

Mexico Town Board
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Held Monday, October 14, 2024, at the Town Hall 64 S Jefferson Street Mexico
Commencing at 7:00 P.M.

Present: Eric Behling, Supervisor
Russell Partrick, Councilor
John Sharkey, Councilor
Graham Seiter, Town Attorney
Heather Garner, Assessor
Ron Marsden, Code Enforcement Officer
Russell Marsden, Highway Superintendent
Nancy Weber, Planning Board Chairwoman
Ned Waterbury, ZBA Chairman
Diane Chepko-Sade, Friends of Mexico Point Park
Carrie Bond, Mexico Point Park
Shannon Bigelow, Community Park Manager
Terry Grimshaw, Water Commissioner
Barry Viggiano, C2AE Engineer
Bill Kimball, C2AE
Marcia DeLong, Ag & Market Steering/Comprehensive Plan Committees
Shawn Edwards, Mexico Volunteer Fire Department
Nicole Wild, Town Clerk

Absent: Judy Greenway, Councilor
Cindy Robert, Councilor
Jack Spriggs, Dog Control Officer
Melissa Snavlin, C2AE Business Developer

And 3 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 Partrick and seconded by Councilor Sharkey to accept the September 9th and 23rd, 2024 minutes as presented. The motion was adopted by a vote of 3 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Communications

- AOT Newsletter- Et Cetera
- AED Discontinuation Letter from ZOLL & Cardiac Life

Public Comment

Concerns were: WSA 5 and 6 service area boundaries, newspaper article about the water districts fund report and fund balances.

Reports

Assessor- Assessor Garner introduced herself and described the work she has begun in the office, namely organizing; needs to shred documents and wants to know if she should purchase shredder or wait until a truck is hired; has worked with residents on exemptions; residents received assessment increases and were unaware until school taxes came out; working on access to Oswego county system, will continue to reach out to Oswego county to get access; Oswego County Real Property does enter the sales onto the database; will be getting ready to work on exemption renewals, which are usually put together and mailed out in October; introduced Ann Marie Evans as a potential assessment clerk; field work and building permit work will be happening next. Garner asked what would be expected of the assessment clerk hours-wise and salary-wise. Evans suggested every other Saturday and one night per week to be in-office and to complete certain work from home, like data entry. Behling and Partrick said they need to discuss their expectations and get back to Garner.

Town Clerk/Water Clerk-

September disbursements as follows:

Supervisor for General Fund	\$2,225.50
NYS Animal Population Control for Dog Licenses	\$52.00
NYS Health Department for Marriage Licenses	\$67.50
Water Payment Collection Total	\$14,810.68

A motion was made by Councilor Partrick and seconded by Councilor Sharkey to accept the September reports as presented. The motion was adopted by a vote of 3 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Dog Control- Supervisor Behling read the report; 13 notices of unlicensed dogs were issued; no dogs were picked up.

Zoning Officer/Building Inspector- Officer Marsden read his report; 9 building permits issued, 7 violations, violations are being corrected; inspections are ongoing for 104 open building permits.

Highway Superintendent- Superintendent Marsden read his report; general maintenance on equipment, picking up roadside trash, patching potholes, mowing, ditching, and mowing cemeteries, parks, and town offices. Marsden said he got three quotes for the pickup truck that needed replacing and gave the board copies of quotes. Behling asked if the western star has been delivered; Marsden said no but it's ready. Marsden said the quotes were all for ¾ ton pickup trucks: a Chevy, Ford, and Dodge and the trade-in value of the current truck to be replaced is approximately \$33,000.

Resolution 2024-64 Consider ¾ Ton Pickup Truck Purchase

A motion was made by Councilor Sharkey and seconded by Supervisor Behling to accept the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 3 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board approves the trade-in of the 2020 Ford F250 and purchase of a ¾ ton Chevy pickup truck for an amount not to exceed \$25,000.

Community Park Manager- Marsden read his report; mowing/weeding, trash removal, new field has been constructed; there are two games left for football then Marsden will winterize the restrooms and close the park for the season. Bigelow gave her report; they are closing for season the end of October; she would like to put things in place for next year during the off season and make sure she has schedules from each league; soccer is done for the season and baseball may be looking to expand their season; Bigelow would like to sit down with Superintendent Marsden and sports league presidents and be clear about field and park usage expectations; in particular, she would like to see leagues communicating with coaches and parents about trash being left in the park. Behling suggested the idea of collecting fees from sports league's use of the park may occur in the future to offset costs associated with hosting the leagues.

Mexico Point Park- Chepko-Sade said Casey's Cottage is closed for the season and thanked Counselor Sharkey for his help; she will be attending a state-wide conference this weekend for park committees; the 2025 fireworks contract is signed for next year with a fireworks date of Sunday, July 13 and a rain date of Sunday, August 3rd, 2025.

Bond said the bath house is closed and she is waiting on the plumber to winterize the bath house and will try to get to the park this week; the AED is safe in caretaker's cottage she expressed thanks to the highway crew for storing picnic tables; the rodent situation is scheduled to be addressed soon and she will work with Diane Chepko-Sade for access to Casey's Cottage if necessary. Partrick said he received a quote for insulation underneath the Caretaker's Cottage and it's \$1,500 to clean the old fiberglass insulation that's down there, \$3,500 to spray the floor, and \$1,500 to spray the interior foundation walls, which would be \$6,500 total; Partrick suggested the town seek assistance from the state since it is a state park. Sharkey said any wiring/plumbing needed should be done before insulation is applied. Officer Marsden said he would look down there to check wiring and plumbing before insulation is applied. Behling said it needs to be done soon and if the state chips in, it won't be awarded in time.

Resolution 2024-65 Consider Insulation Services for Caretaker's Cottage at MPP

A motion was made by Councilor Sharkey and seconded by Councilor Partrick to accept the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 3 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board approves insulation services for the Caretaker's Cottage at Mexico Point Park not to exceed \$7,000.

Bond said she had to call Sheriff's Department Thursday evening because people were coming to see the northern lights and some people were not agreeable about relocating to the boat launch side; people are entering the park after it is closed, and some are even attempting to camp for the evening. Chepko-Sade said part of the problem is that the internet search for the park does not take people directly to any official park website by the town or state. Mrs. Bigelow left at 7:45pm.

Planning Board- no report

Zoning Board of Appeals- Chairman Waterbury read his report; the ZBA approved a special use application for additional storage units by Mr. Constanza on ST RT 104.

Water Commissioner- no report

Supervisor's Report- Supervisor Behling reported that September balances stand as follows:

General Expenses	\$82,676.56
Highway Expenses	\$90,749.99
General Balance	\$1,954,736.42
Highway Balance	\$1,464,781.29

A motion was made by Councilor Sharkey and seconded by Councilor Partrick to accept the Supervisor's September and Quarterly reports as presented. The motion was adopted by a vote of 3 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Fire Department Report- Mr. Edwards read his report: 41 calls total, mutual aid and home district, 155 man-hours for drills, stand-by crew for high school football games, traffic control for homecoming parade; general drawing of hydrant system for connections is needed for records.

A motion was made by Councilor Partrick and seconded by Councilor Sharkey to accept all other reports as presented. The motion was passed by a vote of 3 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Water District 6 Update- Barry Viggiano introduced himself and Bill Kimball from C2AE. Viggiano said the DEC had reviewed the project and will be in touch with C2AE soon. Viggiano said they are still trying to post the bid in November and award in December so that we can break ground in the spring. Sharkey asked if DEC pushback is expected. Viggiano said comments sometimes contain things like spelling errors; they anticipate comments but are unclear what those comments might be and will respond accordingly. Viggiano expressed condolences to the town regarding the passing of Mr. Van Patten. Kimball left a small set of drawings for the town. Marsden, Kimball, and Viggiano left the meeting at 7:55. Behling said the town is anticipating the first interest payment around April 2026 regarding WSA6. Behling said he would respond to a resident's comments regarding WSA 5 and 6 properties at the next meeting. Behling said the fund balance found by Laird Petrie is due to needing new meters and work and that the board needs to establish a capital reserve fund for water districts; he feels that the board has done its due diligence as related to water district funds.

McAuslan Hall Update- none

Co Rt 64 Cemetery Update- none

Comprehensive Plan Committee Update- DeLong said the committee meeting last week was canceled.

Ag & Market Steering Committee Update- DeLong said the proposal and contract are awaiting the board's approval; the town has established an initial commitment of \$1,600 and has received a 25K grant; the initial commitment is the only thing out of pocket for the town, the rest of the consultant services are paid for by the grant; the village has committed funds and received a grant as well.

Resolution 2024-66 Payrolls

A motion was made by Councilor Partrick and seconded by Councilor Sharkey to accept the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 3 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board approves the September payroll.

Resolution 2024-67 Proposal for Farmland Protection Plan Consulting Services

A motion was made by Councilor Partrick and seconded by Councilor Behling to accept the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 3 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board accepts the proposal from Nan Stolzenburg at Community Planning and Environmental Associates for consultant services relating to the creation of a farmland protection plan.

Resolution 2024-68 Contract for Farmland Protection Plan Consulting Services

A motion was made by Councilor Partrick and seconded by Councilor Behling to accept the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 3 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board approves the contract from Nan Stolzenburg at Community Planning and Environmental Associates for consultant services relating to the creation of a farmland protection plan for an amount not to exceed \$25,000.

Ms. Delong left at 8:09pm.

Resolution 2024-69 Purchase and BAN of 2024 Ford F350

A motion was made by Councilor Partrick and seconded by Councilor Sharkey to accept the following resolution. Superintendent Marsden said this truck is replacing a 2015 truck and is a road maintenance truck; he said the purchase was approved but needs to be approved with the final amount. 70748.26 to BAN it the motion was adopted by a vote of 3 ayes: Behling, Partrick, and Sharkey.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board approves the purchase of a 2024 Ford F350 truck for \$70,748.26 and to BAN the amount pending a public hearing.

Resolution 2024-70 Purchase and BAN of 2023/2024 Western Star Plow Truck

A motion was made by Councilor Partrick and seconded by Councilor Sharkey to accept the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 3 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board approves the purchase of a 2023/2024 Western Star Plow truck for \$265,232 and to BAN the amount pending a public hearing.

Resolution 2024-71 Bond Council for BANs

A motion was made by Councilor Behling and seconded by Councilor Sharkey to accept the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 3 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board approves the firm Barclay Damon, LLP to prepare bonds for the town and Attorney Seiter to act as liaison between the firm and the town.

Resolution 2024-72 Schedule Public Hearing for Hwy Dept 2024 Ford F350 BAN

A motion was made by Supervisor Behling and seconded by Councilor Partrick to accept the following resolution. Attorney Seiter said his office will prepare the public notice and resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 3 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board schedules public hearing for Monday, November 11, 2024, to begin at 7:00pm or shortly thereafter at the Mexico Town Offices on 64 S Jefferson Street in the village of Mexico regarding a BAN for a 2024 Ford F350.

Resolution 2024-73 Schedule Public Hearing for Hwy Dept 2023/2024 Western Star BAN

A motion was made by Supervisor Behling and seconded by Councilor Partrick to accept the following resolution. Attorney Seiter said his office will prepare the public notice and resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 3 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board schedules a public hearing for Monday, November 11, 2024, to begin at 7:00pm or shortly thereafter at the Mexico Town Offices on 64 S Jefferson Street in the village of Mexico regarding a BAN for a 2023/2024 Western Star truck.

Resolution 2024-74 Schedule Public Hearing for Budget

A motion was made by Councilor Sharkey and seconded by Councilor Partrick to accept the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 3 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board schedules a public hearing to be held Thursday, November 7th, 2024, at 7:00pm or as soon thereafter as possible, at the Town Offices at 64 S Jefferson Street in the village of Mexico regarding the 2025 town budget.

Resolution 2024-75 Schedule Public Hearing for Fire Contract

A motion was made by Councilor Sharkey and seconded by Councilor Partrick to accept the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 3 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board schedules a public hearing to be held Thursday, November 7th, 2024, at 7:00pm or as soon thereafter as possible, at the Town Offices at 64 S Jefferson Street in the village of Mexico regarding the 2025 Fire Contract.

Resolution 2024-76 Schedule Public Hearing for Ambulance Contract

A motion was made by Councilor Sharkey and seconded by Councilor Partrick to accept the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 3 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board schedules a public hearing to be held Thursday, November 7th, 2024, at 7:00pm or as soon thereafter as possible, at the Town Offices at 64 S Jefferson Street in the village of Mexico regarding the 2025 Ambulance Contract.

Resolution 2024-77 Operation Reindeer Proclamation

A motion was made by Councilor Sharkey and seconded by Councilor Partrick to accept the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 3 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board approves the following proclamation:

Whereas, Christmas is a time for our community to show a spirit of caring for all citizens, and

Whereas, Operation Reindeer has displayed this spirit of giving by distributing toys to needy children, and

Whereas, The spirit of giving by Operation Reindeer is an important part of our holiday season,

Now Therefore, I, Eric Behling, Supervisor of the Town of Mexico, do hereby declare that the months of November and December shall be proclaimed as Operation Reindeer Months in the Town of Mexico and do hereby urge all our citizens to participate in this most worthwhile endeavor by making donations to this worthy cause.

Resolution 2024-78 Audit Claims

A motion was made by Councilor Sharkey and seconded by Supervisor Partrick to approve the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 3 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Resolved the bills for Abstract 10 have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts:

General A Fund	voucher #219- 242	\$	18,495.68
General B Fund	voucher #83-90	\$	2,583.39
Highway Fund	voucher #150-167	\$	104,834.34
Water Fund	voucher #25-26	\$	37,848.14
Special Districts Fund	voucher #16	\$	510.40

Behling read a note regarding the passing of Bob Green. Behling expressed condolences to Pastor Karen Green, friends, and family, and read information regarding services.

A motion was made by Councilor Partrick and seconded by Councilor Sharkey to adjourn at 8:33 pm. The motion was adopted by a vote of 3 ayes: Behling, Partrick, Sharkey, and 0 nays.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Wild, Town Clerk