

Member Communities

Towns of

Adams
Boylston
Florence
Harrisburg
Lewis
Leyden
Lorraine
Martinsburg
Montague
Osceola
Pinckney
Redfield

Rodman
Turin
West Turin
Williamstown
Worth

Villages of

Adams
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*

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CTHC Executive Committee Meeting Minutes 8/01/2023

The meeting was held at the Osceola Municipal Building and was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Chairman R. Tibbetts. Also present for the meeting were Doug Dietrich, Vice Chairman; Carla Bauer, Secretary; Fran Yerdon, Director; Ian Klingbail, Director; Steve Bernat, Director; Paulette Walker, Director; Matt Johnson, Tug Hill Commission and Angie Kimball, Circuit Rider.

Minutes: The minutes of the January 26, 2023 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 June 30, 2023. Year-to Date Carry Over - \$37,916.56; Receipts to date - \$10,967.58; Distributions to Date - \$9,901.85; Net Funds Available - \$38,982.29. Chairman Tibbetts (Rodman) reported that they have filed the paperwork to join the NY CLASS cooperative for investing as of the end of July and they should see the results in the interest earned by the end of the year. A motion was made by P. Walker (Boylston) and seconded by C. Bauer (Redfield) to accept the report as presented. All were in favor (see attached report). The proposed dues structure going forward, and the circuit rider comparison were reviewed as well (see attached).

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) Planning Updates - M. Johnson (THC) discussed planning projects going on in the CTHC including zoning and subdivision work in Worth, zoning updates in Martinsburg and Montague, solar and wind zoning updates in Osceola and Florence, and a comp plan in Rodman. The mini-comp plan adoption process is moving forward with Florence and Pinckney next up.

B) 480a – Katie Malinowski and Jennifer Harvill from the Commission office have a meeting with members of the Rural Resources Committee tomorrow and a meeting scheduled with Senator May in a couple weeks and will be discussing this issue at both meetings.

C) MM Roads Update – The stand-alone legislation for Lorraine passed both houses of the legislature and is waiting to go to the Governor for her signature. Katie (THC) has sent a letter of support from the Commission and has been emailing the Governor’s counsel, who has raised concerns that this may increase the threat of lawsuits in the other towns with these laws. The Committee discussed sending a letter of support for the legislation and a motion was made by F. Yerdon (Osceola) and seconded by C. Bauer (Redfield) to send a letter of support to the Governor’s office. All were in favor (see attached letter).

D) Local Leaders Survey – A draft copy of the results of the survey was provided for review. They had a good response rate of 55% and the results were good overall. They will present the results at the fall meeting to the full Council.

E) Any Other Tug Hill Updates – The Commission’s annual dinner this year celebrating their 50th anniversary will be held 10/19 at Tailwater Lodge in Altmar. The hiring process for a new planner is in process, currently doing background checks. Hopefully he will be on staff officially soon. The Commission also has several vacancies for Commissioners, and they are working on getting some new people appointed to fill these vacancies.

Old Business: A) Any Old Business - none

New Business: A) Fall Meeting – The date was tentatively set for 9/21 with a fallback date of 9/28. A. Kimball (CR) will get prices from the Hideaway, the Florence Hotel, Tug Hill Vineyards and the Steak and Brew will be the fallback location. A suggested possible speaker was Laird Petrie to talk about the services he can provide the municipalities through the contract with the Commission. F. Yerdon (Osceola) also spoke about the increasing number of vacancies in elected and appointed positions and wondered if Laird might possibly be able to speak about the vacancy issues municipalities are having and any solutions. If not, it would be a good item for the attendees to discuss and see if anyone has any ideas to help find people to serve.

B) Proposed Budget – The proposed 2024 budget was presented by Chairman Tibbetts (Rodman). He proposes rolling the 2023 budget over with no changes as he thinks the expense lines are adequate and after 2024, we will have a better idea of the interest returns from the funds in the NY CLASS program. The Committee approved sending the proposed budget to the full Council at the fall meeting (see attached).

C) Associates 2024 – Beth part of year? – A. Kimball (CR) explained that she had spoken to Beth about the possibility in continuing to attend meetings while she is in New York for 2024 and working under a meeting-to-meeting contract. Christine and Heidi have agreed to cover additional meetings as they are able during the months Beth is not available. So long as this meets the approval of the committee, that is how she will prepare the draft contracts for next year – the committee approved this plan.

D) Cooperative ZBA – There has been interest expressed from some other towns in joining the Cooperative ZBA. M. Johnson (THC) and A. Kimball (CR) talked about the options available including increasing membership on the existing board from 5 to 7 or splitting into two separate boards (3 member and a 4 member board). They are talking to the counsel at the Dept. of State about the legality and particulars of a 4-person board and how it would operate, and they will also consult with retired planning director Phil Street for his thoughts. Stay tuned for more information.

E) Any Other New Business – F. Yerdon (Osceola) brought up issues with NYMIR (and other insurance policies) and them finding problems with playgrounds, fire contracts, snow and ice contracts, etc. He said the issues are difficult to deal with. He also

mentioned issues with signage on roads for ATVs and people plowing town roads as potential areas of concern.

With no more business before the committee a motion was made by C. Bauer (Redfield) and seconded by F. Yerdon (Osceola) to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm. All were in favor.