

**Minutes of the Town of Johnsburg  
Regular Meeting  
Tannery Pond Community Center  
2370 State Route 28  
April 17, 2018**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Johnsburg held on Tuesday April 17, 2018 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 Seamus Tomb.

**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 April 3, 2018**

***RESOLUTION #52-18***

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Arsenault to accept the minutes of the April 3, 2018 meeting. With 4 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes-4 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter) Abstain 1 (Olesheski) Nays- 0

**Correspondence:**

Monthly energy report from solar panels

Kate Lorah read the report for March from Enphase Energy stating that the solar panels created a carbon offset of 1.82 tons, or the equivalent of 47 trees. Mr. Arsenault asked for a benchmark from last year's March usage, to better judge the savings in dollars. Ms. Hogan will provide the comparison.

**New Business:**

- Baseball/Softball

Mike Sharp, President, and Rob Wing, Vice President, of Johnsbury Youth Baseball/Softball brought an estimate for the moveable fence totaling \$1781.53 including tax and shipping. Mr. Olesheski noted that the town doesn't pay sales tax, so the cost would come down to \$1664.98, falling under the \$1700 approved in Resolution 51-18 at the April 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

Future plans for the baseball field were discussed, particularly the grading of the field and the installation of two dugouts. The intent of JYBS is to make the space multi-use for baseball, softball, soccer, and winter activities. The first step, Mr. Sharp said, is to raise the grade and address drainage issues. ORDA has not yet provided their plans for removing material which could be used on the field for fill. Laurie Arnheiter said she will follow up with ORDA on this issue. The dugouts placement has to be carefully planned to avoid interference with Winter usage.

Andrea Hogan suggested that the Parks Committee coordinate with ORDA and JYBS to ensure a plan for maintenance.

- Approval of employee training expense

Sherry Williams, the town Bookkeeper, would like to attend the 2018 Saratoga Finance School May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. The cost will be registration, mileage, an overnight stay, and dinner, amounting to \$480.50.

***RESOLUTION #53-18***

Peter Olesheski moved that a resolution be made approving Sherry Williams attending the 2018 Saratoga Finance School for a cost of \$500. With a second from Arnold Stevens and 5 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes-5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Olesheski, Arnheiter) Nays- 0

- Parks, Recreation and Buildings

The truck used by Matt Olden is beyond repair, Ms. Hogan stated. Mr. Olden needs to have three estimates for a replacement and has received the first. The quote for the truck, plow and sand spreader he received is \$53,214. She went on to say that the lead time for delivery of the truck is about 12 weeks. Ms. Arnheiter asked if there is a difference between the purchase by an individual and by a municipality. Ms. Hogan said that yes, the guidelines for purchases by a municipality are very rigid. Katie Nightingale asked if there is a possibility to obtain a used vehicle. Tom Ordway and others said that for the job Matt and his employees have to do, that buying a new truck is a better plan.

Mr. Olesheski read the specifications on the quote and he, Mr. Wing and Mr. Ordway agreed that it was a good price for the equipment.

### ***RESOLUTION #54-18***

Arnold Stevens moved to purchase the Parks Department a new truck, plow and sand spreader after the necessary three quotes are received, capping the price at \$53,537. Peter Olesheski seconded the motion and with 5 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes-5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Olesheski, Arnheiter) Nays- 0

### **Old Business:**

- Update on Ski Bowl Park Connections Grant

Ms. Hogan gave some background on this topic, saying that the town had received a grant in 2016 called “Ski Bowl Connections,” for \$30K to look into connections going out of the Ski Bowl to other parts of the community, to expand our trail systems, connect to the Siamese Ponds Wilderness, and North River. Only one proposal came in. The Chazen Company and Wilderness Property Management submitted a plan for the expansion of Ski Bowl Park. This will be funded with a \$30K grant and \$15K from the town already in the budget.

### ***RESOLUTION #55-18***

Gene Arsenault motioned to accept the Chazen Wilderness Property Management proposal for expansion of Ski Bowl Park with the Supervisor authorized to execute the agreement. Laurie Arnheiter seconded and with 5 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes-5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Olesheski, Arnheiter) Nays- 0

- Opening of Bids for Long Trail Extension

With this bid, we received grant monies in the amount of \$32,250 and have committed a town match of \$12,500. The one bid received was from Wilderness Property Management Inc., with the contact person being Steve Ovitt. The quote for both Project #1 and Project #2 was \$25,950.

### ***RESOLUTION #56-18***

Laurie Arnheiter moved to accept Steve Ovitt's Wilderness Property Management bid for Long Trail Extension in the amount of \$25,950, covering both Projects 1 and 2, and authorizing the Supervisor to execute that agreement. Gene Arsenault made a second 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 – Mr. Arsenault stated that he and Mr. Stevens, along with Katie Nightingale met with the Solid Waste Committee with Tom Suozzo and Wayne LaMothe regarding creation of a sewer district. They talked about various systems that can be used and what areas should be serviced. The larger the area, the higher the cost. Further, leach fields will be necessary, and the further away the leach fields are, the higher the cost. For these reasons, Mr. Arsenault said, choosing a good location is critical. He went on to say that this is a large, complicated, expensive project and that he would continue reporting on the progress being made. Mr. Stevens added that the committee is working for a detailed, best solution – being very thorough so that in the future they won't be looking back with thoughts that it should have been handled differently.

- Personnel – Mr. Olesheski has been working on updates to the employee handbook with the intention to be more specific in terminology and definitions and to be more comprehensive. He is asking for any feedback that might be helpful in this regard.
- Building committee – Introduction of new director, and discussion of potential Tannery Pond landscaping project – Laurie Arnheiter introduced Daphne Taylor, the first full-time Director of the Tannery Pond Center. Ms. Taylor addressed the meeting, stating that Tannery Pond has had an increase in usage and that a new feature on their website has been set up to show an event calendar. That, and coordination with the town website will ease scheduling for groups meeting there. She welcomes feedback from the Town Board, residents and visitors.

Ms. Taylor also said she saw an opportunity to improve the landscaping around Tannery Pond with help from the group Cycle Adirondacks, which has an event planned in North Creek later in the year. In the past, she said, the group has raised as much as \$2500 which they intend to use for a service project. They also volunteer labor during their visit. Ms. Taylor's vision is to spend the money on improving the gardens and surrounds at Tannery Pond, using the labor of those involved in Cycle Adirondacks. The only cost to the town would be debris removal.

Mr. Olesheski brought up the fact that before any landscaping is done, there are the problems of drainage, leaking in the basement of Tannery Pond, and work that needs to be done on the retaining wall in the front of the area. It was agreed that Peter Olesheski and Laurie Arnheiter will meet with Daphne to make her aware of these and any other issues which have to be addressed. Gene Arsenault agreed that she should partner with the Town Board and thanked her for her work on the progress of Tannery Pond. Mr. Olesheski noted that there is money earmarked for painting the building, which will improve its looks also.

- Highway – Dan Hitchcock has been in touch with Warren County, Ms. Hogan said, and repaving of Route 8 from Bakers Mills to Wevertown is on their schedule.

**Monthly Reports** – The Animal Control report includes Shelter and Dog Control Inspection Reports. Also in the board packets is the ZEO monthly report.

**Motion to accept warrants**

**General Fund** (Total \$23,567.81)

**Highway Fund** (Total \$10,161.32)

**Water District** (Total \$4,538.57)

**Public Library Fund** (Total \$1,840.17)

**Johnsburg Emergency Squad** (Total \$138,465.00)

**Total all warrants \$178,572.87**

***RESOLUTION #57-18***

**Approval of warrants** – Arnold Stevens moved to approve the warrants and Gene Arsenault seconded. Five members voted in favor, and the resolution is declared carried. Ayes-5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Olesheski, Arnheiter) Nays- 0

**Privilege of the Floor** –

Tom Ordway stated that the work done by the Building, Parks and Recreation Department is outstanding, as is the work of the Highway Department. Both should be commended and appreciated by the town, he said.

Bob Nettle asked about town initiatives for becoming “Green.” He mentioned wind generators in particular, and wants the town to progress in becoming more energy independent. Ms. Hogan answered that she had spent the day in Albany meeting with various departments and with NYSERDA (The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority) for just that purpose. She has asked Katie Nightingale to head this initiative moving forward.

Shane Diener said that Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, is a National Day of Prayer, and invited anyone to join him at Tannery Pond Center that day at noon.

Mike Sharp and Rob Wing made note of a change for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration, saying that instead of an All-Star Game, the two JYBS teams will be playing.

**Motion to adjourn** – The motion to adjourn was made by Gene Arsenault, with a second by Arnold Stevens at 8:11 p.m. With five in favor the motion is carried. (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Olesheski, Arnheiter) Nays – 0

The next regular Town Board meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on May 15th, 2018 at Wevertown Community Center, 2370 State Route 28, Wevertown.

Prepared by:

Kathleen C. Lorah, Town Clerk