

**Bovina Town Board
Special Meeting
March 25, 2013**

RESOLUTIONS: 2013 – 50 – 51

Board Members Present: Tina Molé, Supervisor; Mark Rossley, Charles McIntosh, Evelyn Stewart, Members of Council; Catherine Hewitt, Town Clerk; Edward Weber, Highway Superintendent

Board Member Absent: Gerald Wright, Councilman

Others Present: Gabrielle Pierce, Delaware County Times Reporter; Dick Barnhart, Ken Brown

The meeting was opened at 6 PM by Supervisor Molé followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Molé said that the meeting was called for discussion on purchase of a vehicle for the Highway Department and to discuss Lawn and Septic Field care for the 2013 season. She said that there was \$80,000 put in the 2013 budget for replacing the Town Highway backhoe. There was discussion at the March Board meeting about putting the backhoe on hold and purchasing a dump/plow truck.

Highway Superintendent Weber said that as mentioned at the March meeting, he has found a 2009, 7600 Series International Dump Truck with a Cummins engine. He has talked with people, including Russ Cole from Cole's Garage about this vehicle. He has also discussed with numerous people the single frame versus a double frame. The truck has 16,500 miles, it is an automatic and there is a crack on the left fender. He has the maintenance reports and the windshield was replaced from tree damage. There will need to be some money put into the truck. Russ Cole has said that it is set up the way a plow truck should be. Weber was looking at an auger sander but has found that highway superintendents with them aren't happy with them. He is now looking at a hopper sander which will be about \$9,000. The truck is clean inside and out and he and Deputy Highway Superintendent Barnhart have driven it and both said it runs good. The truck was \$173,000 new, Jamestown was asking \$115,000 and when first advertised the price was \$99,000. They are now down to \$90,000 and Weber will offer them \$88,000.

Councilman McIntosh said that the Town of Andes purchased a new 2009 4-wheel drive, all complete for \$163,000. He pointed out that the truck Weber is looking at doesn't have a front plow and asked if the truck is plumbed for a sander. Weber said that everything is there. McIntosh asked if the trip wing will work on the back roads here. Weber said that he has talked to people who said it the crew doesn't like the tip wing they can put a pin in it to make it rigid.

McIntosh pointed out that there are three projects in Bovina. The bridge on Russell Hill, which Weber said there is no estimate on at this point, the Bridge on Bovina Road, which it is still unsure if FEMA will be paying the bill for, and the fix to the office at the Highway Garage, which Molé said there is no estimate on. He has been on the Town Board for eleven years and in that time the Highway has never purchased new dump truck. He asked why the City of Jamestown bought six trucks and is selling the one with the least miles. Weber explained that with the plow frame set up on this truck, the truck is longer than the other ones which makes it harder to get around the city streets. McIntosh said that there are three people on the Board who were on when the previous Highway Superintendent found a truck at auction and the Board would only go \$40,000. He said the Board approved the purchase of a new pickup, the red truck and the Volvo dump truck and the total for those three trucks was less than this one truck. He asked how many other trucks had been looked at. Weber said he has looked at another that was \$42,000 which has more miles. He said that the Volvo cost \$14,000 to maintain in 2012 and there was quite a lot spent on the red truck also. McIntosh asked if the red truck was damaged on the tip over. Weber said there was no damage and it wasn't tipped over, it was on its side in a ditch. McIntosh asked if the wheels were off the ground on one side of the truck. Weber said they were and the truck was back on the road about an hour and a half the incident after the fluid levels

and the truck were checked out. McIntosh pointed out that the highway has a backhoe in pretty bad shape and with \$100,000, a truck and a backhoe could possibly be purchased. He asked if the Councilman Wright had looked at the truck. Weber said Wright was away last week and he has a very hard time getting a hold of him. He added that his crew plowed with all four trucks only three times all winter. He said it takes until 11:30/12:00 to do the route one time. When a truck is down it doesn't get done until after 1:00 PM. This will give them a backup. McIntosh asked what is being replaced. Weber said that nothing is being replaced at this time. There is too much money in the trucks to get rid of any of them. McIntosh asked if there is room in the garage for the truck. Weber said the Walter's will need to come out but that it has always been out. McIntosh said he doesn't like the automatic transmission and asked what Wright thought about that. Weber said he was not able to get a hold of Wright.

Councilman Rossley said that he worked at the Highway Department, the trucks are getting age on them and they require a lot of maintenance. The Board needs to step up at some point.

Councilwoman Stewart asked about being able to afford the \$90,000. She feels that the Board may have done the previous highway superintendent an injustice, more or less tied his hands. She said that money was budgeted for a backhoe so there is no need to borrow. There's no question that the truck is needed but it is a lot of money. Weber said it is a lot but a new one is more. He has researched automatic transmissions and it is the way things are going. Rossley said that school buses and trucks are automatic now. McIntosh said that those vehicles aren't doing what the highway trucks are doing. Rossley said that if automatic won't work in a highway setting they wouldn't keep putting them in trucks. McIntosh said if automatic was so good all trucks would have them. Supervisor Molé said that she supports Weber in this purchase, the money was budgeted for the backhoe and there is no question that newer vehicles are needed. He said it is very frustrating when trucks are constantly breaking down. He feels that money spent on repairs could be better spent someplace else. The most dependable truck in the highway fleet is starting to have mechanical problems. McIntosh asked if the truck was needed immediately or is there time to look further. Weber said he can continue to look but there are two other buyers looking at this truck. McIntosh feels that Weber is jumping too fast for too much money.

2013-50 It was moved by Rossley, seconded by Stewart to have Highway Superintendent Weber go ahead with the purchase of the 2009, 7600 Series International Dump Truck.

Supervisor Molé	Aye
Councilman Rossley	Aye
Councilman Stewart	Aye
Councilman McIntosh	Nay
Councilman Wright	Absent

Motion was passed, three to two.

Supervisor Molé said that with no changes to the Lawn Care RFP, that could be offered to the same person who had the contract in 2012 for the same price if he is willing. She will contact him and let the Clerk know of his decision prior to the legal ad going in the paper. There were changes made to the Septic Field RFP and therefore, that will need to be rebid.

2013-51 It was moved by Rossley, seconded by McIntosh to place the RFP for the Septic Field . All in favor, 4 ayes, 0 nays.

Councilman Rossley said that he has spoken to Mike Jonker about the septic and he says things went well over the winter.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Catherine Hewitt, Clerk/Collector