

REGULAR MEETING

OCTOBER 21, 2019

At the Regular Meeting held on Monday, October 21, 2019 at the Hopkinton Municipal Building at 7:00 p.m.

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Clerk Powers, Hwy. Supr. Green, Codes Enforcement Ploof, Deb Rust, Vickie French, Etta & Jack Phelix, Kelly & Frank Potenzano, Lori & Doug Witherell, Jeff Snell, Janice & Joe Pease.

Supv. Wood called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Privilege of the Floor:

Jeff Snell - Mr. Snell spoke concerning questions and concerns regarding the proposed Solar Law.

Vickie French - Ms. French asked a question regarding miscellaneous income in the balance sheet. She also noted that the groundskeeper budgeted hours were divided into 2 categories in the budget. She also questioned why the public was not invited to the Solar Farm visit in Potsdam and inquired who did attend the visit.

Ms. Pullano made a motion, seconded by Mr. Parker, to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 16, 2019 and the Special Meeting held on September 30, 2019. Approved unanimously.

Ms. Lyon made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sochia to accept the Financial Reports for September 2019. Approved unanimously.

Voucher Nos. 249 to 277 General Fund Abstract 10 in the amount of \$6,294.21 were audited and approved by the Board.

Voucher Nos. 106 to 120 Highway Fund Abstract 10 in the amount of \$41,113.86 were audited and approved by the Board.

Voucher Nos. 19 to 21 BHLS Health Center Fund Abstract 10 in the amount of \$571.39 were audited and approved by the Board.

Mr. Parker made a motion, seconded by Ms. Pullano to pay the bills. Approved unanimously.

Budget Report: Mr. Powers noted reallocation of funds from Account A1410.4, in the amount of \$525.85, and from Account A1220.4, in the amount of \$165.70, to Account A1660. These were bills miss-allocated to the Clerk and Supervisor budgets that should have been allocated in the Central Storeroom budget.

Correspondence:

Supr. Wood read a written report from SLC Legislator Perkins.

Supr. Wood received a letter from the Volunteer Transportation Center, Inc. in Watertown, NY regarding possible funding support and increasing knowledge of their volunteer-based program. There was no discussion but suggestion to set-up a meeting.

She also received communication regarding a North Country Active & Healthy Transportation Network Workshop on November 19, 2019. Ms. Pullano will possibly attend.

The Town also received communication from the State Comptroller regarding AIM-related payment (Aid and Incentives for Municipalities). This was shared with the Board.

Mr. Powers gave a short presentation regarding the upcoming 2020 Census and local job opportunities. The information will be shared on the Town Website.

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Old Business:

Congregational Church/Town Hall Septic issue: Discussion tabled.

Green(e) Road request: Discussion was held on several aspects regarding the issue, including the need to pass a Town Law and the possibility of several other road name issues. Ms. Pullano made a motion, seconded by Mr. Parker, to not pursue the issue any further. Approved unanimously.

2020 Proposed Budget: Mr. Lyon reviewed the 2020 proposed budget. A discussion was held regarding the requested 5th man for the Highway Department. Consideration was discussed with regard to the groundskeeper as a possibility. A proposal was offered with the groundskeeper working the summer hours at one rate and as an additional man for the Highway Department during the winter at a separate wage..

Solar Law meeting: Discussion on the proposed Solar Law revisions was delayed to November.

Committee Reports:

Supervisor Update: Supv. Wood noted that she, Mr. Parker, Ms. Pullano and Mr. Ploof met with Bruce Kemper* for a brief tour of the Clarkson solar farm. A question was raised from the floor regarding why the public was not invited. Supr. Wood has discussed concerns with regard to the Jones Bridge closure with Senator Little and Assemblyman Jones. She also attended the local government day in Potsdam.

Code Enforcement: Mr. Ploof noted that building permits had increased over the past month and provided a "to-date" comparison of permits over the last 6 years.

Assessor: no report.

Library: Ms. Lyon read a provided report from Ms. Keller.

Museum: Mr. Parker noted that the annual Holly Berry Craft Fair will be held at the HFJFD on November 16, 2019.

Highway: Supt. Green presented his written report. He also noted that due to an increase in salt price this year and based on the present three-year county snow & ice removal agreement, the Town will see an increase in the amount of \$1,385.00.

Town Facilities: Nothing to report, no door issues.

RESCUE: Tri-Town Rescue requested a 2% increase for their 2020 contract.

BHLS: Mr. Sochia reported on the submitted report from the October 9, 2019 meeting.

Groundskeeper: no report

New Business:

Tri-Town Rescue Contract: The 2020 Tri-Town Rescue Contract was received with a 2% increase from previous year, \$12,709.20. Mr. Parker made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lyon to accept the 2020 Tri-Town Rescue Contract as submitted. Approved unanimously.

North Country Life Flight: Ms. Pullano introduced the following resolution, with a second by Mr. Sochia:
WHEREAS, North Country Life Flight, Inc. is a not-for-profit, tax-exempt corporation which is responsible for all aspects of patient care by providing medical equipment, training medical personnel and administering the medical portion utilizing the New York State Police helicopter based in Saranac Lake: and
WHEREAS: The New York State Police aviation resources do not provide a medically trained team or medical equipment for patient transports; and

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WHEREAS: The people of Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton and St. Lawrence Counties receive a vital emergency medical service which is free of charge to critically ill and seriously injured patients, and, therefore municipal governments are asked to pledge monies for this worthwhile program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Town Board of the Town of Hopkinton hereby authorizes the Supervisor to enter into a contract with North Country LIFE FLIGHT, Inc. for the purpose of operating the medical component of the Med-evac program, which will serve its residents and visitors, and paying the amount of \$500.00 which represents the Town's share for 2020; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the sum of \$500.00 is hereby appropriated to Account No. A4540.4 for payment to North Country LIFE FLIGHT, Inc. in January, 2020. Supr. Wood Aye, Councilpersons Parker Aye, Pullano Aye, Lyon Aye, Sochia Aye.

Employee Training Proposal: Supv. Wood discussed a proposal from Zachary Risk Management (ZRM) regarding services for 2020 safety classes for all town employees, including: bloodborne pathogens, HazCom, sexual harassment prevention, workplace violence prevention, lock-out/tagout, and a safety manual update, at an annual cost of \$2,500. After discussion Mr. Parker made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sochia to accept the package of services. Approved unanimously.

Teamsters Contract - 2020: Supr. Wood discussed the final Teamsters Contract for 2020-2022. It included a 3% salary increase and an increase in the Teamster Health insurance coverage. Ms. Pullano made a motion, seconded by Mr. Parker to accept the agreement. Approved unanimously.

Generator for Municipal Building: Supr. Wood provided 3 bids for a generator for the Town Municipal Building. A portion of this expense is funded by this year's Judicial Grant in the amount of \$3,600. Blackmer Electric offered a 16kw generator at a cost of \$7,370. BGR Power, Inc. offered a 18kw generator at a cost of \$6,845. Lowe's offers a comparable generator at a cost of \$6,989. After discussion, Ms. Pullano made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lyon to accept the bid from BGR Power, Inc. Accepted unanimously.

2020 Budget: Changes were discussed in the 2020 Tentative Budget. Mr. Parker made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sochia to adopt the 2020 proposed Preliminary Budget. Adopted unanimously. Mr. Parker made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lyon to set the Public Hearing for the 2020 Preliminary Budget on November 4, 2019 at 7:00 PM. Accepted unanimously.

2019 General Election: Mr. Powers noted that the SLC Board of Elections had officially moved the Polling Place for the Town of Hopkinton to the Hopkinton Town Hall. Election Day will be November 5, 2019.

"Coach" Harper Dedication: Ms. Pullano noted and offered "kudo's" to the recent dedication of a plaque at the PHCS Soccer Field in honor of Coach Evan Harper.

Ms. Lyon made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sochia to adjourn the meeting. Approved unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

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Respectfully Submitted:

Richard L. Powers

Town Clerk

***CORRECTION:** Councilperson Pullano asked for the October 17, 2019 minutes to reflect the following correction regarding the Clarkson solar farm visit. The tour was with Bruce Tremper (not Kemper).

Richard L Powers

November 18, 2019

***CORRECTION:** Councilperson Pullano revised the correction for the October 17, 2019 minutes to reflect the following additional correction regarding the Clarkson solar farm visit. The tour was with Mike Tremper.

Richard L Powers

December 16, 2019