

TOWN OF NORTH HUDSON
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY APRIL 21, 2020
6 PM

In attendance Supervisor Stephanie DeZalia

Town Council Deputy Marshall Gero, Maureen Marsden, Robert Dobie Brian Caza and Town Clerk Martha King.

Supervisor Stephanie DeZalia called the meeting to order at 6:00pm and led in the Salute to the Flag.

Approval of the minutes:

Approval of the minutes of the January 21, 2020 regular meeting.

So moved Brian Caza, and seconded by Maureen Marsden.

Roll call vote Ayes-5, Noes-0

Approval of Public Hearing on Prior Written Notice Local Law #1-2020 held on February 18.

So moved Maureen Marsden seconded by Robert Dobie.

Roll call vote Ayes-5 Noes-0

Approval of the minutes of the February 18, 2020 regular meeting.

So moved Maureen Marsden and seconded by Brian Caza.

Roll call vote Ayes -5 Noes-0.

No meeting in March

Supervisors' Financial Report:

Town of North Hudson

Supervisors Financial Report

As of March 31, 2020

Checking Accounts

Town of North Hudson Checking (0.10%) \$ 768,806.21

 General Fund \$ 735,836.21

 Fire Dist. \$ 32,970.00

| | | |
|------------------------|---------|------------------------|
| Highway Fund Checking | (0.10%) | \$ 568,271.93 |
| TOTAL ALL FUNDS | | \$ 1,337,078.14 |

Old Business

On February 18, 2020 the Town Board held a Public Hearing for all to be heard on the Town of North Hudson Prior Written Notice Law. All were heard and the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 pm.

LOCAL LAW #1- 2020

Town of North Hudson Local Law #1 of 2020 **A Local Law to provide for the Requirement of** **Prior Written Notice**

Written Notice Law

Section 1. Purpose

The purpose of this law is to provide for the requirement of prior written notice to the Town of North Hudson of a defective, out of repair, unsafe, dangerous or obstructed condition of any of street, highway, bridge, culvert, sidewalk or the existence of snow and ice thereon as a condition precedent to liability on the part of the Town of North Hudson for damages or injuries to person or property alleged to have been caused by such condition.

Section 2. Notice of Defects Required

No civil action shall be maintained against the Town of North Hudson or the Town Superintendent of Highways for damages or injuries to person or property sustained by reason of any highway bridge or culvert being defective, out of repair, unsafe, dangerous or obstructed unless written notice of such highway, bridge, or culvert was actually given to the Town Clerk or Town Superintendent of Highways, and was a failure or neglect within a reasonable time after the giving of such notice to repair or removal of the defect, danger or obstruction complained of.

Section 3. Notice of Snow and Ice Conditions Required

No civil action shall be maintained for damages or injuries to person or property sustained solely in the existence of snow or ice upon any highway, bridge or culvert, unless written notice thereof, specifying the particular place, was actually given to the Town Clerk or Superintendent of Highways and there was actual or neglect to cause such snow or ice to be removed, or to make the place otherwise reasonably safe within a reasonable time after the receipt of such notice.

Section 4. Notice Regarding Sidewalks

No civil action shall be maintained against the Town of North Hudson or the Town Superintendent of Highways for damages or in consequence of the existence of snow or ice upon any of its sidewalks have been constructed or are maintained by the Town or the Superintendent of Highways of the town pursuant to Statute, nor shall any action be maintained for damages or injuries to person or property sustained by reason by reason of such defect or in consequence of such existence snow or ice unless written notice thereof, specifying the particular place, was actually given to the Town Clerk or Town Superintendent of Highways, and there was a failure or neglect to cause such defect to be remedied, such as snow or ice to be removed , or to make the place otherwise reasonably safe within a reasonable time after receipt of such notice.

Section 5. Supersession

It is the intent of the Town Board pursuant to the Municipal Home Rule Law Of New York, to Supersede § 1 and §2 of §65-a of the Town Law of the State of New York.

Section 6. Effective Date

This Law shall take effect immediately upon its filing in the office of the Secretary of State. Local Law so moved by Robert Dobie and seconded by Maureen Marsden.

Roll Call:

Brian Caza- Aye

Marshall Gero- Aye

Stephanie DeZalia- Aye

Maureen Marsden- Aye

Robert Dobie- Aye

New Business:

Town Board packets contained Supervisors Financial Report, Vendor Payment Report, Revenue Summary Report, Expenditures Summary Report. The monthly Justice report, the Town Clerks monthly report, The Town's monthly bank reconciliation's, as well as a number of informational sheets that will be discussed.

Supervisor DeZalia welcomed all to the meeting, "It's good to see everybody. Everybody seems to be healthy and in pretty good spirits"

and discussed the Global Pandemic. It was explained by Supervisor DeZalia what was going on at State level, County level, and Town levels.

A. Departmental Reports:

Supervisor-

Supervisor DeZalia addressed the Town Board with the following:

"I wish to start by saying Good evening and I must say it pleases me to see all of you personally here in good health and in good spirits. I or we never imagined we would be in the thick of a pandemic when we last met in February. Our lives, our routines and our livelihoods have been altered by this invisible threat. Each day I receive many daily updates from State and County officials, the CDC and Essex County Public Health. I am a member of groups that are organizing needs and resources. I and my fellow Supervisors can only take the information we are given and make what we feel is the best decision at the time with the given information. First and foremost is the wellbeing of our residents, staff, and constituents. We have a new Town Facebook page that we are getting information out daily. My plan is to do another newsletter soon. I was on a regional ZOOM meeting this morning with approx. 200 people discussing the road forward for our region as things start to open back up and what is the safest ways to do that. The County will be working on a reopen plan and we as a town will need to put a plan into place as well. Much of our plan will be dictated by State and/or County plan but there may be a need for specific needs to our town. I wanted to thank all of you for your support and guidance, I wanted to thank the employees of the Town for working with the Stay at Home, Work from Home policies and I wanted to thank the residents of North Hudson that have stepped up to support one another and help their neighbors in so many different ways. Our community is resilient and we will come out of this COVID-19 pandemic even stronger and wiser."

Supervisor DeZalia is continuing work on getting FEMA reimbursement for the Halloween Storm. Supervisor DeZalia needs to meet with Highway Superintendent Kevin Duntley to break down the hours worked at each project location. Specifics are needed for this not just hours.

Highway:

The Town received the New York State Department of Transportation Shared Service Agreement renewal. A resolution is required authorizing the Highway Superintendent to sign it and enter into the agreement.

Resolution # 34-2020

Resolution Authorizing the Town of North Hudson Highway Superintendent to enter into the Shared Service Agreement with New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) for a four (4) year term to start and be in effect when the NYSDOT Regional Director of Operations signs and dates it. This Shared Service agreement will allow NYSDOT to provide emergency assistance to our Municipality in the absence of a Governor's Emergency Declaration. For services and/or materials that are valued at less than \$25,000.00. This agreement will allow NYSDOT and the Town of North Hudson to "trade" services under a simple agreement.

So moved by Marshall Gero and seconded by Maureen Marsden.

Roll call Ayes- 5, Noes-0

Discussion on obtaining a Fuel Control System. It will keep accurate record of when and how much fuel (regular & diesel) is being pumped for each vehicle and by who. It would be helpful in true cost value of what the town is putting into county roads. Supervisor DeZalia suggested in getting something like this or similar to track fuel usage for each vehicle. It would print out reports that would be useful. Councilman Brian Caza discussed the Fire Department is not able to record what they use. More information will be given to the board.

Transfer Station:

There still issues at transfer station with people bringing in trash when it isn't open. The Town is still working on getting the arms for the gate which has become more difficult than anticipated. Tractor Supply no longer has the parts needed. Also a battery for it is now required. Therefore, the Town now has to order them directly through Mighty Mule.

Since the Town of North Hudson does not have an account with Mighty Mule the Town would need a credit card for payment when ordering.

Discussion about getting debit card with predetermined limit to use for purchases took place. This was suggested by auditor to the Fire Department.

Supervisor DeZalia will speak to Glens Falls National Bank regarding this possibility.

Highway Superintendent Duntley is working on setting up his own cameras in the meantime.

Cleanup day discussion on having 2 days, a Saturday and a Wednesday with an extra worker and dumpster at dump for residents to bring their own stuff.

All the information will be included in next letter and residents will be reminded this is for Town of North Hudson Residents only. Days are yet to be determined.

There have been a few repeat nonresidents disposing of their trash at transfer station.

Supervisor DeZalia has spoken to one and a letter has been sent to the other reminding them this is for Town of North Hudson Residents only.

Code Enforcement.

Jon Senecal has turned in and filed his Uniform Code Admin. And Enforcement report to the state for reporting year 2019. Copies will be place in Town Board mailboxes.

Board packets contain emails from both Town Attorney John Sylvestri and Mr. William Plumstead. Supervisor DeZalia would like the Town board to review the proposed solution and bring this investigation and complaint to an end. This stems from a complaint to the Code Department back in April of 2019

Mr. Plumstead does not ask for any amount of time to complete the agreed upon fixes in his email but our attorney has asked us to give him until April or May to complete the necessary fixes. This email was dated March 11,2020 and it was to be addressed at the March 17th meeting, which was cancelled. Supervisor DeZalia is requesting the time be extended for completion of the agreed upon solutions to June 7th,2020. Then there would be a final

inspection and report by CEO. If everything is completed and satisfies the municipal code, the complaint would be closed. If it is not completed, then then it would be given to the Town Attorney John Silvestri to take the next steps. The report by the CEO will be ready for the Town Board meeting in June.

Supervisors Clerk

It was Budgeted for a new desk for 2020. Cassandra has found one that will work and will be more efficient and organized. The cost is \$1859.00.

RESOLUTION #35 -2020

Be it Resolved for the Town Supervisor DeZalia to order a desk unit for the Supervisors clerk out of budgeted funds in the amount not to exceed \$2000.00.

So moved by Marshall Gero and seconded it by Brian Caza

Roll call vote: Ayes -4, Noes-1

Mashall Gero-Aye

Brian Caza- Aye

Stephanie DeZalia –Aye

Maureen Marsden-Aye

Robert Dobie-No

Courts:

Town Clerk:

In 2018 the Town Board had discussed the need to impose a returned check fee for all funds returned insufficient to the Tax Collector or Town clerk's office. The Board after discussion had agreed, upon the recommendation of the Essex County Treasurers office, that a \$ 30 fee would be imposed. Upon looking at the minutes and discussions, it was determined that no resolution had ever been done. Therefore, Supervisor DeZalia has presented the following resolution for review:

RESOLUTION #36-2020

Resolved that the town of North Hudson will impose a fee of \$30.00 for the return of insufficient funds checks. The Clerk will send a notice by standardized form letter requesting payment in cash, money order or cashier check. In addition, the cost of mailing the notice by certified mail will be added to the sum due.

So moved by Robert Dobie, and seconded it by Maureen Marsden.

Roll call vote Ayes-5, Noes -0.

B. COUNTY REPORTS:

A press release was read to the Town Board regarding the Cornell Cooperative Extension 4-H Equestrian program. The youth met twice weekly and worked hard in 3 different events that took place February 29, 2020. Much hard work and dedication are put into these 4H programs and they help to make better citizens of our youth. Congratulations to all.

Supervisor DeZalia will be writing a letter of congratulations to those participating and qualifying for the State completion. Hopefully with present pandemic, they will still be able to hold these events.

C. Kiosk from Library:

In the beginning of March Supervisor DeZalia had been speaking to Annia Bouchard from the Clinton- Essex-Franklin Library system. They had gotten an emergency Preparedness Grant for free standing Kiosks. They are a Surface Pro Tablets on a stand with a headset and locking cable. The Café in Newcomb and Lake Harris Lodge have something similar there.

We can get one here at the Town Hall on trial (loan) for people to come in to use. They would bring it and set it up, probably in the meeting room. We would have a sign in and out to monitor usage. If there is enough usage then we could consider getting one, possibly on a grant. Supervisor De Zalia stated that a resident, Cecile Sansome, will be in to use it as she goes to the library in Schroon and had asked Supervisor DeZalia if she would check into for the town.

D. RESOLUTIONS OF CONDOLENCES:

Resolution#37-2020

Resolution of condolences to the family and friends of Linda June (Gamble) Gallipoli upon her passing on March 24, 2020 at the age of 58.

Moved by Robert Dobie with a unanimous second.

Resolution #38 -2020

Resolution of condolences to the family and friends of Donald A. Whitty who passed away at the age of 85 on April 7, 2020.

So moved by Maureen Marsden with a unanimous second.

Resolution #39-2020

Resolution to resolve to appoint Anthony Talarico Sr. to the Board of Assessment Review, (BAR).

7. Approve abstracts for General Funds.

Motion to approve abstracts for General and highway Funds by Supervisor Stephanie DeZalia and seconded by Maureen Marsden.

Roll call Ayes-5, Noes- 0

8. Audit of Judges Financial Report

Motion to approve Financial report moved by Maureen Marsden seconded by Robert Dobie.

Roll call Ayes-5, Noes-0

9. Privilege of the floor:

Discussion on cost of Camera's for transfer station area.

Discussion on investigating "BLINK" system, Brian believes the cost is about \$300.00, it includes 3 cameras and are solar powered.

Discussion on having front door fixed now that weather has warmed up.

Discussion on training schools for have been that have been cancelled, some classes are being held by webinar.

Discussion on cell service and poor internet service. Making Zoom meetings are virtually impossible.

Discussion on engineering at courthouse.

Reminder to Marshall Gero and Robert Dobie that Judges audit needs to be completed.

10. Meeting Adjourned 7:20pm