

Regular Town Board Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Van Buren, held on April 7, 2021 at 7:00 pm at the Van Buren Town Hall, 7575 Van Buren Road, Baldwinsville, New York.

Present:

Mrs. Wendy Van Der Water	Councilor
Ms. Darcie Lesniak	Councilor
Mr. Howard Tupper	Councilor
Ms. Patricia Dickman	Councilor
Mr. Ronald Dudzinski	Councilor
Ms. Mary Frances Sabin	Deputy Supervisor
Mr. Claude Sykes	Supervisor

Also present:

Ms. Nadine Bell	Town Attorney
Mr. Douglas Foster	Highway Superintendent
Mr. Jason Hoy	Town Engineer
Ms. Lynn Precourt	Town Clerk

Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call.

Approve minutes of the Regular Meeting on March 17, 2021:

058-21-000 MOTION BY Ms. Dickman, seconded by Ms. Sabin, to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting held March 17, 2021 as published.

Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Ms. Dickman – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Sabin – Yes, Mr. Sykes – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Public Hearing on 2021 Community Development application and five year plan:

059-21-000 MOTION BY Ms. Sabin, seconded by Mr. Dudzinski, to recess the regular meeting, open the public hearing and waive reading the legal notice published on March 31, 2021 in the *Baldwinsville Messenger*.

Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Ms. Dickman – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Sabin – Yes, Mr. Sykes – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Mr. Sykes read the following five year plan and said the Birchwood Boulevard drainage project will be the only one the town applies for this year:

CONSOLIDATED PLAN
TOWN OF VAN BUREN

The Onondaga County Community Development Office has previously requested information from the Town in order to assist the County in preparing a 5-Year Consolidated Plan, as required by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). HUD makes these funds available for distribution by the County to towns and municipalities for local improvements. The funds are available for only those areas eligible under the criteria established by HUD. The Town must contribute approximately 25% of the total project funding, which can be in-kind services, fund-raising, formation of special districts, taxation, etc.

These projects are generally based on the County’s map of currently eligible areas in the Town.

2021 Application

1. **Birchwood Blvd. Drainage Improvements**

Rehabilitation of approximately 1000’ of existing open channel drainage ways in the Village Green neighborhood. The work would be behind the properties on Birchwood between Idlewood and Cedarwood Boulevards. The rehabilitation would generally consist of regrading and reshaping the open channel, select tree removals, placement of erosion control materials in erosive areas and establishing turf.

Total Project Cost		\$67,500
Town’s Share	<u>(\$ 17,500)</u>	
<i>Requested Community Development Funds:</i>		<i>\$50,000</i>

2022 Application

Lower Seneca Knolls Drainage and Pavement Rehabilitation – Phase 1

Rehabilitation of drainage and pavement in the Lower Seneca Knolls area. The rehabilitation would generally consist of closed drainage installation and milling and asphalt overlay of the existing pavement with minor pavement repairs.

2023 Application

Lower Seneca Knolls Drainage and Pavement Rehabilitation – Phase 2

Continued rehabilitation of drainage and pavement in the Lower Seneca Knolls area. The rehabilitation would generally consist of closed drainage installation and milling and asphalt overlay of the existing pavement with minor pavement repairs.

2024 Application

Lower Seneca Knolls Drainage and Pavement Rehabilitation – Phase 3

Continued rehabilitation of drainage and pavement in the Lower Seneca Knolls area. The rehabilitation would generally consist of closed drainage installation and milling and asphalt overlay of the existing pavement with minor pavement repairs.

2025 Application Tappan Street Road Sidewalk

New sidewalk construction from 170' west of Comstock Road easterly to Village line (approx. 1230' total)

2026 Application State Fair Blvd Sidewalk

New sidewalk construction from 230' north of Henderson Blvd. southerly to shopping center driveway (approx. 460' total)

Mr. Sykes asked if there was any one to speak in favor of this five year plan and application for funding. No one spoke.

Mr. Sykes asked if there was anyone to speak against the five year plan and application for funding. No one spoke.

060-21-000 MOTION BY Ms. Dickman, seconded by Mr. Dudzinski, to close the public hearing and resume the regular meeting at 7:06 pm.

Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Ms. Dickman – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Sabin – Yes, Mr. Sykes – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Public Hearing on Extension #2 of Van Buren Consolidated Water District:

061-21-000 MOTION BY Ms. Sabin, seconded by Ms. Lesniak, to recess the regular meeting, open the public hearing and waive reading the legal notice published on March 23, 2021 in the *Post Standard*.

Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Ms. Dickman – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Sabin – Yes, Mr. Sykes – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Mr. Bill Morris, engineer for Altec, said this is an extension of the water district of 725 feet and will include one fire hydrant. Altec will pay for the extension and then turn it over to OCWA.

Mr. Sykes said Altec will has received all Planning Board approvals for the site.

Mr. Sykes asked if there was anyone to speak in favor of this water district extension. No one spoke.

Mr. Sykes asked if there was anyone to speak against this water district extension. No one spoke.

062-21-000 MOTION BY Ms. Dickman, seconded by Mrs. Van Der Water, to close the public hearing and resume the regular meeting at 7:10 pm

Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Ms. Dickman – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Sabin – Yes, Mr. Sykes – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Action on 2021 Community Development Application and Five Year Plan:

063-21-023 MOTION BY Ms. Sabin, seconded by Mrs. Van Der Water, to approve and submit the following Five Year Plan and Application for Community Development:

2021 Application

1. **Birchwood Blvd. Drainage Improvements**

Rehabilitation of approximately 1000' of existing open channel drainage ways in the Village Green neighborhood. The work would be behind the properties on Birchwood between Idlewood and Cedarwood Boulevards. The rehabilitation would generally consist of regrading and reshaping the open channel, select tree removals, placement of erosion control materials in erosive areas and establishing turf.

Total Project Cost		\$67,500
Town's Share	(\$ 17,500)	
<i>Requested Community Development Funds:</i>		<i>\$50,000</i>

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Rehabilitation of drainage and pavement in the Lower Seneca Knolls area. The rehabilitation would generally consist of closed drainage installation and milling and asphalt overlay of the existing pavement with minor pavement repairs.

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Continued rehabilitation of drainage and pavement in the Lower Seneca Knolls area. The rehabilitation would generally consist of closed drainage installation and milling and asphalt overlay of the existing pavement with minor pavement repairs.

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2025 Application Tappan Street Road Sidewalk

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2026 Application State Fair Blvd Sidewalk

New sidewalk construction from 230' north of Henderson Blvd. southerly to shopping center driveway (approx. 460' total)

Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Ms. Dickman – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Sabin – Yes, Mr. Sykes – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Action on approval for Extension #2 of Van Buren Consolidated Water District:

064-21-051 Councilor Tupper moved and Councilor Dudzinski seconded the following resolution.

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Van Buren (the “Town Board” and the “Town”, respectively), in the County of Onondaga, State of New York, received a Petition pursuant to Article 12 of the Town Law, for the establishment of the Van Buren Consolidated Water District, Extension No. 2 (the “Water District Extension”) in an area generally known as Tax Map No.: 055.-02-04.0, Town of Van Buren, New York, which Petition is signed by the owner of the taxable real property situate in the proposed Water District Extension, owning in the aggregate at least one-half of the assessed valuation of all the taxable real property of the proposed Water District Extension, as shown upon the latest completed assessment roll of said Town, and including the signatures of resident owners of taxable real property owning taxable real property aggregating at least one-half of the assessed valuation of all the taxable real property of the proposed Water District Extension, owned by resident owners according to the latest completed assessment roll; and

WHEREAS, all costs in connection with the Water District Extension, including all legal and engineering expenses incurred by the Town, and all costs of construction of the water facilities necessary to serve said Water District Extension and also all costs and expenses incidental to the acquisition of necessary lands and rights-of-way therefore will be paid by the petitioner, its grantees, successors or assigns, who will subsequently execute, if necessary, an instrument conveying title to all or such portions of such water facilities including lands or rights-of-way that may be required by the Town Board of the Town of Van Buren, free and clear of all liens and encumbrances, to the said Water District Extension at no expense to said District as extended or the Town of Van Buren; and

WHEREAS, an order was duly adopted by the Town Board on March 3, 2021 for the hearing of all persons interested in the matter on the 7th day of April, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter could be heard, at the Town Hall in said Town and the hearing by the said Town Board having been duly held at such time and place, and proof of posting and publication of the notice of said hearing as required by law having been received by the Town Board, and the Town Board having heard all persons interested in such matter; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has received a Map, Plan and Report prepared by William D. Morse, P.E. (W-M Engineering, DPC), certifying that the plans for construction of the improvements within the Water District Extension are satisfactory and meet the requirements of the Town, subject to inspection by the Town Engineer at petitioner’s sole cost and expense upon installation of the facility extensions therein; and

WHEREAS, the permission of the State Comptroller shall not be required for the extension of said District nor the construction of said improvements since the Town shall not be required to finance the cost of said improvements by the issuance of bonds, notes, certificates, or other evidences of indebtedness of the Town; and

WHEREAS, on March 3, 2021, the Town Board also determined that the Water District Extension and construction of improvements therein will have no significant effects on the environment and that such determination constituted a negative declaration for purposes of environmental review.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AND DETERMINED, that:

A. The petition aforesaid is signed and acknowledged or proved as required by law, it duly complies with the requirements of Section 191 of the Town Law as to sufficiency of signers

with respect to the boundaries of the proposed district extension as herein approved and it is otherwise sufficient;

B. All the property and property owners within the proposed district extension are benefited thereby;

C. All the property and property owners benefited are included within the limits of the proposed district extension;

D. It is in the public interest to grant in whole the relief sought; and it is further

RESOLVED AND DETERMINED, that all future costs and expenses of operation, maintenance and improvements in said District, including those relative to the Water District Extension which is the subject of this resolution, shall be assessed, levied and collected from the several lots and parcels of land within the entire area of said Van Buren Consolidated Water District, Extension No. 2, in an area generally known as Tax Map No.: 055.-02-04.0, Town of Van Buren, New York, deemed benefited thereby in proportion to the amount of benefit conferred upon same; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the said Van Buren Consolidated Water District, Extension No. 2 be established and extended in said Town of Van Buren, Onondaga County, New York, to include the description and boundaries as set forth in Schedule "A", as hereinbefore described to be known as Van Buren Consolidated Water District, Extension No. 2, and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause a certified copy of this Order to be recorded and filed in accordance with the provisions of Article 12 of the Town Law.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Ms. Dickman – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Sabin – Yes, Mr. Sykes – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Adoption of Public Employer Emergency Plan:

Mr. Sykes said New York State has required this be completed. It is an outline of best practices and determines essential employee status in the case of an emergency such as Covid-19.

065-21-000 MOTION BY Mrs. Van Der Water, seconded by Ms. Lesniak, to adopt the Public Employer Emergency Plan as published.

Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Ms. Dickman – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Sabin – Yes, Mr. Sykes – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Discussion/Action on opening of playground programming/pool:

Mr. Sykes said it is best to discuss these one at a time.

Mr. Sykes said the Parks & Recreation Committee met to discuss issues surrounding the parks programming and pool under the current guidelines from the Onondaga County Health Department, which have not been updated since June of 2020. The County Health Department is

at the mercy of the State Health Dept. to determine if these guidelines will be updated. Currently they still require six feet of social distancing and that all touch surfaces be disinfected hourly.

Mrs. Van Der Water said these guidelines in particular make it financially impossible to open the pool this summer. She said they discussed allowing small groups in for a limited time period but between the cost to the patrons and increase in staff, supplies, etc. it has been determined it is not feasible this year.

066-21-036 MOTION BY Ms. Dickman, seconded by Mr. Tupper, to not open Van Buren Central Park pool this summer due to restrictions caused by Covid-19.

Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Ms. Dickman – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Sabin – Yes, Mr. Sykes – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Mr. Sykes said the playground program that has been run at Van Buren Central Park was discussed and that too would have a drastically reduced number of kids allowed under the current guidelines. The town could have seven at the lodge and about ten at the big pavilion. It is not fiscally possible to run the playground program with that small a number of children enrolled. He said if guidelines change we may be able to use the park but not at this time.

Mrs. Van Der Water said the recreation Supervisor will hold smaller weeklong camps for between seven and ten children that will be half day programs.

Mrs. Van Der Water said the Board is very aware this is a hardship on families but we have to follow the current guidelines.

Ms. Sabin noted that because these programs are recreational and not educational the town cannot follow the three foot guidelines in place at schools now.

067-21-036 MOTION BY Ms. Dickman, seconded by Mrs. Van Der Water, to leave to the discretion of the recreation Supervisor and Park Director to determine programming at the park.

Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Ms. Dickman – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Sabin – Yes, Mr. Sykes – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Mrs. Van Der Water said the town was able to secure McNamara School as a site for a five week summer playground program for between 40 and 50 children adhering to the current six feet of social distancing. She said it will run from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Because the town will have to pay for the school district janitorial staff to disinfect the cost of this program will increase to \$350.00 per child.

068-21-036 MOTION BY Mrs. Van Der Water, seconded by Ms. Sabin, to utilize McNamara School as a site for a five week summer playground program that will run between 9:00 am and 2:00 pm and to approve payment to the school district for the janitorial services for disinfection.

Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Ms. Dickman – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Sabin – Yes, Mr. Sykes – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Mrs. Van Der Water said pavilion rentals were also discussed. The current guidelines will require picnic tables to be nine feet apart, which in many cases mean they will not be able to fit under the pavilions. She said the town will allow for tents to be set up adjacent to the pavilion for overhead cover. The pavilion rental application will include the same waiver that is used by Onondaga County Park's Department. She said town staff will disinfect the pavilions after use but it is up to the person renting the pavilion to distribute masks, hand sanitizer and ensure their guests are practicing social distancing.

The bathhouse will be open and disinfected according to the Onondaga County Health Department guidelines. A porta john will be available on the pond side of the park.

069-21-036 MOTION BY Mrs. Van Der Water, seconded by Mr. Dudzinski, to allow pavilion rentals in Van Buren Central Park to begin for residents on April 19th and for non-residents starting April 26th with pavilions available for rental starting June 1st.

Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Ms. Dickman – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Sabin – Yes, Mr. Sykes – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Approval for OCWA to install 3 hydrants with Treybrook Phase 2A extension, hydrant numbers 14657, 14658, 14659 at annual cost of \$74.50 per hydrant per year:

070-21-051 MOTION BY Mr. Tupper, seconded by Mr. Dudzinski, to approve the installation of three hydrants by OCWA in Treybrook Phase 2A extension, hydrant numbers 14657, 14658, 14659 at an annual cost of \$74.50 per hydrant per year.

Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Ms. Dickman – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Sabin – Yes, Mr. Sykes – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Review SEQRA process for Connors Road culvert replacement:

Mr. Sykes said the town hired Barton & Loguidice to inspect and seek funding for the replacement of this culvert. He said it is on Connors Road between Canton Street and Van Buren Road. He said the guardrails are antiquated and the culvert is undersized and eroding

downstream banks. He said the funding is being sought through the Bridge NY System. He said it is estimated to be \$849,000 and this SEQRA must be included in the application.

071-21-057 MOTION BY Ms. Dickman, seconded by Mr. Dudzinski, to declare the town lead agency in an uncoordinated review and declare a negative declaration under SEQRA for the Connors Road culvert replacement.

Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Ms. Dickman – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Sabin – Yes, Mr. Sykes – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Approval of Highway Permit for OCWA for 8” water main extension for Phase 2A of Treybrook and authorize the Supervisor to sign on behalf of Town Board:

072-21-024 MOTION BY Ms. Dickman, seconded by Ms. Sabin, to approve a Highway Permit for OCWA for 8” water main extension for Phase 2A of Treybrook and authorize the Supervisor to sign on behalf of Town Board.

Mrs. Van Der Water – Yes, Ms. Lesniak – Yes, Mr. Tupper – Yes, Ms. Dickman – Yes, Mr. Dudzinski – Yes, Ms. Sabin – Yes, Mr. Sykes – Yes

All Ayes – Motion Carried & Adopted

Councilor Committee Reports and Comments:

Ms. Sabin reminded residents there is a burn ban in effect until May 16th. She said it is very dry and the risk of fire is elevated.

Mrs. Van Der Water said she attended a quick Canton Woods Senior Center Board of Directors meeting. She said the building is still closed but they are trying to do events outside and by drive thru. She said staff is there so if anyone needs assistance they can call the center.

Ms. Dickman said the weather is getting nicer and the kids are out in the neighborhoods so please slow down and watch for them.

Mr. Tupper reminded everyone the Erie Canal Trail is available for walking and bike riding.

Highway Superintendent Comments:

Mr. Foster said the staff has begun lawn repairs. He said it typically takes two weeks to get them all done but if you have damage that has not been repaired to call the department.

Supervisor Comments:

Mr. Sykes said he attended a meeting today with Matt Driscoll, NYS Thruway Director, Assemblyman Magnarelli and County Legislator Ken Bush to discuss the Canton Street Bridge. He said Mr. Driscoll handed out a report on the bridge and its replacement and that information is on the homepage of our website.

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Mr. Sykes said they have 137 bridges in similar condition and this is a resource issue. They cannot fix them all. He said Assemblyman Magnarelli said if the bridge is not replaced Van Buren is getting short changed. Mr. Driscoll said he will try to find a way but made no promises.

Citizens Comments: None

Engineer Comments:

Mrs. Van Der Water thanked Mr. Hoy for putting together the FAQ's on the Crego Farm development and they can be found on the homepage of the town's website.

Attorney Comments: None

073-21-000 MOTION BY Ms. Dickman, seconded by Mrs. Van Der Water, to adjourn to the next Regular Town Board meeting on April 21, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Meeting closed 7:49 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Precourt

Town Clerk

Dated: 4/8/21