

February 14th, 2024

A regular meeting of the Madrid Town Board was called to order at 6:30 PM in the town office.

Members Present: Tony Cooper, Kevin Finnegan, Emily Losey, Garry Wells, Bill Barkley-Hwy Supt., and Zoe Hawkins- Town Clerk.

Absent: David Fisher

Also Present: Marsha and Ted Champagne

Public Comment: The planning board meeting on 2/15/2024 will LF Energy to look at the site plan review for the Digester to be built at Mapleview Dairy.

The Zoning board is having a public hearing Tuesday, the 19th for public comment on the Jaquith Solar project.

Library Board: The library board sent a Thank you card for the raises they were given for 2024.

MDMS: Bill reports that he has sent donation letters, has planned fundraisers, and is currently applying for grants.

Other Public Comment: Marsha Champagne stopped in to follow up on the cat situation at the house across from hers. Mike Gilbo has trapped 16 cats and brought them to the humane society. The cats are all testing positive for a very contagious but treatable virus.

2 applications have been received for the Posted Animal control officer job, the personnel committee will meet and review them.

Monthly Report: The board reviewed the monthly report, Kevin Finnegan made a motion 2nd by Garry Wells to acknowledge receipt of the monthly report. All in favor.

Monthly Bills: The board reviewed the bills, General 24-53 in the amount of \$38,251.47, Highway 12-24 in the amount of \$ 45,322.28, Water #5-11 in the amount of \$5,179.97, Sewer #5-14 in the amount of \$8,840.23, Lighting #2 in the amount of \$2,042.78, and Trust and Agency #2 for the amount of \$6,003.57. Kevin Finnegan made a motion 2nd by Emily Losey to pay the monthly bills. All in Favor.

Communication: Justice court fund for December 2023, State- \$2,423.00; Town-\$1,995.00.

1st Quarter Sales Tax \$109,608.16.

Highway: The bus stop was delivered in the end of January, if it is into installed within 3 months of delivery, the warranty will be expired. Karen Bage is trying to stretch out the warranty due to it being winter.

Bill has received 1 application for the Highway department, the board told Bill to make a job posting for a new highway employee.

Bill ordered a new plow truck, \$285,963.00.

The generator for the building has been installed.

There is a tree that needs to be taken down for the sidewalks to be installed. The town is going to request that the County remove it. Tony is going to contact Ben Hull on the matter.

Bill says the cap for the exhaust fan at the community building has been destroyed, and he is unable to get a new one ordered. Kevin Suggested going to the “Tin Man” in Potsdam.

Old Business: Closing tentatively on the street lights on March 18th

New Business: The supervisor Associated has asked that the Town of Madrid pass a resolution supporting correctional facilities remaining open. Kevin Finnegan made a motion to accept the following resolution, 2nd by Emily Losey. All in favor of accepting.

RESOLUTION NO. 2-2024

REQUESTING A PARDON FROM THE PLANNED CLOSURE OF ANY PRISONS IN ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY AND URGING GOVERNOR KATHY HOCHUL TO CONSIDER THE IMPACT ADDITIONAL PRISON CLOSURES WILL HAVE ON THE LOCAL ECONOMY OF THE NORTH COUNTRY

WHEREAS, Governor Kathy Hochul released her proposed 2024-2025 Executive Budget on January 23, 2024, which included legislation to close up to five (5) State correctional facilities, and

WHEREAS, in 2022, the North Country withstood a significant impact from the closure of the Ogdensburg Correctional Facility, which was one of six prisons shut down that year, and the local economy and families are still struggling with the aftermath, and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 276-2022 made a request to Governor Hochul to continue heating the Ogdensburg Correctional Facility until a realistic plan for its reuse, and the Governor demonstrated her good faith and genuine desire to redevelop the property by keeping the heat and lights on in the building to prevent needless destruction, and until the Redevelopment Commission she created successfully transitioned the facility into productive use that results in new jobs, new economic development opportunities, and real growth for Northern New York, so hearing of the possible closure of more prisons is devastating news, and

WHEREAS, further prison closures in St. Lawrence County will again lead to job loss impacting already stressed families that rely on these correctional facilities, and will affect the economic well-being of the entire community, resulting in the relocation of families and more vacant properties, and

WHEREAS, in addition, closing prisons affects public safety, which should be the top priority of the State of New York, and shutting down additional facilities throughout the State will further exacerbate the increasing crime rates and decrease safety within prisons by consolidating them even further,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators requests a pardon from the planned closure of any prisons in St. Lawrence County and urging Governor Hochul to consider the impact additional prison closures will have on the local economy of the North Country, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Katherine Hochul, Senator Mark Walczyk, Senator Dan Stec, Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush, and Assemblyman Scott Gray.

STATE OF NEW YORK)

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COUNTY OF ST. LAWRENCE)

I, Zoe Hawkins, Town Clerk of the Town of Madrid, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that I have compared this Resolution No. 2-2024 Entitled "Requesting a Pardon from the Planned Closure of Any Prisons in St. Lawrence County and Urging Governor Kathy Hochul to Consider the Impact Additional Prison Closures will have on the Local Economy of the North Country)", adopted February 14, 2024, with the original record in this office and that the same is a correct transcript thereof and of the whole of said original record.

Zoe Hawkins, Town Clerk

Town of Madrid

There is a solar eclipse on April 8th that seems to be attracting a lot of attention for the area, Tony is concerned about people trying to park campers in the park, the park is not a campground and this will not be allowed.

Kevin Finnegan made a motion 2nd by Emily Losey to approve the minutes of the January 10th Board meeting.

The next regular meeting will be Wednesday, March 13th at 6:30 PM.

Kevin Finnegan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25P.M. All in favor.

Zoe Hawkins, Town Clerk