*Town of Nichols*

*Regular Meeting*

*September 26, 2018*

*Supervisor Engelbert brought meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall located at 54 East River Rd. Nichols NY.*

*Pledge of Allegiance;*

*Roll Call;*

*Councilperson Ray Thetga (present), Councilperson Bill Middleton (present), Councilperson Esther Woods (present), Councilperson Barbara Crannell (present), Supervisor Kevin Engelbert (present), Karen Hunsinger Town Clerk.*

*Also present;*

*Warren Howler (Morning Times), Lesley Pelotte (Village Mayor), Tamara Gates, Robin & Darryl Seward, Frank & Virginia Okerasenski (Library), Rose Cole.*

***MINUTES*** *The motion to approve Minutes with corrections, made by B. Middleton 2nd by B. Crannell*

*Roll Vote;*

*R. Thetga (Abstain), B. Middleton (Aye), E. Woods (Abstain), B. Crannell (Aye), K. Engelbert (Aye).*

 *Carried 5-0-0-2*

***QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, & CRITICISMS FROM THE PUBLIC***

*Darryl and Robin Seward were present and are here to discuss their concerns over the bridge on Smith Creek Rd. The bridge is close to the Seward’s residence and needs to be replaced or fixed to hold amounts of water from flash flooding. The Bridge is very old and rusted; nothing has been done to it in years. The creek needs to be cleaned or the brush and trees removed.*

*The Highway Dept. did fix hole in Seward’s driveway but put gravel in creek which is just going to make situation worse.*

*A discussion ensued over bridge, Supervisor Engelbert stated that the Highway Superintendent is an elected position and therefore does not answer to the Board and the Board is not his boss, they can suggest what they feel as the board should be done, but they cannot make him do it. Board member Ray Thetga is a retired Highway Superintendent and he has offered to look at bridge and talk to present Superintendent about it, and what options there are to fix bridge for this winter and discuss replacing bridge in near future.*

*Supervisor Engelbert and Councilperson Thetga strongly suggested that the Seward’s contact DEC and Soil and Water at County to see what they can do to help and also to contact Superintendent of Highways Kevin Vought and to keep letting him know what a serious situation this is.*

*Supervisor Engelbert reiterated that the Board is not the Superintendents Boss.*

***NEW BUSINESS***

* *REAP – B. Crannell*

*2018 in Review –*

*New USDA Grant - REAP was awarded $96,000 through a USDA Grant to assist a start –up brewery in Owego with the purchase of equipment for their operation.*

*New USDA Grant - was awarded $51,500 to contract with a consultant for the creation & implementation of Phase II of the Tioga County Housing Study, in partnership with Tioga County with Tioga County ED&P, IDA and Tioga Opportunities.*

*Grant Administration – REAP continues to administer grants for small businesses that have positively impacted the Newark Valley, Nichols, Owego and Waverly Communities.*

*With REAP’s involvement there have been 16 full time jobs created since 2015, and another 10 new*

*Jobs anticipated.*

*With all that REAP is accomplishing B. Crannell would ask that the Town of Nichols continue to monetarily support the REAP Program with their $520.00 annual donation.*

*The motion to approve $520.00 annual donation and to appoint Barbara Crannell as REAP representative was made by B. Middleton 2nd by E. Woods.*

 *Roll Vote;*

 *R. Thetga (Aye), B. Middleton (Aye), E. Woods (Aye), B. Crannell (Aye), K. Engelbert (Aye).*

 *Carried 5-0-0-0*

* *2019 Budget – K. Engelbert*

*Town Clerk Karen Hunsinger presented the Tentative 2019 Budget to the Town Board.*

*K. Engelbert- (Budget Officer) stated, he stayed conservative and if Budget is passed as presented in Tentative Budget, the results will be;*

* *The Tax Rate for 2019 will be decreased by 27% from 2018 of 9.20 to 6.75 for 2019*

*The Chips reward for Highway in 2019 will be $200,000 increased from the $140,000 received in 2018.*

*Health Insurance increase of only 1.5%*

*Chips award for 2018 was $140,000, in 2019 will be $200,000.*

*2019 Highway Dept. will be conservative due to building Highway Barn.*

*Update on Highway Barn contractors started excavating two weeks ago, but DEC shut down excavating due to paperwork.*

*In Budget there are no figures for the line Item “Disaster Revenue” this is funds the Town receives for Fema and K. Engelbert stated he does not know these figures in advance and anything that comes in doesn’t affect the Budget because its paid out as soon as Town receives it.*

*K. Engelbert’s last statement about the Tentative Budget was “THANK YOU TIOGA DOWNS”.*

***ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS FROM BOARD MEMBERS***

*Red Cross – NES – evacuation center for emergency shelter for disaster victims/flood victims, agreement and survey.*

*Partners for shelter training for volunteers need something in place for flash floods and flooding, Generator will be installed at NES.*

*2011 Red Cross faded away, because no generator and NES was not set up for emergency evacuations, it was at the time the only place flood victims could get to easily and safely. CCNN will arrange program room to set up for emergency evacuations.*

*Tioga Downs are working on kitchen to get it prepared for evacuations and will also set up cafeteria/gym for evacuation.*

***UPDATE FROM TOWN DEPARTMENTS/PERSONNEL***

* *Planning Board – B. Crannell*

***OLD BUSINESS***

* *New York Rising – B. Crannell*
* *REAP – B. Crannell*

*See above (New Business)*

***ADDITIONAL OLD BUSINESS FROM BOARD MEMBERS***

*NES - B. Middleton*

*B. Middleton contacted Martins Plumbing and Heating for NES, to get an estimate for annual maintenance of NES heating, cooling and plumbing.*

*Cemetery – B. Middleton*

*A lot of phone calls, (Lynn Bailey) unhappy with mowing at Nichols Cemetery, while mowing they are hitting head stones and Lyn Bailey feels price is too high for mowing and trimming.*

***ACCEPT REPORTS/PAY BILLS***

*The motion to accept the reports and pay bills, made by B. Crannell 2nd by B. Middleton*

 *Roll Vote;*

 *R. Thetga (Aye), B. Middleton (Aye), E. Woods (Aye), B. Crannell (Aye), K. Engelbert (Aye).*

 *Carried 5-0-0-0*

***EXECUTIVE SESSION***

***ADJOURN***

*The motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:35pm made by R. Thetga 2nd by E. Woods.*

*Roll Vote;*

 *R. Thetga (Aye), B. Middleton (Aye), E. Woods (Aye), B. Crannell (Aye), K. Engelbert (Aye).*

 *Carried 5-0-0-0*

*The motion to reopen the meeting at 7:37pm, to pass a Resolution overlooked in meeting, made by K. Engelbert 2nd by B. Crannell.*

*Roll Vote;*

 *R. Thetga (Aye), B. Middleton (Aye), E. Woods (Aye), B. Crannell (Aye), K. Engelbert (Aye).*

 *Carried 5-0-0-0*

*RESOLUTION #8 – 2018*

*Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution*

*For Elected and Appointed Officials*

*BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Nichols /30649 hereby establishes the following standard work days for these titles and will report the officials to the New York State and Local retirement System based on their record of activities;*

*Elected Officials - Superintendent of Highways – Kevin Vought, Town Clerk Karen Hunsinger*

*Appointed Officials – Utilities Director Phillip Baker, Code Enforcement Officer Robert Huseby.*

*I Karen Hunsinger, secretary/clerk of the governing board of the Town of Nichols, of the State of New York , do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing with the original resolution passed by such board at a legally convened meeting held on the 26 day of September 2018 on file as part of the minutes of such meeting, and that same is a true copy thereof and the whole of such original.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the Town of Nichols on this 26 day of September 2018.*

***AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING;***  *I Karen Hunsinger being duly sworn deposes and says that the posting of the resolution began on September 27, 2018 and continued for at least 30 days. That the Resolution as available to the public on the Official sign board at 54 East River Rd. Nichols NY.*

*The motion to pass Resolution #8 -2018 made by K. Engelbert 2nd by B. Middleton*

 *Roll Vote;*

 *R. Thetga (Aye), B. Middleton (Aye), E. Woods (Aye), B. Crannell (Aye), K. Engelbert (Aye).*

 *Carried 5-0-0-0*

***ADJOURN***

*The motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45pm made by R. Thetga 2nd by E. Woods*

*Roll Vote;*

 *R. Thetga (Aye), B. Middleton (Aye), E. Woods (Aye), B. Crannell (Aye), K. Engelbert (Aye).*

 *Carried 5-0-0-0*

*Karen Hunsinger*

*Town Clerk*

*September 27,2018*