

TOWN BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 27, 2023

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Board of Supervisors, Town of Florence met on the 27th day of November, 2023 with Chairman Tim Bomberg and Supervisors John Holbrook and Shane McLain present.

On a motion by McLain and seconded by Holbrook the agenda was approved as posted. All in favor, motion carried.

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on November, 13, 2023, were approved on a motion by Holbrook and seconded by McLain. All in favor, motion carried.

Deb Emond questioned the board regarding the change in refuse collection and how the board came to the decision to assess a special charge to property owners without informing and inquiring with the property owners that would be affected. Emond express disappointment in the “Informational Meeting” that was held on November 13, 2023, in that a decision and contract was already approved prior to that meeting and implied that decisions were made under closed doors. Emond also stated she couldn’t find the minutes of the meeting where the contract was approved, on the website. Chairman Bomberg informed Emond that the board was aware that the industry for refuse collection was going to the automated collection and that the town would be required to transition to this type of service. Bomberg went on to say that meetings were held in closed session to discuss contracts with Green For Life with a decision to seek additional proposals for collection was in the best interest of the town. Bomberg added that information was constantly changing, delaying mailings with the intention of informing property owners.

Paul Kaplewski of Old Hwy 69 E was also in attendance to express his concern on how this decision transpired and expressed he has very little refuse.

Bomberg explained what the town has looked at options to keep costs down which included eliminating routes traveled of collection reducing mileage, providing larger dumpsters at locations, purchasing our own carts, requesting property owners to share carts, as the town is charged per stop.

Tom Brandt of Duck Lake Rd expressed that the town board is elected to make these types of decisions and if is the way it is being done all over. Marcia Krcma asked if the town board would consider holding a “town meeting” in the future, before assessing a “special charge” on the tax bill. Bomberg stated that it would be at the boards’ discretion and it is something the board does not take lightly in considering. Discussion on this topic continued until 7 p.m.

Clerk/Treasurer, Shelly VanPembrook submitted a draft of a policy regarding residentially owned refuse collection carts for board review and consideration for adoption on the December 12th, 2023 town board meeting and submitted November journal entries for board review.

Fire Department bills totaling \$528.47 were approved for payment on a motion by McLain and seconded by Holbrook. All in favor, motion carried.

Monthly town bills totaling \$81,408.88 and automatic withdrawals in the amount of \$14,473.81 were approved on a motion by McLain and seconded by Holbrook. All in favor, motion carried.

Under board concerns – McLain reported that property located on along Cross Cut Road –parcel # 010-1865-9 is in need of cleaning up. VanPembrook was instructed to send a letter informing him in the spring of 2024 the board expects to see improvement.

Holbrook expressed concerns of semi tractor trailers parking along Sawmill Rd this past weekend posing snow removal concerns. Bomberg will reach out to G&G Sawmill.

Bomberg mentioned that the voucher for fire department bills was for 1 helmet and in the amount of \$528.47. Complete set of turn-out gear \$4,500/ea.

There being no further business it was moved by McLain and seconded by Holbrook to adjourn until December 11, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the community center. All in favor, motion carried.

Submitted by:

Shelly VanPembrook
Clerk/Treasurer