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| **Member Communities**  |  |  | | --- | --- | | Towns of  Adams  Boylston  Florence  Harrisburg  Lewis  Leyden  Lorraine  Martinsburg  Montague  Osceola  Pinckney  Redfield | Rodman  Turin  West Turin  Williamstown  Worth  Villages of  Constableville  Lyons Falls  Port Leyden  Turin |   **Website: tughillcouncil.com** |  | **Executive Committee** ROGER TIBBETTS, *Chair*  DOUGLAS DIETRICH, *Vice Chair*  CARLA BAUER, *Secretary*  IAN KLINGBAIL, *Director*  STEPHEN BERNAT, *Director*  PAULETTE WALKER*, Director*  FRAN YERDON*, Director*  **Contact: Angie Kimball, Circuit Rider**  **PO Box 34, Redfield NY, 13437**  **Email: angie@tughill.org**  **Cell** **315-480-6857**  **Home** [**315-599-8825**](mailto:Values1@frontiernet.net) |

**CTHC Executive Committee Meeting Minutes 9/22/2020**

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 p.m. by Chairman R. Tibbetts. Also present for the meeting were D. Dietrich, Vice Chair; C. Bauer, Secretary; F. Yerdon, Director; P. Walker, Director; S. Bernat, Director; I. Klingbail, Director; M. Johnson and K. Malinowski from the Tug Hill Commission and A. Kimball, Circuit Rider.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the June 23, 2020 Executive Committee meeting were reviewed by the Committee. A motion was made by D. Dietrich (Martinsburg) and seconded by F. Yerdon (Osceola) to accept the minutes. All were in favor (see attached minutes).

**Reports:** **A)** **Financial Report –** Chairman R. Tibbetts (Rodman) presented the financial report as of September 2, 2020. Year-to Date Carry Over - $35,698.40; Receipts to date - $13,224.97; Distributions to Date - $6,204.84; Net Funds Available - $42,718.53. A motion was made by S. Bernat (Harrisburg) and seconded by D. Dietrich (Martinsburg) to accept the report as presented. All were in favor (see attached report). The comparison of the Circuit Rider expenses to date, the dues received to date and the proposed dues structure going forward were also presented and reviewed by the Committee (see attached reports).

**B) Reports of Towns –** A. Kimball (CR) presented the report of the Towns and reviewed the pertinent information for each. (See attached report.)

**Tug Hill Commission Topics: A) Office of Renewable Energy Siting:** K. Malinowski (THC) spoke about the new renewable energy siting regulations which are out and include some changes coming up. Projects which are 25 MW or larger which are currently in Article 10 can switch over to the new process. Developers can opt into the new process if their project is between 20 and 25 MW. The goal is for projects to be approved within one year of a complete application. There will be uniform noise regulations and setbacks so they will overrule local regulations on these items. There has been some of the transmission matters included for lines under 10 miles, but those longer than 10 miles will still follow Article 7. Lewis County is working on a uniform tax exemption policy for the use of solar on agricultural lands and trying to incentivize projects which aren’t on prime farmlands. The closest public hearing to our area if anyone wants to weigh in on the proposed regulation is in Clayton in November and it offers virtual attendance.

**B) Broadband Project:** K. Malinowski (THC) reported that they are working on a project to map broadband availability within the four counties of Tug Hill. DANC will do the survey and mapping work in Lewis and Jefferson Counties (once they find the funding) and CNY Regional Planning will be covering Oswego County and hoping to loop Oneida County in using CARES act funding. They hope to start mapping in early November in Lewis County. Once all the information is collected it is hoped that it will position our counties well to apply for Re-Connect Broadband grants in 2021.

**C) Land Use and Local Government panel-CAC 480a:** K. Malinowski (THC) spoke about the new Climate Action Council which came out of the Governor’s budget. There are several sub-committees, and she is on the Land Use and Local Government panel. John Bartow (former THC Executive Director) is on the Forestry and Agriculture sub-committee. She passed out the draft of the new paper that the Commission is working on about RPTL 480a (see attached). The Board reviewed the paper and there were many comments from R. Tibbetts, I. Klingbail and F. Yerdon.

**D) Mini-plans and Seasonal Use Zoning:** M Johnson (THC) gave out a list of the CTHC towns who have adopted seasonal use zoning, which is used to buttress minimum maintenance road standards (see attached). Martinsburg has completed the process and West Turin is working on it. Leyden is going to be working on some zoning amendments soon, so they will try and get the seasonal use stuff added there as well. They are also trying to get to all the towns to get the mini plans adopted and he provided a list of where they intend to start the process.

**E) Other business:** K. Malinowski gave an update on where the minimum maintenance roads legislation battle stands. Assembly members Buttenshon and Santa Barbara have been added to the bill and Smullen is expected to be added soon. Once Smullen is added the entire Tug Hill legislative contingent will be on the bill. These members are discussing doing a sign on letter to Assemblyman Magnerelli in support of the legislation. Assemblyman Barclay has been talking to Assemblyman Magnerelli and his staff about the legislation as well. West Turin has been sued again by the same individual and the case is currently in Appeals Court with the documentation filed in July. They are currently awaiting a hearing and decision. She also handed out a publication titled “Heritage Brook Trout and Undisturbed Wilds at the Heart of Tug Hill” done by Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust, which it is hoped will highlight the importance of keeping the Core Forest intact.

**Old Business:** **A) Fall Meeting – Kay’s retirement gift –** The Steak and Brew has about a 100-person capacity in total and with only 50 allowed by the Executive Order, it is too small. D. Dietrich (Martinsburg) checked out the Glenfield Fire Dept. and it is being used every Tuesday and Thursday through end of September. Additionally, their Auxiliary is not interested in providing the food, so we would have to have it catered, as well as pay a fee to the Fire Dept. to use their hall. The Board discussed meeting in person, but with no food and discussed several venues. The thing that needs to be completed at the fall meeting is approval of the budget. After the discussion, a motion was made by R. Tibbetts (Rodman) and seconded by I. Klingbail (Lewis) to cancel the fall meeting and conduct the necessary business by mail/email. All were in favor. Regarding Kay’s retirement gift the Committee felt that A. Kimball should meet and give it to her and then when we can meet as a group again, we could do a formal presentation to her.

**B) CD for Reserve Funds –** R. Tibbetts (Rodman) will check with Watertown Savings Bank and Community Bank for their rates for CDs and report back.

**C) Any Other Old Business -** None

**New Business:**  **A) Letter of Support Lorraine/Worth Court Consolidation –** A draft letter for support for the Lorraine/Worth Court Consolidation was presented by A. Kimball (CR). K. Malinowski will check on the timing of when the bill will be presented to the Governor for approval and we will send the letter to the Governor’s office along with letters from the towns. A motion was made to approve the letter of support by F. Yerdon (Osceola) and seconded by C. Bauer (Redfield). All were in favor.

**B) Proposed Budget –** The proposed budget was presented to the Committee by R. Tibbetts (Rodman) (see attached). The budget is the same as last year’s budget. A motion was made by R. Tibbetts (Rodman) and seconded by D. Dietrich (Martinsburg)to accept the proposed budget as presented and send it to the Council for action as discussed above. All were in favor.

**C) Any Other New Business-** D. Dietrich spoke about the Lewis County Event Law, which has been approved locally, but not at the state level. He attended the public hearings, and he discussed some provision of the new law.

With no more business before the committee a motion was made by R. Tibbetts (Rodman) and seconded by C. Bauer (Redfield) to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 pm. All were in favor.