

**TOWN OF NORTH HUDSON
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2017**

The Supervisor opened the Meeting at 6:00 PM and led the assembly in the Salute to the Flag.

Present with the Supervisor were Board Members Stephanie DeZalia, Marshall Gero, Robert Dobie and Maureen Marsden. Also present was the Town Clerk Sarah Vinskus.

There were no guests present.

The Clerk read the Minutes of the May 18th Meeting.

Robert Dobie moved and was seconded by Marshall Gero to accept the Minutes as amended. All voted "Aye".

The Clerk then read the Minutes of the June 20th Meeting.

Maureen Marsden moved and was seconded by Robert Dobie to accept the Minutes as amended. All voted "Aye".

The Supervisor then turned to the Supervisor's Financial Report as of June 30, 2017:

CHECKING ACCOUNTS:

General Fund	\$660,795.03	0.10%	\$ 688,960.03
Fire Dist.	28,165.00		
Highway Fund		0.10%	\$ 566,958.61
TOTAL ALL FUNDS			\$1,255,918.64

The Supervisor then proceeded to the question of the Highway Garage furnace. He said that they had site visits from Kris Loomis of Ehrhart Energy and Patrick Vincent of Vincent's Heating and Fuel Service. An estimate from Vincent's which includes a 7-ton hopper is \$42,800. We also received an estimate which included an 11-ton hopper. This is a difference of \$7,000 and would be less if we poured the slab ourselves. With incentives from NYSERDA of \$21,000 and \$10,000 from Northern Forest Center our cost would be approximately \$11,800. There was discussion about using pellets versus cord wood and although we have an experienced timber person now, his retirement would leave us with no one to harvest cord wood for the furnace.

Resolution #51 of 2017

Resolved to introduce proposed Local Law #1 of 2017 entitled "A LOCAL LAW ESTABLISHING THE PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR COLD WAR VETERANS".

So moved by Stephanie DeZalia and seconded by Maureen Marsden and Marshall Gero. On roll-call vote: 5-Ayes; 0-Noes; 0-abstentions.

There was more discussion about the dump box on the 2003 tandem but nothing was decided.

There will be a Senior's Luncheon on July 26th at the park around 11:00 AM.

The Board had no changes to be made to the demolition permit that Jon Senecal had submitted.

Mr. Moore said that he had asked the IT folks at the county what they would advise as to computer security /antivirus software.

Ken Lynch of SLIC has contacted Mr. Moore and reported that things are progressing well on the broadband installation. He said that construction will begin on Monday, July 24, in Schroon Lake near Route 9 and Stowell Road. Although electronics had been delayed they are still looking at a September installation date. They also received initial make ready approval to extend from Ensign Pond to Pepper Hollow.

Mr. Moore attended the Common Ground Alliance Forum in Old Forge last week and participated in the discussion on the State Land Master Plan. Some good suggestions were made and the hope is that a full review will be undertaken by the APA.

Mr. Moore said that he had gotten some information on radar signs and had given it to the Board Members for their review. Since the budget process will begin soon we can decide if we want to move forward with this.

Mr. Moore attended a meeting with the DEC and county last week and received the first draft of the proposed Conservation Easement. Among things discussed were that the DEC would like to include the 131-acre lot we have across from the Frontier Town Property, our use of the old parking lot, and logging and mining rights. July 28th is the date that responses to the Request for Proposals (RFP) are due, which could influence how some of the property will be developed. After that, and probably at our August Meeting, I will ask Tom Martin, DEC Regional Natural Resources Supervisor for Region 5, to come and talk about the Conservation Easement.

As you know we have had a loss of email for the Assessors and the Town Clerk due to a policy change at Verizon. Therefore Mr. Moore asked the County IT Department for assistance. The end result is that all of our email accounts will be changed to a new provider. There is an annual, Gov. domain fee of \$400 and

there is a monthly charge of \$10 per account of which I asked for eight initially or \$80 per month. The new addresses are:

Supervisor: supervisor @town of northhudsonny.gov

Clerk to the Supervisor: supervisors clerk@townofnorthhudsonny.gov

Town Clerk: townclerk@townofnorthhudsonny.gov

Assessors: assessors@townofnorthhudsonny.gov

Code Officer: codes@townofnorthhudsonny.gov

Highway Superintendent: highway@townofnorthhudsonny.gov

Tax Collector: taxcollector@townofnorthhudsonny.gov

The emails will be migrated to the new accounts as we move forward and hopefully we will be fully restored and working properly.

The Supervisor then went over the contents of the Board Members' packets.

The work on Elk Lake Road is completed. Hopefully we will be able to do the County work on Ensign Pond Road although we are a man down and need two flaggers. Possibly Lloyd Haynes will be able to fill in for Emmett.

The 2006 Ford pickup has been at Egglefield's garage. The bill so far is \$650 for oil change, plugs, battery and trouble shooting. They also found upper and lower ball joints, tie rod on the right side and rear brakes. With alignment the estimate for the additional work is roughly another \$900.

The new County Personnel Officer is Jennifer Mascarenas and the new County Auditor will be Laurie DeZalia after Brenda Sullivan retires in August. The County has also entered into contract negotiations with both the general unit and the newly-formed Sheriff's unit.

Mr. Moore said that he had spoken briefly with Soil and Water about the possibility of a managed cut on the Town's 200 acre lot. He will set up a meeting to discuss the possibility later

Solar seminars are being held in the Schroon Lake, Ticonderoga and Moriah areas. They will be held 8/13 and 8/20 in Ticonderoga, 9/03 and 0/16 in Moriah. An additional date for North Hudson/Schroon Lake is to be determined. Attending one of these should be helpful if we decide to expand our solar system.

Farmers Market Coupons are available from the Office of the Aging. Age and income requirements must be met.

Mr. Moore said that he had received a notice from the Department of Public Service that National Grid has requested approval of a proposed rate increase to its electric and gas delivery charges. It appears that this would result

in an increase of \$11.23 per month to a customer using 600 KWH per month. This is a 21.8% increase in the delivery charge.

In February the DEC held a public meeting regarding DEC's plan to revise the Unit Management Plan for the Hammond Pond Wild Forest, much of which is here in North Hudson. Our 131 acre wood lot across from Frontier Town on the east side of Route 9 is adjacent to the Hammond Pond Wild Forest and Mr. Moore has long wanted to see if multi-use trails could be placed on our property and through state lands connecting to Johnson Pond Road. These trails could be for horseback riding, mountain biking and snowmobiling, as well as other forms of recreation. A meeting has been scheduled on this Thursday between Corrie O'Dea and Mr. Moore to discuss this. Now is the opportune time while the DEC is revising the UMP for this area.

The Essex County tax sales for the 2012 and 2013 properties will be held in late August, probably on the 30th. There are approximately 97 properties on the list.

Marshall Gero moved and was seconded by Robert Dobie to pay the audited vouchers. All voted "Aye".

General Fund	\$ 8,399.64
Highway Fund	\$ 18,029.16
Total	\$ 26,428.80

The Judge's financial report was not audited.

Mr. Gero spoke about the Schroon River Cemetery Association and the fact that all monies and papers are being turned over to the Town.

Maureen Marsden moved and was seconded by Stephanie DeZalia to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 PM. All voted "Aye".

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Vinskus, Town Clerk