

TOWN OF BYRON SPECIAL MEETING
OCTOBER 23, 2024

The Byron Town Board Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Candace Hensel at the Byron Town Hall at 6:00p.m. with the following people present:

Supervisor.....	Candace Hensel
Councilman.....	Martin Dilcher
Councilman.....	Fred Klycek
Councilman.....	Jeff Thompson
Highway Superintendent.....	David Leaton,Jr
Town Clerk.....	Kristy Murphy

Public: Reggie Macdonald Shannon Thompson Steve Lockner Robert Mrucek
Peter Lockner Duane Weatherall John Durand Robert Wiley Ben Raccuia
Theresa Maid Robert Wilson

Pledge of Allegiance:

The pledge of allegiance was led by Supervisor Hensel

Fire Department Budget Discussion:

Long discussion had regarding Fire District's budget. Highlights are as follows:

-Supervisor Hensel states that she has spoken to multiple fire departments. She states that she does not want to just throw money at problems. The issues our Fire Districts are facing are the same issues that most Fire Departments are dealing with. The budget that has been requested is going to put a big burden on the residents as taxpayers. She states that she hopes that there is a resolution that the districts could come to in regards to merging.

-Councilman Dilcher states that in his time being a liaison for the Town Board and the Fire Districts he states he seen great improvement. There seems so be more camaraderie than there has been before. He also states that the work that the money that they are requesting and the work that they do if that saves one life then the money is worth every penny.

-Robert Mrucek states he agrees with Councilman Dilcher one hundred percent. We are staffed with volunteer men and women if the departments don't get what we need how are we supposed to protect everyone

-John Durand states historically speaking when fire departments merge you would think you are better off and have more staff etc... That is not the way it works. Unfortunately, there are expenditures that are coming in the near future. Equipment that is required by OSHA and if we don't start looking forward then that is going to become a problem

-Supervisor Hensel expresses again that the conversations need to start now regarding merging because it will take time

-Robert Mrucek asks the question" what does the Town Board want from the fire departments for the residents?"

-Steve Lockner states the other question is does the board want money or service from the departments

- Councilman Dilcher states both. We need to look at what can the town afford. He states in his opinion you cannot put a dollar amount on somebody's life
- Councilman Klycek states the town board needs to know what the fire department needs in order for the board to make a decision because they are the experts
- Robert Wilson states the town board needs to take in consideration this is a volunteer service. The other option is a paid service which will cost the town much more money
- Peter Lockner comments that the expenses within the next five years for what they need they need to prepare for now
- Brian Hilchey states that the amount of money the fire departments are asking for is simply to maintain them. Town rating ISO rating is 4 which keep the tax rate lower. How we get that rating is the quality of the fire department, our water supply and hydrant placement and the communication system from the county for 911. Ideally moving forward combine the departments and build a new building to house everyone
- A discussion about the term of the contract was had whether that is a one year or two year contract for 2025

Councilman Klycek offered the following **motion** to accept the proposal of the fire department budget for 2025 in the amount of Three Hundred Forty Thousand dollars (\$340,000.00) One Hundred Fifty Thousand dollars (\$150,000.00) for South Byron Fire Department, One Hundred Sixty Thousand dollars (\$160,000.00) Byron Fire Department, and Thirty Thousand dollars (\$30,000.00) Byron EMS.

Councilman Dilcher seconds the motion and carried the following vote:

Vote: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

-Robert Mrucek thanks the Town Board for their cooperation. It means a lot to the fire departments.

-Supervisor Hensel makes the motion to take a brief recess before moving forward with the rest of the budget at 7:23pm

-Resumes at 7:25pm

DE accessioning Law Books Resolution# 94:

Councilman Klycek offered the following resolution and adoption:

Whereas, The Byron Historical Society is charged with the duties of overseeing the archived materials of the Byron Museum, and

Whereas, From time to time, articles are found to no longer serve the historical purposes intended , or are of a size unable to properly house, and

Whereas, New York Board of Regents requires approval for de-accessioning of archived materials by the town Board, so

Therefore, Be it Resolved, The Byron Town Board approves the de-accessioning of a collection of law books dated 1806 through early 1900's from the Byron Museum archives. This collection is to be donated to The Genesee County Department of History to be added to their collection.

Councilman Dilcher seconded the resolution an adopted by the following polled vote:

Councilman Klycek-	Aye
Councilman Thompson-	Aye
Councilman Dilcher-	Aye
Supervisor Hensel-	Aye
Vote: Ayes: 4	Nays: 0

RFQ Sewer Engineering Proposals:

Supervisor Hensel states the following two companies put in the proposals for the Waste Water Treatment Plant. They will need to be interviewed prior to the decision.

Proposal #1- MRB Group

Proposal #2- Square Engineering, DPC

Assessor Discussion:

-Louise Passarell the Town of Byron's Assessor has accepted a position in another nearby town to be their assessor. She would like to stay on as the assessor for the Town of Byron with the board's approval. Rather than having set office hours she would be available by appointment only.

2025 Town of Byron Preliminary Budget:

General Fund Preliminary Budget discussion had and the following changes were made:

-Assessor change back to 18,600.00 salary

Highway Fund Preliminary Budget discussion had and the following changes were made:

-No Change

Fire Districts Tentative Budget discussion had and the following changes were made:

\$150,000.00 South Byron

\$160,000.00 Byron

\$30,000.00 Ambulance

Sewer Fund Tentative Budget:

-No Change

A **motion** was made by Supervisor Hensel to hold the Public Hearing for the 2025 General, Highway, Sewer, Water Districts and Fire Districts Preliminary budgets to be held on Thursday, November 7, 2024 at 7:00pm.

The motion was seconded by Councilman Dilcher and carried the following vote:

Vote: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

A **motion** was made by Councilman Thompson to approve the 2025 General, Highway, Sewer, Water Districts and Fire Districts Preliminary budget.

The motion was seconded by Councilman Dilcher and carried the following vote:

Vote: Ayes: 5 Nays: 0

ADJOURN:

A **motion** was made by Councilman Dilcher to adjourn the Byron Town Board meeting at 7:55p.m. Supervisor Hensel seconded the motion which was carried by the following vote:

Vote: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristy Murphy, Town Clerk