***Present:*** *Supervisor John Francisco, Councilman Mark Hand, Josh Brown, Bill Burton, Highway Superintendent Bill Bigelow and Town Clerk Kristine Young. Absent: Councilman Jim Schneider*

*The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Francisco followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.*

***Approval of Minutes:*** *A motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting was made by Councilman Brown. A second to the motion was made by Councilman Hand. All councilmen and the supervisor voted aye. There were no nay votes. Carried 4-0-0.*

***Approval of Abstracts:*** *A motion was made by Councilman Brown to approve Highway Abstract 10 in the amount of $144,216.03 and General Abstract 10 in the amount of $18,627.93. A second to the motion was made by Councilman Brown. The supervisor and all councilmen voted aye. There were no nay votes. Carried 4-0-0.*

***Public Hearing****: The public hearing for the solar project was held open for additional comments after the last public meeting. The Town Clerk received one letter from a resident which was read at the meeting by Matt Sousa from MRB. (Exhibit C)*

***Guests****: Matt Mihaly and Brian Dunlavey from Delaware Solar was present along with their consultant, PW Grosser on a cell phone. A map was presented of the solar project. Brian went over some benefits of having the solar project. They have met with the Belmont Fire District who was also present at the meeting. There is an emergency response agreement and Delaware Solar has offered $25,000. They will provide the initial training and yearly training after that. There will be a walk-through at the site to show where the disconnect is if needed. Amity Rescue Squad was also present at the meeting and it was stated they should have the training as well.*

*Don Skinner from Amity Planning Board was present and has the approval of the application for the solar project but is lacking one signature but will present it to the town board.*

*A motion was made by Councilman Burton to close the public hearing. A second to the motion was made by Councilman Brown. The supervisor and councilmen voted aye. There were no nay votes. Carried 4-0-0.*

*Resolution-SEQR – DETERMINATION OF SIGNING RESOLUTION was offered by Supervisor John Francisco. A second to the motion was made by Councilman Brown. All councilmen and the supervisor voted aye. There were no nay votes. Carried 4-0-0.*

*Resolution – INTENT TO BE DESIGNATED THE LEAD AGENCY FOR THE PROPOSED SOLAR PROJECT was offered by Supervisor John Francisco. A second to the motion was made by Councilman Burton. All councilmen and the supervisor voted aye. There were no nay votes. Carried 4-0-0.*

*Matt Sousa from MRB read the Full Environmental Assessment Form, Part 2-Identification of Potential Project Impacts with the board members. Part 3-Evaluation of the Magnitude and Importance of Projects Impacts and Determination of Significance was signed by Supervisor Francisco.*

*Supervisor Francisco and the councilmen agreed to wait until the next meeting to vote on this project.*

*Amity Rescue Squad was present and reported they are struggling financially due to wages, utilities, building loan, cost of equipment and trainings. They are also in need of more volunteers. If they had more equipment and volunteers, they would like to expand their services into neighboring towns.*

*Supervisor Francisco asked them to come back to the board with actual costs of these expenses. The town budget is being done now for next year.*

***Highway Superintendent’s Report****: Exhibit B. Superintendent Bigelow stated there are a lot of ash trees falling especially on Back River Road. An estimate for Stump Thumpers of $7,000.00 to remove the trees in the cemetery was provided by Superintendent Bigelow. A motion was made by Councilman Brown to approve payment for tree removal in the cemetery. A second to the motion was made by Councilman Hand. All councilmen and the supervisor voted aye. There were no nay votes. Carried 4-0-0.*

*The highway department has paved Ingraham, Windfall, Whitcomb and Tuckers Corners Road. Angelica, Belfast, Friendship, Andover, Wellsville, Hume and the county helped. Roadsides were mowed, gravel was hauled to the bridge on Feathers Creek and they have started sucking leaves in the cemetery.*

***Supervisor’s Announcements:*** *The town has hired a new bond council for the water district. A water district does not have to go through the state so if all goes well, it will be done by January. There will be a public hearing on November 4th, 2024 @ 7:00 pm. A motion to approve the public hearing was made by Councilman Hand. A second to the motion was made by Councilman Brown. All councilmen and the supervisor voted aye. There were no nay votes. Carried 4-0-0.*

*Ralph Keesler has agreed for the town to buy his land next to the Forest Hills Cemetery for $15,000.00 but doesn’t want to receive the payment until next year.*

***New Business:*** *The town has received several notices from the Allegany County Health Department regarding a complaint back in 2021 on Irons Road in Scio. Supervisor Francisco will speak to Code Enforcer, John Clouse regarding the issue.*

***Next Meeting:*** *There will be a public hearing**on November 4, 2024 at 7:00 pm for the water project. The next regular meeting will be November 11, 2024 at 7:00 pm.*

***Adjournment:*** *A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilman Burton. A second to the motion was made by Councilman Hand. All councilmen and the supervisor voted aye. There were no nay votes. Carried 4-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.*

*SS Belmont*

*State of New York*

*Allegany County*

*IN TESTIMONY HEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Town of Amity this 14th day of October 2024.*

*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Kristine Young, Amity Town Clerk*