

**TOWN OF READING BOARD MEETING**  
**March 11, 2020**

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Miller, Councilperson Gill, Councilperson Stamp, Councilperson Everett, Clerk T. Alger.

**EXCUSED:** Councilperson Richtmyer

The meeting was called to order at 7:30p.m. with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**VISITOR'S COMMENTS:**

Mark Rondinaro, Schuyler County Legislature, reported overall sales tax payment was up \$45,000 or 9.32% from 2019. Overall total for the year is up \$114,000 which is an increase of 9.7% which indicates a strong start for the year 2020.

**RESOLUTION # 20:** Councilperson Gill made a motion to accept the February 12, 2020 minutes as read. Seconded by Councilperson Stamp.

<b>AYES:</b>	Councilperson Gill Councilperson Stamp Councilperson Everett Supervisor Miller	<b>NAYS:</b> none
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**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**PLANNING:** Have invited Ross Spallone to the next PB meeting on March 19, 2020

**HIGHWAY:** Superintendent Rockwell read his report

**LANDFILL:** No report

**CLERK:** Clerk Alger read he report

**OLD BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION #21** Councilperson Gill made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Stamp to adopt the Local Law #1 Opting out of RPTL Section 487 Exemption for energy system improvements to real property. This local law will state that "providing no tax exemption shall be applicable within the Town of Reading with respect to any of the following: Solar energy system, wind energy system, farm waste energy system, micro-hydroelectric energy system, fuel cell electric-generating system, micro-combined heat and power generating system, electric energy storage system, or any other energy system intended to be covered by or apply to".

AYES: Councilperson Gill  
Councilperson Stamp  
Councilperson Everett  
Supervisor Miller

NAYS: none

The new generator has been delivered and plans have been made to complete installation on March 19, 2020.

No response was heard back from Town Atty ,T. Bowes, on generating a local law increase the current aged exemption sliding scale income limit proposed by the Real Property Tax Dept.

**RESOLUTION #22**-Councilperson Everett made a motion to accept and approved proposed bucket design for the new Volvo EWR 150E excavator. Seconded by Gill

AYES: Councilperson Gill  
Councilperson Stamp  
Councilperson Everett  
Supervisor Miller

NAYS: none

**NEW BUSINESS:**

We received a request from Judy Bartos, Visualization Specialist on the proposed solar far in the Town of Dix. After discussion the board decided the solar farm has little visual effect on the Town of Reading and we will respond in kind.

Tom Bloodgood would like to know our thoughts about having a full-time assessor vs currently utilizing a part time assessor. Many of the townships have indicated that it would be beneficial to them. The Board agreed that a full-time assessor would be beneficial even though it will cost us more.

**RESOLUTION #23** – Councilperson Gill made a motion to support the Soil and Water Conservation Districts be exempt from the proposed amendment to the NYS Environmental Conservation Law Section 15-0501 as it relates to the protection of certain stream. Seconded Councilperson Everett.

RE: RESOLUTION REQUESTING SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS BE EXEMPT FROM THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE NEW YORK STATE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW SECTION 15-0501 AS IT RELATES TO THE PROTECTION OF CERTAIN STREAMS

WHEREAS, the Schuyler County Soil and Water Conservation District reports that the New York State Assembly has passed legislation A08349 that adds Class "C" waterways, which are regularly used by people for boating, fishing, and other activities, to the list of protected streams and will require an Article 15 permit through the New York Department of Environment Conservation (DEC) necessary for any and all streams statewide, and

WHEREAS, The Soil and Water Conservation Districts already apply for permitting on these added streams through the Army Corps of Engineers and will be required to continue to do so, and

WHEREAS, Soil and Water Conservation Districts have established extensive stream remediation and habitat improvement programs for private and public stream work in our communities, utilizing their education, experience, equipment, and relationships with both public and private entities and individuals to conserve millions of tons of sediment, hundreds of thousands of pounds of nitrogen, phosphorus and other nutrients from impacting our pristine water quality through these programs on an annual basis, while protecting billions of dollars of public and private infrastructure annually through these programs, and

WHEREAS, the additional permitting processes anticipated under the proposed amendments to Subdivision 2 of section 15-0501 of the Environmental Conservation Law, while well-intentioned, are likely to have the unintended outcome of creating a lengthy backlog for permit approvals, causing delay and potentially presenting the abilities of New York State Soil and Water Conservation Districts to implement needed programs, such as those described above, and

WHEREAS, as a result, it is anticipated that flooding impacts will increase exponentially and billions of dollars of public and private infrastructure will be lost, and

WHEREAS, New York State organizations, such as, New York State Department of Transportation and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation have been exempted from this proposed law, and

WHEREAS, the New York State Soil and Water Conservation Committee, under the Department of Agriculture and Markets, provides oversight and maintains standards for the Districts and their programs; the Committee also distributes state aid based upon annual financial reports submitted by the Districts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Reading Town Board hereby requests an amendment to the proposed law to exempt Soil and Water Conservation Districts from the proposed changes, prior to further action and any enactment of the proposed amendments, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the New York State Committee on Environmental Conservation, New York State Senator O'Mara, New York State Assemblyman Palmesano, New York State Farm Bureau, New York State Soil and Water Conservation District's Employees Association, the New York State Association of Conservation Districts, the Schuyler County Highway Superintendent, Inter-County Association of Western New York and any others deemed necessary

AYES:	Councilperson Gill	NAYS: none
	Councilperson Stamp	
	Councilperson Everett	
	Supervisor Miller	

**RESOLUTION # 24:** Councilperson Gill made a motion to pay Abstract #003 as follows; seconded by Councilperson Stamp

General Town wide	\$	5,115.60
Town Outside Village	\$	60.10
Highway Town wide	\$	9,465.79
Highway Outside Village	\$	2,342.56
Sewer	\$	283.98
Water District	\$	0.00
Fire District #1 (WG)	\$	125,676.00

Total: \$142,943.25

AYES:

Councilperson Gill  
Councilperson Stamp  
Councilperson Everett  
Supervisor Miller

NAYS: none

**RESOLUTION # 25** Councilperson Gill made a motion to adjourn regular meeting at 8:45PM  
Seconded by Councilperson Everett