

**Town of Ancram  
Town Board  
Special Board Meeting  
May 2, 2015**

**Present:** Supervisor Arthur Bassin                      Councilman Hugh Clark  
                  Councilwoman Madeline Israel                      Town Clerk Monica Cleveland

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The special meeting of the Ancram Town Board was called to order at 9:00am by Supervisor Arthur Bassin with a salute to the flag. Mr. Bassin stated that there was a quorum present.

Mr. Bassin stated that the meeting had been properly advertised.

Mr. Bassin asked Clerk Cleveland to open the Lawn and Pool Maintenance bids. Mrs. Cleveland stated that the board was in receipt of one bid. The bid was opened and had been entered by Boice Home Care Services. The bid was for a total of \$14,000 for outside maintenance and \$7,380 for the pool maintenance. The total for a combined bid is \$1000 less, at \$20,380.

Mr. Bassin asked if the town board felt they would like to accept a combined bid or to have the town highway department take care of the lawns and Mr. Boice maintain the pool. Mr. Bassin stated that the numbers would be somewhere between \$6,000 and \$9,000 to maintain the lawn and that the town would have to purchase a mower and other equipment.

Mr. Bassin said he would like to accept the combined bid.

Councilman Clark stated that if the choice was between the town maintaining the property or a private company maintaining it, he would always go for a private company. He preferred the combined bid.

Mr. Terry Boyles asked a question about charging an hourly rate during the winter months specifically. Mr. Bassin said that the board could think about this.

Mr. Jacob Meiler questioned why the town would have to expend another \$9000 to have the highway department maintain town property. Mr. Bassin stated that it would just be a matter of allocating town funds to another line. The cost is estimated and it is based on a part time person to do the mowing over the course of an estimated 16 hours or use of town highway crew overtime.

Mr. Bassin suggested the Board accept the Boice bid for this year only and then look at this issue again next spring, after reviewing the costs for the highway department to do the lawn care with Jim MacArthur.

On the pool, Mr. Bassin said that Mr. Wittlinger had spoken to 5 different pool companies and that they were not interested in bidding because on a municipal pool.

Mrs. Barbara Simons stated that she has strong feelings about keeping the pool open.

Mrs. Clara VanTassel reminded the board that the pool was dedicated in honor of the men from Ancram who fought in WW2.

Mr. Jacob Meiler asked where the town got the 16 hour estimate. He asked if the company could keep a list of the hours this year. Mr. Bassin said he thought this was a good idea.

The following resolution was offered by a motion made by Councilwoman Israel and seconded by Councilman Clark and moved for adoption by a roll call vote as follows; Councilwoman Israel, Yes; Councilman Clark, Yes; Supervisor Bassin, Yes.

**Resolution #21 of 2015:**

The Town Board accepts the Bid by Boice Home Care Services to maintain the Lawns and the Town Pool for the Town of Ancram for the 2015 season, with the option at the end of the 2015 season to extend the contract to three years.

Mr. David Boice said that the mowing of the lawns does not just include the lawn mower but also needed a truck to move it with a trailer, trimmers, blowers and a push mower. Mr. Boice said that the pool is a municipal pool that the health department mandates that needs to be chemically checked each day. Mr. Boice was hopeful that more families will be moving to the area and will use the pool. He feels that it is a draw to keep young families here. He stated that the pool was dedicated in honor of 36 men who had fought in WW2 and that he did not agree with throwing away memorials.

Mr. Bassin stated that the town will keep the pool open this summer. The question will be whether the town will want to invest \$40,000 to \$50,000 or more in needed pool improvements in the near future.

Mr. Terry Boyles made the point of saying that it is important to the town that David's men are in the town as they are firemen and are close to the fire house. He felt this was a big plus for the community. He said the town needs to look into fixing the pool fence and the pool decking.

Matthew Boice suggested that the town also have the paper run an article on the history of the town pool.

Mr. Bassin announced that Mary Boice will be retiring from the Town after 36 years of service.

The town Highway truck sold at auction for \$17,000, much higher than expected.

Colleen Lutz and Jim MacArthur continue to work on the culvert study. There are possible grants, but the application date is June 15<sup>th</sup>. Colleen will work on this.

The following resolution was offered by Councilman Clark and seconded by Councilwoman Israel and carried unanimously.

**Resolution #22 of 2015**

**Close First Niagara Town Clerk Account: Resolved**, that the Town Clerk is authorized to close the Town Clerk account at the Copake Branch of First Niagara Bank and remit those funds to the Town Supervisor or deposit them in the Town Clerk account at the Bank of Greene County.

There being no more business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:36am on a motion by Councilman Clark and seconded by Councilwoman Israel. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Monica R. Cleveland  
Ancram Town Clerk