

Town Board Regular Meeting
April 20, 2021 Resolutions #74 - 83

**Town of Johnsbury
Regular Meeting of the Town Board
Zoom Meeting
April 20, 2021 7:00 PM**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2172603617>

Meeting ID: 217 260 3617
888 788 0099 US Toll-free
877 853 5247 US Toll-free

PRESENT: Andrea Hogan – Supervisor
Eugene Arsenault – Councilman
Arnold Stevens – Councilman
Laurie Arnheiter – Councilwoman
Justin Gonyo – Councilman
Kate Lorah - Town Clerk

Supervisor Hogan called the Meeting to order at 7:00 and the pledge to the flag was led by Christian Holt.

Approval of Minutes April 6, 2021 meeting and April 13, 2021 Special Meeting

RESOLUTION #74-21

Mr. Arsenault presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Ms. Arnheiter to approve the minutes from the April 6, 2021 meeting and the April 13, 2021 Special Meeting. With 5 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter, Gonyo) Nays – 0

Correspondence:

- letter of interest in Youth Program bus driver position
- letter of interest in Assistant Youth Program Director position

New Business:

- **Door repairs: Senior Center, highway garage, Wevertown**

The Board discussed the quotes from Rozell for the replacement of the following doors:

- Wevertown Courthouse Basement Interior Pair
- Johnsbury Highway Garage Door Replacement
- Door Replacement at Johnsbury Senior Center
- Johnsbury Senior Center Back Door Replacement
- Wevertown Courthouse Basement Exterior Door Replacement
- Wevertown Courthouse Entry Door Replacement

The total for all these replacements is \$32,304. Mr. Gonyo suggested doing the Highway Garage door, which is the highest in priority, for \$3936, and waiting on the others. There was no second to his motion. He then asked that the Board have time to prioritize the six replacements and consider whether to do them all together or individually. Mr. Stevens suggested tabling the door discussion until a future meeting, and the Board agreed.

- **Parks summer hire**

Hiring an extra person for Summer Parks is in the 2021 budget. Ms. Hogan is asking the Board if they would like to hire an extra person for the Summer.

RESOLUTION #75-21

Ms. Arnheiter presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Gonyo to approve the hiring of an extra person for the Parks Department for the Summer at \$12.50 per hour. With 5 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter, Gonyo) Nays – 0

- **Summer Youth Program hire**

Samantha Cleveland Locke has applied for the Assistant Director position for the

Summer Youth Program. After much discussion about rate of pay, the Board passed the next Resolution.

RESOLUTION #76-21

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Arsenault to approve the hiring of Samantha Cleveland Locke as Assistant Director for the Summer Youth Program at \$20.31 per hour. With 5 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter, Gonyo) Nays – 0

- Dog Park update and clean-up day

Linda Cobb said a sign for the Dog Park is ready to put in place, and that this Saturday, April 24, from 10 am to 2 pm, is designated a clean-up day for the park. Sunday, April 25 is the rain date.

- Johnsburg garage update

The property on the corner of Oven Mountain Road and Route 8 has a building which has to be removed to allow for removal of contaminated soil. The next step is for the County to take temporary right of admittance so that the Town can go on the property to evaluate it. The County would then take possession, and work with the Town to get the building down. There are three quotes for removal of the building, but none include asbestos or lead removal. The County will help with the asbestos or lead removal process. Ms. Hogan asked if the Board is comfortable with the course of action discussed. The Board agreed with proceeding.

- **County land transfer to highway**

As discussed in the February 16, 2021 meeting, Warren County has asked the Town to ‘take’ a parcel on Barton Mines Road with the potential of merging it with the highway. The Board agreed.

- **Fireworks for July 3, 2021**

Braley and Noxon has offered \$5000 to cover half the cost of fireworks for the celebration on July 3, 2021.

RESOLUTION #77-21

Mr. Gonyo presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Arsenault to approve the contract with Santore's World Famous Fireworks for the celebration on July 3, 2021. With 5 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter, Gonyo) Nays – 0

- **Tannery Pond Projects**

Following the Tannery Pond Planning Workshop (held at 6 pm prior to this meeting), Mr. Stevens suggested that the Buildings Committee (Ms. Arnheiter and Mr. Gonyo) be given some time to explore the recommendations brought up before committing funding. He then asked if the HVAC system has to be replaced all at once. Cheryl Gillespie said the entire system needs to be replaced in order to open the theater. Ms. Hogan added that the HVAC work is pending hearing from Thermal Associates for particulars.

Old Business:

- **Senior transportation**

Ms. Arnheiter researched Senior Transport plans in some of the Towns surrounding Johnsbury and found them so be widely varied. The Board discussed different options but decided for now to keep the current plan.

RESOLUTION #78-21

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Gonyo to approve keeping Senior Transport trips at two per month. With 5 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter, Gonyo) Nays – 0

- **Riverfront property transfers**

Riverfront Park is divided into pieces owned by the Town and some owned by the

County. The Board in the past has discussed obtaining ownership of all pieces. Warren County may have the surveys and if so, the transfer could move forward. Ms. Hogan is asking the Board if they still want to proceed with taking ownership and the response is yes, move forward.

- **Marketing RFP**

Ms. Arnheiter is asking for an extension on the Marketing RFP passed March 2, 2021 with Resolution #48-21.

RESOLUTION #79-21

Ms. Arnheiter presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Gonyo to approve extending the deadline for the Marketing RFP to May 14. With 5 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter, Gonyo) Nays – 0

Ms. Hogan explained that the Town's current \$15K Occ Tax is being kept at the county with the understanding that if the Town wants it, the Town must provide the county with a proposal for the use of the money. She suggests that the Marketing RFP is a good proposal to take, as it falls under the correct use of funds for Occ Tax. The Board agrees.

- Update on Senior Center upgrades

Ms. Hogan reported that Matt Olden is moving forward on obtaining carpeting quotes, paint samples, etc. for upgrades at the Senior Center. She added that the 2021 budget has \$25K set aside for these upgrades.

- Update on trails projects

Ms. Hogan said the DEC has come up with a work plan for the Rabbit Pond Trail. DEC will now find out if a UMP is required. If a UMP is required, the Trails Committee will coordinate with Gore because they also have proposed hiking and biking trails that may require an amendment. The Connector Trail has been GPSd and the Committee needs to decide how to proceed.

- **Update on sewer - Northern Border Regional Commission - State**

**Economic & Infrastructure Development Investment Program
Application**

Ms. Hogan has been working with the Northern Borders Regional Commission and a resolution is needed to authorize the Town to apply for the funds to help in paying for the sewer, and to commit a 20% match toward the project costs.

RESOLUTION #80-21

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Gonyo to approve Northern Border Regional Commission - State Economic & Infrastructure Development Investment Program Application resolution as follows:

WHEREAS, the Northern Border Regional Commission (hereinafter "NBRC") is providing funding assistance through the State Economic & Infrastructure Development Investment Program (hereinafter "SEID") to provide investment in job-creating projects that help reduce poverty, unemployment, and outmigration; and

WHEREAS, applicants to the NBRC SEID Program must provide a minimum of 20% match towards the project cost; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Johnsburg (hereinafter "the Town") wishes to construct a wastewater collection and treatment system for the Hamlet of North Creek to support economic growth and business retention; and

WHEREAS, the Town is an eligible entity to apply for funding through the NBRC SEID Program; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, the Town authorizes the Town Supervisor (hereinafter "Supervisor") to submit an application to the NBRC SEID Program for funding to construct a wastewater collection and treatment system in the Hamlet of North Creek, in the amount of \$1,000,000; and

RESOLVED, the required minimum 20% match towards the grant investment will be met by the Town; and

RESOLVED, the Supervisor shall have the authority to sign this application to NBRC SEID Program and all NBRC investment documents that bind the applicant.

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

Committee Reports:

Mr. Gonyo said he met with Ms. Arnheiter, Andie Waldron and Deana Woods to discuss Federal Stimulus Funds and how they should be spent. He said that as criteria for how the funds should be applied become clearer, the group will continue to provide updates.

ZEO, Animal Control and Assessor Reports

In Board packets.

Supervisor's Monthly Report

RESOLUTION #81-21

Mr. Gonyo presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Stevens to approve the Supervisor's monthly report, which for March is a listing of bank balances. With 5 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter, Gonyo) Nays – 0

Approval of Warrants

General Fund (Total \$72,506.30)
Highway Fund (Total \$17,193.97)

Library Fund (Total \$1642.92)
Fire Protection District (Total \$100,000.00)
Water District (\$1299.28)
Trust and Agency (\$467.32)
Total all warrants \$193,109.79

RESOLUTION #82-21

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

Privilege of the Floor

Ms. Arnheiter noted that there is an error in the employee handbook pertaining to retirement age which will be amended.

Deana Woods asked about ADA compliance at the Wevertown Community Center. Ms. Hogan said that pre-Covid, work had begun on ADA compliance for all Town buildings, and that the project will start again.

Kelly Nettle remarked at the costs for door replacements mentioned earlier in the meeting and asked why the quotes were only from one supplier. Ms. Hogan answered that after many attempts to get more quotes, the only company to respond was the one that provided the quotes.

Judy Stafford spoke about OTTG auditions in September and wondered if a Fall performance in Tannery Pond will be possible. Cheryl Gillespie said she hopes so, but that the theater must be in compliance for that to occur.

Motion to adjourn

RESOLUTION #83-21

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

second from Mr. Gonyo to adjourn. With 5 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter, Gonyo)

Next meeting Tuesday, May 18, 2021 7 pm
Online Zoom Meeting

Prepared by:

Kathleen C. Lorah