

May 2, 2022- WORK SESSION

The Work Session of the Town of Dickinson Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Michael A. Marinaccio at 5:30 PM on Monday, May 2, 2022 at the Town Hall, 531 Old Front Street, Binghamton, New York and via Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81927745879?pwd=T3NDWks4eFRxaWlpcFdwZnphV1lsZz09>

Meeting ID: 819 2774 5879

Passcode: 928601

Phone: 1-646-876-9923

The members of the Town Board present were:

**Michael A. Marinaccio, Supervisor
Stephen M. Gardner, Councilperson
Sharon M. Exley, Councilperson
Danny F. Morabito, Councilperson
Thomas J. Burns, Councilperson**

Also attending:

**Nathan D. VanWhy, Esq., Attorney for the Town
Susan Cerretani, Town Clerk**

Also in attendance:

Public Works Commissioner Joel Kie, Code Enforcement Officer Steve Rafferty, Town Engineer Ron Lake, Zoning Board Chair Jeanne Compton, and two members of the public.

PUBLIC HEARING

Supervisor Marinaccio opened the Public Hearing at 5:30 PM regarding an increase in the sewer rent to \$8.00 per 100 cubic feet above 101 cubic feet of estimated or actual metered water consumption effective June 16, 2022.

Public Hearing: Mr. Marinaccio stated this hearing is to discuss an increase in the sewer rent to \$8.00 per 100 cu. Ft above 101 cu. Feet of estimated or actual metered water consumption which will take effect June 16, 2022. Our present sewer rate is \$6.50 per 100 cu. ft of water consumption.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None being heard.

Supervisor Marinaccio closed the Public Hearing at 5:32 PM.

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CHAIR

1. I want to thank our Public Works staff and Joel for the great work they did during and after the storm that hit us on Tuesday, April 19.
2. I met the **NY State Governor Kathy Hochul, County Executive Garnar** and other county and state representatives in person at the **EOC** offices that Tuesday afternoon to discuss the emergency status of our region regarding the effects of the storm.
3. I learned that while **NYSEG** was working on restoration of power to over 50,000 residents in Broome and Tioga Counties, they were behind in supplying dry ice and water to the affected residents. They are obligated to supply those items during a prolonged power outage. A **NYSEG** representative did call me at least twice a day to see how our town was doing and kept me up to date on restoration of power in our town.
4. I received a message from a resident who lives on N. Broad, and she wanted to know if we were in the process of condemning 20 N. Broad. I told her I would keep her informed as we learn more about this property.
5. I met with the County Executive on Wednesday, April 27 via zoom for his quarterly municipal updates. The focus was on the storm, but we also discussed the capping of sales tax on gasoline sales at \$3.00 per gallon which could save people additional money per gallon coupled with the state sales tax cap of .20 cents per gallon. I agreed that this was a great idea. This will begin June 1st through December. This move should have very little impact on our share of sales tax since the high price of gasoline was not expected in terms of budgets.
6. **Small Community Grants** are open, a new grant program for **Community Beatification** is now available. Grant applications are due May 13th
7. As everyone is aware, Bev is planning to retire this July. Bev and I have reviewed many applications and interviewed many of them as well. We are ready to hire someone with board approval. Her name is Sherry Jackson and has a very good background and experience in this field. Her starting salary will be \$44K. She will receive a stipend of \$2K per year for work on the cemetery and once she is fully trained in water and sewer billing/monitoring, she will receive an additional \$10K to her salary. Bev will be here to train Sherry. Bev will also stay on after her retirement in July on a part-time basis to run the water/sewer billing and train Sherry on all the formalities of water/sewer. We are looking at a start date of May 23rd. Sherry will also give her current employer a two-weeks' notice.

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RESOLUTION 2022-17

The following Resolution was offered by Councilperson Gardner, who moved its adoption, seconded by Councilperson Exley to wit:
BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Dickinson, Broome County, New York as follows:

RESOLUTION: APPROVING THE HIRING OF SHERRY JACKSON FOR THE POSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT AT A STARTING SALARY OF \$44 THOUSAND DOLLARS, A STIPEND OF \$2 THOUSAND DOLLARS FOR THE CEMETERY AND AN ADDITIONAL \$10 THOUSAND DOLLARS ONCE TRAINED FOR WATER/SEWER BILLING AND MONITORING.

The question of adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call which resulted as follows: All in favor. Vote Ayes –5, Nays – 0, Absent-0.

Supervisor Marinaccio voting Aye
Councilperson Gardner voting Aye
Councilperson Exley voting Aye
Councilperson Morabito voting Aye
Councilperson Burns voting Aye

All in favor

ATTORNEY

SEWER RATE INCREASE

Attorney Van Why stated that we need to put a sewer rate increase plan in place to take effect June 16th. He will supply Clerk Cerretani with the resolution for next week's meeting. Supervisor Marinaccio stated that he thinks the residents will understand. We are a customer of the Joint Sewage Operation, and we don't have control; our hands are tied.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Commissioner Kie reported:

- Lot of debris from the storm. All roads are open. Will probably have another week of cleanup.
- Glenwood cemetery is open; the roads are cleared.
Supervisor Marinaccio stated that he is proud of the things that Public Works Commissioner Kie and the Highway Department crew do for the residents; they do a great job.
- **Cleanup Day** is May 21st.
- **Electronic recycling Day** will be held on October 1st from 9 am to 1 pm. We will put the information on the website. The landfill handles hazardous waste. They will send a company out to collect the items and take them away.
- Mr. Kie will meet with Councilperson Exley and Councilperson Burns next to go over what to propose to the board in regard to future projects.

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- Mr. Kie will be out of town next Thursday to attend an executive board meeting.
- Mr. Kie would like to add two employees to the Public Works Department. One of the prospective employees is a former member of the **Prospect Terrace Fire Company** and the other lives in the Village of Port Dickinson. Supervisor Marinaccio remarked that Mr. Kie has been short two people for a long time. We will schedule a vote per resolution at next week's meeting.
- Mr. Kie stated that the Water Department will be replacing the water main on Pineview Drive starting May 4th. The project will last a couple weeks. There were four water breaks in less than two weeks. It is a short street with only four houses on it. The survey stakes will be placed tomorrow. It is a **Self-Help** project. The fire hydrant will be relocated.

CODE

Nothing to report.

ZONING BOARD

Zoning Board Chair Compton had nothing to report.

PLANNING BOARD

Mr. Marinaccio stated that the Planning Board is doing important work with independent thinking. He is very pleased and thanked the members.

Councilperson Gardner reported that he attended the Broome County Association of Towns monthly meeting. There were seven people in attendance.

Town Engineer Ron Lake reported that the **MS 4** report is done, and he will be submitting it tomorrow.

On motion by Supervisor Marinaccio, the work session was adjourned by a motion from Councilman Morabito and seconded by Councilman Burns at 6:09 PM. all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Cerretani, RMC
Town Clerk