

**Minutes of the Town of Johnsburg Regular Board Meeting October 15, 2013  
Held at the Sodom Community Center (Scout Hall), North Creek, NY.**

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Johnsburg held on Tuesday, October 15, 2013 at 7:00pm at the Sodom Community Center (Scout Hall), North Creek, NY. Supervisor Vanselow called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and the pledge to the flag was led by Supervisor Vanselow.

Roll call showed the following persons present: Supervisor Ronald Vanselow; Town Councilmen/ Eugene Arsenault, Katharine Nightingale, Peter Olesheski, Jr, Arnold Stevens; Town Clerk/ William Rawson.

Guests: On attached list

**RESOLUTION NO. 153**

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Arsenault to accept the minutes of the October 1, 2013 regular Town Board Meeting as written. With 5 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes-5 (Arsenault, Nightingale, Olesheski, Stevens, Vanselow) Nays - 0

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. A letter from Mrs. Kelly Nettle requesting that the Town Board pass a resolution authorizing the Youth Committee to apply for a LARAC grant in the amount of \$1500.00 to fund an after school art program.
2. A letter from Mr. William Moos IV informing the Town Board that he was resigning his position as a member of the Town of Johnsburg Planning Board.

Supervisor Vanselow asked if the Town Board wished to authorize the Youth Committee to seek grant funding from the NYS Council of the arts through LARAC for two ten week sessions of art instruction. Supervisor Vanselow reminded the Town Board that the match is to be made up from other grants or donations.

**RESOLUTION NO. 154**

Ms. Nightingale presented the following resolution, and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Olesheski to authorize the submission of a grant application to LARAC by the Johnsburg Youth Committee, on behalf of the Town, for the after school art in the amount expected to be approximately \$1500.00, and with the match to be coming from grants, gifts and other non-Town funds and further, that the Town Board retroactively the Town Board authorizes the supervisor to execute all necessary documents to apply for said grant. With 5 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes-5 (Arsenault, Nightingale, Olesheski, Stevens, Vanselow) Nays - 0

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Supervisor Vanselow explained that the report from Summer Youth Program Director Ann Dingman was in the Town Board packets. It was determined that the report had not been in the report due to error. The Town Clerk produced the original report and it was circulated around the Town Board for their review.

Supervisor Vanselow said that also in the packets was a report from Town Justice Vincent Schiavone showing his expenses and asking that the Town Justice budget line be increased in the 2014 Town Budget. Supervisor Vanselow said that while he had made an increase to the Town Justice budget line that it was smaller than the request from Justice Schiavone and that he would support increasing the Town Justice budget line at a later point in the budget process.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Supervisor Vanselow explained that following a discussion of the Denton property on Goodman Road the Town Board had requested that additional cleanup work be performed. Supervisor Vanselow explained that the additional work has not been done due to the excavator not being available. Supervisor Vanselow said that he has spoken to Warren County Treasurer Michael Swan about relaying the current costs of the cleanup to the 2014 Town/County taxes and has been told that it can be done. Supervisor Vanselow informed the Town Board that the current costs for cleaning up the amount to \$11,558.19 and he added that Warren County has no immediate plans to put the Thomas Denton property at 316 Goodman Road up for tax sale. Supervisor Vanselow asked that the Town Board authorize the relevy of the current costs for cleanup of the Denton property.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 155

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution with a second from Mr. Olesheski that WHEREAS the Town of Johnsborg was made aware of a severe health code violation at 316 Goodman Road (132.-1-73) and WHEREAS, upon receipt of this information the Town Board acting as the Board of Health requested that the town health officer, Dr. John Ruge investigate the situation and WHEREAS, after receiving Dr. Ruge's report of the severe health code violation at said property the Town of Johnsborg instituted a judicial action and the Warren County Supreme Court issued a ruling which allowed a clean-up of said property and WHEREAS, the Town of Johnsborg has incurred considerable expense in cleaning up said property, in the amount of \$11,558.19 (supporting documentation on following pages) IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the amount of the cost of this clean-up shall be attached to the taxes due upon this property as an omitted tax in order to fairly reimburse the Town of Johnsborg whose residents taxes have paid for this clean-up.

With 5 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes-5 (Arsenault, Nightingale, Olesheski, Stevens, Vanselow) Nays - 0

Supervisor Vanselow reminded the Town Board that at the October 1, 2013 meeting he had informed them of the potential of a request from the Johnsborg Emergency Squad to build a station at the site of the pallet mill on Peaceful Valley Road which would require either a use variance from the Zoning Board of Appeals or a grant of an "Immunity from Zoning" from the Town Board. Supervisor Vanselow informed the Town Board that the Zoning Board of Appeals had granted the Emergency Squad a use variance and no additional action was necessary at this time. Mrs. Kelly Nettle, President, of the Johnsborg Emergency Squad said that the issue appears to be settled for now.

Supervisor Vanselow explained that the Town Board had received the 2014 Tentative budget at the previous Town Board meeting and that he was prepared to discuss the 2014

budget with the Town Board members at this time. Supervisor Vanselow said that this was an opportunity to make changes in the Tentative budget and move it to the Preliminary budget and added that the next opportunity would be following the Public Hearing. Supervisor Vanselow said that possibly there could be health insurance changes following input from the Highway employees. Supervisor Vanselow said that if there were no changes to the budget when it was being moved to Preliminary it would be available sooner than if changes are made. Supervisor Vanselow said that he expects changes as a result of the Public Hearing.

Mr. Olesheski said that he would suggest removing the \$2000.00 from the support for the North Creek Railway Depot Preservation Association (NCRDPA) and putting \$1000.00 in each of the following budget lines: the Town Library for programming and the Youth Committee for programs for youth. Mr. Olesheski said that he believes that the Town Board could assist the NCRDPA through Occupancy Tax rather and assistance in fund raising than by direct funding. Supervisor Vanselow said that he had reduced the NCRDPA budget line by \$500.00 to \$2000.00.

Supervisor Vanselow said that the Town Justice was requesting an increase in his purchasing budget line of \$1000.00 and Supervisor Vanselow had already raised that line by \$500.00. Mr. Arsenault asked if Supervisor Vanselow would talk through his thought process on the construction of the budget. Supervisor Vanselow replied that he would generate a narrative budget description for the next meeting at the latest. Supervisor Vanselow said that the lines which were increased were some personnel lines and Highway funding. Supervisor Vanselow said that if funds were to be moved around he would like to be able to hire two additional workers for summer help in the parks. Supervisor Vanselow said that there are some smaller building maintenance projects, but he does not see any large building projects at this time. Mr. Arsenault asked about funding in the North Creek Water District for maintenance and upgrades. Supervisor Vanselow said that three projects have been discussed and we are well into the second project and funds are in reserve in the North Creek Water District. Supervisor Vanselow said that a grant application was in for funds to perform a major project in the North Creek Water District, but the funding was diverted to cleanup from Super storm Sandy.

Supervisor Vanselow said that he had some questions which would not be answered until the health insurance plan questions had been answered. Mr. Olesheski said that he was not hearing a lot of support for making changes to the budget, but he asked that the Town Board members consider his suggestion of amending the budget. Supervisor Vanselow said that he will speak to the leadership of the NCRDPA about their funding. Mr. Olesheski said that the funding from the Town is becoming an insignificant amount for the NCRDPA. Supervisor Vanselow said that he supports the additional funding for the Town Library and the Youth Committee. Ms. Nightingale said that she was supportive of the additional funding.

Mr. Arsenault said that there is no "CHIPS" money shown in the 2014 budget. Supervisor Vanselow said that "CHIPS" was anticipated funding. Highway Superintendent Daniel Hitchcock said that the amount had been \$187,000.00 and has been raised to \$231,000.00 and that there is an additional holdover of \$103,000.00. Highway Supt. Hitchcock said that he hoped to leave enough in the account to pay for the Waddell Road bridge next year. Mr. Arsenault asked if the revenues were not being understated. Supervisor Vanselow said that the funds were not the basis for appropriations

Supervisor Vanselow asked for a resolution to move the 2014 Tentative Budget to be the

2014 Preliminary Budget and also, asked the Town Board to set a time and date for a public hearing on the proposed Town of Johnsbury 2014 Preliminary Town Budget as well.

RESOLUTION NO. 156

Mr. Olesheski presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Arsenault as follows:

WHEREAS, the Budget Officer's Tentative Budget for the fiscal year of 2014 was filed with the Town Clerk on September 27, 2013 as mandated by law, and

WHEREAS, at a meeting conducted on October 1, 2013, the Tentative Budget was presented, and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Budget Officer's Tentative Budget for 2014 be adopted as a Preliminary Budget for 2014.

With 5 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes-5 (Arsenault, Nightingale, Olesheski, Stevens, Vanselow) Nays - 0

RESOLUTION NO. 157

Mr. Olesheski presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Arsenault as follows:

NOTICE of a Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget for the Town of Johnsbury, Warren County, New York for the year of 2014,

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Preliminary Budget of the Town of Johnsbury, Warren County, New York for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2014 has been completed and filed in the Town Clerk's office in the hamlet of North Creek in said Town, where it is available for inspection by any interested person at all reasonable hours;

FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Board will meet and review said Preliminary Budget and hold a Public Hearing thereon at 7:00pm on November 7, 2013 at the Wevertown Community Center, Wevertown, New York and that at such time and place any person may be heard in favor of or against any item or items therein contained. After closing the Public Hearing, the regular Town Board meeting will continue,

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, Pursuant to Section 108 of the Town Law, that the following are the proposed yearly salaries of the Town Officers:

Supervisor -----	\$23,289.00
Justice of the Peace -----	\$12,720.00
Councilpersons (4) -----	\$4,147.00
Town Clerk/Tax Collector -----	\$22,604.00
Highway Superintendent -----	\$50,000.00

With 5 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes-5 (Arsenault, Nightingale, Olesheski, Stevens, Vanselow) Nays - 0

Supervisor Vanselow asked Mr. Olesheski to report on the recommendations of members of the Occupancy Tax Committee for the application and scoring information for Occupancy Tax funds. Mr. Olesheski said that the Occupancy Tax Committee was recommending no changes to the Occupancy Tax funding application. Mr. Olesheski said that there was a discussion of the scoring and ranking criteria for the applications as he had received public comment asking for changes to the scoring and criteria. Mr. Olesheski wanted to change the date of submission

from October 31 to November 15; the November date will give the Occupancy Tax Committee and the Town Board time to review and finalize the awards.

(Supervisor Vanselow left the meeting at 7:35PM)

Mr. Olesheski said that the Occupancy Tax Committee recommends the removal of the reduction of funding to older events wording although, he added that the age of an event may be looked at in the scoring criteria.

Mr. Olesheski said that wording to inform applicants that the Occupancy Tax Committee and Town Board may request additional information or a presentation on behalf of their request. Mr. Olesheski said that wording from the Warren County application stating that filing of an application does not assure the applicant of receiving funding.

(Supervisor Vanselow returned to the meeting at 7:38PM)

Mr. Olesheski said that the Occupancy Tax Committee tried to simplify the ranking process for the awarding of funds. Mr. Olesheski said that there are categories for types of events and applications. Mr. Olesheski said that the scoring guidelines would be made available, but would not be included in the application form as is done by Warren County.

Ms. Nightingale asked if the Occupancy Tax Committee had discussed the Town Board hold backs. Mr. Olesheski said that the Occupancy Tax Committee did not believe that this was worth fighting over although the Occupancy Tax Committee was asking that the Town Board submit applications for the Occupancy Tax funding which they will be using to determine how they would have scored against the other applications. Supervisor Vanselow said that he had no problem with providing applications for Town Board Occupancy Tax funding.

Supervisor Vanselow questioned the wording regarding the scoring of applications to be allowed full funding being in the top 50% versus the bottom 50%. Mr. Olesheski said that the intent was that only those applications in the top 50% of the scoring rankings would qualify for full funding. Supervisor Vanselow suggested that the wording be changed to a score of 50 points or better to be eligible to receive full funding as being clearer as to intent and Mr. Olesheski agreed to the change.

Mr. Arsenault asked the status of the Occupancy Tax funds. Supervisor Vanselow said that while he was not completely sure, that the \$30,000.00 annual payment had arrived today. Supervisor Vanselow said that he thought the total with last year's rollover was about \$34,800.00. Mr. Olesheski said that the Occupancy Tax Committee would need an accurate figure by November 15, to determine award amounts. Mr. Arsenault asked if it was the intent of the Occupancy Tax Committee to award the bulk of the funding to the top tier of applications. Mr. Olesheski said that it was; he added that good events are worth funding.

Mr. Olesheski said that the Occupancy Tax Committee was looking for approval of the wording of the directions and the scoring criteria for the 2013 Occupancy Tax funds application. Mr. Olesheski said that if the approval was made that he planned to have the forms to the Town Hall by the end of the week. Supervisor Vanselow said that he appreciated the work of the Occupancy Tax Committee on the application forms.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 158

Mr. Olesheski presented the following resolution, and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Arsenault, that the Town Board approves of the wording of the following items: "Directions for Occupancy Tax Funding Request for Tourism Promotion of the Town of Johnsbury" and the scoring procedures for the request application.

## **Directions for Occupancy Tax Funding Request For Tourism Promotion of the Town of Johnsbury *Warren County Occupancy Tax Local Distribution***

### **Requirements:**

- Applicants must submit their applications by mail, in person or electronically to [Cherie@johnsburny.com](mailto:Cherie@johnsburny.com) so that they are received no later than November 15<sup>th</sup> each year to be considered for funding.
- Organizations unable to submit an application electronically may print and send the completed application to: Town of Johnsbury, PO Box 7, North Creek, NY 12853. Regardless of the form in which an organization submits an application, they must keep a copy in their records for six (6) years.
- Applicants may be:
  - A community non-profit or service organization
  - A business group which promotes an entire category of businesses or all businesses in the community
  - Group of community-minded folks with a worthy idea
- Projects should promote/attract tourism in the Town of Johnsbury and create a regional economic benefit
- Operational costs cannot be covered by occupancy tax funding (salaries, overhead, etc.)
- Projects must be all-inclusive of the community and preference may be given to new projects/events
- Completion and submission of the application does not assure funding. All applications must be reviewed by the Occupancy Tax Committee and approved by the Johnsbury Town Board
- The Johnsbury Town Board or Committee thereof reserves the right to request additional Information and may request a presentation or a representative of your organization to be present at a meeting to answer questions about their application
- Organizations may request increased funding for **similar** projects/events in subsequent years, however the organization MUST show that the event/project they are sponsoring is significantly improved or provides increased benefit to the community over previous years.
- If an organization is asking for additional funding for a previously funded project/event, they must include the earlier project/event budget showing how the awarded occupancy tax was used with the new application. If the former project is not complete by the current year's due date, the organization must submit a status report along with projected expenses.

### **Examples of Fundable Projects**

Distributes information about the community

- Websites/brochures/flyers/postcards/maps/posters
- Bus signage
- Kiosk development
- Area Branding

Enhances the image of the town

- Streetscapes/sidewalk plantings/parking lot improvements
- Community signage/murals
- Banners/flags

Provides something to do within the community

- Enhance recreational attractions/create trails
- Create outdoor theater
- Promote special events

## **Project Ranking Process**

Each application received will be placed into one of three project categories, as seen below. The Occupancy Tax Committee will then assess and score each application based on both general and project-type specific criteria including;

### **Information**

- Attractive/professional work potential
- Good distribution plan
- Fosters community image
- Informative, useful
- Delivers tourists into businesses

### **Beautification**

- Welcomes and/or adds comfort for visitors
- Enhances community image and/or spaces
- Long-term maintenance and sustainability addressed
- Appearance (design, color, shape, size) appropriate for space
- Suitability to location

### **Event or Things to Do**

- Number of visitor days and nights
- Season extender
- Relevancy of activity to potential market
- Good marketing plan
- Spin-off to businesses or hamlets

## **Occupancy Tax Funding Request For Tourism Promotion of the Town of Johnsburg *Warren County Occupancy Tax Local Distribution***

## Project Ranking/Evaluation Procedure

Each Committee member will assess/score each application; the individual member scores will then be averaged together to find the final score for each application.

- Projects within each category will be evaluated on both general and project-type specific criteria on a scale of **1-10 points**

Once all applications have been scored, they will be ranked from highest to lowest score

- Only those applications finishing with **50 points or higher** will be eligible for **full** funding, *should enough money be available*
- Applications finishing with **less than 50 points** are still eligible for funding if it is available, but those projects/events will not be eligible for **full** funding
- Based on the number of applications and the amount of money available to be awarded in any given year, the lowest ranked projects may not receive funding at all

Once all applications have been ranked from highest to lowest, each Committee member will then make an individual recommendation on the amount of money that should be granted to each applicant. These amounts will be averaged together and, as a whole, the Committee will discuss to reach a consensus on a **Committee recommendation** for all applications

The final step in this process will be for the Committee chair to present a final list of funding recommendations for approval to the Johnsbury Town Board

### **Note:**

To protect the integrity of the scoring/ranking and recommendation process, any member of the Occupancy Tax Committee authoring an application shall not participate in the scoring of that application or the discussion about a potential funding amount.

Likewise, any member of the Committee employed by a business, organization or individual authoring an application, shall not participate in the scoring of that application or the discussion about a potential funding amount.

***\* The Johnsbury Town Board and Committee thereof does reserve the right to request additional information and may request a presentation or a representative of the application submitting party to be present at a meeting to answer questions about their funding request***

### **General Scoring Criteria (1-10 points each)**

- Creates economic benefit for community
- Is a cost effective project/event
- Helps to leverage funds

- Is a new project/event
- Promotes collaboration among community entities

**Project Specific Criteria (1-10 points each)**

**Information**

- Attractive/professional work potential
- Good distribution plan
- Fosters community image
- Informative, useful
- Delivers tourists into businesses

**Beautification**

- Welcomes and/or adds comfort for visitors
- Enhances community image and/or spaces
- Long-term maintenance and sustainability addressed
- Appearance (design, color, shape, size) appropriate for space
- Suitability to location

**Event or Things to Do**

- Number of visitor days/nights
- Season extender
- Relevancy of activity to potential market
- Good marketing plan
- Spin-off to businesses or hamlets

With 5 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes-5 (Arsenault, Nightingale, Olesheski, Stevens, Vanselow) Nays - 0

Supervisor Vanselow asked that the Town Board authorize him to move forward on purchasing a small piece of property owned by Mr. Thomas Stoddard adjacent to the Town of Johnsbury Highway Garage. The acquisition is expected to yield the Town approximately one year's worth of sand and the cost of the property will be \$3000.00 plus the closing costs. Mr. Olesheski asked how this would compare with the cost of sand. Highway Superintendent Daniel Hitchcock said that it is a reasonable price for the property as sand costs about \$3.00 per ton and the Town Highway uses about 10,000 yards annually at considerably more than \$3000.00.

Mr. Robert Nettle said that the Town has been mining on the Stoddard property for some time and said that Mr. Stoddard wants to complete the sale and that speaking to Attorney for the Town J. Anthony Jordan is a mistake and the Town should simply hire Frank Desantis to complete the process quickly. Mr. Olesheski asked if Mr. Stoddard was in a hurry to complete the sale. Mr. Nettle said that he was and that helped to account for the rise in price from

\$500.00 to \$3000.00. Supervisor Vanselow said that the previous holdup was not due to Attorney Jordan; it resulted from a problem with Warren County Real Property not agreeing to the creation of a substandard lot. Supervisor Vanselow said that Attorney Jordan laid out a path to solve this problem. Highway Supt. Hitchcock said that the Town has done no mining on the Stoddard property and the twenty-five foot setback has only been encroached on once. Mr. Arsenault asked if all the issues could be taken care of. Supervisor Vanselow said that they could, although he did not have exact figures for the closing costs.

Mr. Olesheski suggested that the Town Board authorize the supervisor to execute all documents to purchase the Stoddard property at a cost not to exceed \$3000.00 plus the closing costs.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 159

Mr. Olesheski presented the following resolution, and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Arsenault that the Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to execute all necessary documents to purchase a piece of property owned by Mr. Thomas Stoddard adjacent to the Town of Johnsburg Highway Garage at a cost not to exceed \$3000.00 plus the closing costs. With 5 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes-5 (Arsenault, Nightingale, Olesheski, Stevens, Vanselow) Nays - 0

Supervisor Vanselow asked that the Town Board officially accept the resignation of Mr. William Moos IV the position of member of the Town of Johnsburg Planning Board per his e-mailed letter which was read in the Correspondence portion of the meeting.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 160

Mr. Arsenault presented the following resolution, and moved its passage with a second from Ms. Nightingale that the Town Board officially accepts with thanks and regrets the resignation of Mr. William Moos IV from the position of member of the Town of Johnsburg Planning Board. With 5 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes-5 (Arsenault, Nightingale, Olesheski, Stevens, Vanselow) Nays - 0

Supervisor Vanselow asked if the Town Board wished to appoint Mrs. Gretchen Millington to the balance of the unexpired term of Mr. William Moos IV on the Town of Johnsburg Planning Board.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 161

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Ms. Nightingale that the Town Board of the Town of Johnsburg appoints Mrs. Gretchen Millington to fill the unexpended balance of the term of Mr. William Moos IV on the Town of Johnsburg Planning Board for a term ending February 1, 2016 effective immediately and ending her tenure as the alternate member of the Planning Board. With 5 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes-5 (Arsenault, Nightingale, Olesheski, Stevens, Vanselow) Nays - 0

Supervisor Vanselow asked if the Town Board wished to advertise for one week in the Town's Official Newspaper, the North Creek News-Enterprise for interested persons to fill the vacant position of alternate member of the Town of Johnsburg Planning Board.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 162

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution, and moved its passage with a second from Mr.

Arsenault that the Town Board authorizes that the Town Clerk to advertise for one week in the Town's Official Newspaper, the North Creek News-Enterprise for interested persons to fill the vacant position of alternate member of the Town of Johnsbury Planning Board and further, that the Town Clerk is authorized to include the two vacancies on the Zoning Board of Appeals in the advertisement. With 5 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes-5 (Arsenault, Nightingale, Olesheski, Stevens, Vanselow) Nays – 0

Supervisor Vanselow asked Mrs. Kelly Nettle for a Ski Bowl Park update. Mrs. Nettle informed the Town Board that Mr. Thomas Suozzo has performed a flow test of the inlet pipe at the Ski Bowl Park pond and has reported an influx of 30 gallons per minute of water flow; this is a sufficient rate of flow to alleviate the need for a sanitary survey if the Department of Health (DOH) will agree. Mrs. Nettle said that she will take this report to the DOH and ask for a waiver on the sanitary survey. Mr. Stevens asked if it was a firm it was that the sanitary survey would be waived. Mrs. Nettle said that it was not a sure thing.

(Mr. Arsenault left the meeting at 8:15PM)

Mr. Olesheski asked if it would help to have Supervisor Vanselow deliver the report or send a letter with it. Mrs. Nettle said that it could.

Mrs. Nettle said that she has an estimate of the cost of getting electricity to the pavilion near the Ski Bowl Park pond. The Town cost would be \$3881.20 and if the payment is approved for the match for the Ski Bowl Park grant the cost will be \$1940.60.

(Mr. Arsenault returned to the meeting at 8:19PM)

Supervisor Vanselow asked why won't the Charles Wood Foundation grant pay for the entire installation. Mrs. Nettle explained that she wants to keep some of the grant funding for weed harvesting and dredging.

Mr. Olesheski asked who will do the installation.

(Supervisor Vanselow left the meeting at 8:21PM)

Mrs. Nettle said that her husband, Robert Nettle and other volunteers would install the electrical line and that there would be an electrical inspection prior to its being made live. Mr. Olesheski asked if there would be any costs associated with the inspection. Mr. Robert Nettle said that he believed that the inspection would be fifty dollars.

(Supervisor Vanselow returned to the meeting at 8:23PM)

Mr. Robert Nettle asked why the Town Board wanted electricity at the pavilion near the pond. Ms. Nightingale said that it would be good to have music and light for public uses. Mr. Nettle asked if anyone has asked to hold a concert in that location. Mr. Olesheski said that a radio for a birthday party was a reasonable idea and added that the Adirondack Tri County Nursing Home occasionally brought residents down to the area for fishing or relaxation; Mrs. Jo Ann Smith agreed that some patients are assisted down to the pavilion area for fishing. Mr. Olesheski said that in the future that it would be good to have an electric source for light in the changing room if swimming returns to the area. Mr. Nettle said that the proposal anticipated a 50 amp service panel which is not a lot of power; he added that electric grills or heaters would blow the circuit. Mr. Arsenault

suggested that possibly a heavier service would be needed for the aerator. It was decided that a 50 amp service would be adequate.

Mr. Olesheski asked about additional costs for insurance. Supervisor Vanselow said that may not be too large an increase.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 163

Mr. Olesheski presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Arsenault that the Town Board authorizes the overall project cost of \$4110.37 for the purchase of an aeration system and its installation and the purchase and installation of an electrical line and service to the pavilion near the Ski Bowl Park pond and with the Town portion of the cost to be \$3881.20 of which it is anticipated that fifty percent of the cost will be approved for the match for the Ski Bowl Park grant, and further, that the cost of an electrical inspection is to be added at an anticipated amount of fifty dollars, and further, that the installation labor will be performed by Mr. Robert Nessel and additional volunteers. With 5 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes-5 (Arsenault, Nightingale, Olesheski, Stevens, Vanselow) Nays - 0

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Supervisor Vanselow explained that the Supervisor's Monthly Report, for the month of September 2013 was in the Town Board members' packets.

Supervisor Vanselow asked Mr. Donald Moore, representing the Town of Johnsbury Highway Department employees, for the employees' input on the possibility of changing the insurance from MVP to CDCHP. Mr. Moore said that he has spoken with the Highway Employees and that if the current MVP plan won't be available for offering next year that the Highway Employees are willing to support a change to CDCHP. Mr. Moore added that as there will be a substantial savings to the Town; the employees would like to have the deductible assistance payment raised to 100% again from the current 50% payment.

Supervisor Vanselow said that the "savings" would be in the form of a lower increase in the premium. If the health care plan was changed and the Health Savings Account (HSA) payment remains at 50% the savings would be \$52,324.58; if the HSA payment was increased to 75% the savings would be \$37,324.58 and if the HSA payment was increased to 100% the savings would be \$22,324.58. Supervisor Vanselow said that in compiling the 2014 budget that he had included the insurance costs for MVP which would be a larger increase than any of the options from CDCHP and a change to either of the available CDCHP plans would result in a substantial change to the health insurance budget line.

Mr. Arsenault asked Supervisor Vanselow if he had given any thought to lowering the property tax levy. Supervisor Vanselow said that he considered using any savings to increase the personnel line to hire some additional summer help for the Parks and Buildings Department. Mr. Olesheski suggested an increase to 75% for the HSA payment. Supervisor Vanselow said that a decision did not need to be made tonight. Supervisor Vanselow said to Mr. Moore that he believed that the thought behind the switch to a CDCHP plan was based on an increase in the HSA payment; he

noted that the decision rested solely with the Town Board. Supervisor Vanselow said that the \$22,000.00 of savings would be fine with him and that we don't know what 2015 will bring in the health insurance venue.

Mr. Olesheski said that he doesn't want to switch back to the 100% for one year and then to have to change again next year. Mr. Olesheski added that the employees would be hard pressed to find any group funding 100% of coverage and deductible. Mr. Arsenault said that when the Town went to the high deductible health insurance plan that the Town saved \$75,000.00 and as a part of that change the Town Board had offered the employees an HSA payment to cover their deductible and that later when the Town Board asked that the employees take a 50% cut in their HSA payment that the employees had agreed to the cut.

Mr. Arsenault said that he was surprised as the cut was a contract issue. Mr. Arsenault said that if the prohibition against the paying 100% of the HSA is removed by changing insurance companies then it is reasonable that the employees would want the full payment of the HSA to be restored.

Supervisor Vanselow said that a budget adjustment of even \$22,000.00 would allow for a lot to be done. Supervisor Vanselow said again that this did not have to be decided tonight.

Mr. Olesheski said that he wants the HSA payment to be 75% not 100%. Supervisor Vanselow asked Mr. Moore to speak with the Highway employees about a 75% HSA payment instead of 100%. Mr. Olesheski said that he appreciates the Town employees, but that everyone has been taking a financial hit including him. Mr. Olesheski said that an increase to 75% is a chance for everyone to win. Ms. Nightingale asked if the Town employees pay for their health insurance. Supervisor Vanselow explained that the employees insurance is no charge and there is an additional 25% charge for family members. Ms. Nightingale supported Mr. Olesheski's HSA payment of 75%.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 164

Mr. Arsenault presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Stevens that the Town Board acknowledges that Claim #2013-719 from August 20, 2013 is a duplication of claim #2013-630 and that the claim is voided and that check #1565 for that claim has been returned and is voided as well; and further, that that the following certified bills which have been reviewed by the board members be paid: General Fund- Claim #2013-872 through Claim #2013-876 and Claim #2013-878 through Claim #2013-883 and Claim #2013-906 through #2013-914 (\$32,221.98); Highway Fund- Claim #2013-877 and Claim #2013-883 through Claim#2013-894 and Claim #2013-913 through Claim #2013-916 (\$14,009.56); North Creek Water Dist.- Claim #2013-900 through Claim #2013-902 and Claim#2013-917 and Claim #2013-918 (\$4,321.12); Capital Projects Funds Claim #2013-903 through Claim #2013-905 (\$1,081.34); Library Fund- Claim #2013-903 through #2013-905 (\$1,387.62); Johnsbury Fire Protection District Claim #2013-883 (\$3.44) Total all warrants \$53,018.18. With 5 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes-5 (Arsenault, Nightingale, Olesheski, Stevens, Vanselow) Nays - 0

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. Robert Nettle said that having had extra summer help was terrific. Supervisor Vanselow said that a couple of kids from the Warren County program had been a help to Parks and Buildings Superintendent Matt Olden. Mr. Nettle said that the Town should look into hiring someone a little older with some additional skills and the ability to perform work with power equipment instead of or in addition to high school kids.

Mr. Robert Nettle noted that there appeared to be more activity from bike riders on the new trails at the Ski Bowl Park. Mr. Nettle said that he hoped that there would be continued commitment to funding improvements in the Ski Bowl Park in the 2014 Town Budget; he added that there are many opportunities for growing biking here.

Mr. Robert Nettle asked if there was a reserve fund in the 2014 Town Budget. Supervisor Vanselow said that there was a contingency fund to be drawn upon for unanticipated projects. Mr. Nettle asked if it grew annually. Supervisor Vanselow said that it was an annual fund and that it amounted to approximately one tenth of one per cent of the budget. Mr. Arsenault reminded Supervisor Vanselow that a reserve fund for the closure of the sand mining operation had been discussed by the Town Board after it was brought up by Mr. Nettle. Supervisor Vanselow said that funds for both a reval and the sand mining closure would be placed into Capital Projects Funds. Supervisor Vanselow reminded the Town Board and the public that the Town has expended significant funds in the Ski Bowl Park over the recent years.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was presented by Ms. Nightingale with a second from Mr. Olesheski at 8:58pm. With 5 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes-5 (Arsenault, Nightingale, Olesheski, Stevens, Vanselow) Nays - 0

The next regular Town Board meeting will be held at 7:00pm on November 7, 2013 at the Wevertown Community Center, Wevertown, New York.

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Prepared by William Rawson, Town Clerk