

**TOWN OF NORTH HUDSON  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING  
JUNE 19, 2019**

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

Present with the Supervisor were Board Members Maureen Marsden, Robert Dobie, Marshall Gero and Ronald Moore. Also present was the Town Clerk, Sarah Vinkus.

Guests present were Yvonne Major, Margaret (Piedy)Carboy and Cathy Cleveland, all of whom were granddaughters of Daniel McKenzie. Carol Mason, a friend of Mrs. Major and John Caza were also present.

Mrs. Major spoke of the close ties the McKenzie family has with the Town of North Hudson and then she presented a framed color photograph of Elk Lake, in memory of Peter and Eleanor, Dan and Emma McKenzie, to Supervisor DeZalia.

The Town Clerk then read the Minutes of May 21, 2019.

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

The Supervisor then went over the Town's Financial Report as of May 31, 2019.

Checking Accounts	(0.10%)	\$ 645,950.20
General Fund	\$607,785.20	
Fire Dist.	38,165.00	
Highway Fund	(0,10%)	571,025.46
TOTAL ALL FUNDS		\$ 1,216,975.66

The Supervisor said that Mr. Moore, Mrs. Marsden and herself attended the Annual Summer Meeting of the Association of Towns and Villages held on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Hotel Saranac.

The Memorial Day ceremony was held on May 27<sup>th</sup>. The ceremony was beautiful and well attended and the weather was clear.

The carpets in the Town Hall are scheduled to be cleaned by Jay at Brush Pro out of Queensbury on Friday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Christina Lashway, our Lifeguard, started on Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, and she has completed the Sexual Harassment training. Reminder that everyone has to do this. They need to contact the Supervisor's clerk, Cassandra, to schedule a time.

The car show was held on Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup> and it had a great turn out and the Fire Department did an amazing job.

The last of the paperwork has been given to Dylan Walrath for the 3 projects we have presented for the grant we received. The Supervisor spoke with Anna Reynolds who said the contracts should be done by midsummer and then we can go out to bid which will put these projects later in the summer to early fall.

There will be no primary election in North Hudson on June 25<sup>th</sup>.

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

As you are aware, there was some confusion on Pepper Hollow Rd. after the Highway Superintendent and his crew marked out the Town's road-use area. A landowner, instead of

calling to ask questions, proceeded to pull out all of the stakes on both sides of the road. Then proceeded to go on social media and put untruths about our town and highway crew and what they were attempting to do down there. We are now faced with making a decision to continue on that project or to move to Duntley Road, one which we had discussed before doing Pepper Hollow anyway. Understandably, our Highway Superintendent would like to do that road now.

Resolution #58 of 2019

Resolved to hereby rescind Resolution #49 of 2019 which was to allow the Highway Superintendent to contract with Bell and Flynn for the completion of the lower end of Pepper Hollow Rd.

So moved by Ronald Moore and seconded by Robert Dobie. On roll call vote: Ayes – 5; Noes – 0; Absentees – 0.

Resolution #59 of 2019

Resolved that the Highway Superintendent contract with Bell and Flynn for a 6/10<sup>th</sup> portion of Duntley Road to be completed.

So moved by Robert Dobie and seconded by Ronald Moore. On roll call vote: Ayes – 5; Noes – 0; Absentees – 0.

In your packets you will find a copy of the final report of our Code Enforcement Officer on the investigation of Complaint #19-01. The report includes information on the violations that exist, information regarding the change of use permit that was granted in 2015, a copy of a letter to the property owner across the street and the Code Enforcement Officer's suggestions. The Supervisor asked the Board Members to read this carefully and let her know their thoughts on how to proceed with enforcement.

The Youth Committee will hold the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual End of School Beach Bash on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June. The Chairwoman of the Committee is asking to spend some of the Youth money for this and to purchase a screen and projector.

Resolution #60 of 2019

Resolve that with the Supervisor's approval the Chairwoman of the Youth Committee can expend funds from the Youth Committee fund for any needed supplies for youth activities and events.

So moved by Robert Dobie and seconded by Maureen Marsden. On roll call vote: Ayes - 5; Noes -0; Absentees – 0.

Resolution #61 of 2019

Resolved that the Supervisor purchase a projector and screen for the purpose and use by any department but mainly the Youth Department. The total of this is not to exceed \$150.00.

So moved by Maureen Marsden and seconded by Marshall Gero. On roll call vote: Ayes – 5; Noes – 0; Absentees – 0.

The Court records and dockets are available for examination again and this must be done and sent to OCA IAS along with the resolution stating that they were examined. Mr. Dobie and Mr. Gero, would you please schedule a time to do this with the court.

Kevin Duntley, the Highway Superintendent, informed the Supervisor that he will not have the time to do the chimney at the court house. We previously passed a resolution to

purchase a metalbestos pipe in an amount up to \$1500.00. He feels we should hire out the work for the chimney to be taken down and a new one installed.

Resolution #62 of 2019

Resolved that the Supervisor go to bid for the work of taking down the old chimney and installing a new chimney.

So moved by Ronald Moore and seconded by Marshall Gero. On roll call vote:  
Ayes – 5; Noes – 0; Absentees – 0.

Sally Vinskus, the Town Clerk has been having many issues with her desktop and it has some outdated system programs. Her system was purchased in March of 2011. The Supervisor continued that she would like permission to look into a new desktop for the Town Clerks office. There still is \$1000 equipment and \$6000 contractual left in her budget. This way the system will be updated for the new incoming clerk and a new laptop for the tax collector was purchased in 2017 and should be good for a while.

Resolution #63 of 2019

Resolved that the Supervisor look into purchasing a new desktop system for the Town Clerks office not to exceed an amount of \$1500.

So moved by Ronald Moore and seconded by Marshall Gero. On roll call vote:  
Ayes – 5; Noes – 0; Absentees – 0.

The County has had some pushback from the Assembly for the County-wide EMS program that was put before them last week. An additional special meeting to amend it again had to be held. It was put before the Senate also last week and the same changes will probably have to be made there as well.

Several Supervisors, including Mrs. DeZalia, got together in Wilmington to have dinner with Randy Preston on June 8<sup>th</sup>. He was surprised and all had a good evening.

Michael Diskin, the County Treasurer, will be sending out an updated list in the few days for the upcoming tax foreclosure. There have been several that have been paid and removed.

The sale of the county building that sits behind Stewarts is nearing the end. The County just amended the sales amount to accommodate some requests made by the Town of Elizabethtown Planning Board in regards to Stewarts planting some trees and putting in sidewalks. The Community Resources Department has been moved into the old nutrition site.

The Supervisor said that she had spoken with Sue Palisano from the Schroon Lake Chamber of Commerce and she noted that the Schroon Lake Supervisor, Michael Marnell, has made mention of no support from the Town of North Hudson. Mrs. DeZalia looked into our records and the last donation we made was in 2017 in the amount of \$1,000. Mrs. DeZalia said that she would like to make a donation again from our publicity fund. Ms. Palisano mentioned that it would be better use of the money if we gave to the Fourth of July Celebration Fund as our businesses belong to the Chamber and they support the Chamber with their membership. She also mentioned that if it went to the parade it would be listed for all to see that the Town of North Hudson supported the parade fund. The Supervisor said that she would like to do the \$1,000 again and be listed as a Parade Marshall.

Resolution #64 of 2019

Resolved that the Supervisor is authorized to make a contribution to the Schroon Lake Annual Fourth of July Celebration in the amount of \$1,000.

So moved by Ronald Moore and seconded by Robert Dobie. On roll call vote:  
Ayes – 4; Noes- 1; Absentees – 0.

The Supervisor asked if there were any thoughts about what might be put around the Pepper Hollow Cemetery. It is 1,243 feet all the way around. Do you want a hedge in the back and a fence along the road? Should estimates be gotten? After some discussion it was decided to have John Kelly mark out the plots.

Last month the Town signed a new agreement with Empire National Bank as members of the Board of Trustees. We authorized the payment of \$1900 to Hometown Benefits for administration fees from the Empire National Bank account. We are now getting a request for payment from the Town to be paid to the Town of North Hudson Service Award Trust in the amount of \$15,195, for the Town’s annual contribution for the 2019 Length of Service Award Program. According to Hometown Benefits Inc. the amount is higher than usual because they did not receive a payment in 2018. The last one was in April of 2017.

Resolution #65 of 2019

Resolved that the Supervisor pay \$15,195 to the Service Award Trust.

So moved by Robert Dobie and seconded by Marshall Gero. On roll call vote:  
Ayes – 4; Noes – 0; Absentees – 0.

Ronald Moore moved and was seconded by Robert Dobie to pay the audited abstracts.  
All voted “Aye”.

General Fund	\$ 11,260.88
Highway Fund	\$ 3,772.76
Total	15 ,033.64

Robert Dobie moved and was seconded by Marshall Gero to accept the audited Judge’s report. All voted “Aye”.

Ronald Moore moved and was seconded by Marshall Gero for the Board to move into Executive Session at 7:30 PM about litigation. All voted “Aye”.

Robert Dobie moved and was seconded by Maureen Marsden for the Board to move out of Executive Session at 7:40 PM. All voted Aye.

The Judge has granted a TRO on the Cedar River Bridge project. The order will be in effect until July 19<sup>th</sup> at which time the court will decide whether the TRO will be replaced by a Preliminary Injunction which would remain in effect until the court decided the actual underlying challenge to the states right to build the bridge. The Five Towns are in agreement that we should band together to support DEC and the Attorney General on this and have spoken to Attorney Mark Schachner and will be doing a Confidential Agreement with him. The other 4 towns have asked their boards for support in this matter. The Supervisor continued that she was asking for opinion and support and if the 5 Towns need to weigh in on this case that we commit to a financial contribution to the legal fees. She said that she would like to do a resolution to commit up to \$5,000 for legal fees. It is estimated that it would be more like \$2,000 to \$3,000 for each town but that she would rather go higher so as not to have to come back to the Board.

She added that she has twice sent this to John Silvestri for an opinion but still has not received a reply.

Resolution #66 of 2019

Resolved that the Supervisor allow the Town of North Hudson to be listed on a confidential agreement that will be signed by Attorney Mark Schachner and DEC regarding information that will be shared on the Cedar River Bridge Litigation and expend up to \$5,000 in legal fees.

So moved by Ronald Moore and seconded by Robert Dobie. On roll call vote:  
Ayes – 5; Noes – 0; Absentees – 0.

The DEC has asked us to take down the old kiosk and also remove “Belle’s Place” sign. Kevin Duntley, the Highway Superintendent and his crew will do this. The Board agreed but he should try to save them if possible.

Ronald Moore moved and was seconded by Maureen Marsden to adjourn the Meeting at 7:50 PM. All voted “Aye”.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah Vinkus, Town Clerk