

REGULAR MEETING

SEPTEMBER 18, 2017

At the Regular Meeting held on Monday, September 18, 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, Ernest Wood, Douglas Witherell, Lori Witherell, Amber Lindsey, Wayne Akley, John Mahoney, Eli Sochia, Thomas Farns, Mary Jane Toomey, Janice Pease, Joe Pease, Prescott, David Slater, Ann Slater, Kelly Pullano, Luke Daily, Dolores Rice, Deb Rust, Kristina Kaiser, Carl Pitts, Scott McDonald, Beth Rosenbarker, Tom Whitesell, Josie Severtson, Eric Scovil, Robert Blum, Mary Witherell.

Supervisor Wood called the Regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Supervisor Wood told those present that at this time, there will be no privilege of the floor regarding the Wind Project. Any comments can be emailed to the Supervisor for distribution to the Town Board.

Ms. Lyon made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sochia to accept minutes of Regular Meeting & Public Hearing held on August 21, 2017 and Special Meeting held on September 11, 2017 as presented. Adopted unanimously.

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

Voucher Nos. 224 to 253 General Fund Abstract 9 in the amount of \$9,796.24 were audited and approved by the Board.

Voucher Nos. 101 to 115 Highway Fund Abstract 9 in the amount of \$36,495.83 were audited and approved by the Board.

Voucher Nos. 17 to 21 BHLS Fund Abstract 9 in the amount of \$9,910.56 were audited and approved by the Board.

Voucher No 6 Building Fund Abstract 4 in the amount of \$7,500.00 was audited and approved by the Board.

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

Ms. Lyon made a motion, seconded by Mr. Parker to make the following Transfer in the General Fund:

From A1990.4 Contingent Acct. to A1420.4 Attorney Contractual \$494.00. Adopted unanimously.

**Correspondence:**

Nancy Smith Weller: asked to be considered for the position of Assessor when it is available.

Kelly Pullano: asked for the following articles on Wind Energy to be entered into the record: Fire hazard, well water damage, noise, shadow-flickering, decrease in property values, You Tube video regarding the comments of former Governor Keating from Oklahoma.

Janice Pease: asked for the following article on Wind Energy to be entered into the record: from French Academy of Medicine regarding Wind Turbine Health Nuisance.

**Old Business:**

Court Grant: Supervisor Wood reported to the Board that it is time to apply for the 2018 Grant Cycle for the court. There was discussion of a bench and a fire proof file cabinet. Will need estimates before the grant can be applied for.

2018 Budget: Budget Officer French presented the Tentative Budget for 2018 to the Town Board. She reported to the Board that the items discussed at the Special Meeting for the budget had been added. Currently the budget is over the tax cap in the amount of \$21,256.00. Mr. Crump stated that he had met with the Historical Group in regards to projects they have in mind. He also reported that the bathroom that is used by the Library and Museum needs to have renovations. He would like to add an additional \$1,000.00 to the budget for the renovations to the bathroom.

He also told the Historical Group that they need to put together a five year plan and possibly look for their own grants and hold more fund raisers to complete the projects they have in mind.

Discussion was also held on the purchase of two lawnmowers one for the town parks and one for the cemetery. Mr. Crump stated that before one is purchased for the town parks he would like to see the repair bills on the current mower. Supervisor Wood will contact Mr. Perry in regards to the need for the lawn mower at cemetery.

Ms. Lyon suggested scaling the raises back from 3% to 2%. Board was not in agreement on this.

Stephen Green, Hwy Supt., also told the Board that the storage barn at the highway garage needs repairs. He is estimating \$10,00.00 to repair it.

He has added \$4,000.00 to the machinery repair account. He stated it is going to be close in 2017. He stated the Board has cut the budget each year for the last several years to stay under the tax cap and there is just no more to cut.

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The Board discussed the budget further and decided to leave it as presented.

Mr. Crump made a motion, seconded by Mr. Parker to adopt the 2018 Tentative Budget as the Preliminary Budget for 2018.

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

**Committee Reports:**

Supervisors Report: Supv. Wood reported that she, Councilman Parker, Rodney Votra Parishville Supervisor, Assessor, Town Attorney, Rick Perkins, Joe Lightfoot County Legislators, and Dr. Collins had met in the Town of Parishville to discuss full assessment of the proposed Wind Turbine Project. They will have a follow-up meeting. Supv. Wood stated she had contacted an appraiser in Buffalo, but she has not heard back as of yet.

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. Mr. Fukes was asked what the qualifications for an assessor are. He stated that you need a two year degree at a NYS College or two years as a Real Estate Sales person or appraiser. You then have to work with the current assessor for six months, you must become State Certified within two years. Courses are offered at \$600-\$900 per course at the town's expense.

Library: Jan Keller reported that the Summer Reading Program went well. She asked Mr. Crump to involve her in any renovation discussions. Story time will start October 11.

Museum: Mr. Crump reported that the roof is completed. The four dormers had to be rebuilt at an extra cost. The siding is 80% done. Before final payment is made he would like the Board to do a walk through. All extra bills will be submitted for the October meeting.

He also reported that the roof over the ramp that was installed by Mr. Black last spring was inspected and needed to have some corrections done on it. Mr. Black has made the corrections.

Highway & Safety: Mr. Green presented a written report. The report was read aloud. Mr. Green also informed the Board that the JD 544K loader is now two years old. He contacted John Deere and we can trade for \$13,288.62.

Mr. Crump made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sochia to proceed with the trade-in of the John Deere 544K loader. Adopted unanimously.

Supervisor Wood asked Mr. Green to confirm that the culvert on her side lawn did not come from the Town of Hopkinton.

Mr. Green confirmed that it did not.

Town Facilities: Ms. Lyon reported that it has been a slow month for rentals at the Town Hall.

Rescue: There was no report.

BHLS: Mr. Sochia reported that the roof and handicap ramp is completed.

Groundskeeper: Mr. Wood asked for some more top soil. He reported that the Highway Department spread mulch around trees, they removed the sidewalk stones per insurance company recommendations, it has been top soiled and seeded. We will need some new picnic tables next year and some of the current ones need painting. Community members built two and donated them.

**New Business:**

Agreement to Spend Town Highway Funds: Mr. Crump made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sochia to approve the Agreement to Spend Town Highway Funds with the County as presented. Adopted unanimously.

Site Visit: Supv. Wood reported that she had met with each Board Member separately regarding the wind law. They are going to do a site visit on September 23, 2017 in the Town of Belmont. They will be meeting with the Supervisor and a Town Councilmen and hope to speak to some residents for their views.

Mr. Crump made a motion, seconded by Ms Lyon to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Vickie French, RMC

