

**Town of Schroepfel
Town Board Meeting
February 14th 2023**

Present: Town Supervisor Cary Redhead, Town Board Members Zachary Gelling, Lewis Hoyt, Nicklaus Hoyt, JoAnn Nazarian and Town Clerk Darlene Owens.

At 6:00 p.m. Redhead called the meeting to order with the Pledge Allegiance.

SEQR Motion:

Gelling made a **Motion** that all actions taken tonight are excluded, exempt or Type II actions for the purpose of the State Environmental Quality Review Law unless otherwise stated, seconded by N. Hoyt. All ayes: Nazarian, Gelling, L. Hoyt, N. Hoyt and Redhead.

Privilege of the Floor: John Sidorakis

Sidorakis introduced himself to the Town Board members and the residents at the meeting. He is the new owner of the River Edge Mansion Bed and Breakfast, a landmark structure. They bought the property in April 2022 and have been good stewards of the house. Their intent is to keep it intact and stay aligned with the State Historical Society. They would like to create some events that folks in the town can engage in. Possibly Halloween with a spooky trail and tour of the house, and seasonal dinners. He handed out brochures.

Cary Redhead: Budget Modification Courtroom Upgrades

Redhead discussed the budget modification for the Courtroom audio upgrade to debit Account A1620.2 and credit Contingency A1920.2 for \$12,574.00. Redhead made the **Motion** to accept the budget modification, seconded by Nazarian. All ayes: Nazarian, Gelling, L. Hoyt, N. Hoyt, Redhead.

Joann Nazarian – Zone Change

A request came in from the Planning Board for a zone change for a two-property parcel on State Route 264 from residential to commercial. The Planning Board recommends that this request be approved from R3 to C1. Because this is a zone change, we have to go through the SEQR review process. We have to declare that this is actually a Type I action. We have to agree to be the lead agency on this change, meaning we are the one that facilitates the SEQR review; we have to authorize the mailing of letters to interested agencies and neighbors of the property; and we have to send a 239 Review to the County. Environmental Impact to see if this zone change has environmental ramifications and if it aligns with our 2022 Comprehensive Plan. Nazarian made the **Motion** to declare this matter a Type 1 action for the purposes of SEQR seconded by Redhead. All ayes: Nazarian, Gelling, L. Hoyt, N. Hoyt, Redhead.

Nazarian said we have to send out notifications to the County and the neighbors and allow them a certain amount of time to respond to us, which is 30 days. Then we also have to schedule the Public Hearing after that, so she made the **Motion** to schedule the Public Hearing for Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 6:05 p.m. seconded by Gelling. All ayes: Nazarian, Gelling, L. Hoyt, N. Hoyt, and Redhead.

Constables - Appointments

Nazarian made the **Motion** to appoint Leland Dusharm and Herbert Hawker as Constables seconded by N. Hoyt. All ayes: Nazarian, Gelling, L. Hoyt, N. Hoyt, and Redhead.

OTB Grinder Pump

A quote was received for the OTB grinder pump to get it installed for \$7,220.00. Parts were ordered on January 13, 2023, but we need clarification as to who would be able to install it before we can proceed. This is a major health concern. OTB will be billed for the project. A question came up about overseeing the installation and/or periodic inspections.

State Funding Opportunity

Senator Mannion sent a letter to local municipalities for possible funding available and asked townships and villages to submit their interest. We submitted our letter of interest for funding for bridge repair on Prior Road.

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NYS previously put us on notice about that bridge. No specifics were needed at this time, and our Highway Department could possibly do the work. N. Hoyt mentioned that Pennellville Fire Department previously requested a dry hydrant and maybe that could be included, if funding allowed.

Zach Gelling Bankrupt Road

Pine Tree Lane and Hummingbird Lane are dedicated plats (private drives). Someone was claiming the Town currently does not plow those roads, and there were never any easements granted. We have County maps showing Rights of Way (ROW) and they are not private drives, and that we have easements and ROW to do the work Gelling made the **Motion** for the Town Attorney to do the Title Search of those roads so we have correct information in the amount of \$1500.00 seconded by Redhead. All ayes: Nazarian, Gelling, L. Hoyt, N. Hoyt, and Redhead.

Justice Audit

Gelling said the Justice Audit will be performed again in-house since Nazarian offered to do it. Redhead made the **Motion** to have Nazarian to do the Justice Audit and the payment would be researched seconded by Gelling. All ayes: Gelling, L. Hoyt, N. Hoyt, Redhead. Nazarian abstained. N. Hoyt commented that if payment is not allowed (to a Board Member), then maybe the money could be donated.

Codes Department - Appointment

Gelling made the **Motion** to appoint Patrick Dolan, prorated from January 1, 2023 in the amount of \$20,000 per year as the new Codes Officer seconded by Nazarian. All ayes: Nazarian, Gelling, L. Hoyt, and N. Hoyt. Redhead abstained. Gelling requested that the Town Attorney send a letter to the current Codes Officers advising them of their change. Redhead said she would notify the attorney.

N. Hoyt Budget Modification – Dollar for Scholars

The Board has already approved the Dollars for Scholars modification request; moving funds from the Contingency Account 019904.01.004.00 to 075504.01.004.01 for the Celebrations Account in the amount of \$500.00. N. Hoyt made the **Motion** to move the funds seconded by Gelling. All ayes: Nazarian, Gelling, L. Hoyt, N. Hoyt, and Redhead.

Community Coordinator Position - Appointment

Discussion have taken place for several months regarding this possible position of someone who could help facilitate with special districts and the Codes office, Planning Board, ZBA, or Town Clerk's office, or any other development going on in this Town. Don Clark, Planning Board Chairman and engineer, submitted a proposal to the Town last fall. Clark's experience is well known and he has helped the Town in various ways without pay for several years, including grants. He will not have any voting privileges and would answer to the Town Board and working for the taxpayers.

N. Hoyt made the **Motion** to appoint Don Clark to that position at \$12,000 per year salary seconded by Gelling. All ayes: Nazarian, Gelling, L. Hoyt, N. Hoyt, and Redhead.

At 7:18, Redhead made the **Motion** to adjourn the Town Board Meeting seconded by Nazarian. All ayes Nazarian, Gelling, L. Hoyt, N. Hoyt, and Redhead. Town Board members went into a Workshop.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene M. Owens
Town Clerk