The Town Board of the Town of Trenton held a Work Session Meeting at the Trenton Municipal Center, 8520 Old Poland Road, Barneveld, New York. Supervisor Godfrey called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were: Councilmen Michael Bennison, Eric Taylor, Chris Crumb, James Farr and Town Clerk, Rachel Bunker. Also present: Joe Samson, and Kelli Samson.

I. Appointments

A. Rachel Bunker – as new Web Coordinator for Digital Towpath, Town of Trenton.
Crumb made motion to appoint Rachel Bunker as the new Web Coordinator for Digital Towpath, seconded by Bennison, 5 ayes.

B. John Bunker to Planning Board to replace Dave Constable effective January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2030, a 7-year term. Bennison made motion to appoint John Bunker to the Planning Board for a 7-year term beginning January 1, 2024, seconded by Taylor, 5 ayes.

C. Ryan Gilroy – Finance Authority Board for Mohawk Valley Water Authority. Farr made motion to approve Ryan Gilroy for Finance Authority for the Mohawk Valley Water Authority, seconded by Crumb, 5 ayes.

D. Resignation of Stephen Solliday, Jr. from the Recycling Center. Bennison made motion to accept Stephen Solliday's resignation from the Recycling Center, seconded by Farr, 5 ayes.

II. Resolutions

A. Back in 2023 the Board approved the purchase of a F250 for the grounds and park crew and were told it would come in within six months. It is sitting at Steet Ponte waiting for us to send in a check so we can pick up the truck. We need to approve to have a check cut by Rachel to pay for the truck so Rich can go pick it up. The truck is $51,000+. We will be selling his oldest truck, a 2018 with a plow for approximately $35,000. There will be a $15,000 expenditure when all is said and done. Taylor made motion to have Rachel cut a check to Steet Ponte so Rich can pick up the truck, seconded by Crumb, 5 ayes.

B. Hoke Properties Sale of Prospect Library and Ambulance Building. As of late there are no offers. Hoke is looking to take it off the market for a couple of months and re-introduce it and reduce it down to an asking price of $109,000. It is currently listed at $119,000. We have to get it sold this year and Hoke understands that. We will let this contract run out and sign a new contract for $109,000. Farr made motion to sign a new contract with Dave Hoke in a couple of months to sell the property for $109,000, seconded by Bennison, 5 ayes.

C. Rachel Bunker Compensation for 2023 Town Property Tax Preparation and Distribution. Rachel submitted an additional 50 hours of work that she wasn't required to do. It should have been done by the Clerk that left town on the 14th of December. He did officially put in a resignation letter on December 18th to the State of New York which no one knew. We received a copy of it after the new year. Rachel and all of her family stepped in and worked to get the taxes prepared to send out. Taylor made motion to pay Rachel for an additional 50 hours of work to prepare the taxes to be sent out, seconded by Crumb, 5 ayes.

D. Bronson Construction Offer for Town Land Next to Former Cindy's Diner. As of 12/16/2023 a subsidiary company of Bronze Contracting LLC known as Bronson's Countryside Bakery & Café LLC has purchased and closed on the sale of the former Cindy's Diner. He offered the town of Trenton $7,500.00 to purchase the vacant corner lot. Steve talked with the assessor and there has been no deed from Cindy's Diner to Bronze Contracting LLC. Originally Joe Smith had offered it for $10,000 and he came back at $7,500. Godfrey would like to see it go, but would like it to go for a little more, like $8,500.00. There was never an estimate as to what the property is worth. Bennison said there was an old gas station there at one time and because you don't know what might be left after the cleanup from that, he would take the $7,500.00 and the property gets sold "as is." Everyone agreed. Bennison made a motion to accept $7,500.00 for the purchase of the corner property next to the former Cindy's Diner, seconded by Crumb, 5 ayes.

E. Adirondack Bank Investment Proposal. Godfrey advised right now with NY Class we are getting 5.25 compounded daily. One million dollars generated $4,250.00 this month. We are looking at generating $40,000 to $50,000 in one year. Godfrey went into the bank and talked with Heather and told her we were looking at investing $500,000 into NY Class. She was hoping we were putting the money back into the bank. She said we could have a 60 day CD at 5.20%. Godfrey would rather just leave the money in NY Class and pull $500,000 out of our non-interest

account at Adirondack Bank and put it into the CD. Heather Lombardo (HP ADK Branch Manager) advised we would have immediate access to this money. We do have access to the NY Class money in a day or two. Bennison made motion to take $500,000 out of the accounts that are doing nothing and putting it in the 60 day CD with it in writing that we would have immediate access to the money, seconded by Crumb, 5 ayes.

F. Old Poland Bridge Update – Design Plan Payment. We received an invoice for the planning part. Last month we paid $41,000 for the start up. There is another $71,000 owed, but we are going to wait for the state money to come in. This is for the design phase. They haven't sent over any design plans or pictures to date. We will look at paying that down the road. Farr asked Steve if he can contact the county and let them know we would like a voice in the plans. Steve advised he would do that.

G. Godfrey said as far as the minutes – we could have probably approved them tonight but since it's a work session, it is not on the agenda. Since it's a work session, they will not be approved tonight. Rachel did send them to everyone to review, so they will approve them at the next meeting.

H. Steve had a message from BCA with the sewers. They requested additional information. We did receive a rejection from the DEC. The Water Quality Improvement Program said the site map and engineering report was incomplete. Joe Samson is helping Steve put together the information they requested. It's a long process and over the next year or two we are looking for money to proceed. The EDU (Equivalent Dwelling Unit) of $665 requires us to get approval from the State Comptroller. The Income Survey came in way low and that benefits us. Crumb said he got the information from Tug Hill Commission's local government conference coming up. The first day there is a local government roundtable. If we have questions about anything and need answers that would be good session to attend. Steve said if anyone wants to attend, let him know.

I. Discussion on CHIPS – Taylor said at the last meeting Stiehl brought up an additional $50,000 in budget for road paving. Godfrey said he had his Clerk, Audrey get in touch with NY DOT and they are coming in to our office on January 25th to have a discussion with them to make sure we are getting our share of the CHIPS money. Once we have the meeting with DOT, we can vote on the extra expenditure at our next board meeting. Stiehl will put in for what roads he wants to do and everyone will have to sign off on it. He will also put together a 5 year paving plan as was discussed in the October, 2023 meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel I. Bunker
Town Clerk