

**Minutes of the Town of Johnsburg
Regular Meeting
Tannery Pond Community Center
228 Main Street, North Creek
August 20, 2019**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Johnsburg held on Tuesday August 20, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Tannery Pond Community Center, 228 Main Street, North Creek, NY

Supervisor Hogan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the pledge to the flag was led by Kelly Nettle.

PRESENT: Andrea Hogan -- Supervisor
Arnold Stevens – Councilman
Peter Olesheski, Jr -- Councilman
Laurie Arnheiter -- Councilwoman
Kate Lorah -- Town Clerk

ABSENT: Eugene Arsenault – Councilman

Approval of Minutes for Regular Meeting July 16, 2019

RESOLUTION #145-19

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Ms. Arnheiter to accept the minutes of the July 16, 2019 meeting. With 3 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes- 3 (Hogan, Stevens, Arnheiter) Nays- 0 Abstain – 1 (Olesheski)

Correspondence:

- Letter concerning traffic speed on Peaceful Valley Rd
- Letter concerning traffic on Durkin Rd
- Letter of interest in position of JYC Chairperson
- Email regarding properties in disrepair
- Email from Highway Superintendent Hitchcock regarding highway issues

Ms. Lorah referenced the above correspondence, saying correspondence packets were available with other handouts and in Town Hall.

Ms. Hogan said the email regarding properties in disrepair had already been addressed in Town Hall, because Leslie Clement sat down with Ms. Hogan and Danae Tucker (ZEO) and discussed the situation.

New Business:

- **Employee insurance**

The Town's insurance representative has recommended a CDPHP plan for 2020, with an alternate Blue Shield plan available as well. Mr. Olesheski suggested that in Mr. Arsenault's absence, the insurance discussion could be put off until the next Board meeting, so as to include Mr. Arsenault in the decision. The Board agreed.

- Beach Work update

Ms. Hogan commended Bob and Kelly Nettle on the work they are accomplishing at the beach. Kelly then explained that because of the heat, the work temporarily ceased, but will be starting again next week. Mr. Stevens asked her about the permitting process necessary for the work. She replied that the project was presented to the Department of Health, the APA, the DEC and the Army Corps of Engineers.

Don Filkins stated that Dan Hitchcock told him the project has resulted in several citations and potential fines. Ms. Hogan said that isn't the case.

- Follow up to building maintenance discussion - July meeting / **parks staffing**

Matt Olden reviewed the maintenance list created by Don Filkins, as discussed in a July Board meeting. He checked off all that has been accomplished, added new items, and he and Ms. Hogan made a plan to move forward on building maintenance.

Ms. Hogan stated that one of the Summer workers from the Parks Department may be available to stay on to help Matt with these projects.

RESOLUTION #146-19

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Olesheski to approve one seasonal Parks employee to extend his employment one month to help with building projects. With 4 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes- 4 (Hogan, Stevens, Olesheski, Arnheiter) Nays- 0

- **Authorize entering into contract with Warren County for services provided to seniors**

RESOLUTION #147-19

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Olesheski to authorize Ms. Hogan signing the contract with Warren County for services provided to seniors for the period 4/1/19 – 3/31/2020. With 4 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes- 4 (Hogan, Stevens, Olesheski, Arnheiter) Nays- 0

- **Change venue for October 1 town board meeting to Scout Hall**

Scout Hall is one of the buildings which will need upgrading, so Ms. Hogan suggested the Board meeting on October 1st take place there – members of the Board can then see what needs to be done.

RESOLUTION #148-19

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Olesheski to approve changing the venue for the October 1st Town Board meeting to Scout Hall. With 4 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes- 4 (Hogan, Stevens, Olesheski, Arnheiter) Nays- 0

- **Historical Society**

The Historical Society is struggling with membership and will likely fold by the end of the year. Ms. Hogan asked if anyone would be willing to meet with the Historical Society Board to brainstorm ideas. Deana Wood and Laurie Arnheiter

said they are willing to do this, and Mr. Olesheski said he will spread the word to people he thinks will be interested. Ms. Hogan said she will arrange a meeting time and be in touch with those involved.

Old Business:

- **Set Public Hearing for water district improvements**

There are proposed changes for joint increase and improvement of the facilities of the North Creek Water District, consisting of upgrades that generally include, but are not limited to the following; (1) upgrade of the existing booster station, (2) replacement of the existing 200,000 gallon South Tank located off Route 28, (3) looping of dead-end water main in the system from East Holcomb Street to Ridge Street, (4) Flats area (Ridge Street and Cemetery Road) water main looping, (5) providing a new water main to loop from Well #6 (Ski Bowl Road) to the Town Hall, (6) replacement of the water main, services, and the installation of hydrants along Peaceful Valley Road, and (7) replacement of main, laterals, services, valving and hydrants along Main Street from the Town Hall (located at 219 Main Street) to the NYS Route 28 intersection.

In order to submit a grant for this work, the Board must pass a bond resolution. And in order to pass a bond resolution, a Public Hearing must be held.

RESOLUTION #149-19

Ms. Arnheiter presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Stevens to set a Public Hearing for water district improvements on September 3rd, 2019 at 7 pm at the Wevertown Community Center. With 4 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes- 4 (Hogan, Stevens, Olesheski, Arnheiter) Nays- 0

- **Zoning Board appointment**

A letter was received from Kevin M. Bean expressing interest in being appointed to the Zoning Board. The Town Board deferred the appointment at a June meeting, wanting to have the opportunity to meet and talk with him first.

RESOLUTION #150-19

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Ms. Arnheiter to appoint Kevin M. Bean to the Zoning Board. With 4 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes- 4 (Hogan, Stevens, Olesheski, Arnheiter) Nays- 0

- **Youth Committee appointments**

Letters were received from Kelly Nettle, wishing to be reappointed to the JYC as Acting Chairperson, and Kate Hartley, wishing to be reappointed as JYC School Year Activities Director.

RESOLUTION #151-19

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Olesheski to reappoint Kelly Nettle to the JYC as Acting Chairperson, and Kate Hartley as JYC School Year Activities Director. With 4 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes- 4 (Hogan, Stevens, Olesheski, Arnheiter) Nays- 0

- **LED light conversion**

The Board was presented a plan for conversion to LED lighting a while ago, and since then National Grid has come up with a plan which is less expensive, due to a

\$2000 incentive offer. The plan would reduce power bills by 22 percent and would pay for itself in two and a half years.

RESOLUTION #152-19

Mr. Olesheski presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Stevens to accept the proposed plan from National Grid for conversion to LED lighting. With 4 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes- 4 (Hogan, Stevens, Olesheski, Arnheiter) Nays- 0

- Transfer Station / Highway Garage

In July the Committee on moving the Highway Garage suggested that it should, in fact be moved. The Board agrees to continue this discussion.

The same public input meeting in July addressed moving the Transfer Station. The take-away was that the public wants more information. The Board agrees to look at potential sites for the move.

- Budget

Ms. Hogan said that she is completing work on a 4-year budget, which she will present to the Board soon.

Committee reports:

- Buildings, Parks and Recreation

Ms. Arnheiter is getting estimates on paint for Tannery Pond.

- Highway

Per Dan Hitchcock's email, the Board needs to reach out to the NYS DOT regarding signage to address complaints of speed on Peaceful Valley Road and the need for a stop sign on Stewarts property.

Another highway issue concerns the Garnet Lake Dam. The DEC has told the Town that Johnsbury must bear some responsibility for repairs. The Town attorney is proceeding with this.

- Solid waste

The company that collects our e-waste receives a subsidy from the manufacturers of electronics, who are required by law to recycle a certain percentage of what they create. Because of that, the Town is not supposed to be charging to collect e-waste. The Town will work with Warren County to get other proposals for disposal.

The Transfer Station is now running at a loss, because the cost of disposal to the Town is about \$20,000 more than the money taken in for sticker sales, not including Transfer Station salary or benefits.

- Planning and Zoning

None

- Fire / EMS

Ms. Hogan said she is working with the Fire Companies and EMS on budgeting. Minerva has not reached a decision yet about joining with Johnsbury EMS.

- Economic Dev./ Marketing

Ms. Arnheiter said that the Economic Development Committee and Occ Tax Committee will be having a joint meeting to explore how the two can work together to promote marketing the Town.

- Occ Tax

Mr. Olesheski noted that the Committee is smaller this year, with some members leaving. He asked for input on anyone who might be interested in joining the Committee.

- Personnel

Mr. Stevens said that interviews for the Assessor positions are scheduled and have taken place.

Animal Control and ZEO monthly reports

The Animal Control and ZEO monthly reports are in the Board packets.

Supervisor's monthly report

The Supervisor's monthly report is in the Board packets.

RESOLUTION #153-19

Ms. Arnheiter presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Olesheski to approve the Supervisor's monthly report. With 4 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes - 4 (Hogan, Stevens, Arnheiter, Olesheski) Nays – 0

Approval of Warrants

General Fund (Total \$42,316.10)

Highway Fund (Total \$232,211.04)

Water District (Total \$9,911.51)

Public Library Fund (Total \$1,738.28)

Total all warrants \$286,176.93

RESOLUTION #154-19

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Olesheski to approve the warrants. With 4 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes- 4 (Hogan, Stevens, Olesheski, Arnheiter) Nays- 0

Privilege of the Floor

Kelly Nettle said the plants around town are beautiful. She went on to say that some absentee landlords are not mowing lawns, and that the Town should tell them to mow, or the Town will do it and charge them. Ms. Hogan said that if fining people like this, there has to be a system in place to have unpaid fines roll into taxes.

Deana Wood commended Ken and Sharon Hammond on their work in the cemeteries and asked that anyone wishing to help be in touch with her. She also said there is a Facebook page to follow called Johnsbury Cemetery Volunteers.

Don Filkins said the toilets at the Senior Center needed replacement, so he

contacted Rick Green, who donated them, and Mr. Filkins installed.

Also at the Senior Center, Mr. Filkins suggests a fiberglass door when it is replaced.

The Veteran's Memorial is in bad shape, Mr. Filkins said – it needs mowing and reseeding.

Mr. Filkins then addressed Stewart's Pond, saying it is a quagmire, that the Town owns it, and that it should be cleaned up.

Don Filkins asked about bringing in consultants to tell the Town what is being done right, and what is being done wrong. Ms. Arnheiter gave an overview of the Economic Development Corp, and Mr. Olesheski said the EDC's efforts are just what Mr. Filkins was referring to.

Deana Wood reminded all that History Day is September 7th at Riverfront Park.

Motion to adjourn

The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Stevens seconded by Ms. Arnheiter, at 8:30 p.m. With 4 in favor the motion is carried. (Hogan, Stevens, Olesheski, Arnheiter) Nays – 0

Next meeting Tuesday, September 3, 2019 at The Wevertown Community Center

Prepared by:

Kathleen C. Lorah, Town Clerk