

MINUTES

Public Hearing & Regular Town Council Meeting, Town of Massena

Date/Time: Wednesday October 21, 2020 at 5:30 PM

Location: Massena Town Hall

ATTENDANCE:

MEMBER	PRESENT	ABSENT
Supervisor Steve O'Shaughnessy	X	
Councilman Albert Nicola	X	
Councilman Robert Elsner	X	
Councilman Samuel Carbone, Jr.	X	
Councilwoman Susan Bellor	X	

ALSO PRESENT:

Jeannine Brouse, Town Clerk; Brenda Mossow, Secretary/Bookkeeper; James Murphy, BDC; Donald Meissner; Frank Diagostino, Highway and Airport Supervisor, Vernon Brand, Assessor, Members of the Press and Public

The Supervisor opened the meeting with the **Pledge of Allegiance**.
Called to order at 5:58 PM

The Supervisor continued the meeting with a **15-Minute Public Comment Period**.

Public Hearing #1 Called to order at 5:40 PM, Closed Public Hearing at 5:55 PM

- **Hearing #1:** Section 467 of the Real Property Tax Law (RPTL) authorizes the Town to enact a local law, ordinance or resolution granting a 50% tax exemption on real property owned by persons 65 years of age or over who meet the statutory qualifications. The Town of Massena is considering raising the maximum annual income eligibility level of qualified senior citizens to receive a property tax exemption on qualified real property from \$21,000.00 to \$29,000.00

A member of the public asked clarification of the \$21,000 and \$29,000.

Public Hearing #2 Called to order at 5:55 PM, Closed Public Hearing at 5:58 PM

- **Hearing #2** Section 459-c of the Real Property Tax Law authorizes the Town to enact a local law, ordinance or resolution granting a 50% tax exemption on real property owned by persons with disabilities and limited incomes who meet the statutory qualifications. The Town of Massena is considering raising the maximum annual income eligibility level of qualified persons having disabilities and limited incomes to receive a property tax exemption on qualified real property from \$21,000.00 to \$29,000.00

Mr. Brand clarified that a property owner could not receive both the Aged and the Disability/Limited Income exemption. A property owner can receive one of these exemptions plus the Enhanced Star.

Announcements / Notifications Councilwoman Bellor made the motion to have Nancy Fregoe fill the vacant seat on the Massena Rescue Squad Board. She will replace Lenore Levine who resigned.

Presentations / Discussions

Don Meissner gave an update on The Big Bass Blow Out. He thanked everyone who worked so hard to get it all together. Councilman Carbone also gave his thanks to all who helped make it possible. They were very pleased that so many family members took part in the Derby.

Gina Kearns from the Blue Spruce Motel inquired about the status of a Welcome to Massena Sign on Highway 37. It was explained to her that at this time there is no money in the budget for this. The estimated cost would run around \$60,000.00. She also questioned why she is paying Demand Charges on her Electric Bill. She stated that clients from out of state that stay in her Hotel don't have this charge. She was concerned that she was being charged this due to the fact that she is a business owner. Steve stated that this was not true and that Electric

Charges are the same for everyone.

Resolutions:

- **Agenda Item: Resolution Increasing Income Limit for Senior Exemption**
- **Agenda Item: Resolution Increasing Income Limit for Disability / Limited Income Exemption**
The Town Supervisor removed these two proposed resolutions from the agenda, citing the need for additional information. No discussion held. No vote taken to “Table” them.

Resolution 151 - 2020					
Appointing Nancy Fregoe to the Rescue Squad Board of Managers to fill the unexpired term of Lenore Levine. Said term to run from 10/21/2020 – 12/31/2021.					
Motion by:	Councilwoman Bellor	Vote:			
Second by:	Councilman Carbone	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
	Steve O’Shaughnessy	X			
	Albert Nicola	X			
	Susan Bellor	X			
	Samuel Carbone, Jr.	X			
	Robert Elsner	X			
Motion is Carried.					

Resolution 152 - 2020					
Approval of Minutes for September 16, September 18, September 30, October 7, October 14, 2020.					
Motion by:	Councilman Nicola	Vote:			
Second by:	Councilman Carbone	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
	Steve O’Shaughnessy	X			
	Albert Nicola	X			
	Susan Bellor	X			
	Samuel Carbone, Jr.	X			
	Robert Elsner	X			
Motion is Carried.					

Resolution # 153 - 2020					
Authorizing the Town Supervisor to sign the contract with C&S for Massena International Airport for Taxi C Rehabilitation for Construction Observation & Administration. FAA AIP NO. 3-36-0054-89-20					
Motion by:	Councilman Nicola	Vote:			
Second by:	Councilman Carbone	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
	Steve O’Shaughnessy	X			
	Albert Nicola	X			
	Susan Bellor	X			
	Samuel Carbone, Jr.	X			
	Robert Elsner	X			
Motion is Carried.					

Resolution # 154 - 2020				
Authorizing the Town Supervisor to sign the Contract with C&S for Massena International Airport Pavement Management System. FAA AIP NO. 3-36-0054-86-20				
Motion by:	Councilwoman Bellor	Vote:		
Second by:	Councilman Carbone	Aye	Nay	Abstain
	Steve O'Shaughnessy	X		
	Albert Nicola	X		
	Susan Bellor	X		
	Samuel Carbone, Jr.	X		
	Robert Elsner	X		
Motion is Carried.				

Resolution # 155 - 2020				
Authorizing the Town Supervisor to sign the 2020-2022 Plowing Contract for the Rescue Squad with Vincent Vari Snowplowing at a rate of \$2,500.00 per season and as outlined within the contract.				
Motion by:	Councilman Carbone	Vote:		
Second by:	Councilman Nicola	Aye	Nay	Abstain
	Steve O'Shaughnessy	X		
	Albert Nicola	X		
	Susan Bellor	X		
	Samuel Carbone, Jr.	X		
	Robert Elsner	X		
Motion is Carried.				

Resolution # 156 - 2020				
Accepting the bid for the purchase of a new Snow Plow for pickup #10 from Frenchie's Chevrolet in the amount not to exceed \$5,500.00.				
Motion by:	Councilwoman Nicola	Vote:		
Second by:	Councilman Carbone	Aye	Nay	Abstain
	Steve O'Shaughnessy	X		
	Albert Nicola	X		
	Susan Bellor	X		
	Samuel Carbone, Jr.	X		
	Robert Elsner	X		
Motion is Carried.				

Resolution # 157 - 2020				
BUDGET & CASH TRANSFERS AND AMENDMENTS				
CASH TRANSFERS:				
<p>TRANSFER \$10,226.42 from NBT Bank A/C#****9438 Town of Massena - MMH Retirees Health Insurance Account to NBT Bank A/C#****8489 – Town of Massena General Fund (This transfer will cover the employer and employee share of the St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce – Health Plan for the hospital retirees for November 2020.)</p>				
<p>TRANSFER \$1,500.00 from NBT Bank A/C#****8489 Town of Massena General Fund to NBT A/C#****2081 Pre-Medicare retiree Richard LaChance. (This transfer will allow for a portion of the Town's share of insurance deductibles deposited as needed.)</p>				
<p>TRANSFER \$1,000.00 from NBT Bank A/C#****8489 Town of Massena General Fund to NBT A/C#****9842 Pre-Medicare retiree Donald LaBaff (This transfer will allow for a portion of the Town's share of insurance deductibles deposited as needed.)</p>				
<p>TRANSFER \$142,317.95 from Town of Massena-Rescue Squad Billing A/C#****5913 to Town of Massena</p>				

General A/C#****8489 at NBT Bank (This transfer will reimburse the Town of Massena for Rescue Squad Expenses for the 3rd Qtr 2020.)

BUDGET TRANSFERS:

TRANSFER \$5,357.47 from Contingent Account A/C# A.1990.000 to the following:

Justices.Contractual	A/C# A.1220.100	\$990.69
Supervisor Contractual	A/C# A.1220.400	\$22.23
Town Hall.Bldg. Personal Service	A/C# A.1620.200	\$4,344.55

(This transfer will cover the over-runs in this general ledger accounts.)

TRANSFER \$35,519.78 from Airport Contractual A/C# A.5610.400 to the following:

Airport Contractual. Communications & Utilities A/C# A.5610.400.0401	\$4,614.58
Airport Contractual. Supplies & Materials A/C# A.5610.400.0402	\$3,476.81
Airport. Contractual. Contractual Services A/C# A.5610.400.0403	\$4,423.00
Airport. Contractual ARFF A/C# A.5610.400.0406	\$2,634.03
Airport Contractual. Repairs & Maintenance A/C# A.5610.400.0407	\$3,834.59
Airport Contractual. Fuel – Jet A A/C# A.5610.400.0408	\$15,955.14
Airport Contractual. Sales Tax A/C# A.5610.400.0410	\$581.63

(These transfers will cover the over-runs in these general ledger’s accounts.)

TRANSFER \$26,827.01 from NYS Chips. Contractual to the following:

General Repairs. Personal Service A/C# DB.5110.100	\$25,223.76
Social Security A/C# DB.9030.800	\$1,299.42
Medicare A/C# DB.9035.800	\$303.83

(These transfers will cover the over-runs in these general ledger’s accounts.)

TRANSFER \$1,874.29 from Library Personal. Service A/C# L.7410.100 to Brasher Library Personal Service A/C#L.7410.100.7411 (This transfer will cover the over-run in this general ledger account.)

TRANSFER \$1,418.87 from Library Books and Periodicals A/C# L.7410.410 to Library Books and Periodicals Massena Library A/C# L.7410.410.7410 (This transfer will cover the over-run in this general ledger account.)

TRANSFER \$4,935.75 from Library Maintenance A/C# L.7410.420 to Library Maintenance Massena Library A/C# L.7410.420.7410 (This transfer will cover the over-run in this general ledger account.)

TRANSFER \$618.53 from Library Supplies A/C# L.7410.440 to Library Supplies Massena Library A/C# L.7410.440.7410 (This transfer will cover the over-run in this general ledger account.)

TRANSFER \$3,088.90 from Library Brasher Branch Expenditures A/C# L.7410.460 to Brasher Library Expenditures A/C# L.7410.460.7411 (This transfer will cover the over-run in this general ledger account.)

REQUEST PERMISSION TO OPEN A NEW CHECKING ACCOUNT at Community Bank A/C#****2081 Fence Improvements and Stabilization (Const) for a new grant at the Massena Airport.

Motion by:	Councilman Nicola	Vote:			
Second by:	Councilman Carbone	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
	Steve O’Shaughnessy	X			
	Albert Nicola	X			
	Susan Bellor	X			
	Samuel Carbone, Jr.	X			
	Robert Elsner	X			
Motion is Carried.					

WARRANT #10						
FUND	DESCRIPTION					AMOUNT
A	GENERAL					\$180,099.34
B	GENERAL OUTSIDE					1,652.56
DA	HIGHWAY					35,328.47
DB	HIGHWAY OUTSIDE					33,134.02
HFI	T HALL FAÇADE & HWY GARAGE & LIBR LIFT					34,000.00
HTA	TERMINAL APRON REHAB DESIGN					10,000.00
L	LIBRARY					25,438.28
SSM	SOUTH MAIN STREET SEWER					131.48
SWA	E MASSENA CONSOLIDATED WATER DISTRICT					2,908.83
TOTAL						\$322,692.98
WARRANT #10 CHECK #S 47599 - 47679						\$188,803.16
MANUAL CHECKS						133,889.82
TOTAL						\$322,692.98
Motion by: Councilwoman Bellor		Vote:				
Second by: Councilman Elsner		Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	
Steve O'Shaughnessy		X				
Albert Nicola		X				
Susan Bellor		X				
Samuel Carbone, Jr.		X				
Robert Elsner		X				
Motion is Carried.						

Committee Reports:

Report Submitted by Frank Diagostino:

Highway Department
 Mowed Roadsides (Finished on Oct. 5, 2020)
 Repaired hydraulic leaks on dozer (Replaced 4 hard lines)
 Unit #15 universal joint failed on electric clutch for hydraulic pump damaging the shaft and electric clutch (Install new universal joint, shaft and electric clutch.
 Repaired batwing mower for roadsides, rear wheel on main body failed (Replaced Bearing).
 Completed sand haul for 2020/2021 winter. Hauled 176 loads 2525 yards for the Highway and 20 loads 300 yards for the Airport.
 Finished installing new internet cable at The Massena Airport. Installed 3000ft of cable.
 Finished installing roof on field house garage.
 Repaired power steering leak on unit #50.
 Serviced all plow trucks, replaced wing cables, installed spinners, tightened and greased conveyor chains.
 Prep all plow trucks for NYS Inspection.
 Installed cutting edges, cover plated and plow shoes and front and wing plows.
 Repaired to washouts on cross culvert pipes on the Rooseveltown Road.
 Repaired waterline damage on N. Racquette and Haverstock Roads (3 total).

Massena Airport
 Boutique Air numbers for September 2020. Enplaned 198, Deplaned 226, Total 424. Cancelled for weather 0, cancelled other 8, Total cancelled flights 8.
 August 2020 landings for Boutique Air at The Massena Airport 89.
 Parking lot preconstruction meeting on September 18, 2020.

Parking lot expansion project completed October 9, 2020.
 Preconstruction meeting with C&S and New York State Fence, INC. on October 9, 2020
 Received new ARFF truck the week of September 21,2020. Oshkosh here the week of October 5, 2020 for setup and operation and training on the new ARFF Truck.
 Worked with S&L Electric to replace the pump in the lift station for septic tank system for the Terminal Building.
 Replaced left rear leaf spring on Airport plow truck #55.
 FAA has scheduled the Airport Inspection for October 27 & 28, 2020.
 Serviced plow and pickup trucks for NYS Inspection.
 Installed new cutting edges and cover plated on front plows.
 Met with Mark Cestari from Southern Airways on October7, 2020. They will be bidding on EAS services for the Massena Airport.
 Sent information to Andrew Bonney from Cape Air, they will be bidding on the EAS services for the Massena Airport.

Report Submitted by Susan Bellor

1. **Rescue Squad:**
 The board met via zoom on Wednesday October 14th. Bills have been submitted to Town with September bills totaling \$ 34, 362. 70. Members accumulated 1843 hours of donated service. Calls were reported for advanced life and basic life support with or without transport totaling 206, and 1260 for the year, with transported calls are up by 31 compared to 2019. Calls to other hospitals showed 11.0 % to cph. The monthly board meeting took place after the budget session with town council. Chair Roger asked about getting a new member to the board to fill one recently open.

2. **Library:**
 The library board met on October 13th by ZOOM. Monthly business agenda items were completed as usual. After a limited reopening, the public is doing well to follow guidelines in wearing masks, wearing provided gloves when touching books and materials; curbside pickup has been busy; Director Elaine has plans to reach out to the St. Regis to drop off books; has been collaboratively working with TAUNY on a barn quilt project; has a virtual story time - well received; and is planning on a postcard mailing to reach out to regular patrons who have not been in; and working on a home delivery process. It was noted that the regular maintenance person has had salary transferred from the L Fund to the town hall's A fund but will still clean the library. They plan to attend the budget session on October 14th but did already submit a budget reflecting cut backs. The next scheduled meeting is November 10th

3. **The Chamber of Commerce met Thursday October 15th via zoom.**
 The Chamber is ACTIVE! Please have people contact the Chamber through the Facebook page. It is looked at frequently. Concerts in the Mall are going well. There have been three so far; Ten Cent Green, The Girls and Miss Angie's Music. About 30 people have been at each. There are three more scheduled on Thursday nights; Playback, Easy Street and Northbound. The Chamber will be making popcorn to hand out for free. They'd like to try to organize a job fair to connect businesses looking for employees with community members looking for work. The Chamber will hold a ribbon cutting this Friday 1pm at Eyland's Restaurant at the Quality Inn in Massena.

4. **The Business Development Council:**
 Exec. Director Jim Murphy met with me (Sue Bellor) and Bob Elsner to work on the strategic plan which specifically on the public engagement process; to determine the role of the public, identify key stakeholders, and to identify issues and concerns. Names were provided to Jim of interested committee persons. The next meeting is tomorrow Oct. 22.

Old Business

New Business

Next Scheduled Meeting (October 21, 2020 at 5:30 PM)

Closing 15-Minute Comment Period

Closing Remarks
Executive Session Motion by Councilman Nicola, Second by Councilman Carbone to conduct an Executive Session to the employment, financial history of a particular individual ..Motion carried unanimously. The Board went into Executive Session at 6:40 PM
Returned to Open Session at 6:58 PM

Resolution #	159	- 2020				
Authorizing the Town Supervisor to Sign a Letter of Intent to Host a Major League Fishing Tournament in Massena June 21-30, 2021.						
Motion by:	Councilman Carbone	Vote:				
Second by:	Councilwoman Bellor	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	
	Steve O'Shaughnessy	X				
	Albert Nicola	X				
	Susan Bellor	X				
	Samuel Carbone, Jr.	X				
	Robert Elsner	X				
Motion is Carried.						

Adjourned at 7:35 PM by Unanimous Consent.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Jeannine L. Brouse