

**Minutes of the Town of Johnsbury Regular Board Meeting
April 15, 2014
Held at the Tannery Pond Community Center, North Creek, NY**

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Johnsbury held on Tuesday, April 15, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Wevertown Community Center, Wevertown, New York.

Supervisor Vanselow called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the pledge of allegiance was led by Supervisor Vanselow.

Roll call showed the following persons present: Supervisor Ronald Vanselow; Town Council Members Eugene Arsenault, Peter Olesheski, Jr, Arnold Stevens; Katharine Nightingale; Town Clerk Jo A Smith.

Guests: On attached list

RESOLUTION # 61-14

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Ms. Nightingale to accept the minutes of the April 1, 2014 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 Superintendent of Highways Daniel Hitchcock requesting to attend the Highway School at Ithaca College from Jun 2 - 4, 2014. Expenses approximately \$739.00.
- 2) A letter from the Vince Schiavone Chairman of the Youth Committee, on April 1, 2014 they interviewed Michael Gereau for membership on the committee. Mr. Gereau is an excellent applicant and the committee is recommending his appointment.
- 3) An e-mail from Mr. Peter Heid stating that resolution #27-14 restricting "tractor trailers" from Barton Mines Road has no legal basis, and is based on pure ignorance of the law. None of the NYSDOT requirements are met by this resolution, and until the boards resolution with these requirements is in place, the sign posted on the road is illegal and must be removed. If the situation is not corrected by April 16th, Mr. Heid will be forced to contact NYSDOT informing them the town is illegally posting the road, and ask that corrective actions are taken.
- 4) A letter from William L Couzens Jr requesting an unpaid medical leave of absence for 90 days as well as a continuation of health benefits for this time per the Highway Contract. This is a result of an injury that was sustained while caring for and treating ice on the Cleveland road in the Town of Johnsbury on 3/7/2014. Mr. Couzens is aware that this 90

day request will start from the date of injury and will end on or near June 5, 2014, and that additional requests may be needed if he is out for a longer period of time.

RESOLUTION # 62-14

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Arsenault to accept the request from Superintendent of Highways Mr. Daniel Hitchcock to attend the Highway School at Ithaca College from Jun 2 - 4, 2014. Expenses approximately \$739.00.

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

RESOLUTION # 63-14

Mr. Arsenault presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Ms. Nightingale to accept the request from Vince Schiavone, Chairman of the Youth Committee, for Mr. Michael Gereau for membership on the Youth Committee.

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

Supervisor Vanselow stated, regarding Mr. Peter Heid's letter, that Mr. Hitchcock, Superintendent of Highways had cleared the sign with everyone. Ms. Donna Sauer-Jones stated that she was the one that was involved in the accident on Barton Mines road which totaled her "New" Forester and that did thousand of dollars damage to the tractor trailer. The tractor trailer that took the wrong road to get to Barton Mines Corporation was stuck in the middle of the Barton Mines road, which was all ice and when she applied her breaks to stop she slid into him. Then two or three days later another tractor trailer was stuck on the Barton Mines road. Ms. Sauer-Jones went on to state that the Barton Mines Road is not a two lane highway and a simple sign can keep the tractor trailers from mistaking this road for the drop off place. She doesn't know what Mr. Heid is thinking about as he doesn't live on their road, so for him to made an issue over this so that again these tractor trailers keep coming up this road where there is no way to turn around. What if young kids where going down this hill and came upon a tractor trailer, had an accident and were killed? The town could be held responsible and sued. Ms. Sauer-Jones stated that since the sign has been in place NOT ONE tractor trailer has gone up that road. Mr. Robert Sauer-Jones stated that the day before the sign was put up the town highway crew helped a tractor trailer down off that road, and it took the tractor trailer all day to get back down the road. The next morning the sign was put up and on that morning there was a tractor trailer that sat down on Route 28, the driver was out of his vehicle looking at the sign. Since the accident there were four tractor trailers that went up that road, with that sign there it is stopping them. If the sign is removed, they will start going up there again. That sign is meant to be and he doesn't know why people want to fight it. Supervisor Vanselow stated that the installation of that sign was done under the supervision of the county and the state. Mr. Heid is stating that the resolution wasn't worded correctly. Mr. Olesheski stated that the sign is doing its job so just let it go and if it is the wording of the resolution, then we can reword it. Supervisor Vanselow stated that the state gave Mr. Hitchcock advice where to place the sign and the county was there when

it was put up. Mr. Stevens stated that it is refreshing to hear that some action the board has taken is doing some good.

Supervisor Vanselow stated that there was one more letter from Mr. William Couzens that Ms. Cherie Ferguson will address. Ms. Ferguson stated per the Highway Contract once a person is off the books they are required to request a leave of absence to hold their position with the town in 90 day increments and request the continuation of Health Benefits. In this case, Mr. William Couzens does have dependent health care coverage in which he is paying for.

RESOLUTION # 64-14

Mr. Arsenault presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Olesheski to accept the request from Mr. William Couzens for an unpaid medical leave of absence for 90 days, as well as a continuation of health benefits for this time, per the Highway Contract.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Supervisor Vanselow doesn't believe there are any committee reports, but he did speak with Mr. Rob Wing and he is waiting for him to bring in plans and estimates on the dug outs.

Mr. Olesheski explained that Mr. Phil Goodman this week or next will be staking out where to move the back stop to over in the park. Mr. Olesheski went on to state that the t-ball and little leagues numbers have gone up this year.

OLD BUSINESS:

Supervisor Vanselow stated that we need to do a ratification of phone bill payment that was paid out of sequence to avoid a late charge. Supervisor Vanselow explained that the late charge was the companies fault which they are giving us a credit for but we still paid out of sequence.

RESOLUTION # 65-14

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Ms. Nightingale to accept payment of a phone bill paid out of sequence to avoid a late charge.

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

Supervisor Vanselow stated that Mr. Hitchcock has received four quotes on the tree removal and the lowest was from Leon Morin of a quote of \$10,000. Mr. Arsenault asked what it includes. Supervisor Vanselow stated the removal of the trees and stumps. Mr. Arsenault: after the removal of the trees and stumps what does he intend to do. Supervisor Vanselow replied that Mr.

Hitchcock intends to take the sand and to use on the roads in the winter. Mr. Arsenault asked about permits. Supervisor Vanselow stated that they were all done. Mr. Arsenault inquired on the status of the tiny piece. Supervisor Vanselow stated that he mailed a letter to the address that we had on file and it bounced back, but he believes that there are relatives in the area he is going to contact.

RESOLUTION # 66-14

Mr. Olesheski presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Arsenault to accept the lowest quote for the tree / stump removal between Route 28 and Ski Bowl Park across from Route 28N.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Supervisor Vanselow stated that Ms. Lori Arnheiter would take the floor. Ms. Arnheiter said that it was a continuation of 1992 Action Plan which Mr. Arsenault and Mr. Stevens were involved in. For years Ms. Arnheiter has been trying to get an updated 1992 Action Plan. Ms. Arnheiter with Mr. Wayne LaMothe and he needs to do an update on the 1st Wilderness Heritage Corridor and at the same time would update the Action Plan for the Town of Johnsbury. He can fund it through the 1st Wilderness Heritage Corridor and Ms. Arnheiter is looking for volunteers to work on it with the approval of the board. These meetings will be open meeting. Ms. Arnheiter has come up with potential volunteers to help, as long as it is an action plan and not just talking plan: Jane Peters, Jim Morse, Lori Arnheiter, Kate Nightingale. Ms. Pat Tadich will come up Bi-weekly to help. Ms. Arnheiter is looking for one more man to have the committee balanced. Steve Tomb is interest in being on the committee, but will have to see if he has enough time. Supervisor Vanselow asked about financial commitment. Ms. Arnheiter responded that Mr. LaMothe has funds to update the 1st Wilderness and that is why he is going to combine the two. Mr. Arsenault stated he was on the action plan, and the Core Committee met for years and their ideas became actions. The Core Committee would do Grants. Mr. Arsenault stated the Action Plan needs to be done again.

RESOLUTION # 67-14

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Arsenault to accept the following volunteers to work on updating the Action Plan for the Town of Johnsbury; Jane Peters, Jim Morse, Lori Arnheiter, Kate Nightingale, and possibly Steve Tomb.

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

Supervisor Vanselow stated that the Derby Weekend is fast approaching and they have had one inquiry about camping. The rates / rules that have been used in the past will be the same.

Supervisor Vanselow continued stating that a Town Wide Blanket Vendor Permit has been submitted also for the Derby.

RESOLUTION # 68-14

Mr. Arsenault presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Stevens to issue a Town Wide Blanket Vendor Permit for the Hudson River White Water Derby which is May 3 & 4, 2014.

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

Supervisor Vanselow stated, that Mr. Matt Olden, Supervisor of the Parks Department, has requested purchasing a zero turn lawn mower which would be under \$2,500. Mr. Arsenault asked where the funds were coming from? Supervisor Vanselow replied out of the Parks Budget. Mr. Olesheski stated that they would still have to weed whack, but he is sure it would make their job easier. Ms. Nightingale is for it especially if it cuts down on the time. Mr. Olesheski asked about a trailer. Ms. Ferguson stated that one was purchased last year. Mr. Olesheski asked where the parks equipment is stored. Supervisor Vanselow stated that some of the equipment is stored in the red barn, but once the EMS gets there building built and moved out of the Scout Hall, Parks will be moving into the Scout Hall.

RESOLUTION # 69-14

Mr. Olesheski presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Ms. Nightingale to approve the purchase of a zero turn lawn mower for the Parks Department in the amount up to \$2,500.

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

Supervisor Vanselow stated that at Tannery Pond Community Center between the Chamber and Ms. Bernadette Speach office has a plastic sliding divider and Ms. Speach would like a permanent wall between the two offices. Supervisor Vanselow asked Mr. Olesheski who was at the Chamber meeting to continue. Mr. Olesheski stated that at the last Chamber Board meeting that Ms. Lisa Salamon announced that TPCCA was going to install a permanent wall between the two offices. Ms. Speach feels that she doesn't have enough privacy when she is on the phone. Mr. Olesheski informed Ms. Salamon that this was the first time he had heard about it. Mr. Olesheski doesn't have a problem with this except it is a Town Building and the Town Board should have input on this. Supervisor Vanselow's question is, what's the impact on the Heating and Venting system. Supervisor Vanselow wants Thermal Associates to look at it and give their opinion about putting up the wall and what it will do to the heating and venting system.

Supervisor Vanselow explained that the Supervisor's monthly report for March 2014 was in there packets.

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Ms. Nightingale that that the following certified bills which have been reviewed by the board members be paid:

General Fund - (Total \$ 32,784.81) Claims #14-280 to #14-304, 14-306, 14-320 to 14-321, 14-332 (Claims # 14-280 National Grid and 14-299 Tamco Paid)

Highway Fund - (Total \$ 94,072.51) Claims #14-303 to 14-305, 14-307 to 14-319

North Creek Water District - (Total \$ 5,242.22) Claim #14-322 to 14-325

Library Fund - (Total \$ 2,017.51) Claim #14-326 to 14-331, 14-333

Total all warrants \$134,117.05.

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Ms. Kelly Nettle with an update on the Park. She met with Cedarwood and mapped out some different jobs.

Jim Lieberum with Soil and Water Conservation who drew the plan for the APA about dredging the pond in late August early September. The reason for the dredging is to see the amount of muck that is in the bottom of the pond and to pull as many weeds as possible. Then lay down a matt. the purpose of this is to be able to maintain pond as needed and to set up with APA to update the permit at any time.

Ms. Nettle went on to say that they have the money for the equipment to do the dredging but they need to find a pump to pump out the pond. Ms. Nightingale asked how long would the pump be needed? Not sure but would need something with a 6" line.

It was suggested by Jim to turn off the pipe line so there is less water to pump out. Mr. Olesheski asked when it would be capped because of them stocking it with fish for the Derby. Ms. Nettle said then maybe we shouldn't do that and just use a larger pump. Supervisor Vanselow asked if they where saving the muck to reuse. Ms. Nettle said yes they are.

Supervisor Vanselow asked if they were ready to run power down there. Ms. Nettle responded yes.

Supervisor Vanselow stated that ORDA's summer activities will be up on the mountain again this year.

Ms. Nettle stated that the waterfall is full of cat tails and she would like to removed them. Ms. Nettle went on to say that Ms. Judy Brown reported that the liner is full of holes. Ms. Nettle

asked if they removed the cat tails if they could get the liner replaced. Mr. Vanselow stated that it sounded like routine maintenance so it shouldn't be a problem.

Ms. Nessel asked about having picnic tables at the Barbeque pits down by the pavilion. Mr. Olesheski said that was something else that needed to be addressed. Fixing of the picnic tables or every year replacing a few, because they also need them down at the River Front Park. Ms. Nessel also stated the Ms. Judy Brown has it on her list so when the kids come this summer they can help work on them.

Ms. Nessel asked about having the silver guard rail on the left hand side of the dump road removed. Mr. Stevens stated that was up to Mr. Dan Hitchcock. Supervisor Vanselow said that it could be used at the nursing home or at the old Val house.

Supervisor Vanselow asked about the status of the grant. Ms. Nessel replied that they got the extension until November.

Ms. Nessel stated that she talked with Mr. Pratt the other night about the parking at the Park. Ms. Nessel asked if they could do parking on each side of the dump road. that way the Highway crew would have more room to get in and plow with the big truck. Mr. Pratt didn't seem to have a problem with that.

Supervisor Vanselow reported that Mr. Crikelair has been in touch with him and it looks like they are going to start the motel project at Front Street.

Ms. Nightingale reported that the northern pavilion at Riverfront Park is wired but never hooked up, could the board please think about hooking it up.

Ms. Ferguson reported that due to the heavy rains today 8 roads have been closed and some reopened. Dillion Hill closed, Dippikill closed, Waddell damaged, Rogers closed @6:45 pm one lane was opened, Garnet Lake Road N by Buckskin Valley damaged, Route 8 was closed for a while in Bakers Mills, Crane Mountain Road Closed and that is the worst one.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was presented by Mr. Arsenault with a second from Ms. Nightingale at 8:27. p.m.

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

The Town Board regular meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on May 6, 2014, at the Wevertown Community Center, 2370 State Route 28, Wevertown, New York.

Prepared by Jo A Smith, Town Clerk

MEETING ATTENDANCE SIGN-IN

MEETING DATE: April 15, 2014

LOCATION: Tannery Pond Community Center

Please PRINT name and address clearly to assure the correct spelling in the minutes of this meeting.

1	STEVE HAYES	NO. CREEK
2	James Chiketa	Waverly
3	Chad Ferguson	N. Creek
4	Jim Jones	Johnsburg
5	Sarah Morris	Waverly
6	Deb Mum	Waverly
7	Robert Sauer Jones	North Pier
8	Ann Sauer Jones	Nata River
9	ROBERT NESHLE	JOHNSBURG
10	Kelly Neash	"
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