

1-13-2022 –JANUARY REGULAR MEETING

Present:

Councilman Mike Domster
Councilman Leonard R. Hochadel
Councilman Matthew Krist
Councilman John D. Marsh
Supervisor Beverly A. Gambino

Also Present:

Highway Superintendent Donald Hopkins
Town Clerk Jennifer L Bray
Approx. 5 guests in person

Supervisor Gambino called the regular January meeting to order at 6:34 PM, immediately following the 2022 Organizational Meeting.

Supervisor Gambino stated that the first item on the agenda was the approval of 3 sets of minutes. The Public Hearing on Proposed Local Law #3 of 2021 for the Cannabis Dispensary and On Site Consumption License Opt Out, the Public Hearing on the update to the Town's Comprehensive Plan and the End of Year meeting all of which were held on December 21st, 2021. **On a motion by Marsh, seconded by Domster, the minutes were approved, as submitted. Carried, 5 ayes, 0 noes.**

Supervisor Gambino stated that the next item on the agenda is to approve the payment of two sets of bills. **Warrant #14 of 2021, including vouchers #760 through #792, totaling \$229,976.72 of which \$211,369.40 was for the General Fund, \$15,609.87 was for the Highway Fund, \$2,120.67 was for the Fire Protection Fund and \$876.78 was for the Street Lighting fund. On a motion by Marsh, seconded by Domster, the Warrant was approved for payment. Carried, 5 ayes, 0 noes.**

Warrant #1 of 2022, including vouchers #1 through #20, totaling \$70,002.87 of which \$49,287.49 was for the General Fund, \$97.00 was for the Highway Fund, and \$20,618.38 was for the Fire Protection Fund. On a motion by Hochadel, seconded by Krist, the Warrant was approved for payment. Carried, 5 ayes, 0 noes.

Departmental Reports were as follows:

Supervisor Gambino reported that walls are up on the new buildings at both Manion Park and Veterans Park. She noted that work would resume in the spring. Next Supervisor Gambino reported that the Town has sold 293 cookbooks so far. Supervisor Gambino noted that 33 more need to be sold for the Town to break even on the cost of the cookbooks. She noted that would leave 174 cookbooks to be sold for a total of \$4350.00 which would then be donated to the Fire Company.

Councilman Marsh had nothing to report.

Councilman Domster had nothing to report.

Councilman Hochadel requested permission to begin work on the concerts in the park for this coming summer. **On a motion by Krist, seconded by Domster, Councilman Hochadel was given permission to look into bands for the concerts. Carried, 5 ayes, 0 noes.**

Councilman Krist asked if the Board planned on having fireworks to close out the bicentennial year in March. After a brief discussion it was agreed that Councilman Krist would get prices for the February meeting.

Highway Superintendent Hopkins asked if the Town had plans to reuse the banner holders that were put up for the bicentennial banners on the light poles or if he should take them down. Supervisor Gambino noted that the Town would have to renew the permit to use them again. After a brief discussion it was agreed that Councilman Domster would look into renewing the permit to place banners on the light poles and the Jim Wiedemann would see if the Legion had interest in doing banners for Veterans. Next Superintendent Hopkins reported that the trees around the playground at Veterans Park are all dying. Superintendent Hopkins asked the boards opinion regarding removing the trees and replacing them with semi mature trees such as oak trees. After a brief discussion it was agreed that Superintendent Hopkins could get prices of trees for the next meeting. **On a motion by Marsh, seconded by Hochadel, approved for Superintendent Hopkins to get prices of trees for the Park. Carried, 5 ayes, 0 noes.** Lastly Superintendent Hopkins reported that he was still unable to get the new generator that was bid out last year for the Highway Garage. After a brief discussion it was agreed that the process of re-bidding the generator should be started.

Supervisor Gambino stated that the next item on the agenda was a resolution to allow the Assessor to use last year's information for the senior exemptions this year so that they do not have to come in and reapply in person. Supervisor Gambino noted that this is in response to continued COVID19 concerns and Governor Kathy Hochul's Executive Order #11. **Therefore the following resolution, to be known as Resolution #2 of 2022, was moved for adoption on a motion by Marsh, seconded by Domster:**

Resolution #2 – 2022

TOWN ASSESSOR – AUTHORITY TO GRANT EXEMPTIONS ON THE 2022 TOWN ASSESSMENT ROLL

WHEREAS, on December 26, 2021, Governor Kathy Hochul issued Executive Order No. 11, declaring a State disaster emergency for the entire State of New York due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, this State disaster emergency has resulted in limited hours in municipal offices in the Town of **Sardinia** and rendered senior citizens and individuals with disabilities residing in **Sardinia** homebound. These factors combined have made it difficult, if not impossible, for many in these populations to file their real property tax exemption applications in person and many, further, lack the ability to file such applications online; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the above problems caused by the pandemic, Governor Hochul issued Executive Order No. 11.1 on December 26, 2021, thereby extending Executive Order No. 11. This extension of the Governor's Executive Order modifies subdivisions 7, 7-a and 8 of section 459-c of the Real Property Tax Law and subdivisions 5, 5-a, 5-b, 5-c and 6 of section 467 of the Real Property Tax Law, the effect of which permits the governing body of an assessing unit (i.e., the Town Board of the Town of **Sardinia**) to adopt a Resolution directing the Assessor to grant exemptions on the 2022 assessment roll to all property owners who received such exemptions on the 2021 assessment roll (i.e., senior citizens and individuals with disabilities with limited income), thereby dispensing with the need for such persons to file renewal applications to request such exemptions, and further dispensing with the requirement that assessors mail renewal applications to such persons; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 11.1 further allows the governing body of said assessing unit, in any such Resolution, at its option, to include procedures by which its Town Assessor may require a renewal application to be filed if he has reason to believe that an owner who qualified for the exemption on the 2021 assessment roll may have since changed his or her primary residence, added another owner to the deed, transferred the property to a new owner or died; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to said Executive Order, the Town Board of the Town of **Sardinia** wishes to adopt such Resolution directing the Town Assessor of the Town of **Sardinia** to grant exemptions on the 2022 assessment roll to all eligible senior citizens and individuals with disabilities with limited income, and granting the Town Assessor of the Town of **Sardinia** the authority to require renewal applications for due cause, as discussed above, utilizing procedures outlined below;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to the authority granted by Executive Order No. 11.1, issued by the Governor of the State of New York, that the Town Board of the Town of **Sardinia** hereby directs the Town Assessor of the Town of **Sardinia** to:

1. Grant exemptions on the 2022 assessment roll to all individuals who received the senior exemption on the 2021 assessment roll and all individuals who received the exemption on the 2021 assessment roll because they were recognized as a person with disabilities and limited income, thereby dispensing with the need for any such individuals to file renewal applications for such exemptions, except that;
2. The Town Assessor may, in his sole discretion, require a renewal application to be timely filed with his office if he has reason to believe that any such individual, who qualified for the aforementioned exemption on the 2021 assessment roll, may have since changed their primary residence, added another owner to the deed for the relevant property, transferred such property to a new owner or died. If the Town Assessor requires such renewal application be filed, he shall notify the owner of the subject property of such requirement by regular mail, with such notice shall containing instructions on how to file the renewal application. Said renewal application may be returned by mail or by making an appointment to drop same off at the **Town Assessor's office, 12320 Savage Road, PO Box 219, Sardinia, NY 14134**

DULY ADOPTED, this 13th day of January, 2022 by the following vote: Domster aye, Hochadel, aye, Krist, aye, Marsh, aye, Gambino, aye. So resolved, 5 ayes, 0 noes.

Supervisor Gambino stated that the next item was a resolution to approve the annual audit of the Towns books and do the Annual Update Document for the Town. Supervisor Gambino noted that the total cost for the audit and the Annual Update Document was \$13,910.00 which also includes accounting assistance for the 2022 year. **Therefore the following resolution, to be known as Resolution #3 of 2022, was moved for adoption on a motion by Marsh, seconded by Domster:**

Resolution #3 – 2022

APPROVAL OF AUDITOR AND ACCOUNTANT CONSULTANT

WHEREAS, The Sardinia Town budget includes funds for the Town to retain Drescher & Malecki LLP as our auditor to prepare a review of 2021 expenditures and finances of the Town at a cost not to exceed \$12,750.00 plus \$1,160.00 for the Annual Update Document that is filed with the NY State Comptroller and assist in consultation for the year 2022 and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Sardinia Town Board approves the firm of Drescher & Malecki LLP to perform the 2021 audit and reports, to the Town Board at a cost not to exceed \$13,910.00 and perform 2022 accounting assistance.

DULY ADOPTED, this 13th day of January, 2022 by the following vote: Domster aye, Hochadel, aye, Krist, aye, Marsh, aye, Gambino, aye. So resolved, 5 ayes, 0 noes.

Supervisor Gambino stated that next resolution on the agenda was approval for audits of both of the Town Justice books as well as the Town Clerk accounts. Supervisor Gambino noted that the costs in the resolution were the same as 2021. **Therefore the following resolution, to be known as Resolution #4 of 2022, was moved for adoption on a motion by Domster, seconded by Krist:**

Resolution #4 – 2022

AUDIT ON COURT AND TOWN CLERK DEPARTMENTS FOR 2021

WHEREAS, the Sardinia Town Board recognizes the need for periodic review and audit of departments with the Town, and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to complete these audits in order to be compliant with the State of New York Comptroller, and

WHEREAS, our auditor Drescher & Malecki can review the 2021 expenditures and finances of the Town of Sardinia Court and also the Town of Sardinia's clerk's office, and

WHEREAS, the cost to the Town of Sardinia for audit services for the Court is \$1520.00.00 per Justice and the cost for the Clerk's office is \$1520.00 for a total cost of \$4,560.00 and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Sardinia Town board approves the firm of Drescher & Malecki to perform audits on both the Sardinia Town Court and the Sardinia Town Clerk's office

DULY ADOPTED, this 13th day of January, 2022 by the following vote: Domster aye, Hochadel, aye, Krist, aye, Marsh, aye, Gambino, aye. So resolved, 5 ayes, 0 noes.

There being no further business to come before the Board, on a motion by Marsh, seconded by Hochadel, the meeting was closed at 6:52 p.m., carried, 5 ayes, 0 noes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Town Clerk