TOWN OF CONCORD TOWN BOARD Work Session

November 14, 2024 6:00 p.m.

Supervisor Drozd opened Work Session:

- 1. A list of budget transfers was provided to the members. This is an Agenda item this afternoon. These transfers will tighten up the loose ends before the end of the year. This includes the ARPA funds, building maintenance, Highway Department machinery. Hwy Supt Edwards noted that \$10,000 can come out of DB5130.20 and the rest will roll over into next year for the other new truck. His repair line is currently over budget for this year. Supervisor Drozd will be bringing up during the meeting to purchase a freezer for the Senior Center. The current one, which was donated to the Town, is not working. The freezer space is needed to hold all the frozen meals. Erie County will not assist with this purchase. Supervisor Drozd researched freezers and went to local stores; the local companies do not have anything big enough. He would recommend that a commercial freezer be purchased. The Senior Center has a commercial kitchen. Monies are available in the Personnel Services budget line because positions weren't filled until late during this calendar year. The town has been running about \$5,000/month for the Senior Center payroll. Supervisor Drozd discussed this purchase with Senior Director Hunt. His recommendation is to purchase a TurboAir from Restaurant Equippers. TurboAir is an energy star product; 5-year parts and labor; 7-year compressor warranty. This one is in stock. This model would also have the automatic condenser cleaner so no one has to climb up in there and clean all the dust. Stainless steel exterior and stainless-steel floor and casters and door locks. Three adjustable shelves. Extra shelves would be available. The cost is \$5,971 delivered to the back door; liftgate. Supervisor Drozd will ask the Board to add this to tonight's Agenda.
- 2. Supervisor Drozd advised that he was able to get the parts for the Kissing Bridge Water Plant. Water Operator Tim Domes was not able to get these from our normal supplier. Water Operator Domes will look over everything tomorrow and will get in touch with Bob Holland; hopefully getting the shutdown there on Saturday. Water Operator Domes will fill all the tanks and then the whole system will need to be shut down because this needs to be fixed. The plant is leaking treated water; wasting a lot of water.
- 3. The Craneridge Lighting is out for the residents of the Craneridge Homeowners' Association for a vote. There are three proposals out there: (1) go with the Town's plan and NYSEG's plan, (2) go with the Craneridge Lighting Committee's plan which will cost the residents money; but everything will be off the right of way and the Town would be out of this lighting district completely and (3) the last option would be to do nothing. This vote continues until December 10th. Craneridge Lighting Committee Sam Lewandowski will let Supervisor Drozd know the results of the vote; we should have the results before our next Town Board Meeting on December 12th.
- 4. Community Park is closed down for the season. Supervisor Drozd notified the Erie County Health Department and our testing lab. The used playground equipment has been delivered; this was a one-day project. The metal will need to be touched up where the concrete was from the prior installation. This matter will need to be discussed at another meeting. Supervisor Drozd noted that he has the estimate from the company that could help the Town in putting this equipment up. The representative lives in West Seneca; he assisted when it was installed in Lancaster. The estimate broke it down: they could bring two people out to show and help our guys do it; or they could install the equipment. There is an estimate for replacement of the platforms with more rust on them which are about \$1,000 each. There is also a price for the full hardware kit that the Town will need to purchase. This will be discussed at another Work Session. Supervisor Drozd will reach out to Assemblyman DiPietro to check on the status of the grant money so that the Town can start ordering the parts.

- 5. The CDBG submission for restoration of the old Community Park bathrooms to make them ADA compliant did make it through the first round. The CDBG committee will be coming to Community Park on Wednesday, November 20th at 1 p.m. for inspection.
- 6. The Town received the reimbursement check from the Hulbert Library for the Community Space project; \$118,079.30. There are still a couple open items. Council Member Zittel noted that Ronald Miller delivered the outdoor furniture.
- 7. The bids for CDBG Senior Center Improvements were all rejected. The project will be rebid in February.
 - 8. The KB Sewer debt service final figures should be available in December.
- 9. The Zoar Moto Cross event raised \$49,130.43 for the Mortons Corners Volunteer Fire Department.
- 10. At the October 3, 2024, Special Town Board Meeting, the Town Board passed a resolution requesting that the two town-owned parcels: the highway garage located at 13076 North Central and Community Park located at 12779 Buffalo Road) be removed from the Southeast Agricultural District #15. Erie County Environment & Planning advised that the Erie County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board will meet on Thursday, January 16, 2025 to discuss these applications for removal. Sarah Gatti, Principal Planner at Erie County Environment & Planning does not see any issue in the removal of these two town-owned parcels; she doesn't know how these two parcels even got into the District.
- 11. Council Member Zittel advised that he spoke to the East Concord Fire Department about the lighting in Craneridge. Their feeling is that they would like lights at all intersections and all cul-de-sacs because the department says it is dark in that development. Supervisor Drozd noted that all the old lights have been removed.
- 12. Supervisor Drozd and Council Member Krzemien had an exit meeting with SYI after their use of Community Park and the new Pavilion this year and the other few changes. Council Member Krzemien thought the meeting went well. SYI had a couple small things: the garbage cans, the bathrooms weren't cleaned and they had to do clean every time; they are worried about the disc golf because it leaves a lot of trash in the woods and a lot of glass and there is one basket that is in the way with the baseball diamonds and a couple people got hit with disc and SYI wanted to know if maybe that basket can be closed during baseball games or possible move that basket. Overall, SYI was happy. Supervisor Drozd noted that earlier in the year the need for more garbage cans was discussed and that slipped through the cracks. The Town will look into purchasing garbage cans for next year.
- 13. Supervisor Drozd reached out to some CPA firms. The CPA firm that Council Member Krzemien referred just recently added another village and town are now maxed out; they cannot find another municipal accountant so they cannot assist the Town. He is waiting for a return call from Lumsden McCormick; Supervisor Drozd will follow up. The other two firms contacted declined.
- 14. Secretary Michelle Jones has been working on the telephones for the Town. They will be doing the Senior Center and coming to Town Hall on Monday and Tuesday. This system should be up and running by our next Town Board Meeting.
- 15. The Concord GOP would like to use the Town Hall for a meeting on November 21st. Supervisor Drozd noted that the Town Hall is open to any political group that wants to use it.

- 16. Supervisor Drozd noted that he is still getting calls and emails about the gentlemen (Scott Zelie) who has the shooting range on Trevett Road. He has been discussing these with Town Attorney Attea. Is there any interest in a town-wide noise ordinance? Our Town Code is silent on this matter. Council Member Zittel noted that that is hard to do. This was discussed at Planning Board a couple times when Craneridge was having trouble with the moto cross events at Kissing Bridge; decibel levels were discussed. Someone brought to Council Member Zittel's attention the lead from the shot. There is a new law coming that will need to be followed with respect to ground contamination. Council Member Krzemien said she had just received something from the Springville Field & Stream about this law. This is something that will need to be watched. The members did not support looking into a noise ordinance. Council Member Krzemien said she did not know how the Town could do it; what time would you do? Council Member Zittel advised that a lawnmower makes more noise than the shooting. And chainsaws. Town Clerk Schweikert advised that when Mr. Zelie was at a prior Planning Board meeting, he stated that he was not doing any night shooting anymore. Supervisor Drozd said that this was apparently on a Sunday, in the middle of the day. Council Member Krzemien noted that she can hear the gun club; Supervisor Drozd said his house too. Council Member Krzemien noted that people still have the right to do stuff on their own property; they are not breaking the law. They should be good neighbors. Town Attorney Attea advised to discuss it during Work Session and see if there was any support on adopting a noise ordinance; however, Town Attorney Attea had stated that he did not think a town-wide noise ordinance would be advisable. When Town Attorney Attea arrived, Supervisor Drozd told him that the Board has no interest in pursuing a town-wide noise ordinance. Town Attorney Attea said that if there is nothing on the books, there is nothing to enforce.
- 17. The Erie County Trevett Road project is about 90% complete; it is shut down for the Winter. Supervisor Drozd met with the County Engineer to see what was going on. They are going to let it sit over the Winter.
- 18. The annual NYS sexual harassment/workplace violence training for Town Employees is scheduled for Tuesday, December 3rd beginning at 9 a.m. at the Senior Center. This should be over by noon. His office will be sending out a letter letting the employees know. Council Member Krzemien asked if she was required to go since she has had training with her job and for the Village. Supervisor Drozd advised our insurance representative that if someone comes in with a current certificate of training from another job, the Town will accept that certificate. Town Clerk Schweikert and Hwy Supt Edwards will not be able to attend; Supervisor Drozd will see if our insurance company has this training via a webinar.
- 19. Supervisor Drozd noted that he had a little discussion with Jeff Smith, Municipal Solutions, and Caleb Henning, MDA Consulting Engineers, on the water debt service on the KB Water District. Mr. Smith was surprised to learn that the Town was not currently metering water because that is how the debt service on water districts should be handled. Mr. Smith strongly suggested that when the Town does the bidding out for the water extension in the Spring, that meters be put in and include that on the bid and get meters in. This should be done by usage.
- 20. Town Attorney Attea and Caleb Henning, MDA Consulting Engineers, are recommending that the Board set a Work Session to discuss the RIC Solar project. Town Attorney Attea said it will be much more valuable to the Board to handle this in a Work Session with both Town Attorney Attea and Mr. Henning present. Each question answered may raise another question from someone else on the Board; it would be very helpful based on the breakdown of remaining issues that Mr. Henning put in his email along with the responses the Town received from RIC for the questions that were raised, which were fairly detailed, to go through these together then everyone on the Board would be in a position to make their own educated decision as to how they want to proceed or where they still see concerns. It will be much better if all of them were in the

room for this conversation. Council Member Zittel thought that it may be easier if he just stays away from this meeting; he is not sure if there is any purpose in him being there and maybe the others would feel more comfortable. Town Attorney Attea responded that he did not see any harm in Council Member Zittel being in attendance; he has to recuse himself from any vote but he may have some input from the perspective of the lessor, on behalf of the ownership group, he thinks there is value in having Council Member Zittel there; there is no harm in him being there because everything is transparent and aboveboard in terms of what the questions and concerns are. If there is any point in the meeting, the other Board members could ask Council Member Zittel if he would leave. Council Member Zittel noted that that would work. Town Attorney Attea advised Council Member Zittel that he appreciated that he brought that up to the Board. It will be much more productive at this point in the process to alleviate sending emails out to each of the members separately on respective questions that may just trigger other responses. Let's all just get in the room and have this conversation. The date of Wednesday, December 4th at 11 a.m. was set.

- 21. On tonight's Agenda is accepting the resignation of Raymond Hilliker from the Planning Board. Supervisor Drozd advised that an advertisement was in today's Springville Journal for a replacement. Town Clerk Schweikert mailed the advertisement to the two residents who had previously expressed an interest in joining the Board.
- 22. Supervisor Drozd noted that he will ask for a motion under New Business to add (f) as the Senior Center freezer and then move Budget Transfers to (g) to make sure the Board approves the purchase first and then do all the Budget Transfers.
- 23. Deputy Miller from the Community Engagement Team will be coming to our meeting tonight. Once he arrives, Supervisor Drozd will let him update the Board on his report. Yesterday Deputy Miller met with SYI, their Executive Board and full Board, and gave SYI some ideas on the Community Pool grounds on the issue of homeless people hanging around there. SYI was very receptive on this.