

**Minutes of the Town of Johnsburg  
Regular Meeting  
Wevertown Community Center  
2370 State Route 28  
December 3, 2019**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Johnsburg held on Tuesday December 3rd, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Wevertown Community Center 2370 State Route 28

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

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

**Approval of Minutes for Regular Meeting November 7, 2019**

***RESOLUTION #210-19***

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Arsenault to accept the minutes of the November 7, 2019 meeting. With 4 members voting in favor and one abstention, the resolution is declared carried.

Ayes- 4 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter) Abstain - 1(Olesheski) Nays- 0

**Correspondence:**

Ms. Lorah listed the correspondence including a letter of interest for BAR appointment, Mr. Hitchcock’s letter of intent to retire, a request to change the date of grievance day, and a letter from the Business Alliance regarding the railroad corridor.

**New Business:**

- **Transfer Station clean-up card and rate sheet**

Ms. Lorah outlined the challenges faced by the town of increasing waste disposal costs and the fact that the town operates the transfer station at a current loss of approximately \$20,000.

She then went on to propose a change to the annual clean up card, improved tracking of the use of these cards and a revised rate sheet. The last update to the rates for large item disposal was 2010. Tickets for household waste will remain \$3.00 each for the time being. The previous value of the clean-up card was \$111.00, the new value will be \$75.00.

Suggestions from the public for improved efficiencies in the operations of the transfer station were entertained and may be enacted in the future.

***RESOLUTION #211-19***

Mr. Arsenault presented a resolution with a second from Mr. Olesheski to accept the new fee structure and procedures for the transfer station. With 5 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes- 5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Olesheski, Arnheiter) Nays- 0

- **Appointments to the Board of Assessment Review**

***RESOLUTION #212-19***

Mr. Stevens presented a resolution to appoint Kim Smith and Janet Konis to the Board of Assessment Review. With a second from Mr. Olesheski and with 4 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes- 4 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Olesheski) Abstain - 1(Arnheiter) Nays- 0

- **Submission of Renewal Packet for New York Mutual Insurance**

***RESOLUTION #213-19***

Mr. Arsenault presented a resolution with a second from Mr. Olesheski to submit the renewal information to the insurance company, New York Mutual Insurance.

Ayes- 5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Olesheski, Arnheiter) Nays- 0

- **Business Alliance request to oppose Warren County move to abandon the rail line.**

A discussion was led by Supervisor Hogan as to the county committee meetings which led to Warren County Department of Public Works voting to request abandonment of the county-owned section of track. She stated that abandonment does not mean that train operations must cease. Abandonment is a process for removal of federal regulation of the rail line, opening up possibilities for any and all uses to be entertained. She directed Board members and the public to watch the November 18, 2019 Warren County Board of Supervisors Department of Public Works Committee meeting which can be found here:

[https://www.warrencountyny.gov/gov/comm/video.php?video\\_id=0H7aXtYTrQ0&year=2019&department=works](https://www.warrencountyny.gov/gov/comm/video.php?video_id=0H7aXtYTrQ0&year=2019&department=works)

Questions were raised concerning the purpose for federal regulation and the RFP process engaged in 2019 which ultimately failed to lead to an operator. Ms. Arnheiter called for a public forum to discuss the rail line and expressed concerns that abandonment would impact local businesses. Mr. Olesheski, speaking as a former county DPW employee, outlined the difficulties that the county has had maintaining the line in the absence of an operator. Mr. Arsenault discussed the local investment that has gone into support for a train operation.

Supervisor Hogan stated that she is looking for the opportunity that will best benefit the town. She invited anyone with an interest in researching the terms, filings, past decisions and discussions to contact her directly for links and documents.

The board decided to hold an informational meeting on December 17, 2019 at 6:00 pm at Tannery Pond Center.

### **Old Business:**

- **Scrap Metal bid**

***RESOLUTION #214-19***

Mr. Stevens presented a resolution to ratify the actions of the Town Clerk in posting a bid for scrap metal with a second from Mr. Olesheski and with 5 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes- 5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Olesheski, Arnheiter) Nays- 0

**Committee Reports:**

- Solid waste

Supervisor Hogan spoke about a report on budget impact for cardboard and paper recycling that reflects a shift from rebate to cost to the town for disposal of cardboard. Paper and magazines will remain the same as last year.

- Highway

Engineering reports on bridges on Hudson St. and Glen Creek Rd. were reviewed and discussed. Highway committee will follow up with Superintendent Hitchcock.

An update on 13th Lake Road was offered. Supervisor Hogan spoke with County Superintendent Hajos who stated that work will begin on the road on the 9th and hopefully the road will be open to traffic around Christmas.

Mr. Arsenault reported that contract negotiations continue with the highway employees.

- Marketing and Economic Development

Ms. Arnheiter reported that the Community Development Corp will be hosting representatives from the Adirondack Economic Development Corp. Anyone interested in learning more about AEDC opportunities or scheduling a meeting with AEDC reps should contact Ms. Arnheiter.

The Marketing committee will be meeting to formulate a plan for 2020.

- Personnel

Following a new hire and resignation from the highway department, one open position remains.

- Planning and Zoning

The committee reviewing town code continues to meet on a regular basis.

- Buildings, Parks and Recreation
- Fire and EMS

A 2020 contract will be presented to the Board at the next meeting.

**ZEO, Animal Control and Historian reports**

ZEO, Animal Control and Historian reports are in the Board packets.

**Supervisor’s Monthly Report**

***RESOLUTION #215-19***

Mr. Stevens presented a resolution accepting the Supervisor’s monthly report with a second from Mr. Arsenault and with 5 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes- 5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Olesheski, Arnheiter)

Nays- 0

**Approval of Warrants**

**General Fund** (Total \$9760.19)

**Highway Fund** (Total \$9294.15)

**Water District** (Total \$4238.22)

**Public Library Fund** (Total \$1088.80)

**Total all warrants \$24,381.36**

***RESOLUTION #216-19***

Mr. Arsenault presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Olesheski to approve the warrants. With 5 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes-5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Olesheski, Arnheiter)

Nays- 0

**Privilege of the Floor**

Mrs. Nessle reported that a new shed to house skis for kids at the Ski Bowl is being delivered within the next couple of weeks. This project is being supported by highway and parks personnel.

A volunteer has offered to cut down the trees blocking the view of the beach along Route 28.

***RESOLUTION #217-19***

Mr. Arsenault presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Stevens to approve the Supervisor’s signature on an application with DOT to cut the trees along Route 28 in the Ski Bowl Park, providing the volunteers involved have appropriate training to use equipment.

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

**Motion to adjourn**

***RESOLUTION #218-19***

The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Arsenault, seconded by Mr. Olesheski, at 8:19 p.m. With 5 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes- 5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Olesheski, Arnheiter) Nays- 0

Next meeting Tuesday, December 17th, 7:00 pm  
at Tannery Pond Community Center

Prepared by:

Kathleen C. Lorah, Town Clerk