

Mexico Town Board  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
Held November 21, 2022 at the Town Hall 64 S Jefferson Street Mexico  
Commencing at 7:00 P.M.

Present: Eric Behling, Supervisor  
Larry Barber, Councilor  
Judy Greenway, Councilor  
Cindy Robert, Councilor  
Russell Partrick, Councilor  
Graham Seiter, Town Attorney  
Ron Marsden, Code Enforcement Officer  
Russ Marsden, Highway Superintendent  
Ned Waterbury, ZBA Chairman  
Diane Chepko-Sade, Friends of Mexico Point Park  
Nancy Weber, Planning Board Chairwoman  
Nicole Wild, Town Clerk

Absent: Richard Diehl, Park Manager  
Carrie Bond, Mexico Point Park  
Terry Grimshaw, Water Commissioner  
Jack Spriggs, Dog Control Officer  
Ian Yerdon, C2AE Engineer  
Tanner DeWolf, C2AE Engineer

And 1 in the audience.

Supervisor Behling opened the regular Town Board meeting at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Resolution 2022-103 Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Councilor Barber and seconded by Councilor Greenway to approve the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Barber, Greenway, Partrick, and Robert, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board approves the minutes from the October 10, 2022 Town Board meeting.

**Resolution 2022-104 Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Supervisor Behling and seconded by Councilor Barber to approve the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 4 ayes: Behling, Barber, Greenway, and Robert, 0 nays, and one abstention: Partrick.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board approves the minutes from the November 15, 2022 Town Board special meeting.

**Communications**

- Petition re: Smoke from Burning Wood

## Public Comment

There were no public comments.

## Reports

**Town Clerk/Water Clerk-** A motion was made by Councilor Greenway and seconded by Supervisor Behling to accept the October reports as presented. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Barber, Greenway, Partrick, and Robert, and 0 nays.

**Dog Control-** A motion was made by Councilor Greenway and seconded by Councilor Robert to accept the October report as presented. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Barber, Greenway, Partrick, and Robert, and 0 nays.

**Zoning Officer/Building Inspector-** Officer Marsden and Attorney Seiter will meet to discuss the burning of scrap wood as it relates to sawmill byproducts. Chairwoman Weber said the burning of scrap wood was never discussed when issuing the original permit but is unsure if this permit can be revoked for burning. Supervisor Behling noted that there was no condition for yearly review for renewal. Seiter said violations have been issued. Councilor Partrick asked if special permits are subject to annual review. Seiter said renewals may be subject to the new laws. Councilor Barber asked about the process for junkyard violations. Marsden said residents are given 10 days to remedy the violation and then receive a second notice. Seiter said the town can either do administrative hearings or pursue action through a court order.

A motion was made by Councilor Robert and seconded by Supervisor Behling to accept the October report as presented. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Barber, Greenway, Partrick, and Robert, and 0 nays.

**Highway Superintendent-** Supervisor Behling noted that contract negotiations will take place in 2023 but that the Town could file with the county for a position with the Highway Department. Councilor Robert said a new employee may have to pay union dues. Behling said someone will reach out to the union representative. Councilor Greenway said the Town needs to clarify if employees are able to opt out. Seiter said the contract will determine if that can be done. Marsden suggested the town consider something in the contract regarding the cost of obtaining a CDL license in exchange for a certain number of years of service. Marsden said the cost of obtaining the license is making it difficult to find employees who are already licensed. Marsden said the Town received two bids for tree-removal services required at the French Protestant Cemetery on US RT 11 to remedy vandalism which occurred in the warmer months. Wild opened and read both bids: Midstate Tree Service for \$20,000 and Mannise Tree Service for \$16,500.

A motion was made by Councilor Robert and seconded by Councilor Partrick to accept the October report as presented. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Barber, Greenway, Partrick, and Robert, and 0 nays.

**Park Manager-** Supervisor Behling relayed Mr. Diehl's report that the park is closed for the season; floors have been painted; the baseball and football leagues have left the stove a mess. Councilor Barber said there may be a better mix of grass seed for the football field. Councilor Robert said the football league did contact her regarding seeding and she assumed that would be done in the fall.

A motion was made by Councilor Greenway and seconded by Supervisor Behling to accept the October report as presented. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Barber, Greenway, Partrick, and Robert, and 0 nays.

**Mexico Point Park-** Chepko-Sade said there has still been no response from the DEC regarding the current trail project; the Friends of MPP will focus on the current trail project.

A motion was made by Councilor Partrick and seconded by Councilor Robert to accept the September reports as presented. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Barber, Greenway, Partrick, and Robert, and 0 nays.

**Planning Board-** Chairwoman Weber reported that the Jones subdivision on French St was approved. Weber said phase one of the Comprehensive Plan is nearly complete and the committee is looking to begin phase two, which involves seeking recommendations from the community. Weber said the second phase should consider Micron's effect on the Mexico Community as well as the ongoing conversation regarding accessory use. Councilor Robert asked about whether or not the current grid capacity in Mexico is full. Weber explained that even though our current capacity is full, new companies could build new substations, which would increase grid capacity. Weber said the next phase of the Comprehensive Plan could take a year; the updates of maps have been completed but a community survey with public hearings and the actual writing of the document could take a year. Weber said consultants would need to be hired. Councilor Partrick asked if this has been budgeted. Supervisor Behling said ARPA funds may be used. Weber stressed that the document cannot go 20 years without being updated.

A motion was made by Councilor Partrick and seconded by Supervisor Behling to accept the October report as presented. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Barber, Greenway, Partrick, and Robert, and 0 nays.

**Zoning Board of Appeals-** Chairman Waterbury said that there are no pending applications and that the November meeting was canceled as a result.

A motion was made by Councilor Greenway and seconded by Supervisor Behling to accept the October report as presented. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Barber, Greenway, Partrick, and Robert, and 0 nays.

**Water Commissioner-** none

**Supervisor-** A motion was made by Councilor Greenway and seconded by Councilor Robert to accept the October Supervisor's report as presented. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Barber, Greenway, Partrick, and Robert, and 0 nays.

**Water District Update-** A motion was made by Councilor Greenway and seconded by Supervisor Behling to accept the November report as presented. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Barber, Greenway, Partrick, and Robert, and 0 nays.

**McAuslan Hall Update-** Councilor Barber said the front door has been installed. Seiter said he spoke to Mr. Haines regarding the neighboring property and has sent a document for him to sign to allow use during construction of the drainage/portico system.

**Review of Accessory use/Building-** Councilor Partrick said he would address the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals to discuss a potential definition of a non-dwelling structure.

**Resolution 2022-105 Approve Tree Removal Services**

A motion was made by Councilor Greenway and seconded by Supervisor Behling to accept the lowest most reasonable bid for tree removal service. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Barber, Greenway, Partrick, and Robert, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board accepts the Mannise Tree Service bid for \$16,500.

**Resolution 2022-106 Payrolls**

A motion was made by Councilor Greenway and seconded by Councilor Partrick to approve the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Barber, Greenway, Partrick, and Robert, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board approves the October payroll.

**Resolution 2022-107 Post Highway Roads**

A motion was made by Councilor Greenway and seconded by Supervisor Behling to approve the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Barber, Greenway, Partrick, and Robert, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board authorizes the highway superintendent to post the town roads for no parking from December 1<sup>st</sup> to April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Resolution 2022-108 Authorize Prepays on Abstract**

A motion was made by Councilor Greenway and seconded by Councilor Partrick to approve the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Barber, Greenway, Partrick, and Robert, and 0 nays.

**WHEREAS**, National Grid bills arrive after the Town Board Meeting on occasion as do some others.

**WHEREAS**, To avoid late fees on bills that are not on the monthly abstract there is a need to prepay these bills

**RESOLVED** the Mexico Town Board authorizes the Clerk to the Supervisor to prepay such bills with the approval of the Town Supervisor.

**Resolution 2022-109 Tax 2<sup>nd</sup> Notice Fee**

A motion was made by Councilor Partrick and seconded by Councilor Greenway to approve the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Barber, Greenway, Partrick, and Robert, and 0 nays.

**WHEREAS**, The Town of Mexico sends second notices for taxes to residents

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town of Mexico charge a fee of \$2.00 (two dollars) to be added to the tax due on all parcels for which a second notice is sent, on or about March 15<sup>th</sup>, for the Town and County Tax bills for the year 2023.

**Resolution 2022-110 Approve Contract Administration Services**

A motion was made by Councilor Greenway and seconded by Councilor Partrick to accept the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Barber, Greenway, Partrick, and Robert, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board approves JCM Architectural's proposal for Contract Administration Services for the McAuslan Hall drainage and portico project not to exceed \$12,500.00.

**Resolution 2022-111 Approve Laptop Purchase for Assessor**

A motion was made by Councilor Robert and seconded by Councilor Partrick to accept the following resolution. Councilor Partrick suggested an equipment agreement be signed and on file. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Barber, Greenway, Partrick, and Robert, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board approves the purchase of a laptop and accompanying electronic equipment and software for the Assessor not to exceed \$1,300.00.

**Resolution 2022-112 Approve Software Purchase for Online Water Payments**

A motion was made by Councilor Partrick and seconded by Councilor Robert to approve the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Barber, Greenway, Partrick, and Robert, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board approves the Williamson Law Book software proposal for \$885.00.

**Resolution 2022-113 2021 Hyundai Loader BAN Payment**

A motion was made by Councilor Partrick and seconded by Supervisor Behling to approve the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Barber, Greenway, Partrick, and Robert, and 0 nays.

Resolved the Mexico Town Board approves the payment on the 2021 Hyundai Loader in the amount of \$126,315.20 plus interest at a rate of 4.20% due December 9, 2022 and to BAN for the balance and authorizes Supervisor Behling to sign any and all completing documents.

**Other Business-** Councilor Greenway said the cemetery at the county home is owned by CiTi Boces. Greenway said it is the Town’s responsibility to maintain cemeteries within the Town and the county and Boces have refused to let the Town maintain it or provide signage. Greenway said if they can FOIL Request the records for the cemetery from the county historian, we would be able to make a record of all of the deaths recorded there. Greenway said there is one, possibly two, Civil War veterans buried there. Partrick asked if the area is delineated. Greenway said they are fairly certain they know where the cemetery is located. Seiter said he will make a call to Mr. Mitchell to see if the records can be obtained. Supervisor Behling suggested looking into ground-penetrating radar.

**Resolution 2022-114 Audit Claims**

A motion was made by Councilor Greenway and seconded by Councilor Barber to approve the following resolution. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Barber, Greenway, Partrick, and Robert, and 0 nays.

Resolved the bills for Abstract 11 have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts:

General A Fund	voucher #278-309	\$	21,329.73
General B Fund	voucher #90-98	\$	3,237.20
Highway Fund	voucher #184-208	\$	54,640.44
Water Fund	voucher #19	\$	200.00
Special Districts Fund	voucher #16	\$	520.50

A motion was made by Councilor Barber and seconded by Councilor Greenway to adjourn the meeting at 8:23pm. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5 ayes: Behling, Barber, Greenway, Partrick, and Robert, and 0 nays.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Wild  
Town Clerk