

Mexico Town Board  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
Held Monday, August 12, 2024 at the Town Hall 64 S Jefferson Street Mexico  
Commencing at 7:00 P.M.

Present: Eric Behling, Supervisor  
Judy Greenway, Councilor  
Russell Partrick, Councilor  
Cindy Robert, Councilor  
John Sharkey, Councilor  
Graham Seiter, Town Attorney  
Jack Spriggs, Dog Control Officer  
Diane Chepko-Sade, Friends of Mexico Point Park  
Carrie Bond, Mexico Point Park  
Shannon Bigelow, Park Manager  
Nancy Weber, Planning Board Chairwoman  
Ned Waterbury, ZBA Chairman  
Terry Grimshaw, Water Commissioner  
Barry Viggiano, C2AE Engineer  
Melissa, C2AE  
Nicole Wild, Town Clerk

Absent: Ron Marsden, Code Enforcement Officer  
Russ Marsden, Highway Superintendent  
Heather Garner, Assessor

And 13 in the audience.

Supervisor Behling opened the regular Town Board meeting at 7:02 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Councilor Robert and seconded by Supervisor Behling to accept the July minutes as presented. The motion was adopted by a vote of 4 ayes: Behling, Greenway, Robert, Sharkey, and 1 abstention: Partrick.

Communications

- Audio Visual Equipment – McAuslan Hall
- Literacy Coalition Letter
- AG & Markets Joint Committee Update
- AG & Markets Grant Writing Support

Public Comment

Concerns were: Dogs in the village near Spring Street and South Jefferson Street attacking people and pets. Dog Control Officer Jack Spriggs said he has been working with local law enforcement and several other local agencies regarding the dogs in question. Spriggs said the dogs have been removed from the town. Spriggs said that any victim of a dog attack has the right to take the dog owner to court regardless of where the dogs reside.

### Reports

#### **Town Clerk/Water Clerk-**

July disbursements as follows:

Supervisor for General Fund - \$2,949.00

NYS Animal Population Control for Dog Licenses - \$34.00

NYS Health Dept. for Marriage Licenses - \$45.00

Water Payment Collection Total: \$5,024.70

A motion was made by Councilor Partrick and seconded by Councilor Sharkey to accept the July reports as presented. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Greenway, Partrick, Robert, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

**Dog Control-** Mr. Spriggs read his report; 11 notices of unlicensed dogs were issued; one dog was picked up in June; the current village dog attack is being investigated and law enforcement is involved. Spriggs said he was addressed the caretaker of the dogs. Spriggs said the Department of Health and Oswego Animal Control are aware of and monitoring the situation. Mayor Grimshaw asked how to find out if a dog is licensed and has current rabies vaccination. Spriggs said the Town Clerk keeps records for licenses and rabies vaccinations are kept on file but only if the dog is actually licensed in the Town of Mexico; there are many instances of unlicensed dogs. Seiter said it is a difficult situation but that Mr. Spriggs is correct that it is not an easy case to prove a dog is dangerous; any bite history record should be kept on file in case the dogs return to the town. Mr. Smith, a resident, said there would be no doubt in anyone's mind that the dogs are dangerous. Seiter said he believes that but a dog is deemed dangerous by a court and if the dogs came back, the town could start the process of seeking a dangerous dog determination.

**Zoning Officer/Building Inspector-** Supervisor Behling read Marsden's report: 8 building permits issued with seven violations and an operating permit for fireworks at Mexico Point Park; inspections are ongoing; there were five water line inspections.

**Highway Superintendent-** Supervisor Behling read Marsden's report: general maintenance on equipment, picking up roadside trash, patching potholes, mowing and ditching are all ongoing; paving of Minkler and Dewey roads is completed; mowing of cemeteries, Mexico Point Park, and the Town Offices is ongoing.

**Community Park Manager-** Supervisor Behling read Marsden's report: mowing, trim, and trash collection is ongoing; a door and light in the men's room has been fixed. Behling said there is a hole in the pavement that he mentioned to Marsden to fix. Manager Bigelow said there is a leak in the office ceiling between the concession stand and bathrooms; the freezer in concession stand is broken; three sports leagues have started for fall- little league (fall ball), youth soccer, and football; pop warner is trying to use the new field space that has been opened up; the pavilion is booked every weekend and some weekdays for the rest of the summer.

**Mexico Point Park-** Friends President Chepko-Sade said Shakespeare in the park was successful despite the rain; the community players were excellent; the boy scouts at 5:30pm are helping take the tent down but they could use a few more hands; paranormal investigations have been going well in Casey's Cottage.

Manager Bond said she's maintaining the grounds; the water heater is now fixed; the tower lights have been picked up; the Health Department and DEC had to be called for an animal washed up on shore; there may be a coyote in or around the park.

**Planning Board-** Weber said there is nothing to report with no pending applications.

**Zoning Board of Appeals-** Waterbury said there were no July applications but the board took the opportunity to review using their town emails.

**Fire Department-** A Fire Department representative reported that they responded to 50 calls, completed 227 man hours, and the field days were a success; they provided support for the Fireworks Show at Mexico Point Park as well as a helicopter landing at Jellystone Campground; the department is planning on continuing with the field days since there are only two left in the county; the department thanks the community for coming out to support them at the field days event.

**Water Commissioner-** Terry said they did add one water service on County Route 16 short-side; the town water meter reads had some issues- 90 out of 546 meters couldn't be read mostly from water districts 1 and 2. Terry said they're trying to assess the issue and solve the problem; said the meters have a 20-year life span and many may need replacing soon; the village pipes are in the ground, valve replacements, 50-60% completion on new village water tank, hoping for services and paving to be mostly completed in September.

**Supervisor-** Supervisor Behling reported that July balances stand as follows:

General Expenses - \$96,069.93

Highway Expenses - \$153,406.64

General Balance - \$2,160,191.35

Highway Balance - \$1,910,258.94

A motion was made by Councilor Robert and seconded by Councilor Greenway to accept the Supervisor's August report as presented. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Greenway, Partrick, Robert, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

**Water District Update-** Mr. Viggiano introduced Ms. Snavlin; Mr. Yerdon is no longer with C2AE. Snavlin is taking over for Yerdon. Viggiano said easements need reviewing now that the transition of engineering has occurred and will get them to Seiter; we are waiting on a NYSDEC permit. Viggiano said the DEC is very far behind in reviewing applications and are short-staffed. Viggiano said the next step is to continue with the bidding process and outside user agreements. Viggiano said C2AE would like a billing amendment at some point. Viggiano said they are hoping to bid the project out in October, award it in November and construction start in spring of 2025. Mayor Grimshaw asked to meet with Viggiano before bids go out so everyone is on the same page; Viggiano said funding can be secured for water meter replacement. A resident asked why three locations on RT11 in Colosse were supposed to be in district 6 and have been hooked up to district 5 because she was told water districts cannot be changed after they're determined. Grimshaw said he would check to see if they're part of water district five. Viggiano and Snavlin left the meeting at 7:56.

**McAuslan Hall Update-** The Town Clerk reported that window replacement by Jacob Burke is underway.

**Cemetery Update-** none

A motion was made by Councilor Sharkey and seconded by Councilor Robert to accept all other reports as presented. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Greenway, Partrick, Robert, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

**Resolution 2024-54 Payrolls**

A motion was made by Councilor and seconded by Councilor to accept the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Greenway, Partrick, Robert, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board approves the July payroll.

**Ag & Mkt Steering Committee**

Ms. DeLong said the committee needs a commitment from the Town and Village Boards for sponsoring the event by covering a farmer's market event under general liability insurance and to allow them to establish a subcommittee specifically for the farmer's market; they would like a manager for the committee to be a volunteer position and for the board to authorize the subcommittee to draw up the job description for the position; there is a farmer's market resiliency grant that they would like permission to pursue. DeLong said she would like the town board to approve a request for a formal proposal from Nan Strozenburg. DeLong would like to request A/V equipment for McAuslan Hall and there is an option for \$1,350 from Best Buy that includes installation and IT support. DeLong asked the town to allow Etta Partrick to work on some grant applications on a voluntary basis with assistance from Allison Trudell and Katie Stout.

A motion was made by Supervisor Behling and seconded by Councilor Greenway to allow the Ag & Mkt Steering Committee to establish a subcommittee for the farmer's market. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Greenway, Partrick, Robert, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

A motion was made by Councilor Sharkey and seconded by Supervisor Behling to allow the Ag & Mkt Steering Committee to pursue the resiliency grant. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Greenway, Partrick, Robert, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

A motion was made by Councilor Greenway and seconded by Councilor Sharkey to request a formal proposal from Nan Strozenburg for a Farmland Protection Plan study. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Greenway, Partrick, Robert, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Supervisor Behling granted permission to Etta Partrick to pursue grant-writing on behalf of the Town on a volunteer basis.

**Resolution 2024-55 A/V Equipment Purchase for McAuslan Hall**

A motion was made by Councilor Greenway and seconded by Councilor Sharkey to accept the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Greenway, Partrick, Robert, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board approves the purchase of audio/visual equipment for McAuslan Hall for the purpose of presenting information at public meetings and conducting virtual meetings not to exceed \$1,500.

**Resolution 2024-56 Approve Town and Village Comprehensive Plan IMA**

A motion was made by Councilor Greenway and seconded by Councilor Partrick to approve the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Greenway, Partrick, Robert, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board approves the Town and Village of Mexico Comprehensive Plan Intermunicipal Agreement.

**Community Park Feasibility Study-** Supervisor Behling said he met with Allison Perry at the Community Park and reviewed the preliminary contract with proposed possible scope of work after Ms. Gleisner retired.

**Other Business-** none

**Resolution 2024-57 Audit Claims**

A motion was made by Councilor Sharkey and seconded by Supervisor Behling to approve the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Greenway, Partrick, Robert, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Resolved the bills for Abstract 8 have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts:

General A Fund	voucher #167-190	\$	77,694.13
General B Fund	voucher #69-75	\$	2,182.37
Highway Fund	voucher #114-132	\$	304,508.63
Water Fund	voucher #22-24	\$	29,868.75
Special Districts Fund	voucher #13	\$	451.10

A motion was made by Supervisor Behling and seconded by Councilor Sharkey to adjourn at 8:26 pm. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Greenway, Partrick, Robert, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Wild, Town Clerk