

The Theresa Town Board held a regular meeting August 9, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Office at 215 Riverside Ave. and the following were present:

Steven Marcinkowski	Supervisor
Timothy Busler	Councilman
Kevin McCarthy - absent	Councilman
Jamie Papin	Councilman
Kristopher Ryder - absent	Councilman
Kim Delles	Town Clerk
Mark Savage	Highway Superintendent

Others present: Andrew Traver, Anne Hallock, Melissa Burlingame, Greg Parmes & Edward Tetrault (zoom).

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Marcinkowski at 6:01 p.m.

Proof of Public Hearing having been furnished, Supervisor Marcinkowski opened the Public Hearing at 6:02 p.m. on Local Law No. 2-2023 entitled "Establishing a Townwide six (6) month moratorium on Solar Energy Facilities".

Reports received and placed on file:

Town Clerk's & Building & Zoning July 2023 report
Transfer Site July 2023 report
Supervisor's July 2023 report
Judge Robert's June report (received 7/18) & July 2023 report
Judge Oblender's June report (received 7/25) & July 2023 report

Res. #50

Motion by: Timothy Busler
Seconded by: Steven Marcinkowski

Resolved, that the minutes of July 12, 2023 be accepted as read.

VOTE: Mr. Busler – aye, Mr. McCarthy – absent, Mr. Papin – aye, Mr. Ryder – absent,
Mr. Marcinkowski – aye. Motion carried.

Res. #51

Motion by: Steven Marcinkowski
Seconded by: Jamie Papin

Resolved, that the following bills be paid:

Voucher #320-357 **Total \$114,916.16**

General	\$17,344.73
General O/S	\$1,120.20
Highway	\$90,399.55
Highway O/S	\$6,051.68

VOTE: Mr. Busler – aye, Mr. McCarthy – absent, Mr. Papin – aye, Mr. Ryder – absent,
Mr. Marcinkowski – aye. Motion carried.

Discussion:

Andrew Traver talked to the Board about Airbnb (short-term rentals) on Moon Lake. He stated that there are (3) rentals that he believes are LLC businesses on Webster Tract. He questioned how a business is able to be on a lake. He would love to see no short-term rentals on the lakes. He would like nothing shorter than a (30) day rental. He would like the Town to get rid of them or tax the heck out of them. Anne Hallock told the Board that they create a lot of traffic on the road, that is private and maintained by the property owners on the road. There is a deeded boat launch that is on private property that is being overwhelmed with the traffic from the Airbnbs. Supervisor Marcinkowski said that the Town will be dealing with the budget process in the coming months, but the Town Board will look into it. Councilman Papin said that the Town of Alexandria Bay is dealing with the same situation.

Town Board meeting held August 9, 2023 cont'd.

Res. #52

Motion by: Steven Marcinkowski

Seconded by: Timothy Busler

Resolved, that the Local Law No. 2-2023 entitled "Establishing a Townwide six (6) month moratorium on Solar Energy Facilities" be adopted.

VOTE: Mr. Busler – aye, Mr. McCarthy – absent, Mr. Papin – aye, Mr. Ryder – absent,
Mr. Marcinkowski – aye. Motion carried.

Discussion:

There were no sealed bids received for construction of a new covered entryway to the Town Office.

The Supervisor took a phone call from Al Drake on August 1, 2023 about what was discussed at the County meeting. (see the following summarized by the Supervisor):

- Health & Human Services Director (welfare) Appointed the Assistant to oversee the department- was a 9-5 vote Al was against it. Very low morale in the dept, poor working environment, understaffed and complaints. A committee will be set up to oversee the dept, and she will have a 1 year probationary period.
- County legislators- voted to move forward from a 2-year term to a 4-year term. Now voters must vote to approve this.
- Money- county is sitting on \$12 million.
 - \$6 million is in a special fund.
 - \$100 million is fund balance.
 - \$50 Million is in the assigned fund balance.
- Rural broadband
 - There are new grants and more grants.
 - Al Drake said he is trying to get it around the whole Lake of the Woods but it's still up in the air.

The Supervisor told the Board that the Preservation Alliance of Hyde Lake has hired a Firm to work on a water preservation management plan.

Supervisor Marcinkowski met with Lynn Beckly and Christopher Lamay for the Moon Lake Association. They are concerned with phosphorus going into the lake. They suspect that it is from failing septic systems and would like to see the Town inspect older systems.

Letters & correspondence:

- Request from Jim Simmons to use the Town ballfields for fall Coed softball from September 16th to October 29th was granted.
- Request from Tara Amato to use the Town ballfields for a kickball tournament on September 16th was granted.

The Town Clerk will check with the Village to see how long their port-a-potties will be left at the fields. Councilman Busler will provide for September 16th kickball tournament if the Village pulls the potties.

The Board decided to wait until next spring to order port-a-potties. Mr. Busler is going to order some for himself, and the Town can order at the same time and split the shipping cost.

A letter from Attorney Burrows relating to solar battery storage was discussed.

Update of Highway Dept.:

- Superintendent Savage would like to sell some surplus equipment (1999 International; Service truck; York Rake).
- Cleaned up the Veteran's cemetery with the help of prisoners. Tim Beach also was a big help.

Update Park & Rec:

- The Board discussed not taking down the fence on the tennis courts. Agreed to clean up the fencing.
- The Town to price the cost to blacktop the tennis courts and skating rink.

Town Board meeting held August 9, 2023 cont'd.

- In September the prisoners are going to paint the boards at the rink.
- Department of Health made the Town Recreation jump through a ton of hoops this summer. All employees had to have background checks. The Director needed a special swimming class.

Cemetery update:

- The mausoleum at the cemetery is still not fixed. A group was trying to fundraise to pay for the repairs. The Town Board agreed that the Town will pay for the repair work and then any money raised can be put into the cemetery account.

Mr. Parmes told the Board that Willie Simpson has cleaned out behind the second wall at the Veteran's monument. Walt Tibbles built the second wall. Mr. Parmes said that they are looking for some larger stones for the area.

Mr. Parmes asked if the Board Members knew of any local electricians. The church where the food pantry is would like to do some outdoor lighting.

Supervisor Marcinkowski told the Board that Thomas Johnston has been filling in as Building & Zoning Officer for the past (2) weeks.

Res. #53

Motion by: Steven Marcinkowski

Seconded by: Timothy Busler

Resolved, that the Town Board go into executive session at 7:02 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter.

VOTE: Mr. Busler – aye, Mr. McCarthy – absent, Mr. Papin – aye, Mr. Ryder – absent,
Mr. Marcinkowski – aye. Motion carried.

Res. #54

Motion by: Steven Marcinkowski

Seconded by: Timothy Busler

Resolved, that the Town Board end executive session at 7:30 p.m.

VOTE: Mr. Busler – aye, Mr. McCarthy – absent, Mr. Papin – aye, Mr. Ryder – absent,
Mr. Marcinkowski – aye. Motion carried.

Res. #55

Motion by: Steven Marcinkowski

Seconded by: Jamie Papin

Resolved, that the Town of Theresa hire Thomas Johnston as Building & Zoning Officer retroactive to July 31, 2023 and ending December 31, 2023.

VOTE: Mr. Busler – aye, Mr. McCarthy – absent, Mr. Papin – aye, Mr. Ryder – absent,
Mr. Marcinkowski – aye. Motion carried.

Res. #56

Motion by: Steven Marcinkowski

Seconded by: Timothy Busler

Resolved, that the meeting be closed at 7:33 p.m.

VOTE: Mr. Busler – aye, Mr. McCarthy – absent, Mr. Papin – aye, Mr. Ryder – absent,
Mr. Marcinkowski – aye. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim A. Delles
Town Clerk