

Minutes of September 10, 2019, Germantown Town Board meeting, held in the Germantown Town Hall, 50 Palatine Park Road, Germantown, New York, commencing at 7:00pm.

Present: Supervisor Beury
Councilman Moore
Councilwoman DuFresne
Councilman Kukon
Councilman Sullivan

Town Attorney, Corinne Smith

Recorded by: Town Clerk, Joyce Vale

Motion to open the meeting made by Councilman Moore, seconded by Councilwoman DuFresne, with all in favor and none opposed.

Motion to approve the August 13, 2019 regular meeting minutes made by Councilwoman DuFresne, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

Motion to pay audited bills made by Councilman Kukon, seconded by Councilman Sullivan, with all in favor and none opposed.

Written Communication to Town Clerk

No written communications.

A presentation from Stacylyn Himelright on Cow Flop Bingo which will be a fund raiser for the Farmer's Market. Stacy explained that Cow Flop Bingo is whatever square the cow flops on you could win a prize. There will be a grand prize along with some smaller prizes. The event will be Saturday, September 21, 2019 starting at 12noon. Tickets will be \$5.00 each and all proceeds will go to the Farmer's Market.

Motion to enter Executive Session at 7:08pm to discuss collective bargaining, appointment of particular persons, and proposed litigation made by Councilman Moore, seconded by Councilwoman DuFresne, with all in favor and none opposed.

Motion to come out of Executive Session at 7:21pm made by Councilman Moore, seconded by Councilman Sullivan, with all in favor and none opposed.

Motion to re-enter regular meeting made by Councilman Moore, seconded by Councilwoman DuFresne, with all in favor and none opposed.

Old Business

- Appointment of particular individuals to serve as Alternate members available to the Planning Board and/or Zoning Board of Appeals.

Motion to appoint Lauren Williams as Alternate to the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals effective now through December 31, 2020 made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilwoman DuFresne, with all in favor and none opposed.

Motion to appoint Ellen Jouret Epstein as Alternate to the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals effective now through December 31, 2020 made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

Motion to appoint Lithe Sebestain as Alternate to the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals effective now through December 31, 2020 made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

- Local Law No. 3 (2019)/ Ethics Law

Supervisor Beury read the following Resolution:

TOWN BOARD
TOWN OF GERMANTOWN
COLUMBIA COUNTY, NEW YORK

RESOLUTION ADOPTING LOCAL LAW
Dated: September 19, 2019

WHEREAS, Local Law No. 3 of 2019, a local law revising the code of ethics and establishing a board of ethics for the Town of Germantown, a copy of which is annexed hereto, as revised, was laid on the desks of the members of the Town Board for at least 10 days; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing on a revision of said local law was duly noticed and held on July 23, 2019, after which time the Town Board revised the local law based on comments received from members of the public; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing on said revised local law was duly noticed and held on September 10, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Article 18 of the General Municipal Law required the governing body of each town to adopt a code of ethics that sets forth for the guidance of its officers and employees standards of conduct reasonably expected of them; and

WHEREAS, Article 18 sets the minimum standards for ethical conduct and expressly authorizes adoption of more stringent standards.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Germantown that Local Law No. 3 of 2019 revising the code of ethics and establishing a board of ethics for the Town of Germantown is hereby adopted.

On a motion by Councilwoman DuFresne and seconded by Councilman Kukon and having been approved by a majority of the Board, this Resolution was declared duly adopted by the Town of Germantown Town Board.

Roll call by Town Clerk:

Supervisor Beaury:	Yes
Councilman Moore:	Yes
Councilman Sullivan:	Yes
Councilman Kukon:	Yes
Councilwoman DuFresne:	Yes

- WWTP – Interviews of top qualifying firms October 1st-7th, 2019.

Met with 3 firms. Bids need to be in by September 26, 2019 at 11:00am. Councilman Sullivan is working on this with Supervisor Beaury.

Delaware Engineering –Presentation and recommendation on October 8, 2019.

Board takes formal action to award/reject contractor.

Contract executed on or about November 12, 2019.

New Business

- Re-appoint George Atwell to the Board of Assessment Review effective October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2024.

Motion to re-appoint George Atwell to the Board of Assessment Review made by Councilman Sullivan, seconded by Councilman Kukon, with all in favor and none opposed.

- Fireworks July 2020

Discussion on date for fireworks, Friday, July 3rd 2020 with a rain date, Sunday, July 5th 2020. Tentative fireworks date is Saturday July 11, 2020 rain date would be Sunday July 12, 2020.

- Discussed renovating the Beach House to make a classroom for Camp 2020.

Supervisor's Report

- Budget process has started for 2020.

Special meeting/Budget workshop on tentative budget will be held on Tuesday, September 24, 2019 at 7:00pm.

A public hearing will be held prior to Board meeting on Tuesday, October 8, 2019 at 6:45pm.

Adopt budget at November 12, 2019 meeting.

- 5k Run/walk on October 6, 2019, sponsored by the Library. Registration is at 9-10:00am at the Library and also online now.
- Halloween festivities on October 19, 2019, sponsored by the Parks Commission. Councilwoman DuFresne said the event will take place at the Activity Building. There will be contests and games, a family friendly night.
- EV station update. Met with the contractor and National Grid. Station will be installed in a few weeks.
- 9/11 commemoration tomorrow morning at 8:46am. Didi Barrett will speak. All are welcome.
- New street lights have been installed.
- Next meeting is October 8, 2019 at 7:00pm, Public Hearing is at 6:45pm.

Public

Carole Neville said she wrote a lengthy letter that was received tonight and she is still objecting to the Ethics Law passed tonight. Ms. Neville said she is undecided but there are several ways to go about this. First will be to challenge it now as an improper law. Second would be to wait until the Town tries to enforce it again and then to challenge both the law and the action that was taken but she hasn't made up her mind on which way to go yet. Carole is happy they changed part of the law to some extent but she stated the part about bias and prejudice is a slippery slope and she will watch each one of the Town Board members and if they take a position on any single issue and it will be looked at. Carole said same goes for the Planning Board and the ZBA; she will be watching. Carole said this has opened the door to a litigious position and a divisive position between the people who were born in Germantown and the people who have chosen to live here.

Margaret Della Cioppa asked who is on the current Ethics Committee? Supervisor Beaury told her only Faythe Smith and that the Board has been trying for years to get two more members. There hasn't been a complaint in at least a dozen years.

Motion to close the meeting made by Councilman Moore, seconded by Councilwoman DuFresne, with all in favor and none opposed.

Meeting closed at 7:42pm.

Respectfully submitted,