The Town Board of the Town of Trenton held a Town Board Meeting at the Trenton Municipal Center, 8520 Old Poland Road, Barneveld, New York. Supervisor Godfrey called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Present were: Councilmen Michael Bennison, James Farr, Eric Taylor and Town Clerk, Rachel Bunker. Councilman Chris Crumb was absent. Also present was James H. Mills.

I. Meeting called to order by Supervisor Godfrey at 7:02 pm

II. Pledge to the Flag

III. Privilege of the Floor: Jim Mills asked how the updates for labor at the Recycling Center were moving along. Godfrey advised that they built into the 2026 budget to raise them all up to $18 and said he thought Taylor was putting together a spread sheet. Taylor told Godfrey that he agreed to do that but was waiting for information as to how much the employees are making now and how long they have been there and hadn't received it yet. Godfrey told him he would get it to him tomorrow.

Jim Mills also asked if there has been any movement on the sale of the old library in Prospect. Godfrey said Kate is working with the attorneys on it and said he believes a notice had to go out to the public for 30 days. Rachel believes she did put it in the paper before her vacation and will check with Kate. Jim also asked how Kate is doing with the Local Law on digging culverts and ditches on town roads. Godfrey said as it is now, if the homeowner buys the culvert, we will install it the width of the driveway. Kate was going to study it more before the Board makes a Local Law.

Jim also asked if the town is advertising for a lease on the property on Route 12 and Main St. because he saw a sign there. Godfrey said he saw a sign on the property that was bought. Godfrey will take another look at where the sign is but doesn't believe it's on the part of the property that the town owns.

As an observation on Mappa Ave., Jim said since the town has trimmed all the branches at that one house that was covering the sidewalk, now there is a car that blocks the sidewalk almost every day.

IV. Resolutions:

A. Accept Offer from Hanover Insurance (Old Highway Garage): Godfrey gave the Board a quote from DND Construction Services and an email from Keith Mable, Adjuster from the Hanover Insurance Group. The insurance was $623,153 with $97,334 withheld as depreciation for a cash value of $525,819, less the policy deductible which leaves $523,319. We can take that number and do whatever we want as far as the building goes. But if we want the depreciation number back because the building was insured at replacement value and we build, we can get that $97,334 back. After talking to Jason, he is of the opinion that we go back to the design board on the building. We are looking at probably about $15,000 for excavating, $55,000 for the cement or foundation and another $200,000 for the building and about $30,000 for electrical. We were figuring about $400,000 total. Now we have access to $623,000. Godfrey asked the Board do they accept this offer or not.

Farr asked if we had to spend the whole amount of the insurance money in order to get it on the new building or can we put up a structure for $400,000 and still get the whole amount. Godfrey said if we decide that we are just going to take the $525,819 we can pretty much do whatever we want. But if we want the extra $97,334 we have to put up a garage. Since we aren't going to be moving forward until Spring maybe we should get a new design on something that is going to be more useful. Godfrey said if we accept the offer of $525,819 now and then when we construct the building, we have to show them receipts and if we spent over the $525,819 they will cut a check for anything that we spent over up to $623,153. Bennison made motion to accept the offer from Hanover Insurance, seconded by Farr, 4 ayes.

Godfrey also advised if some of the board members want to sit down with Don Ehre, and Jason to come up with a design, they can do that over the winter.

B. Adopt Updated Real Estate Property Tax Exemption 466A Volunteer Fire Fighters and Ambulance Workers: Rachel advised that Tonya brought this to her saying that there was a tax exemption in place for 10 years for volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers and it sunsets or comes to a close at the end of December. If we do not renew it, they will lose that. We need to adopt a new Property Tax Law 466A for which there will be no end expiration date.

Taylor made motion to adopt a new Property Tax Law 466A for volunteer firefighters and ambulance workers, seconded by Godfrey, 4 ayes.

C. Appoint Pati Casey to 5 Year Term on ZBA: Farr made motion to appoint Pati Casey to a 5 year term on the ZBA, seconded by Bennison, 4 ayes.

D. Appoint Kathy Kellogg to 5 Year Term ZBA as Alternate: Godfrey advised that she is already on the Planning Board. They will follow up with Kate or the Association of Towns to see if she can be on both boards. Tabled until the next meeting.

E. Approve September 10, 2025 Meeting Minutes: Bennison made motion to approve the meeting minutes from September 10, 2025, seconded by Taylor, 4 ayes.

V. Priority Issues:

A. Premo Property: Godfrey gave the Board a copy of an email from Debbie Premo's attorney. Originally the first lot, 205 Church St. was going to be a gift. In looking at the email it doesn't look like that now. It looks like she has 205 Church St. and 207 Church Street together with a purchase price of $20,000. We approved and spent $700 to have the old glove shop evaluated (the 205 property) for asbestos which did come back positive in the window glazing. And there is a price of $1500 to have that removed. Once it's removed, the town guys can take the building down. Godfrey asked should we come back with a counter offer? Rachel checked to see if taxes were paid and it appears they were not, but Rachel said if she paid the county, we wouldn't have that information. Godfrey will call Debbie and see if they were paid. After discussion ensued, Bennison made motion to accept the full terms of the offer of $20,000, seconded by Taylor, 4 ayes.

B. BCA Water Improvement Presentation: Godfrey said BCA wants to do a presentation and at that point we would look at hiring them to get the water project going. He needs to get them a date to do the presentation. After discussion it was decided October 8th before the Board Meeting. Godfrey will let BCA know and confirm with the Board.

C. Town Budget: Joe Smith, Bennison and Godfrey worked on the budget today and he believes they are down to the final. He should get it over to the Clerk by October 1st. Between then and the Thursday after Election Day there needs to be a Public Hearing.

D. **Prospect Memorial Field September 29, 2025:** The Hart Brothers wanted to give a tour to anyone interested in using the ballpark. Rachel advised as of now, it is planned from 6:00 to 7:30 on September 29th. However, she talked to Todd and he said hold off on doing any formal invites. The RSVP's are due tomorrow and everyone is in season right now. So if there is not going to be enough of a turnout, they are going to plan it for a later date. Rachel will keep the Board advised.

E. Highway 8th Man: Godfrey said he and Bennison met with Stan Koniszewski, III from the Teamsters and two of the Union Stewards, Nick Roczen and Brandon Hicks about the Paid Family Leave. Godfrey said it will not cost us a lot and it takes 90 days to get it going. They have 12 months to take that 12 weeks. Jason's concern is that after Christmas they might decide to take the leave and he will be short manpower. We will be getting information as to whether or not there are bylaws or if we have to be notified within a certain amount of time. The 8th man was already approved previously and money should be earmarked in the new budget. Rachel said she doesn't have any write up to put on the website from Stiehl.

F. Miner Properties: Godfrey contacted Bronze and now they are saying the building won't come down until November. The tax re-levy has to be done by mid October. We will have to approve it at the next meeting. We may end up paying $65,000 to take this building down and then have to sleep on it for a year. There are 3 billings for this; Bronze which is $45,000, Air Quality Rome Testing $2,500 and a tipping fee of $5,670. Godfrey will see if Bronze can speed it up.

VI. Communications: Next Meeting October 8, 2025 at 7:00 pm.

VII. Adjournment: Bennison made motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 pm, seconded by Taylor, 4 ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel I. Bunker

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Town Clerk