



**Town Clerk**  
Leonard J. Perfetti

# Town of Union

**Town Board**  
Richard A. Materese, *Supervisor*  
Thomas R. Augostini, *Councilman*  
Frank J. Bertoni, *Councilman*  
Sandra C. Bauman, *Councilwoman*  
Heather R. Staley, *Councilwoman*

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## TOWN OF UNION BOARD MEETING

May 5, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Union was held on Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. in the Town Board Room, 3111 East Main Street, Endwell, New York and via Zoom.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Town Supervisor Richard A. Materese, Councilman Thomas R. Augostini, Councilman Frank J. Bertoni, Councilwoman Sandra C. Bauman, Councilwoman Heather R. Staley.

TOWN OFFICIALS PRESENT: Town Attorney Alan J. Pope, Town Clerk Leonard J. Perfetti, Deputy Town Clerk Rebecca Kruczkowski.

Also in attendance was Village of Endicott Mayor Linda Jackson.

Supervisor Richard A. Materese opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.

### BIDS:

Bids were called for on Monday, April 26, 2021 at 10:00 A.M. for the George W. Johnson Playground Equipment – Town of Union CDBG – FFY2020 Program.

Bids were received as follows.

#### Marchuska Brothers Construction LLC

Base Bid: \$81,550.00

Alt 1: \$81,345.00

Alt 2 \$90,177.00

#### Cook Fence Construction Company

Base Bid: \$95,200.00

Alt 1: \$91,800.00

Alt 2 \$98,650.00



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Moved by Augostini, seconded by Bertoni to receive and file the Bids for George W. Johnson Playground Equipment – Town of Union CDBG – FFY2020 Program.  
Carried.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Moved by Augostini, seconded by Bertoni to approve the Minutes of the Regular Town of Union Board Meeting held on Wednesday, April 21, 2021 with the following correction:

Resolution to approve the hourly rate for a Town of Union Park Ranger to be paid at \$9.75/hour effective May 1, 2021, and for authorization for the Supervisor and Comptroller to implement the same.

Should be Resolution to approve the hourly rate **for the position of** Town of Union Park Ranger to be paid at \$9.75/hour effective **May 8, 2021**, and for authorization for the Supervisor and Comptroller to implement the same.  
Carried.

### HEARING OF VISITORS:

As no one wished to speak, Supervisor Richard A. Materese closed the first Hearing of Visitors.

### COMMUNICATIONS FOR FILING:

Moved by Augostini, seconded by Bertoni to receive and file the following Communications:

1. Village of Endicott Board Meeting Minutes from February 15, 2021 through April 12, 2021.
  2. Charter Communications Notice – April 30, 2021.
- Carried.

### COMMUNICATIONS FOR ACTION:

1. Moved by Augostini, seconded by Bertoni to refer the letter from Philip G. Spellane, Harris Beach PLLC, regarding B&F Development vs. The Board of Assessors, Et al. and the Town of Union Board of Assessment Review - 302 & 310 Reynolds Road Property Tax Assessment order, to Town Attorney Alan J. Pope and Assessor Joseph Cook.  
Carried.



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2. Moved by Augustini, seconded by Bertoni to refer the Email from Beth Muggeo, 817 Catalina Blvd., Endwell, NY 13760 about sewer backups for the last five years, in which she claims the Town sewer in front of her home was crushed in the street during construction, to Town Attorney Alan J. Pope, Commissioner of Public Works Louis V. Caforio and Deputy Commissioner of Public Works for Environmental Services Daniel Schofield.  
Carried.

3. Moved by Augustini, seconded by Bertoni to refer the Email from Jeannie Post, Event Committee Chair, GiGi's Playhouse of the Southern Tier, requesting the use of Lower Highland Park on June 5, 2021 from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM for the MOVEMENT Event: GiGiFIT Acceptance Challenge, to Commissioner of Public Works Louis V. Caforio and Parks Manager Ray Vanderpoel.  
Carried.

PETITIONS:           None.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS:

(Prepared Resolution filed as part of these minutes authorizing the purchase of a new 2021 Caterpillar Skid Steer 246D3 SSL through a Buy Back Program from CAT for a price of \$48,217.00 minus trade in \$35,000.00 net difference being \$13,217.00 per NYS OGS contract PC66988 Sourcewell 032515-CAT. F-182 will be declared surplus for trade-in purposes. The new Skid Steer will be paid out of the Highway Equipment Account.

\$48,217.00	(New) 2021 CAT Skid Steer 246 D3 SSL
<u>\$35,000.00</u>	(Trade-In) 2019 CAT Skid Steer 246 D3
\$13,217.00	Total Net Difference.)

Res. by Staley, seconded by Augustini.  
The Resolution was adopted.

Vote: All yes.

(Prepared Resolution filed as part of these minutes authorizing the purchase a new 2021 Caterpillar 306EXC Next Gen Mini Excavator through a Buy Back Program from CAT for a price of \$71,635.00 minus trade in \$57,000.00 net difference being \$14,635.00 per NYS OGS contract PC66988 Sourcewell 032515-CAT. F179 will be declared surplus for trade-in purposes. The new mini excavator will be paid out of the Highway Other Equipment Account.

\$71,635.00	(NEW) 2021 CAT 306EXC Next Gen Mini Excavator
<u>- 57,000.00</u>	(Trade-In) 2019 305.5 E CR EXC Mini Excavator
\$14,635.00.)	

Res. by Staley, seconded by Augustini.  
The Resolution was adopted.

Vote: All yes.



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Moved by Staley, seconded by Augustini to approve the following 2020 Budget Transfers:

Decrease:	10 1680 4400	Software Maintenance	\$ 30.52
Increase:	10 1680 4512	Professional Services	\$ 30.52
Decrease:	21 9040 8003	Workers Comp	\$ 16.23
Increase:	21 9030 8008	Social Security	\$ 16.23
Decrease:	22 8340 4203	Water	\$1,026.15
Increase:	22 9795 7200	Interest Inter-fund	\$1,026.15
Decrease:	40 71101020	Hourly	\$ 447.52
Increase:	40 7110 1010	Salary Base	\$ 447.52

Carried.

Moved by Staley, seconded by Augustini to approve the following 2021 Budget Transfer:

Decrease:	31 5110 2500	Other Equipment	\$5,100.00
Increase:	31 5110 4123	Guard Rails	\$5,100.00

Carried.

(Prepared Resolution filed as part of these minutes to award the Bid for Kemp Drive – Winston Drive to Verna Drive Road Reconstruction to Chicago Construction, 1788 Union Center Highway, Endicott, New York for their low bid price of \$268,000.00.)

Res. by Staley, seconded by Augustini.

Vote: All yes.

The Resolution was adopted.

(Prepared Resolution filed as part of these minutes to award the base bid for the CDBG funded contract for the George W. Johnson Playground Equipment project to Marchuska Brothers Construction LLC, 408 Commerce Road, Vestal, NY 13850 in an amount not to exceed \$81,550.00. The Supervisor, Deputy Supervisor, and Planning Director are further authorized to execute the contract and any other documentation required to complete the project. (Village of Endicott has elected to go with the base bid and forego the alternate bids.)

Res. Augustini, seconded by Bertoni.

Vote: All yes.

The Resolution was adopted.

### HEARING OF VISITORS:

Terri Farrell, 404 Hazel Avenue, Endicott, thanked the Board for allowing the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Arbor Day event to take place at Glendale Park this past weekend, and for all the support from the Board, particularly Councilwoman Heather R. Staley. She said they had an amazing turnout with boy and girl scouts, a ton of entertainment, Village of Endicott Trustees and speakers including Supervisor Richard A. Materese and Councilwoman Sandra C. Bauman, who helped give out awards to all the kids from Union Endicott School District who participated in



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the Poster Contest with theme of "The Trees Outside our Windows." She gave the history of how the Tree Committee started in December 2020, when 35 healthy Bradford pear trees were cut down on South Street in the Village of Endicott and the residents filed a petition against their demise. She said Councilwoman Heather Staley reached out to her' knowing her background in Environmental Science and Forestry, and they decided it was an opportunity to raise awareness of the importance of trees to our community. She said with the help of Laura Brancovich, an area manager for Saving Resource Group who helped the City of Binghamton become a Tree City USA, we were also able to meet the four criteria needed to reach this distinction. The criteria were to form a Tree Board, show that \$2.00 per capita is used for tree maintenance, establish a Tree Committee and finally, hold an Arbor Day event. She further said she is very excited to eventually be able to present this Tree City USA acknowledgement to the Town of Union and said that they could not have done it without the help of the Board. She said she offered to do the event in the Village of Endicott originally, but was told it was too short of notice for them to participate. She is happy to announce that she received another \$1000.00 grant and plans to hold an Arbor Day event in the Village of Endicott at Mersereau Park in the fall.

Supervisor Richard A. Materese thanked Terri for getting this worthwhile project going. He said he isn't sure who was dressed in the costume of Dr. Cleo, but he commended the young man for taking the time to redress in the costume (a 15 minute ordeal) after his shift was done, to get a photo with a special needs child who missed the original photo opportunity.

Terri Farrell added that when she was researching what to do to have a successful Arbor Day event, she learned it was important to have an arborist available to educate people on trees and their importance. She gave a huge shout out to their arborist Jeff Cook, who recently passed away. She said they established the Environmental Science and Forestry Scholarship in memory of Jeff Cook, to give to a graduating senior from Union Endicott. Mr. Cook's family is from Vestal and requested that a Vestal student be able to receive the scholarship. We started out with a goal of \$1000.00 and raised \$2000.00. This year, we will be giving out two \$1000.00 scholarships, to a Union Endicott and a Vestal student, and every year they plan to raise money for the scholarship. She said Jeff Cook was an arborist, hunter, craftsman, and fisherman who had a compassion for trees and his legacy will live on through this scholarship. She said if anyone is interested in supporting this foundation, they should contact Councilwoman Heather R. Staley.

Village of Endicott Mayor Linda Jackson thanked Terri for taking on this event. She clarified that some of the trees removed from South Street were maple trees that the Electric Company took down because they were hard to keep trimmed, some trees were removed by the Street Department because the roots were raising the sidewalks and the rest were taken down by the Water Department because they were causing problems with the sewer laterals and were hurting the infrastructure. She said the department heads came to her and said they needed to remove the trees to protect the infrastructure. Mayor Jackson said she didn't realize it was that many trees involved, but, she gave them carte blanche to do what they needed to do. She said if they had planned this better, they would not have taken all the trees



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at one time. She said she is researching with Cornell University what ornamental trees can be planted and will not hurt the infrastructure.

Carol Layton, 123 Wilson Avenue, Endwell, said she attended the Arbor Day event and said it was fantastic. She said it was a much better event than the one Binghamton had, where they had 5<sup>th</sup> graders plant the trees and that was it. She congratulated Terri and Heather on a job well done.

Supervisor Richard A Materese also thanked the Parks Department for all they did for this event.

As no one else wished to speak, Supervisor Richard A. Materese closed the second Hearing of Visitors.

### DEPARTMENT REPORTS ON FILE IN THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE:

Moved by Augustini, seconded by Bertoni to receive and file the following Department Reports:

1. Comptroller's Monthly Report - March 2021.
2. Zoning Board of Appeals Decision –Area Variance 1233 Cherese Lane , Town of Union, NY Tax Map Number: 127.08-1-6  
Carried.

Councilwoman Heather R. Staley thanked Ray Vanderpoel and all of the Parks Department for helping with behind the scene jobs to plant the trees – dig holes, back fill and secure the trees after planting. She also thanked the Tree Committee volunteers for all their hard work to put on this successful event. She further said that there are three trees at Highland Park that fell due to the wind that need to be replaced.

Councilwoman Sandra C. Bauman asked if anyone had pictures of the Arbor Day event, to send a copy to Town Clerk Leonard J. Perfetti so they can be put on the website. She said kudos to the committee for the success of the event.

Councilman Thomas R. Augustini said on Friday, May 7, 2021, the Broome County Land Bank is demolishing the house at 108 Roosevelt Avenue, Endicott that was recommended by Councilman Frank J. Bertoni. He thanked Mayor Jackson and the Village of Endicott for



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covering \$8,000.00 of this project. He said it is not often that the Land Bank gets help from a municipality for demolitions.

Supervisor Richard A. Materese officially said goodbye to Comptroller Laura J. Lindsley who will be retiring on May 14, 2021 after 9 years of service. He said she has been a dedicated employee and wished her well on her retirement.

### ADJOURNMENT:

Move by Augostini, seconded by Bertoni to adjourn the meeting,  
Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 P.M.

Leonard J. Perfetti  
Town Clerk

LJP/bk