

The Farmersville Town Board meeting on August 9, 2021 was called to order at 7pm by Supervisor Lounsbury, all stood for the pledge.

Present:

Supervisor Francis Lounsbury

Councilman Pamela Tilton

Richard Westfall

Donna Vickman

Mark Heberling

Hwy Superintendent Barry Tingue

Town Clerk Bridget Holmes

Guests: See sign in book

Mr. Lounsbury turned the meeting over to the Cattaraugus County IDA director for presentation.

Mr. Wiktor: He presented that on June 3, 2021 the IDA received a phone call from a taxpayers Jason Schwab and Cody Sprague about bringing Great Lakes Cheese to Farmersville and Franklinville area with the majority of the acreage being in the Town of Farmersville. The IDA had worked continuously with the Great Lakes Cheese to see if this parcel of land would be suitable. There is 229 working now in the Cuba Cheese plant with the possibility of bringing in another 200 positions. They would be getting tax breaks for so many years however like the fire tax that would be at full assessment value and they would be paying the taxes on the assessment of the land now and not the full value for so many years. Various people in the audience asked questions and the board asked- Mr. Westfall asked if there were critical dates this month concerning this project and he said yes, Mr. Lounsbury asked if the Cuba Plant would close and Mr. Wiktor said yes, Mrs. Tilton asked what happen to the other site that they were working on, and Mr. Wiktor stated that there were drainage issues. Mr. Heberling stated that he had met one of the owners and he felt that the owners really care about the employees. Clerk Holmes stated that in the last few days before this meeting that she was hearing rumblings about people on RT 16 not being happy with this, she just wanted Mr. Wiktor to be aware that there were rumblings going on. Mr. Wiktor ended his presentation at 8pm

A motion was made by Mr. Heberling to accept the minutes and seconded by Mrs. Vickman, carried.

A motion was made to pay the bills by Mrs. Vickman and seconded by Mr. Westfall,carried

General – V112-V122= \$7,171.19 Hwy – V99-V113 = \$152,228.97

A motion was made by Mr. Heberling to allow Mr. Lounsbury to sign a document allowing Catt County to be the lead agency with the Great Lakes Cheese Plant and motion was seconded by Mr. Westfall, carried

Hwy:

Mr. Tingue reported that they had been working on Rogers RD and wanted to do some work on Older Hill and had chip sealed Healy Rd and would like to pave West Branch to Hicks Rd but was only able to get 2 to 4 loads a day due to a project the state was doing.

Supervisor Report read by Mr. Lounsbury and a motion was made by Mrs. Vickman to accept the report and seconded by Mrs. Tilton, carried. Mr. Lounsbury stated that the first amount of money from the American Rescue Plan was received but the plan was very complicated – and the county was hiring someone to help them and hoping the county can assist with the Town. He stated that he did receive a list from the Fire Department on their needs.

A motion was made to accept last month's supervisor's report by Mr. Heberling and seconded by Mrs. Tilton, carried.

A motion was made to accept the town clerk's report by Mrs. Tilton and seconded by Mrs. Vickman, carried.

Justice Report- nothing to report; only she was requesting that they fix the website and put the correct Town Prosecutor on there

A motion was made to accept the Code Enforcement report by Mrs. Vickman and seconded by Mr. Heberling, carried

Last month the code enforcement report was corrected and motion was made to accept it was Mr. Heberling and seconded by Mrs. Tilton, carried

Reports:

Mr. Heberling stated that there was a tab being added for the history of the town to the website.

Outside Communications

Clerk Holmes stated that she had put in everyone's packet a notice about a public hearing in the town of Franklinville on the following day.

Mr. Heberling stated that he had worked on the Hazardous Mitigation plan and added some things and felt it was something that they should work on every meeting as things change.

Old Business:

Clerk Holmes thanked Mrs. Vickman for being the only town board member that showed up at the Community Day that was held by one of the local churches.

Mrs. Tilton asked when Mr. Lounsbury was going to talk about the lawsuit against New York State.

Mr. Lounsbury stated that based on the resolution that the board passed earlier he signed a document to join the lawsuit, board was not happy with that when they found out that he did it without board approval and has since pulled out of the lawsuit.

Petitions from the floor

Jeanie McCarthy- wanted to say a few things about the pandemic

Robert McCubbin- continued Ms. MCarthy's statement when she ran out of time.

Elana Kozak- Asked Mr. Lounsbury if he told Mr. Heberling about signing for the lawsuit and Mr. Lounsbury stated yes, so she asked why he didn't tell the other board members and he stated that he had no answer for that.

Lois Lane- Is there room for both cheese plant and wind project? Asked Mr. Wicktor why they didn't want to support the wind project and Mr. Wicktor stated there was no application for that and that IDA generally supports the town and what they wanted.

Mrs. Roblee- asked if the Code Enforcement officer ever come to the Town Board meeting and was told no.

Doug Thompson- Home rule is very important and he wanted to thank Mark Heberling for the work he did on Kingsbury Hill but he also brought in a piece of the road of Rogers RD and some pictures also of the black top not staying because there was dirt underneath cause not being swept. He presented both to the board and then took them to Mr. Tingue and Mr. Tingue asked where this was? Mr. Thompson stated in the dip by Jeff's house and Mr. Tingue asked for more clarification and Mr. Thompson could not give him anything more.

Erin Lord- Stated that Home Rule was very important and she thanked Mr. Tingue for the plowing job that he and his crew did last winter.

A motion was made at 8:45pm to adjourn the meeting by Mrs. Tilton and seconded by Mr. Westfall, carried

Respectfully submitted

Bridget Holmes