson Power Express Project (the "Project"), an approximately 1,000 megawatt underground and underwater high voltage, direct current electric transmission facility extending from the United States' border with Canada to Queens, New York, and

WHEREAS, the New York State Public Service Commission (the “PSC”) has ruled that the Project will supply clean, renewable hydroelectricity to New York State and has issued a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need authorizing the construction and operation of the Project (including any amendments thereto, the “Certificate”), and

WHEREAS, CHPEI has discussed the Project extensively with the Town of Clifton Park (the “Municipality”), as a portion of the Project will be located within the Municipality and will occupy certain privately and/or publicly owned land, and

WHEREAS, the Project will provide significant economic and environmental benefits to New York State and the Municipality in the form of lower electric rates, a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and increased jobs, including local jobs during the Project’s construction, and

WHEREAS, the Project will provide significant tax (or payment in lieu of tax) revenue to the Town of Clifton Park, County of Saratoga, and School District of Shenendehowa Central Schools during its expected 40-60-year operating life, and

WHEREAS, prior to construction within the Municipality, CHPEI will require a Road Crossing Agreement with the Municipality that will include, at a minimum, construction responsibilities and plans, restoration and repair of damage, dispute resolution, bonding, insurance, and indemnification provisions, and

WHEREAS, once the Project commences operation, it is not expected to require any services from the Municipality; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED,

1. That the Town Board (the “Board”) is fully familiar with and supportive of the Project, including the use and occupancy of privately and/or publicly owned land in the Municipality.
2. That the Board hereby grants its consent to CHPEI, in accordance with Section 11(3) of the New York State Transportation Corporations Law, to lay down, construct and maintain its wires, conductors, conduits and other fixtures in and under the streets, avenues, public parks and all other publicly-owned places in the Municipality in accordance with the provisions of the certificate.
3. That the Board commits the Municipality to the taking of such further actions, if and when reasonably requested by CHPEI and consistent with applicable law, as may facilitate the successful achievement of the Project, including, without limitation, executing a Crossing Agreement substantially in the form annexed hereto.
4. That the Supervisor is hereby authorized and directed to take all appropriate measures to implement the intent of this resolution and the Town Clerk is hereby directed to forward a certified copy hereof to CHPEI at the Pieter Schuyler Building, 600 Broadway, Albany, NY, 12207.
5. That the Board approves the inclusion of a copy of this resolution as a part of any filing made by CHPEI with any governmental bodies when and as required or requested by the same and the use of this resolution in public statements made by CHPEI regarding host community support for the Project.
6. That this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Planning Director John Scavo explained this is a three-billion-dollar public infrastructure project spanning 333 miles from Canada to NYC. Underground electric transmission lines will provide a dedicated source which will ensure its electric suppliers can purchase green energy sources for the state to meet its green energy goals. In Clifton Park the transmission line will run along the railroad lines and within 2 crossings at Blue Barnes and Rustic Bridge Roads. Necessary permits, requirements and bonding will be obtained to restore the conditions back to their original condition. Construction is anticipated to start in 2021.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Whalen, Councilwoman Standaert, Councilman Romano, Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. of 105 2020, a resolution granting a drainage easement through town-owned land to the residence at 21 Lincoln Avenue in Presidential Estates for purposes of managing stormwater runoff.

Introduced by Councilman Romano, who moved its adoption, and seconded by Councilwoman Standaert.

WHEREAS, David Sherman, resident of 21 Lincoln Avenue, has request permission to install stormwater drainage in his backyard to be connected to Recharge Basin B on the lands of the Town of Clifton Park, located east of his property at 25 Lincoln Avenue, and

WHEREAS, Stormwater Technician Scott Reese has verified that there are flooding issues on this property, and advises the granting of the drainage easement for efficient stormwater maintenance, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board supports environmentally effective stormwater management solutions and the direction of stormwater into publicly maintained infrastructure where available; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is authorized to convey the attached drainage easement allowing access to the town-owned facilities.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Whalen, Councilwoman Standaert, Councilman Romano, Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Resolution No. 106 of 2020, a resolution seeking to purchase 78,500 masks to allow greater movement throughout the community as we prepare to reopen the economy in the Capital Region.

Introduced by Councilwoman Walowit, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Standaert.

WHEREAS, on March 7, 2020, Governor Andrew Cuomo declared a State Disaster Emergency due to the outbreak and community contact transmission of the novel coronavirus known as COVID-19, and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, Supervisor Barrett declared a State of Emergency in Clifton Park, which has been subsequently extended until June 7, 2020, and

WHEREAS, the town has dispensed thousands of masks from various sources, and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 202 allows for the procurement of personal protective equipment (PPE) on an emergency basis to facilitate the safe and secure reopening of the economy of the Capital Region in upstate New York, and

WHEREAS, Supervisor Barrett recommends the purchase of an additional 78,500 masks for 41 cents each, for a total of \$32,185 from HT Materials Corporation, Rensselaer, NY, to be delivered May 21, 2020, and

WHEREAS, the masks will be used for the protection of town employees, volunteers working to assist fellow residents and for public distribution; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board accepts the quote of HT Materials Corp., 5 University Place D203, Rensselaer, NY, for the purchase of a 78,500 facemasks in an amount not to exceed \$32,185, to be paid with a transfer of funds from undesignated fund balance to A-4010-15 (Health Services – Other Contractual).

Supervisor Barrett explained NYS mandates masks to be worn. The demand for masks continues to grow. Masks will be distributed to employees, seniors riding the Senior Van, residents, and businesses. Distribution date to be announced. The expense will be reimbursed through FEMA.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Councilman Whalen, Councilwoman Standaert, Councilman Romano, Councilwoman Walowit, Supervisor Barrett

Noes: None

DECLARED ADOPTED

Supervisor Barrett announced there are 3 county public works projects on delay. The Ashdown Bridge, paving of Main Street in Jonesville, and a signal at the corner of Grooms & Vischer Ferry Road. Supervisor stated he offered the town to loan the money to the county for 2 of the projects. No decision was made at the time.

PUBLIC PRIVILEGE

Town Clerk checked emails, and no one wished to be heard.

MOTION BY Councilwoman Walowit, seconded by Councilwoman Standaert, to adjourn the meeting to the next regular meeting or any other meeting necessary for the conduct of town business.

Motion carried at 6:02 p.m.

Teresa Brobston
Town Clerk