

REGULAR MEETING

OCTOBER 16, 2017

At the Regular Meeting held on Monday, October 16, 2017 at the Hopkinton Town Hall at 7:00 p.m.

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Supt of Highways Green, Clerk French, Allen Fukes Assessor, Jan Keller Librarian, Douglas Witherell, Lori Witherell, Amber Lindsey, John Mahoney, Janice Pease, Joe Pease, Kelly Pullano, Luke Daily, Dolores Rice, Deb Rust, Carl Pitts, Scott McDonald Avangrid, Dan Murdie Avangrid, Tim Seck Avangrid, Beth Rosenbarker, Tom Whitesell, Robert Blum, Kathleen Potenzano, Frank Potenzano, Jeff Snell, Gary Snell, Richard Eakins, Theresa Drentwett, Karl Drentwett, Morgan Newtown, Teresa Newtown, Kathy Mackay, Robin Gary, Laura Murphy, Piper Sochia, Rachel Martin, Luke Martin, Anne Britton, Gert Forrest, William Converse, Mary Witherell, Wayne Ackley. Supervisor Wood called the Regular meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Privilege of Floor:

Jeff Snell: asked the Board to reconsider going over the tax cap. He asked for raises and lawnmower purchase for parks to be removed from the budget.

Luke Daily: summarized her notes from the site visit to the wind farm in the Town of Belmont.

Lori Witherell: presented the Board with a written copy of notes taken from the site visit to the wind farm in the Town of Belmont. She also thanked the Board for taking time to go.

Janice Pease: asked all the Board members to answer questions in regards to the proposed wind farm:

DBA, set-backs, property value guarantee, PILOT vs. taxation, expansion of wind overlay zone to South of SH72, and if they supported Industrial Wind Farms in the Town of Hopkinton.

Robert Blum: stated that the maximum height in the law is currently 500', Town of Redfield has a proposal of 591'.

Frank Potenzano: stated that he went on the site visit and spoke with a son of a councilman who is against the wind farm in Belmont. He stated the turbine was 2600 feet from his residence. Mr. Potenzano measured it and it was only 1350 feet. He felt that a 1800 foot set-back would be comparable.

Morgan Newtown: asked the Board what they feel the future of the town is.

Kelly Potenzano: stated that the wind turbines have been up for one year in Belmont. They have had only six complaints. She talked with one of the councilman that was against the wind farm, he stated that he and his wife have trouble sleeping the children do not.

Anne Britton: stated that the wind turbines disturb radio communications.

Kelly Pullano: stated that there is a letter on North Country Now with a link to listen to one of the turbines.

Mr. Sochia made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lyon to accept minutes of Regular Meeting September 18, 2017 as presented. Adopted unanimously.

Mr. Crump made a motion, seconded by Mr. Parker to accept Supervisors Monthly Financial Report for September 2017 as presented. Adopted unanimously

Voucher Nos. 254 to 271 General Fund Abstract 10 in the amount of \$6,052.97 were audited and approved by the Board.

Voucher Nos. 116 to 122 Highway Fund Abstract 10 in the amount of \$28,167.79 were audited and approved by the Board.

Voucher Nos. 22 to 23 BHLS Fund Abstract 10 in the amount of \$685.00 were audited and approved by the Board.

Voucher No 7 Building Fund Abstract 5 in the amount of \$4,605.00 was audited and approved by the Board.

Mr. Crump made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sochia to pay the bills. Adopted unanimously.

Mr. Crump made a motion, seconded by Mr. Parker to make the following Transfer in the Highway Fund:

From DA5130.4.4 Machinery Contractual. to DA5130.2 Machinery Equipment \$7,500.00. Adopted unanimously.

Correspondence:

Advanced Business Systems: submitted a proposal for a new Kyocera TASKalfa 4002i copier in the amount of \$4,317.89. No action taken.

BHLS: Minutes of October 3, 2017 meeting were submitted.

Richard Powers: regarding if the Board does not stay with the final Wind Law and Overlay Map recommendations as submitted to the Board and sends it back to the Wind Advisory Board he will have to resign from the Wind Advisory Board. He has family issues that are taking him away from the area on short term notice and would not be able to offer

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necessary time and effort to fulfill the needed obligations to the Board.

Old Business:

2018 Budget: Supervisor Wood suggested that we freeze all wages except for the Highway Superintendent.

Budget Officer, Vickie French, presented the Board with a Fund Balance Report as of September 30. She proposed some changes to the Preliminary Budget in order to comply with the tax cap.

Removing the mower for the parks from the budget and raising the unexpended balance in the General Fund to 80,000.00 and in the Highway to 75,000.00, and trimming another \$300.00 from the buildings account.

Mr. Parker made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lyon to increase the unexpended balance in the General and Highway fund, remove the 6,000.00 budgeted for the park mower, and lower the buildings account by 300.00.

VOTE: Supervisor Wood Aye, Councilman Parker Aye, Crump Aye, Lyon Aye, Sochia Aye.

Mr. Parker made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lyon to hold a Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget on November 6, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at the Hopkinton Town Hall.

VOTE: Supervisor Wood Aye, Councilman Parker Aye, Crump Aye, Lyon Aye, Sochia Aye.

Cost Overrun Bills for Museum/Library Work: Mr. Crump explained the overages: Library they had to replace the door unit, there was floor and beam rot, and had to replace studs on the corner of the building at a cost of \$1500.00.

Museum: dormers had to be rebuilt, sheathing and re-insulated wall area behind fuel drum, replaced sheathing and re-insulated wall area next to library corner in the amount of \$2300.00.

Mr. Parker made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lyon to approve payment of the cost overruns for the Library and Museum in the amount of \$3,800.00 and charge to A1620.4 Buildings Contractual.

VOTE: Supervisor Wood Aye, Councilman Parker Aye, Crump Aye, Lyon Aye, Sochia Aye.

New Business:

Garage Security System: Mr. Green reported to the Board that he had a price quote from Alltech for a camera surveillance system, which was recommended by the insurance company. The cost estimate is \$3331.92. He told the Board that there was enough money in the Garage account to get this done this year and then next year he can use that money to start repairing the storage building.

Mr. Crump made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sochia to approve the installation of a camera surveillance system from Alltech in the amount of \$3331.92. Adopted unanimously.

Court Resolution: Supv. Wood reported to the Board that she is going to contact the Court Administration to see if we can get an extension on the Court Grant, due to the fact a resolution to apply for the grant was not done. She also asked the Board to approve applying for the grant if she is granted the extension.

Mr. Crump introduced the following Resolution with a second by Mr. Parker

BE IT RESOLVED, that at a Regular Town Board Meeting of the Hopkinton Town Board, St. Lawrence County, on October 16, 2017 The Town Board unanimously agreed to apply for a Justice Court Grant.

VOTE: Supervisor Wood Aye, Councilman Parker Aye, Crump Aye, Lyon Aye, Sochia Aye.

NYS Retirement Resolution: Mr. Crump introduced the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Lyon

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Hopkinton Location code 30582 hereby establishes the following as standard work days for elected and appointed officials and will report the following days worked to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System based on the time keeping system records or the record of activities maintained and submitted by these officials to the clerk of this body: Joseph McGill, Code Enforcement Officer standard work day 6 hours per day. A Record of Activities will be submitted to the Town Clerk.

VOTE: Supv. Wood Aye, Councilman Parker Aye, Lyon Aye, Sochia Aye, Crump Aye.

Committee Reports:

Supervisors Report: Supv. Wood reported that she had talked with Billy Jones, Assemblyman, in regards to his opinion of the wind turbine expansion near Ft. Drum and the possibility of radio interference. He stated that if it is proven it will interfere with Ft. Drum he will support Ft. Drum.

She reported that Lori Witherell had attended a meeting in regards to the issue of wind turbine expansion near Ft. Drum.

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Lori reported that each County had codes of extreme importance to no issues. St. Lawrence County was yellow, which is lower impact. Comments are being accepted on-line in regards to this.

Supv. Wood also stated that there has been no agreement on a PILOT. She has put proposals out for Request for Appraisers. She is also looking for a new attorney with more experience in wind issues to represent the town.

She reported that some names that have been submitted for the Wind Advisory Board are Kathleen Potenzano, Sandy Maine, and Eric Scovil.

She also informed Councilman Sochia and Crump that they are on the Audit Committee for November.

Supv. Wood had to leave the meeting a 7:50, Deputy Supv. Susan Lyon finished the meeting, before leaving she answered Janice Pease questions in regards to the wind project: Supv. Wood stated she will support the majority of the persons, she has concerns with Avangrid, she is not for the wind project and she will follow the Wind Advisory Boards recommendations.

Code Enforcement: Mr. McGill submitted a written report. Supervisor Wood read it aloud.

Assessor: Mr. Fukes presented a written report. The report was read aloud.

Library: Jan Keller thanked the Board for maintenance on the Building. She updated the Board on the usage of new programs. Story Time will start October 11 upstairs. She is in need of heat upstairs and told the Board that she thinks with a close watch on expenses we could replace the heater this fall and use the money that was put in the 2018 budget towards the bathroom renovations.

Mr. Crump made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sochia to purchase the heater from Mullarney's Garden Center for \$1099.00 and to trade the 422 and 41 Monitor in towards labor and parts.

VOTE: Councilman Parker Aye, Crump Aye, Lyon Aye, Sochia Aye, Supv. Wood Absent.

Museum: Mr. Crump reported the work is done at the Museum. Mr. Crump will be transferring the heat over to the winter settings next month. Code Officer, Joe McGill, inspected the work on the Museum. We need to put hand rails on the front door of the library and the fuel drum for the library needs a better platform.

Highway & Safety: Mr. Green presented a written report. The report was read aloud.

Town Facilities: Ms. Lyon reported that it was a busy week at the Town Hall.

Rescue: Mr. Parker reported that Tri-Town Rescue had 53 calls, four were in Hopkinton. They have purchased three new monitors for the squads.

BHLS: Mr. Sochia reported that the handicap ramp should be completed soon.

Pease Questions to Board:

Mr. Parker responded the following:

- PILOT vs. Taxation: he is open to whatever makes the most revenue for the town.
- Expansion of Wind Overlay Zone: He is in favor of the expansion due to the fact that there is no zoning or planning in the Town of Hopkinton so the land is all the same.
- Sound: he supports DBA at 40 day and night
- Set-backs: he feels that as long as the safety issues are met and the DBA at 40 can be met at 1800 feet that is what he supports.
- Property Value Guarantee: he does not support this upon the advice of our attorney.
- Industrial Wind: he supports it, feels it will be a benefit to the town.

Ms. Lyon responded the following:

- PILOT vs. Taxation: she supports whatever is best for the town.
- Expansion of Wind Overlay Zone: she agrees to the expansion South of 72.
- Set-backs: She is supporting the Wind Advisory Boards recommendation of a 2500 foot set-back
- Property Value Guarantee: she had no comment, felt she did not have enough info on this.
- Industrial Wind: she is unsure at this time if she supports it.

Mr. Crump commented that he had no comment at this time. He is talking with constituents as he goes door to door campaigning in regards to the wind project.

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Mr. Sochia stated he had no comment at this time.

Richard Eakins stated that he heard Supervisor Wood advise Mr. Sochia not to speak in regards to the proposed Wind Project.

Mr. Parker made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sochia to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Vickie French, RMC