

A Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Orchard Park, Erie County, New York, was held at the Orchard Park Municipal Center, S4295 South Buffalo Street, Orchard Park, New York on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April 2020 at 7:00 PM, the meeting was called to order by Supervisor Keem and there were:

<b>PRESENT AT ROLL CALL:</b>	Patrick J. Keem	Supervisor	
	Eugene Majchrzak	Councilmember	
	Remy Orffeo	Town Clerk	
	John C. Bailey	Town Attorney	
	Steve Bremer	Building Inspector	
	E. Joseph Wehrfritz	Chief of Police	
	Frederick Piasecki, Jr.	Highway Superintendent	
	Wayne Bieler	Town Engineer	
	Attended via audio conference:	Conor Flynn	Councilmember

**Supervisor Keem read into the record the following:** “If anyone appearing before the Town Board has a family, financial or business relationship with any member of the Board, it is incumbent upon that person to make it known under State Law and the Town Code of Ethics.”

1) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY SUPERVISOR KEEM, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MAJCHRZAK, TO WIT:

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board does hereby approve the Regular Meeting Minutes: March 18, 2020, and the Executive Session of March 11, and 18, 2020, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the reading of these minutes be dispensed with as each member of the Town Board has previously received copies thereof.

**The resolution was unanimously adopted.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON NEW BUSINESS**

It was announced that if anyone had any comments on New Business Items. or any other issues, they should send an email to the Supervisor by 4:00pm the day of the meeting. He stated that he did not receive any regarding this meeting.

**New Business #1 Accept funds from OP Community Activity Center Council for equipment**

2) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COUNCILMEMBER MAJCHRZAK, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR KEEM, TO WIT:

**WHEREAS**, the Community Activity Center needs to acquire fitness equipment to create and operate a fitness program, and

**WHEREAS**, the Orchard Park Community Activity Council is ready and willing to donate the sum of \$54,556.23 to the Town of Orchard Park to acquire that equipment, and

**WHEREAS**, THE Town of Orchard Park is ready and willing to accept the donation from the Orchard Park Community Activity Council in the above amount.

**NOW, THEREFORE, be it**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town of Orchard Park accepts the Orchard Park Community Activity Council donation of \$54,556.23 for the purchase of fitness equipment to be installed and used at the Community Activity Center.

**The resolution was unanimously adopted.**

**New Business #2 Sign Parks & Grounds Agreement with Orchard Park Soccer Club**

**3) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COUNCILMEMBER MAJCHRZAK, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR KEEM, TO WIT:**

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the Supervisor to sign the Parks & Grounds Agreement with the Orchard Park Soccer Club for the use of the fields and facilities.

**The resolution was unanimously adopted.**

**New Business #3 Authorize Payment of Bills on Warrants by Supervisor during State of Emergency**

**4) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COUNCILMEMBER MAJCHRZAK, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR KEEM, TO WIT:**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Orchard Park Board recognizes that the present coronavirus pandemic presents a variety of unique challenges in administering the Town's business, and

**WHEREAS**, among those challenges is paying legitimate operating expenses specifically related to the coronavirus emergency, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Orchard Park Board is willing to authorize the Supervisor to pay expenses without prior Town Board approval if those expenses are specifically related to the coronavirus emergency and which expenses are of such a critically time sensitive nature that they must be paid outside of the normal course of review and payment, and

**WHEREAS**, the Supervisor is ready, willing, and able to make a detailed report of the payment of such expenses at the Town of Orchard Park bi-monthly meetings, and

**WHEREAS**, the authority anticipated hereby extends only to the lifting of the various governmental states of emergency or to the termination of this authority at the pleasure of the Town Board,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The Town of Orchard Park Board hereby authorizes the Town of Orchard Park Supervisor to pay, without prior Town of Orchard Park Board approval, expenses specifically related to the coronavirus emergency which such expenses are of such a critically time sensitive nature that they must be paid outside of the normal course of review and payment, and
2. The Town of Orchard Park Supervisor is hereby directed to make a detailed report of such paid expenses at the Town of Orchard Park Board's bi-monthly meetings held either electronically or in person, and
3. The term of the authority granted hereby extends only to the lifting of the various governmental emergencies or the termination of the authority granted herein by the Town of Orchard Park

**The resolution was unanimously adopted.**

**New Business #4 Approve Wage Increase for Senior Center Kitchen Manager**

5) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY SUPERVISOR KEEM, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MAJCHRZAK, TO WIT:

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board does hereby approve the request of the Senior Center Director to increase the wage of Kevin Kornowicz, part-time Kitchen Manager from \$13.50 to \$14.50 an hour.

**The resolution was unanimously adopted.**

**New Business #5 – Not on Agenda – Reorganization of Parks & Grounds Supervision**

6) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY SUPERVISOR KEEM, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MAJCHRZAK, TO WIT:

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Orchard Park Board wishes to re-organize the administration and operation of the Town of Orchard Park parks, and

**WHEREAS**, Highway Superintendent Fred Piasecki presently is responsible for managing the Town of Orchard Park parks, and

**WHEREAS**, the Orchard Park Town Board wishes to appoint Edward Leak to take Fred Piasecki's position as Chief Administrator of the Town of Orchard Park parks, and

**WHEREAS**, the Orchard Park Town Board wishes to cancel the stipend paid to Highway Superintendent Fred Piasecki for his duties as Administrator of the Town of Orchard Park parks, and

**WHEREAS**, the Orchard Park Town Board wishes to make these changes effective on April 1, 2020, and

**WHEREAS**, the post of Chief Administrator of the Town of Orchard Park parks is to be an annual appointment hereafter to be made at the Town of Orchard Park organizational meeting each year,

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. Highway Superintendent Fred Piasecki is hereby relieved of any and all of his duties related to the Town of Orchard Park parks, and
2. Town Recreation Director Edward Leak is hereby appointed the successor to Highway Superintendent Fred Piasecki in managing all of those duties related to the Town of Orchard Park parks previously managed by Highway Superintendent Fred Piasecki, and
3. Highway Superintendent Piasecki's stipend for his Town of Orchard Park parks duties is hereby cancelled and Town Recreation Director Edward Leak is granted an annual stipend of \$8,000 to be adjusted proportionately for the 2020 calendar with payments in full beginning in the 2021 calendar year, and
4. The position of Chief Administrator of the Town of Orchard Park parks is to be an annual appointment hereafter to be made at the Town of Orchard Park organizational meeting each year, and
5. These changes are effective as of April 1, 2020.

Councilmember Majchrzak stated that at the Executive Session there were issues regarding the reorganization of the Parks & Grounds Supervision that came up that he was not comfortable with.

Town Clerk Orffeo called for a roll call vote which resulted as follows:

Supervisor Patrick Keem	Aye
Councilmember Majchrzak	Nay
Councilmember Flynn	Abstain

**The resolution did not pass.**

**New Business #6 – Not on the Agenda - Authorize the Notice of Bid for Brush Pickup**

7) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COUNCILMEMBER MAJCHRZAK, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR KEEM, TO WIT:

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board is hereby authorized to schedule a Bid Opening for the Brush Collection for the Town of Orchard Park on April 20, 2020 at the Municipal Center, 4295 South Buffalo St. Orchard Park at 11:00 AM in the Supervisors Conference Room, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Clerk is to publish due in the Orchard Park Bee.

**The resolution was unanimously adopted.**

**ELECTED OFFICIALS & DEPARTMENT MANAGERS**

Building Inspector Steve Bremer said that they are receiving a lot of calls and are trying to help contractors work through this time.

Chief of Police Wehrfritz stated that the Parks are open in daylight hours and reminded people to keep up the Social Distancing. He also noted that the Dispatch Office is not open to the public, you need to call 911 or 662-6444 to talk to a dispatcher. When police respond to calls, he asked people to come out and talk to the officers, they do not want to enter homes if they do not have to.

Highway Superintendent Piasecki stated that they are starting to do brush and leaf pickup, and they are working with half crews.

8) THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY SUPERVISOR KEEM, WHO MOVED ITS ADOPTION, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MAJCHRZAK, TO WIT:

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the approval of all entries on Warrant # 7 following auditing by members of the Town Board and in the funds indicated:

<b>General Fund</b>	\$57,095.06
<b>Public Safety Fund</b>	\$5,478.52
<b>Part Town Fund</b>	\$738.85
<b>Risk Retention</b>	-0-
<b>Cemetery Fund</b>	-0-
<b>Highway Fund</b>	\$15,425.92
<b>Special Districts</b>	\$2,035.46
<b>Trust &amp; Agency</b>	\$4,097.59
<b>Capital Fund</b>	\$287,023.43

**The resolution was unanimously adopted.**

Supervisor Keem: “We all have been affected, either directly or indirectly, by Covid 19. And, more than ever before, we have to work together as a community, a state and a nation, to overcome what is being called the invisible enemy. We Town of Orchard Park Officials are working closely with Federal, State, County and other local officials to insure that we are meeting the needs of our residents, sharing appropriate information, and staying abreast of developments so we may better serve you.

We are committed to providing our employees with a safe work environment by continually evaluating our policies and procedures, and taking action to protect them, not only in the work place, but when they are out in our community.

As I said before, our Town Board Members, Department Managers and Emergency Management Team will continue to closely monitor and respond to this ongoing situation throughout Orchard Park and Erie County. As we work collaboratively to contain this pandemic, it is important that we follow the recommendations from the New York State Department of Health. Remember - to wash our hands often, for at least 20 seconds; remain in our homes as much as possible; and practice social distancing by staying, at a minimum, a good six feet away from other individuals.

Working together, we will overcome the challenge of the Corona virus disease, and at some point, this will all be behind us. Until then, you can stay up to date on the latest Covid 19 updates by visiting our Town website (Orchardparkny.org).”

There being no further business, on a motion by Supervisor Keem, seconded by Councilmember Majchrzak, the meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm (local time).

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Remy C. Orffeo  
Town Clerk**