

SOLAR MORATORIUM PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 15, 2019

At the Public Hearing & Regular Meeting held on Monday, April 15, 2019 at the Hopkinton Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Supr. Wood, Councilpersons Lyon, Pullano, Sochia.

ABSENT: Councilperson Parker

OTHERS PRESENT: Clerk Powers, Luann Crocker, Deb Rust, Vickie French, Etta Phelix, Tom Demo, Kelly & Frank Potenzano, Lori & Doug Witherell, Dolores Rice, David Slater, Beth Rosenbarker.

Supv. Wood called the Public Hearing to order at 7:00 p.m.

Supr. Wood responded to a question regarding the reason for the proposed moratorium, stating that it allows time for the Town Board to review the present Local Law regarding Solar Energy.

Ms. Pullano made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sochia, that all persons desiring to be heard for or against have been heard and therefore the hearing on the Proposed Solar Moratorium should be terminated. Supervisor Wood Aye, Councilpersons Pullano Aye, Lyon Aye, Sochia Aye.

Public Hearing was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Supr. Wood called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Privilege of the Floor:

Tom Demo: Speaking for the Parishville Sportsman's Club regarding a proposed Clay Target Shooting Club in conjunction with Parishville-Hopkinton Central School (nyclaytarget.com). This would be a school program, not affiliated with Section X, for 6th - 12th grade students. Additional information will be forthcoming to the public asking for support and funding assistance.

*Councilperson Lyon requested that the March 18, 2019 minutes reflect the following correction regarding all votes held on that date. Article 3, Section 42 of the Town Law of the State of New York states "the deputy supervisor ... shall have no vote ... on matters coming before the town board ...". All votes recorded during the March 18, 2019 Board Meeting should read as follows: Councilpersons Parker Aye, Pullano Aye, Lyon Aye, Sochia Aye.

Mr. Sochia made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lyon, to accept the minutes as corrected of the Regular Meeting held on March 18, 2019. Councilperson Pullano AYE, Parker AYE, Lyon AYE, Sochia AYE, Supr. Wood abstained.

Ms. Lyon made a motion, seconded by Ms. Pullano to accept the Financial Reports for March 2019. Supervisor Wood Aye, Councilpersons Pullano Aye, Lyon Aye, Sochia Aye.

Voucher Nos. 84 to 111 General Fund Abstract 4 in the amount of \$21,254.48 were audited and approved by the Board.

Voucher Nos. 36 to 48 Highway Fund Abstract 4 in the amount of \$11,315.76 were audited and approved by the Board.

Voucher Nos. 9 to 9 BHLS Health Center Fund Abstract 4 in the amount of \$425.00 were audited and approved by the Board.

Ms. Pullano made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sochia to pay the bills. Supervisor Wood Aye, Councilpersons Pullano Aye, Lyon Aye, Sochia Aye.

Budget Report: No report.

Correspondence:

AOT: Supr. Wood provided a copy of NYS Town Priorities

NYMIR: Supr. Wood received notification of a pending review and validation visit by NRMIR of the Town's buildings.

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SLC Legislators: Supr. Wood read a submitted report from Legislator Rick Perkins.

BHLS: minutes were provide to the Board

Old Business:

None

Committee Reports:

Supervisor Update: Supr. Wood has sent a Letter of Intent regarding a grant from Northern Border Regional Commission for a salt shed at the Town Garage, \$250,000. There will be no supervisor hours on Wednesday, April 24.

Code Enforcement: No report

Assessor: no report

Library: Ms. Keller provided a written report.

Museum/Town Facilities: There was an issue with the hot water heater during the Maple Festival. Cornerstone was called and found that there was a switch that needed to be reconfigured due to the connection with a well. Has been adjusted correctly. Duane Black has been contacted regarding a siding issue on the Museum and Mr. Parker is awaiting a call-back.

Highway: Supr. Wood read a provided written Highway report from Mr. Green.

Rescue: Expecting delivery of new ambulance April 16, 2019

BHLS: Minutes were received from their April 8, 2019 meeting. Mr. Sochia reported no other issues.

Groundskeeper: No report but it was noted that Mr. Perry has begun cleaning up the Hopkinton Park.

New Business:

Adirondack Park, Cell Coverage issue resolution: Ms. Lyon introduced the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Sochia:

WHEREAS, cellular service and the ability to use individual wireless devices should no longer be considered a luxury; and

WHEREAS, today's society, in all walks of life, is heavily dependent on cell phone and wireless networks. All areas of the State, including the Adirondacks need to have dependable access to this technology infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, cell phones and the requisite cell coverage are in many cases the first link of our emergency response chain for fire, ambulance and law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, increasingly, where service is available, cell phones are being used to alert authorities of lost or injured outdoor enthusiasts; and

WHEREAS, first responders are able to use these available networks to quickly find and respond directly to where they are needed, saving time and resources; and

WHEREAS, this infrastructure also drives commerce and tourism, and is the core to our quality of life; and

WHEREAS, there are still large tracts of the Adirondacks which are still deprived of this utility; and

WHEREAS, we as governmental officials have an obligation to provide for the public safety, the education, as well as the equitable treatment and opportunity for all our citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Town of Hopkinton stands with the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board and stands together, individually and through our associations to insist that the time is now to provide all Adirondack residents and visitors with this critical technology; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to Governor Andrew Cuomo, Senate Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins, Senate Minority Leader Flanagan, Assembly Speaker Heastie, Assemblyman Mark Walczyk, Senator Joseph Griffo, Senator Patricia Ritchie, Senator Elizabeth Little, Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks, NYSAC, AOT, NYCOM, and the Association of Adirondack Towns & Villages.

VOTE: Supervisor Wood Aye, Councilpersons Pullano Nay, Lyon Aye, Sochia Aye

Adirondack Park, Snowmobile usage resolution: Mr. Sochia introduced the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Lyon:

WHEREAS, snowmobiling is a critically important part of the Adirondack winter economy; and

WHEREAS, on July 26, 1972, Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller issued a press release, upon signing the Adirondack State Land Master Plan (SLMP), that states in part that about 20 miles of snowmobile trails in areas classified as Wilderness by the SLMP will be closed, and replaced in areas outside the Wilderness and Primitive classified land, and that an additional 930 miles of snowmobile trails located in other classifications will remain; and

WHEREAS, since the SLMP was adopted in 1972, the State of New York has purchased nearly 350,000 additional acres of Forest Preserve land, which at the time of purchase, had many miles of community snowmobile trails that were not part of the State snowmobile trail system; and

WHEREAS, the State Land Master Plan does not create a cap on snowmobile trail mileage, but states there will be no material increase in snowmobile trail mileage that existed in 1972, allowing for snowmobile trails on newly acquired State lands to remain; and

WHEREAS, the arbitrary 848.88 miles of snowmobile trail miles that the DEC and APA use as a cap is not supported by Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller's promise to the people of the State of New York in 1972, which assured the people of the State of New York that they would have a minimum of 950 miles of snowmobile trails in the Adirondacks; and

WHEREAS, DEC has, during Unit Measurement Plan adoption called for the closing of snowmobile trails for various reasons, while identifying replacement snowmobile trails; and

WHEREAS, upon adoption of the Unit Management Plans the targeted snowmobile trails are closed, leaving the people of the State of New York waiting years in some cases for the replacement trails to be built;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Town of Hopkinton stands with the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board and hereby calls upon DEC and APA to abandon the snowmobile mileage cap, allowing any snowmobile trails on State Lands acquired after 1972 to remain as long as those lands are not Wilderness or Primitive; and

BE IT RESOLVED the Town of Hopkinton stands with the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board and hereby calls upon the DEC to stop the practice of closing snowmobile trails identified in Unit Management Plans, for replacement, until the new trails are built and ready for use; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to Governor Andrew Cuomo, DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos, Senate Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins, Senate Minority Leader Flanagan, Assembly Speaker Heastie, Assemblyman Mark Walczyk, Senator Joseph Griffo, Senator Elizabeth Little, AOT, and the Association of Adirondack Towns & Villages.

VOTE: Supervisor Wood Aye, Councilpersons Pullano Aye, Lyon Aye, Sochia Aye

Northern Power & Light: Supr. Wood noted that she & Mr. Powers met with Mr. Emmett Smith regarding their services and the paperwork was completed for coverage under their program for electric service.

American Disability Act: A proposed policy was discussed stating that "In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), the Town of Hopkinton will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs, or activities.

Ms. Pullano made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lyon to accept the policy. Supervisor Wood Aye, Councilpersons Pullano Aye, Lyon Aye, Sochia Aye

Firearms as prizes resolution: Ms. Pullano introduced the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Sochia:

WHEREAS, gun clubs in St. Lawrence County and elsewhere in New York State exist and operate in compliance with the laws of the State, and

WHEREAS, the raffling off of firearms is a traditional and time-honored means for the gun clubs to raise money that is used to fund the operation of the clubs, and

WHEREAS, without such fund-raising activities, the very existence of the clubs would be threatened, and

WHEREAS, such a prohibition is an attempt to further deprive the citizens of New York State of their 2nd Amendment rights,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of Hopkinton oppose State Assembly Bill A01413, "An Act to Amend the General Municipal Law, in Relation to Prohibiting Firearms as Prizes in any Game of Chance," and urges the Assembly to withdraw the Bill, and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Andrew Cuomo, Assemblyman Billy Jones, Assemblyman Robert Smullen, Assemblyman Mark Walczyk,

Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush, Senator Joseph Griffo, Senator Patricia Ritchie, and Senator Elizabeth Little.

VOTE: Supervisor Wood Aye, Councilpersons Pullano Aye, Lyon Aye, Sochia Aye

Municipal Building parking signs: Supr. Wood noted that "No Overnight Parking" signs had been erected due to issues with vehicles obstructing plowing, parking issues on Court nights, etc.

Locked Storage for Judicial Records: Justice Bory has requested a locked area for records. An area in the attic was discussed and an initial bid was received for \$1,800. The project will be placed on hold to determine a more cost-effective alternative.

Magistrate dues: Justice Bory requested \$40 for annual Magistrate dues. Ms. Lyon made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sochia to approve the dues. Supervisor Wood Aye, Councilpersons Pullano Aye, Lyon Aye, Sochia Aye

Board of Elections update: Mr. Powers reported on several updates discussed at the recent SLC Municipal Clerks Meeting. Primary Election (if needed) will be held on June 25, 2019. General Election will be held on November 5, 2019. There will be early voting available from October 26 - November 3, 2019 at the SLC Board of Elections. Beginning in January 2020, 16 year olds may pre-register for voting. Primary election voting hours will be expanding in 2020 to 6:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. and there is a possibility of 3 primary election dates in 2020 due to presidential primaries.

Budget update: Reminder that there needs to be a Budget update completed due to change in CHPS funding.

Ms. Lyon made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sochia to adjourn the meeting. Supervisor Wood Aye, Councilpersons Pullano Aye, Lyon Aye, Sochia Aye

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Richard L. Powers

Town Clerk