

**DATE:** MARCH 26, 2020

**KIND OF MEETING:** TOWN BOARD

**WHERE HELD:** SCHODACK TOWN HALL

**CLERK:** DEBRA L. CURTIS

**PRESIDING OFFICER:** DAVID B. HARRIS

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** JAMES E. BULT  
MICHAEL KENNEY  
SCOTT SWARTZ  
TRACEY REX

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**ATTORNEY:** CHRISTOPHER LANGLOIS, ESQ.

**COMPTROLLER:**

**OTHERS:** DAWNE KELLY, ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERVISOR

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Supervisor Harris called the March 26, 2020 Town Board Workshop meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and dispensed with roll call. All members present as noted above.

### **Briefing of Resolutions**

S. Harris noted resolution 2020-138 was an annual approval of the list of participants in the Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) for Castleton Ambulance.

### **Public Comment (Resolution Only)**

S. Harris asked if any questions regarding the resolution had been received via email by the Town Clerk. D. Curtis said one email had been received; however, it did not pertain to the resolution. She noted the email had been forwarded to the board.

### **Adoption of Resolution**

The resolutions voted upon reflect additions, deletions and amendments approved by the consensus of the majority Board.

**EXPLANATION: Bracketed and strikethrough indicates language that was stricken from the resolution when adopted. Underlined indicates language that was added to the resolution when adopted. A WITHDRAWN resolution is so noted and italicized.**

C. Bult made a motion to adopt the following resolution, seconded by C. Kenney:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN**

**BOARD OF THE TOWN OF SCHODACK DOES HEREBY:**

**2020-138) WHEREAS**, on February 13, 2020 the Schodack Town Board approved by resolution (2020-108) the Volunteer Ambulance Workers Service Award Program List of all 2019 active Volunteer Ambulance Workers of the Castleton Volunteer Ambulance Services, Inc., and

**WHEREAS**, the list was forwarded to authorized representatives of the Castleton Volunteer Ambulance Services, Inc. and was posted for thirty (30) days as required by law, and

**WHEREAS**, they have certified on March 16, 2020 no changes were made to the listing,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Schodack Town Board authorizes Supervisor Harris to certify to PENFLEX, Inc., that the listing as submitted and posted should be used to determine the funding, the requirements of the Service Award Programs (SAP), the eligibility of persons to be paid benefits and the amount of benefits to be paid to eligible persons.

5 Ayes 0 Noes. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ayes – J. Bult, M. Kenney, S. Swartz, T. Rex, D. Harris. Noes – 0.

**Board Discussion Items**

**Van Hoesen Road Bridge:** S. Harris noted that Creighton Manning was moving ahead with installation of the utility hangers on the bridge on Van Hoesen Road. They had submitted a proposal which would be forwarded to the town engineers for review.

**Preserve NY:** S. Harris said he was working with Nicole Allen of Laberge Engineering to locate grants for the restoration of the Clove Road Schoolhouse. He noted their focus was on the Preserve NY grant that offered up to \$600,000.00 for restoration. C. Bult said he had reviewed the information and was under the impression that the grant had matching funds. S. Harris said yes and added that there would be no need for competitive bids, which would be a cost saving to the town. C. Bult cautioned that a discussion was needed to determine the future purpose of the building before any funds were spent. C. Kenney agreed. S. Harris said the site was considered historical and felt the town needed to do their part to preserve that history.

**Press Release:** S. Harris said, in accordance with the executive orders of Governor Cuomo regarding the COVID-19 outbreak, a declaration of a state of emergency had been issued for the Town of Schodack. The declaration had been drafted by counsel and would be renewed every five days. If the need for extension surpassed thirty days, a second declaration would be issued. A press release was issued to inform residents of the steps that had been taken to ensure the safety of all. This included closure of all Town buildings to the public including the town hall, highway garage and police station until March 30, 2020. He noted staffing had

been reduced to include only essential employees. Within the town hall, the Town Clerk, Comptroller and Supervisor's offices would remain open; however, a limit was placed on the services offered through the Town Clerk's Office such as marriage licenses and passports. He added that the Building Department would continue to conduct inspections and any meetings scheduled for the Planning, Zoning or Town Board would be live streamed. With regard to the Justice Court, all proceedings had been suspended by the Unified Court System until further notice. S. Harris thanked the board for their support and efforts to ensure the safety of the residents. C. Swartz noticed the park was listed as closed on the press release. He asked if this was limited to the playground and if the walking trails were still open. S. Harris said the gate to the park would remain open with a sign stating the park was closed. He noted residents could use the walking trails at their own risk but cautioned to maintain safe distancing and refrain from forming groups. C. Bult asked if the Supervisor anticipated opening the buildings after March 31<sup>st</sup>. S. Harris felt it may be necessary to continue the closures for the full thirty days. Atty. Langlois added that the declaration could be rescinded at any time. C. Bult said he had received S. Harris's email informing employees that vacation and personal time was suspended during the state of emergency. He asked if they should consider granting non-essential employees the ability to take vacation or personal time. He felt, once the ban was lifted, there may be a conflict with many employees attempting to take vacation at the same time. S. Harris said he was following the direction of the County Executive who had instituted the same limit at the county. He recommended re-evaluating the regulations at the end of the state of emergency.

### **Executive Session**

C. Rex made a motion at 7:26 p.m. to enter into an executive session of the Board to discuss personnel matters pursuant to public officers law §105(f). Seconded by C. Swartz.

5 Ayes 0 Noes. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ayes – J. Bult, M. Kenney, S. Swartz, T. Rex, D. Harris. Noes – 0.

C. Kenney made a motion at 7:30 p.m. to adjourn the executive session. Seconded by C. Bult.

5 Ayes 0 Noes. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ayes – J. Bult, M. Kenney, S. Swartz, T. Rex, D. Harris. Noes – 0.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

As there was no further business before the Board, C. Swartz made a motion to adjourn the 03/26/20 Town Board meeting at 7:30 p.m., seconded by C. Kenney. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra L. Curtis  
Schodack Town Clerk

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