The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Town of Remsen was held on Wednesday, November 13th, 2024. The meeting was called to order by the Town Supervisor Thomas McDonald at 6:30 p.m. at the Remsen Town Hall.

Members PRESENT: Supervisor Thomas Mc Donald, Councilman George Hurlbut, Councilman Alex Karis, Councilman Michael Spadaro, and Councilman Garrett Tomaino.

Also, in attendance were Town Attorney Tod Lascurettes, Secretary Bonnie Allen, Superintendent of Highways Dick Roberts, Deputy Clerk J. Caroline Williams, the NOCCOG Circuit Rider, and members of the public.

The meeting minutes for the regular monthly meeting held October 9, 2024, were read and accepted. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Alex Karis. Seconded by Garrett Tomaino. Motion passed unopposed. Ayes – McDonald, Hurlbut, Karis, Spadaro, Tomaino. Nays – none.

Budget – The proposed budget was presented by Supervisor McDonal for consideration by the Board. Highway Superintendent Roberts inquired about official union contracts. A motion was made to accept the budget as presented resolution #44-24 by Michael Spadaro. Seconded by Alex Karis. Motion passed unopposed. Ayes – McDonald, Hurlbut, Karis, Spadaro, Tomaino. Nays – none.

Planning Grant - The Town Supervisor provided an update that it will be about two months before the Town will be able to hire a consultant for the project.

Records Grant - The Town Supervisor provided an update that he spoke to NYS Archives. The contract was expected in October, but has not been issued yet. The Town will continue once notified by the State to proceed.

New Town Hall Construction – Bids were presented by Supervisor McDonald. Only two bids were received, which was disappointing. Based on the lack of response, re-issuing the bid package was discussed, but there were reservations about going through the process again based on timing and potential of not receiving any qualified bids in a second round.

Alexander & Company only bid on the general scope. M.E.I.D. Companies bid on the whole package with general scope and an electrical subcontract. Hogan Engineering recommends M.E.I.D. since the entire scope was included in their bid. M.E.I.D. indicated during the open house inspection that cost-saving options may be possible. The Town Supervisor will discuss stipulations with Hogan Engineering to reduce the proposed scope within the $400,000 projected budget.

A motion was made to select M.E.I.D. Companies as the most qualified contractor with a complete scope to renovate the new Town Hall, contingent on value engineering the project by potentially reducing/modifying the scope of work and/or the material selections to achieve a cost savings that aligns with the amount of funding available to complete the project and that is accountable to the taxpayers resolution #45-24 by Alex Karis. Seconded by Michael Spadaro. Motion passed unopposed. Ayes – McDonald, Hurlbut, Karis, Spadaro, Tomaino. Nays – none.

MVEDD – A municipal funding opportunities online meeting will be held on November 20, 2024. Supervisor Mc Donald will resend the link to board members if they are able to join.

HEAP – Heating assistance funding is now available. Oneida County staff will be at the Remsen Tow Hall on November 19 and December 3, 2024 from 1-5 p.m. to assist residents with program enrollment.

NOCCOG – The circuit rider requested a copy of the budget for the Tug Hill Commission's annual salary survey. Additional announcement regarding a work zone giveaway, comptroller webinars, federal aid webinar, and the Association of Towns training in NYC were provided.

Councilpersons – Alex Karis: Confirmed that the invoices from Hogan Engineering are to date. George Hurlbut: Working to get the same fuel pricing as Town of Trenton.

Cash Flow and Bills:

General Fund - A resolution #46-24 was made by Alex Karis to pay the General Fund bills in the amount of $29,885.25 as presented on the #11-24 abstract. Seconded by Garrett Tomaino. Motion passed unopposed. Ayes – McDonald, Hurlbut, Karis, Spadaro, Tomaino. Nays – none.

Highway Fund – The axles on the ’05 vehicle have been repaired. May need to repair the ’18 vehicle. School got sand from the Town in preparation for winter weather. A resolution #47-24 was made by Michael Spadaro to pay the Highway Fund bills in the amount of $15,957.10 as presented on the #11-24 abstract. Seconded by Garrett Tomaino. Motion passed unopposed. Ayes – McDonald, Hurlbut, Karis, Spadaro, Tomaino. Nays – none.

The Clerk’s Report was approved, signed, and included in the board packet.

A motion to adjourn was made by Alex Karis. Seconded by Garrett Tomaino. Passed unopposed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.