

REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 19, 2018

At the Regular Meeting held on Monday, March 19, 2018 at the Hopkinton Town Hall at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Supervisor Wood, Councilpersons Lyon, Parker, Sochia, Pullano.

OTHERS PRESENT: Clerk French, Assessor Allen Fukes, Douglas Witherell, Lori Witherell, Mary Witherell, Luke Daily, Dolores Rice, Anthony Platoni, Jose Ignacio Franchez Galan, Natasha Wolpin, Janice Pease, Joe Pease, Willy Dailey, Luke Martin, John Mahoney, Amber Lindsey, Mike Opal Sr., Mary Jane Toomey, Scott McDonald, Kelly Potenzano, Frank Potenzano, Deb Rust, Dan Murdie, Tome Whitesell, Pat Walzer, P. Walzer, Forrest Gallian, Thomas Farns, Robert Panasci of Young/Summer LLC., Laura Murphy, Greg Crump, Richard Eakins, Ricky Eakins, William Fox, Robert Blum, Sherry Blum, Joe Snell, Ernest Wood.

Supv. Wood called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

**Privilege of the Floor:**

Councilman Sochia: asked to speak to the Board. He stated that at the work session meeting when he arrived he was told by Councilman Pullano that he could not sit at the table and be part of the work session. He then confronted Supv Wood in regards to this was told that he could not sit at the table and be part of the work session but could sit in the audience. He proceeded to inform Supv. Wood that he had pursued legal counsel on this matter and stated he would be voting on the proposed wind law and that she could contact his attorney with questions. Supv. Wood responded that she is only going upon the advice of the Town Attorney, Roger Linden, on this matter and the attorneys can fight it out.

Frank Potenzano: asked the Supervisor why at the last meeting when she was questioned about the postcards she was receiving from residents asking the Board to keep the line of communication open in regards to the proposed wind project she told them that she had not had a chance to look them over and the Board had not seen them, but they showed up on Joe Pease's Facebook page, posted by Janice Pease the next day after receiving them. He asked how they get in the publics hands before Board Members have even seen them. Supv. Wood responded that they were public records and Janice Pease was in her office and asked to look at them, also the Board Members knew they were there and none of them came in to review the cards.

Ricky Eakins: asked why they did not have to request to review or have copies of the postcards through a FOIL request. Mr. Eakins also asked about the petitions that were circulated by the CCRP in regards to a moratorium/PILOT. He asked how it could be a valid petition when there were no actual signatures it was all typed. Also there was no narrative in regards to what they were signing.

Supv. Wood responded it was a valid petition and she is not in possession of the actual signed petitions.

Frank Potenzano: asked to see the actual petition with original signatures presented to the Board with a narrative of what persons were signing.

Lori Witherell: stated that she has all of the original petitions and will provide a copy to the Supervisor, but will not turn over the originals they are the property of the CCRP.

Janice Pease: commented that she had viewed the post cards during the Supervisors office hours.

Luke Daily: commented that the petitions that were circulated were clear about PILOT vs taxation and a moratorium. She also stated the petition for not extending the wind overlay zone to south of 72 was clear in the protection of forest land and State lands.

Councilman Pullano: commented that the petitions were not against the project or PILOT, people just want a protective wind law.

Sandy Maine: stated that the CCRP group had been called bullies by Avangrid in the news media and she thanked Supv. Wood for her letter of support in regards to this matter

Kelly Potenzano: spoke in regards to being bullied by the CCRP group. She stated that she personally had been

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bullied by some of the members. She stated someone getting in your face and calling you names is bullying. She stated this is why more persons that are in favor of this project will not come forward.

Cathy McKay, Kelly Charleson, and Pat Walzer: thanked Sue Wood, Kelly Pullano and Susan Lyon for proposing a wind law that will protect the health, welfare and safety of the people and bringing it to a Public Hearing.

Scott McDonald, Avangrid: asked the Board to continue negotiations. He asked them to proceed with the study and review it on taxation vs PILOT. He stated that Avangrid is open for discussions they are not hiding and want what's best. They would like to get negotiations started. He stated the reason for sending out postcards and the letter to residents were to open up the conversation and to ask the Board to make a decision on facts not on biased view.

Richard Eakins: stated that at the Public Hearing in July people wanted to know what was in it for them. The Board needs to let the process work. They need to take time to review PILOT vs taxation and do what is best for the town. He also told the Board that he spoke with Stephen Teele, Town of Lisbon, who just leased 26 acres for a solar farm and no PILOT was given but the town and county gave them a 15 year exemption so there will be no revenue to the town or county in regards to this project.

Ms. Lyon made a motion, seconded by Mr. Parker to accept minutes of Regular Meeting held on February 12, 2018 and Special Meeting held on February 27, 2018 as presented. Adopted unanimously.

Mr. Sochia made a motion, seconded by Mr. Parker to accept Supervisors Financial Report for February 2018 as presented. Adopted unanimously.

Voucher Nos. 51 to 83 General Fund Abstract 3 in the amount of \$27,811.85 were audited and approved by the Board.

Voucher Nos. 25 to 33 Highway Fund Abstract 3 in the amount of \$18,084.68 were audited and approved by the Board.

Voucher Nos. 5 to 6 BHLS Health Center Fund Abstract 3 in the amount of \$480.36 were audited and approved by the Board.

Ms. Lyon made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Pullano to pay the bills. Adopted unanimously.

#### **Correspondence:**

Potsdam Elks Lodge: regarding Youth Recognition Day on May 3. The day recognizes youth for their outstanding contribution to school and community. Supv. Wood asked if any Board members could attend to let her know.

AECOM: regards to the New York Power Authority developing a Communication Backbone Execution Plan to protect the security of its telecommunication systems. It is a SEQRA Type 1 action. They have identified the Town as a potential involved or interested agency. They are asking the town to allow them to be lead agency in this process. The Board discussed this and asked Supv. Wood to contact them for more info on this before signing to allow the NYPA to be designated as SEQRA Lead Agency and bring the info back to the April Town Board Meeting.

National Grid: informing the town that a comprehensive field review of the street lighting facilities within the Town of Hopkinton has been completed by a third party. The results show no billing discrepancies.

John's Cleaning Service: quote to the town in regards to janitorial services, carpet cleaning, vinyl floor refinishing among other things available.

NYS Department of Taxation & Finance: regarding tentative special franchise full values for the 2018 tax roll. The hearing date will be April 19, 2018 in Albany.

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### **Committee Reports:**

Supervisors Report: Supv. Wood reported that she is still answering questions and meeting with persons in regards to the proposed wind project.

Code Enforcement: A written report was presented. Supv. Wood read it aloud. One permit has been issued to date.

Assessor: Mr. Fukes presented a written report. He read his report aloud. STAR exemptions have been received and recorded in assessment roll. He received the tentative equalization rates for vacant land and residential. The rate for vacant is 102.55% and residential 97.83%. The combined average is 102.55%. This will be nine years in a row that the town is at 100%.

Museum: Mr. Parker presented a written report. Hopkinton Historical Group presented Greg Crump with a plaque and granted him honorary life membership to the Hopkinton Historical Group as thanks for his work as our Town Liaison.

Duane Black presented a proposal for the bathroom renovation. The HHG approved it, once it is approved by Jan Keller, Librarian Mr. Parker will bring it to the Board.

Town Facilities: Ms. Lyon reported that February was a slow month.

BHLS: Mr. Sochia reported they had their monthly meeting.

Groundskeeper: Mr. Wood reported that he has been busy with snow removal. He is having some problems with the snow blower it is in for repairs.

### **New Business:**

Public Hearing: Supv. Wood reminded those present that the Public Hearing for Proposed Local Law 2 Wind Energy Facility” will be held on March 28, 2018 at the Hopkinton Town Hall at 6:30 p.m.

Town Hall Grant: Supv. Wood reported to the Board that we had received a \$60,000 grant for renovations to the Town Hall.

Blood Drive: Mrs. Pullano reported that there will be a Blood Drive at the Hopkinton Town Hall on May 23, 2018.

Second Notice Fee: Supv Wood told the Board that it was time to set the second notice fee for tax collection. It can be set at \$1.00 or \$2.00. We have set \$2.00 in the past.

Mr. Parker made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lyon to set \$2.00 as a second notice fee for 2018. Adopted unanimously.

Ms. Lyon made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Pullano to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Vickie French, RMC

\*CORRECTION: Councilman Pullano stated she did not tell Mr. Sochia he could not sit at the table and be part of the work session.