

SPECIAL MEETING
WOLCOTT TOWN BOARD - May 21, 2020

A special meeting of the Wolcott Town Board was held Thursday, May 21, at 1:00PM at the Town Hall with the following people present:

PRESENT - Supervisor - Lynn Chatfield
Councilman - Adam Ellis, Jr. (Absent)
Councilman - Daniel Youngman (Phone/In Person)
Councilwoman - Lori Furguson (Phone)
Councilman - Derek Ceratt (Video)

OTHERS PRESENT - Jessica Freer, Town Clerk; Amber Roberts, Assessor/Supervisor's Clerk; Karli Starczewski, Assessor's Clerk; Jaime Balcom, Deputy Town Clerk,

Supervisor Chatfield called the meeting to order at 1:04 PM.

The Purpose of the special meeting was to discuss frozen EFC funding.

EFC AND PORT BAY SEWER DISTRICT -

Lynn addressed everyone present and said the reason the meeting was being held was to discuss EFC frozen funding and how to pay the contractors and the Amber spoke. Amber received a message from EFC (Environmental Facilities Corporation) that New York State is holding funds, Amber said they are not giving the Town money to pay the contractors for work they have billed us, they don't know when or if the funds will be available. Amber said the cost to finish the project is around 4 million dollars, she said there is a CD worth around 1.1 million that is up for maturity on June 26th with an early withdraw penalty, she said those funds are available immediately. A question Amber posed is what to be done if the fund hold continues, she said if work continues the Town will have bills they cannot pay but also if the project is stopped the Town could have lawsuits and penalties. Amber said there is money in the Port Bay Sewer Debt Service about 300 thousand dollars that can be used for the bills but if it is not reimbursed there is no way to pay for the debt service. She is asking the Board what to do. Lynn said he has spoken to Brian Manktelow about this and it is a statewide problem at the moment. Lori asked if those bills have to be paid today, Amber responded "yes".

There was a problem with some of the Board Members hearing the meeting. Dan was going to drive to the Town Hall to be present at the meeting. Lynn decided to pause the meeting at 1:08PM until everyone was able to connect and hear the meeting

The meeting resumed at 1:34pm

Amber again spoke about the immediate problem that has occurred with the frozen funds, how to pay the bills for the Port Bay Sewer District that were approved by the Board. She again gave the options on how to pay the bills that are due immediately. The Board discussed what they wanted to do. Amber said they money currently coming from EFC is state grants not loans and it is around 1 million dollars to finish just Phase 1 of the Port Bay Sewer Project.

RESOLUTION #33-20 AUTHORIZING THE SUPERVISOR'S CLERK TO TRANSFER MONEY FROM PORT BAY SEWER OPERATING ACCOUNT TO PORT BAY SEWER PROJECT ACCOUNT -

The following resolution was presented by Lori Furguson, moved by Dan Youngman, seconded by Derek Ceratt,

WHEREAS, Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) reimburses the Town of Wolcott for work completed by Blue Heron Construction Company for the Port Bay Joint Sanitary Sewer Project; and

WHEREAS, EFC did not reimburse the Town of Wolcott for bills accrued during the month of May by Blue Heron Construction Company; and

WHEREAS, Blue Heron Construction Company submitted an invoice to the Town of Wolcott that is on the Abstract for May 2020 in the amount of \$261,206.56; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Wolcott will need to transfer money from the Port Bay Sewer Operating Account to the Port Bay Sewer Project Account to pay for the amount invoiced; and

WHEREAS, when EFC reimburses the Town of Wolcott for the invoiced amount of \$261,206.56 from Blue Heron Construction Company the Supervisors Clerk will correspondingly transfer that amount back to the Port Bay Sewer Operating Account;

NO THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to allow the Supervisor's Clerk to transfer \$261,206.56 from the Port Bay Sewer Operating Account to the Port Bay Sewer Project Account to pay the invoice submitted by Blue Heron Construction Company,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Supervisor's Clerk will correspondingly transfer \$261,206.56 back to the Port Bay Sewer Operating Account when EFC reimburses the Town of Wolcott.

VOTE - AYES 4 NAYS 0.

Lynn said he is waiting to hear from Brian Manktelow and Pam Helming. Amber said she was going to give the check to Blue Heron today after she has transferred the funds.

A motion was made by Lori Furguson, seconded by Derek Ceratt, to adjourn the meeting at 1:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Freer
Town Clerk