

The Regular meeting along with a Public Hearing of the Sidney Town Board was called to order by the Eric Wilson Town Supervisor at 7:00 p.m. May 9, 2024, in the boardroom at 44 Grand Street, Sidney. Prior to the meeting, bills were audited by the Board.

Present were:

Eric Wilson	Supervisor
Codey Lambrecht	Highway Superintendent
Bill Heath	Councilman
Kevin Greene	Councilman
Frank Selleck	Councilman
Paul Muratore	Absent
Joseph A. Ermeti	Attorney
Sheila R Paul	Clerk / Zoom

SPEAKERS:

Teri Schunk President to the Sidney Chamber of Commerce and Leader of 4 Towns Forward, address the board and residents giving information on 4 Town Forward. 4 Town Forward is made up of Afton, Bainbridge, Sidney, and Unadilla to improve all of the community to work together to bring people to the towns. 4 Town Forward doesn't receive any monetary support from taxpayers, they rely on Grants. They have recently received a \$ 45,000 Grant to provide free music on Main Street in Sidney during the months of July and August from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. a previous grant that was received was used to help build the community center in Bainbridge. 4 Town Forward also received a \$ 50,000 grant to do a feasibility study. 4 Town Forward plans to use this information to be able to apply for more grants. The group also has a subcommittee trying to address homelessness in the four towns as well as the lack of available housing. 4 Town Forward has a major event coming up this summer, which is the Southern Tier Music Festival that is held at the Sidney Municipal Airport on July 6th, 2024, and there are only 4,000 tickets available. Dr. William Roche is coordinating for volunteers for the festival, and they need to 20-40 more volunteers. 4 Town Forward meet on the fourth Tuesday at 8:00 a.m. At Bob's Diner in Bainbridge.

Sidney Mayor and Town Planning Board Chairman Ray Baker and Director of the Delaware County Planning Department Shelly Johnson-Bennett came to discuss grants written for the Village of Sidney that addresses flooding issues and to request the Town for help. Mayor Baker stated that phase one of the project is completed, which was the installation of the storm water systems under the sidewalks, that project was to address the storm water runoff and flooding results from impervious surfaces on Main Street. Major Baker also stated that they have received a lot of complaints about the bump out, but because of the width of Sidney Village Main Street the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) requested the bump outs for the Village to obtain the monies. Phase Two of the project involves installing six 10 x12 foot culverts between River Street and Route 7, the project will be paid for with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds the \$ 2-3 million need to be paid upfront and village will be reimbursed later. Since the Village did not have the ability to pay the \$ 2-3 millions upfront, Delaware County agreed to pay until the Village is reimbursed with the FEMA monies.

Phase three project is entails creating walking trails, ball fields and a possibly an amphitheater for the events for the Community, these would be in the culvert areas and be a good use for the open spaces and bring attractions to Sidney stated Shelly Johnson-Bennett Director of the Delaware County Planning Department. Plans for the spaces have already been drawn up. This phase would be paid with FEMA funds, but the village cannot come up with the \$ 700,000 needed on their own, so Mayor Baker is asking the Town for assistance. Mayor Baker is hoping the Town will provide the \$ 700,000 needed as he doesn't want to leave the money on the table as the idea isn't to lose the grant as if they give the money back, it would be more difficult to get other grants with the state. Shelly Johnson-Bennett stated the Town and Village are on community and should work together to improve Sidney. Town Supervisor Wilson stated that he is in favor of trying to help the Village. For phase three to move forward will be to hold a conference call between Mayor Baker, Supervisor Wilson, and Shelley Johnson-Bennett Director of Delaware Planning Department to have a discussion on transferring the grant to the Town, once they hold the conference call and look into more details of the projects, the Town, Village, and county will need to sign an agreement.

PUBLIC HEARING: Public hearing was called, and it was regarding the application that the town was applying for the Empire State Development for financial assistance under the Retore NY Communities Initiative. The program provides financial assistance to communities to help revitalize commercial and residential properties. Projects proposed in the application are improvement and repairs to the hospital. Residents that attended meeting did not have any input, so Supervisor Wilson closed the public meeting.

Supervisor Wilson called the regular board meeting:

APPROVE TOWN BOARD MINUTES: Regular Meeting held on April 11, 2024, Motion to accepted minutes, by Mr. Muratore seconded by Mr. Wilson and carried. **AYES:** F. Selleck, B. Heath, K. Greene. **NAYES:** None

APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS:

General A Fund Voucher: 24-156 thru 24-176 in the amount of \$ 12,954.70 Motion by Mr. Greene seconded by Mr. Heath and carried. **AYES:** E. Wilson, F. Selleck. **NAYES:** None

East Sidney Lake Voucher: 24-12 thru 24-19 in the amount of \$ 6,93.40 Motion by Mr. Selleck seconded by Mr. Heath and carried. **AYES:** E. Wilson, K. Greene **NAYES:** None

SL Sidney Center Street Light: 24-5 in the amount of \$ 331.61 Motion by Mr. Heath, seconded by Mr. Greene, and carried. **AYES:** E. Wilson, F. Selleck. **NAYES:** None

Total General Vouchers: \$ 20, 269.71

Highway DA Fund Vouchers: 24-56 thru 24-69 in the amount of \$ 22,567.66 Motion by Mr. Selleck seconded by Mr. Heath and carried. **AYES:** E. Wilson, K. Greene, **NAYES:** None

Highway DB Fund Vouchers: 24-6 thru 24-78 in the amount of \$ 129,119.31 Motion by Mr. Heath and seconded by Mr. Selleck and carried. **AYES:** E. Wilson, K. Greene **NAYES:** None

Total Highway Vouchers: \$ 192,956.18

CM Hospital Fund Vouchers: 24- 73thru 24-90 in the amount of \$ 20,999.50 Motion by Mr. Wilson seconded by Mr. Heath and carried. **AYES:** F. Selleck, K. Greene **NAYES:** None.

Total Vouchers paid: \$ 192,956.18

CORRESPONDENCE:

Councilman Selleck received the following email from councilman Muratore and asked him to read it, as he wasn't able to attend the meeting due to a family emergency.

The Restore New York grant is typically aimed at revitalizing communities by supporting the demolition, deconstruction, rehabilitation, or reconstruction of vacant, abandoned, or blighted building. However, it is generally intended for structures that are not currently in use and require significant work to bring them back to life.

In the case of an operational hospital, which is currently in use, it's unlikely that the grant would be applicable specifically for roof repairs. There may be other local or state funding sources that could provide assistance for maintenance and repairs to operational healthcare facilities.

Councilman Selleck received a letter from the American Legion asking for help in replacing flag holders (Grand Army of the Republic) The letter indicated that there has been a lot theft with the flag holders from the Prospect Hill Cemetery, about 50 have been missing and they are asking the town to help replace and the cost is \$ 648.36. Supervisor Wilson stated that the board can not use taxes dollars as they would not be able do the same for other organizations.

Town Attorney Joseph Ermeti suggested that he and Supervisor Wilson would personally split the cost. Supervisor Wilson agreed.

REPORTS/DISTRIBUTED:

Monthly reports of Supervisor, Bookkeeper and Town Clerk. Clerk is submitting checks totaling in \$2,230.00 fees collected during April 2024.

REPORTS/ORAL

HIGHWAY- Highway Superintendent Codey Lambrecht: Crew has been helping Unadilla paving the last couple of days. Suit-Kote will do our paving as they were the lowest most responsible bidder for what is planned for the year. The tentative paving date is June 24th.

Rent a lift to help with taking down larger trees on our roads.

We are pretty good shape and will be ready to pave our roads at the end of June.

Received our CHIPS funding, there was no increase as hoped for, but not less. But will be figuring out to see if all the work can be done that is planned with the funds, if not, will need to move some of the work out to next year.

Spring clean-up days are going well. Received a lot electronic and tires.

Discussion was had regarding fuel bids and Mirabito bid for propane was lower, and neither company actually bid on gasoline, so there was a Motion was made by Mr. Wilson to give Mirabito Fuel the propane and gasoline bid and Blueox will have the Fuel oil bid and it was seconded by Mr. Selleck and carried. **AYES:** B. Heath, K. Greene. **NAYES:** None

SUPERVISOR- Eric Wilson:

BOOKKEEPER- Karen Kropp: Nothing

TOWN CLERK- Sheila Paul: 2024 taxes are done and closing the books with the County on Wednesday May15, 2024. Will give full report of unpaid taxes and correction in June 2024.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Highway-Selleck & Wilson: Mr. Selleck Preparing Dunshee Rd for paving.

Hospital- Muratore/ Wilson: There has been work on some compliance issues, especially in regard to fire safety. The quote from Johnson Controls came in much lower than expected. They have had two companies come out and look at the roof and will be getting quotes. Also, there are about 25 to 30 old copiers that have not been in used for over 20 years. A motion was made by Mr. Wilson to destroy the copies and seconded Mr. Selleck and carried. **AYES:** B. Heath, K. Greene. **NAYES:** none.

Insurance-Heath / Greene: Spoke with W. VanGorder the Towns insurance rep about covering the Sidney Center park and that Mr. VanGorder stated that the park has always been covered, but if the Town wants the equipment covered, he needs the value of the equipment. (Action item)

Zoning & Planning- Muratore/ Selleck: Sidney Planning Board has requested to have the Delaware County Planning Board review and update the Sidney Comprehensive plan which hasn't been updated since 2002. The cost for the plan is \$ 1,500.00. Mr. Selleck motion to approve the Delaware County Planning Board to review and update the Comprehensive Plan and it was seconded by Mr. Wilson and carried. **AYES:** : B. Heath, K. Greene. **NAYES:** none.

East Sidney Lake- Heath/ Selleck: Nolan park management reported that the Union Members and volunteers were a huge help in getting the park ready for the season. New fence was installed, updated the internet, and took down some trees. He wanted to thank Hwy Superintendent Lambrecht for the highway department for sweeping the roads and parking lot. 75% campers of the campers have moved in. The playground is in the works, and he will be moving forward in purchasing a new mower.

Finance-Muratore/ Wilson: Looking into two new short-term investments for the Town with fairly high yield. Will provide the board with numbers once the information is available. (Action item)

IT- Wilson/ Muratore: Nolan park manager stated that there is an upgrade of the Wi-Fi.

Justice: Greene/ Heath: Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION # 5-2024:

RESOLUTION # 5-2024 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council hereby supports and will sponsor an application for Restore NY funding for the Tri-Town Hospital Building, 43 Pearl St. and will administer the grant in accordance with all applicable rules and regulations established by ESDC, and**

A motion was made by Supervisor Wilson seconded by Councilman Greene to approve moving forward with Restore NY.

May 9, 2024
Sidney, New York
Ayes: B. Heath
Abstained: F. Selleck
Motion was carried.

“ WHEREAS the **Town of Sidney** is eligible for grant funding under Round [8] of the Restore NY Communities Initiative Municipal Grant Program, and

WHEREAS the Town Council has considered proposals that qualify for funding under the program and selected one project to be included in an application that will be submitted to Empire State Development Corporation (ESDC) as follows: Redevelopment of Tri-Town Hospital Building, 43 Pearl St. The project consists of reroofing the entirety of all roof facets, HVAC renovation and asbestos abatement.

WHEREAS this project is consistent with all existing local plans, the proposed financing is appropriate for the project, the project will facilitate effective and efficient use of existing and future public resources so as to promote both economic development and preservation of community resources and the project develops and enhances infrastructure and/or other facilities in a manner that will attract, create, and sustain employment opportunities in **The Town of Sidney**.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council hereby supports and will sponsor an application for Restore NY funding for the Tri-Town Hospital Building, 43 Pearl St. and will administer the grant in accordance with all applicable rules and regulations established by ESDC, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Supervisor or designated Council Member is authorized to sign the applications and any agreements required by ESDC for grant funding that results from the application.

I, Sheila R Paul, Town Clerk of the Town of Sidney, Delaware County, New York, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that I have compared the preceding resolution with the original thereof filed in my office at Sidney, New York on the 9th day of May 2024 and adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Sidney, Delaware County, New York, on the 9th day of May 2024 and that the same is a true and correct copy of the said original and of the whole thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the said Town of Sidney this 15th day of May 2024

Sheila R. Paul
Town Clerk – Town of Sidney

A motion was made by Supervisor Wilson and Seconded by Councilman Greene to pay the fee of 500.00 carried with an AYES: Councilman Heath. Councilman Selleck abstained from vote.

A motion was made by Supervisor Wilson and seconded by councilman Greene to submit the letter of that the Town will pay their 10 % portion of the grant, the motion was carried with AYE: Councilman Heath. Councilman Selleck abstained from the vote.

Councilman Selleck stated that he abstained from the votes, as he thought the whole board should be present before moving forward. Greene stated that the deadline of the grant is May 22, 2024, and it was feasible to wait for the entire board to be present. .

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

SILENT MOMENT OF REFLECTION/PRAYER

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Adjourn:

At 8:46 p.m. Mr. Wilson motioned to adjourn meeting and seconded by Mr. Heath and carried. **AYES:** F. Selleck, K. Greene, P. Muratore. **NAYES:** None

Next Regular Board Meeting will be on June 13th at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila R Paul, Town Clerk