

**Town of North Hudson
Regular Town Board Meeting**

Tuesday April 20, 2021

6:00 p.m.

Present were Supervisor Stephanie DeZalia, Councilman Marshall Gero, Councilman Robert Dobie, Councilwoman Maureen Marsden and Town Clerk Martha King.

Councilman Brian Caza was absent.

Guests attending were present were Tracee and Jake Parent, Laurie and Brian DeZalia, William Plumstead and Cole Plumstead.

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

Approval of the March 16, 2021 minutes as amended.

Moved by Maureen Marsden and seconded by Robert Dobie.

All in Favor. Ayes-4, Noes -0

Supervisors Financial Report

As of March 31, 2021

Checking Accounts

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|---------------|
| Town of North Hudson Checking | 0.10% | \$ 768,216.77 |
|-------------------------------|-------|---------------|

| | | |
|--------------|---------------|--|
| General Fund | \$ 735,246.77 | |
|--------------|---------------|--|

| | | |
|---------------|--------------|--|
| Fire District | \$ 32,970.00 | |
|---------------|--------------|--|

| | | |
|-----------------------|-------|---------------|
| Highway Fund Checking | 0.10% | \$ 711,217.99 |
|-----------------------|-------|---------------|

| | | |
|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| Total All Funds | | \$ 1,479,434.76 |
|-----------------|--|-----------------|

Old Business

A. Website

Supervisor DeZalia is still in process of reviewing work done on the North Hudson Website by Paradox Consulting. At this time, we still are not able to upload the 2021 minutes to 2021, they are temporarily being placed under 2020. A The Accessibility Statement to satisfy the American Disability Act was submitted by Supervisor DeZalia to Tom Williams. He revised it as the site does not comply with some of the stated compliance. He suggested that she speak with Sean in website development so he can explain the need for suggested updates and quarterly services. Supervisor DeZalia stressed her concern that setting up 2021 was not included in the final statement from them. As of now the Town has to continue to post everything under 2020 as 2021 cannot be accessed. She will try to have someone for the IT Department sit in on the call as it will get technical.

B. Speed Signs and Electric Sign

Supervisor DeZalia is still in the process of gathering estimates and information on the sign board and speed signs. The information will be given to the board when she receives it.

C. Public Employer Emergency Plan

The final draft of this plan was distributed to the Board members and Department heads. It was drafted using the County's Plan as a guide with guidance from NYSAC and AOT.

Resolution #39-2021

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING A PUBLIC EMPLOER
HEALTH EMERGENCY PLAN**

The following resolution was offered by Supervisor Stephanie DeZalia , who moved its adoption.

Upon the recommendation of the Supervisor, and the same appearing proper and necessary.

WHEREAS, on September 7th, 2020, the Governor of the State of New York signed legislation requiring all public employers to create plans to adequately protect workers In the event of another state disaster emergency involving a communicable disease, and **WHEREAS**, the Town of North Hudson has developed such a plan in accordance with the amended New York State Law §27-c and New York State Education Law Paragraphs K and I of subdivision 2 of § 2801-a (as amended by section 1 of part B of chapter 56 of the laws of 2016); and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby adopts such plan and authorizes the Supervisor to execute and publish such plan in accordance with law.

No discussion.

This resolution was seconded by Councilman Dobie and duly adopted

Roll Call:

Councilman Marshall Gero- Aye
Councilman Robert Dobie - Aye
Councilwoman Maureen Marsden- Aye
Supervisor Stephanie DeZalia - Aye
Councilman Brian Caza- Absent

Supervisor DeZalia suggested the Fire Department should look into this as well as they may need to also adopt a similar plan. She did ask the County Attorney, Dan Tedford, about this, and he believes they may need to do so. It may depend upon the classification of Fire Department or Fire District.

D. Library Kiosk

Supervisor DeZalia was contacted by the Clinton Essex Franklin Library about setting up the Kiosk that was discussed in 2020. It had been approved at that time to set up a kiosk in the meeting room for the public to use and have access to the internet. It was explained to Supervisor DeZalia that they were using Surface Pro but probably install a Chrome Book at this location. Due to the pandemic it had been put on hold. Supervisor DeZalia noted there is a resident waiting for this service as she now travels to Schroon Lake Library to use their system. The Board was asked if they wanted to proceed at this time or wait another month. It was decided by the Board to wait one more month and then it would be with limited availability by appointment. The use of masks and sign in for contact tracing purposes will be required.

E. Elections

Supervisor DeZalia reminded anyone interested in running for public office of the new election calendar that can be found on the Essex County Board of Elections website. Designating petitions for the primary have already been done. Only Independent petitions are now being circulated. North Hudson will be having a primary this year in to be held in June. The Board of Elections toured the Town hall for possible use as a possible site for early voting and everything looked good. Supervisor DeZalia said this will be brought to the Board of Supervisors for a vote if approved.

F. Cannabis Legislation

Supervisor DeZalia spoke about the new Legislation on the legalization of Marijuana for recreational use. The Board received a copy of the NYSAC publication "*The Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act: A Summary*". The Personnel Committee will need to look at the current Drug and Alcohol Policy and make recommendations of updates needed as it pertains to this legislation. These recommendations will need to be discussed before a full Board for a vote on any amendments.

G. FEMA Property to Koller

The Town Attorney, John Silvestri, reviewed the deed to this property. The deed to this lot has numerous restrictions and can only be transferred to a public entity or qualified conservation organization. Supervisor DeZalia spoke with Larry Koller about these findings. She assured him at this point the Town has no immediate plans for the property but she could not indicate the same for any time in the future.

NEW BUSINESS

Department Reports

Highway – On March 23rd, 2021 at 9:30a.m. there was a meeting of the Highway Committee. Highway Superintendent Duntley, Essex County Highway Superintendent Jim Dougan, Supervisor DeZalia, Councilman Dobie, Councilwoman Marsden, Councilman Caza, Councilman Gero and the Town Clerk were all in attendance. Discussions included the County snow and ice contract and future options, various Highway Department reports, pending projects, the need for communication between departments, the Town Spring roadside cleanup and Essex County Hazardous Waste Days. Minutes of this Highway Committee meeting were taken and are available on the Town's website.

The boiler at the Highway garage failed inspection by the Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection and Insurance Company. They indicated a new shut off type of mechanism needs to be installed. It apparently is something newly required since the last inspection. Superintendent Duntley contacted Mountain Petroleum. They first installed the incorrect one then the correct part a few days later. An appointment for a new inspection has been scheduled.

Codes Department-

Codes Officer Jon Senecal has submitted his quarterly report, The Board all have a copy in their mailbox. Supervisor DeZalia has not received any updates on open complaints. The board was given a copy of the Permit and Application Fee Schedule Comparison done by Mr. Hughes, Supervisor Town of Essex. The Board was in agreement that the North Hudson fees are sufficient and are not requiring a change.

Supervisors Clerk- Cassandra D’Agostino has notified all employees about completing the Annual Mandatory Sexual Harassment training. She has been holding sessions and there are still some employees who need to complete this required training.

Transfer Station- Landfill attendant Tony Venner contacted Supervisor DeZalia regarding 3 televisions turned in by a resident who had picked them up on the side of Blue Ridge Road. Mr. Venner got the residents’ information for Supervisor DeZalia to contact. They will be taken to the Schroon Lake transfer station for proper disposal. Supervisor DeZalia took a moment to point out her disgust in the amount of garbage that is being thrown on the side of the roads in North Hudson. She indicated that she counted 52 liquor bottles and at least 25 Dunkin cups all within 1/8th of a mile on Route 9. She stated *“it makes me wonder about where the sense of pride in our community has gone. There is no consideration for the environment, the wildlife and the people who have to clean it up.”* Supervisor DeZalia indicated that it may be time for the Beatification Committee to put forth a plan or possible have a Community Wide Volunteer Day to gather together to clean up. She stressed the need to come up with a solution. She has reached out again to DOT about placing Litter Fine Signs along that stretch of Route 9.

Courts- The Court has put in a request for \$ 362.00 to balance out the Courts bank account. It was explained that \$218.00 was from a fraud in May of 2014, \$18.00 is for foreign exchange fee the bank did not cover. \$126.00 is an error with the nCourt program used by the Court. It was noted that if this error is corrected that amount will be returned to the Town.

Resolution # 40 of 2021

Resolution to authorize the Supervisor to pay the Town Court the amount of \$362.00. To reconcile their account from a 2014 fraud case, a foreign exchange and an nCourt error.

So moved by Councilwoman Marsden Seconded by Councilman Dobie

Roll Call:

Councilman Marshall Gero- Aye
Councilman Robert Dobie - Aye
Councilwoman Maureen Marsden- Aye
Supervisor Stephanie DeZalia - Aye
Councilman Brian Caza- Absent

Town Clerk- The Clerk is trying to get missing oath of Offices caught up as some are missing. The NY State Retirement System has asked for the Resolutions for all paid elected and appointed officials. A ROA (record of activities) who do not participate in the time sheet system must be done to calculate retirement benefits. There were some that were never submitted, some missing and some that were never done. The NYSLRS sent the Clerk a letter listing the employees that need this done. All employees were notified. One person on the list is an hourly employee and therefore not required to do a ROA.

Resolution # 41 of 2021

Be it Resolved that the Town of North Hudson hereby establish the following standard work day for the following titles and will report the officials to the NYSLRS based on their ROA.

Supervisor Stephanie DeZalia -6 hours
Highway Superintendent Kevin Duntley-8 hours
Town Clerk Martha M King-6 hours
Town Councilman Brian Caza-6 hours
Moved by Councilwoman Marsden seconded by Councilman Gero

Roll Call:

Councilman Marshall Gero- Aye
Councilman Robert Dobie - Aye
Councilwoman Maureen Marsden- Aye
Supervisor Stephanie DeZalia - Aye
Councilman Brian Caza- Absent

B. County Reports-

The Board of Elections reported there are going to be primary elections in 10 towns in Essex County. North Hudson being one of them.

Don Jaquish, Director of Essex County Emergency Services has announced his retirement.

Essex County Public Health Department has announced this year's Rabies Clinic dates and locations.

Public Health vaccination pods are being held frequently. Their schedule for these is listed on their website and Facebook page.

Department of Public Works and the Treasures Office hours will be going to 8am to 4 pm for May, June, July and August.

Supervisor DeZalia reminded everyone that appointments are still required by DMV.

Soil and Water are starting to Hydro Seeding. She has contacted them to see if the bank by the Town Hall can be done stating it will help with the erosion and water runoff from the bank.

C. Social Services Work Program

Supervisor DeZalia was contacted by Jen Rafferty, Essex County Department of Social Services, to see if the Town of North Hudson would like to provide work experience projects. This could possibly include someone performing community service and also provide work experience for people in receipt of TANF, Safety Net and or SNAP benefits. This would provide work experience for people in our community and be paid for out of Federal Temporary Assistance Funds, Safety Net funds or SNAP Employment and Training funds. Supervisor DeZalia added that this sounds like a good idea but expressed concern about the timing of doing this due to COVID. There would be a contract involved to be a sponsor agent. The Board would like to wait a month or two and revisit this.

D. Summer North Country Living Magazine

Publication deadline for the Summer 2021 Edition is approaching, the cost of this add is \$267.00. The Board agreed to place the ad with some updates.

Resolution # 42 of 2021

Resolved to place an ad in the Summer 2021 North County Living Magazine at a cost of \$ 267.00.

Motion by Councilman Dobie seconded by Maureen Marsden

Roll Call:

Councilman Marshall Gero- Aye

Councilman Robert Dobie - Aye
Councilwoman Maureen Marsden- Aye
Supervisor Stephanie DeZalia - Aye
Councilman Brian Caza- Absent

E. Liquor License Application

Supervisor DeZalia informed the Town Board that we received the 30-day Advance Notice to Municipality from the NYS Liquor Authority for the new application by the new owners of Paradise Pines Campground. The Applicant name is: Billy Sunday's General Store LLC. The new owners are FGC Paradise Pines Investors LLC out of Austin Texas.

Resolution # 43 of 2021

The following was offered by Supervisor DeZalia.

Resolution of gratitude to Mike and Gina Lenhard for their commitment of 30 years of business in the Town of North Hudson. During this time, they employed numerous youth in our community. They also held and contributed to various charity events. The Town Board extends a Congratulations to them on their well-deserved retirement. This resolution was seconded unanimously.

Roll Call:

Councilman Marshall Gero- Aye
Councilman Robert Dobie - Aye
Councilwoman Maureen Marsden- Aye
Supervisor Stephanie DeZalia - Aye
Councilman Brian Caza- Absent

F. Beach

Supervisor DeZalia received the 2021 Monitoring and Reporting application for the Town Beach water supply. It appears to have more paperwork this year to be done on a monthly basis. She noted there are some changes as to when the samples can be taken And frequency. She will start the application process and set things up with Endyne to set up first water testing. She is still waiting for guidance on the daily multiple cleanings. Under normal conditions the Beach opens at the end of June. Advertising for lifeguards be done. It was noted that other area towns were also seeking lifeguards. There is a Lifeguard training was taking place in May instead of February. Supervisor DeZalia noted the need to do the contract for the gate again. She did not anticipate any problem with the opening of the Town Beach.

G. Vouchers

Supervisor DeZalia reminded all officials and employees to submit their travel expenses, mileage, or reimbursement receipts within 60 days of travel or the expense. She noted it is stated in Resolution # 14 of 2021 and the employee handbook as well.

H. Frontier Town Tour

Supervisor DeZalia took a group of officials on a tour of Mo's place, Frontier Town Properties and Paradox Brewery. Katie Protronis, from the Executive Division Governor's office and 3 other people from the Governor's office with her, one being from a department that oversees Adirondack issues and projects. Supervisor DeZalia noted that particular woman had never been to the Adirondacks before and was amazed and

impressed with all that was going on here. She stated that she never could have envisioned all this without seeing it firsthand.

They went on to also visit Adirondack Mountain Reserve, visit some trailheads, Mt. Van Hovenburgh and some of the Lake Placid Olympic venues.

General and Highway Abstracts

Motion to approve the General and Highway Fund abstracts by Marshall Gero and seconded by Maureen Marsden.

All in Favor

Ayes-4

Noes -0

Absent -1

8. Judges Report

Motion to approve the Judges report by Councilman Gero and seconded by Councilman Dobie.

All in Favor

Ayes-4

Noes-0

Absent -1

Privilege of the Floor

William Plumsted addressed the Board about the NHVFD holding the Car Show again this year. He inquired on behalf of the FD for the use of the parking lot for the NHVFD Car Show. Supervisor DeZalia discussed various NYS COVID regulations that need to be followed for large gatherings and large events including social distancing, the use of face masks and contact tracing. She offered a list of websites to Mr. Plumstead that would be useful to the FD to gather the needed information in holding such a social public gathering. The possibility of the Fire Department having a food truck service for the Car Show was discussed as well. Supervisor DeZalia inquired if there were any other dates and months the car show could be held. Supervisor DeZalia asked why it could not be pushed into the fall. She also asked him for alternative dates. Mr. Plumstead replied the event was run by volunteers and he thought this seemed to be when most volunteers would be available. Mr. Plumstead was going to go the next Fire Department meeting with this information and will come back to the Board with possible dates and a plan. Supervisor DeZalia stated that as long as he could provide a plan and the proper documentation she did not foresee an issue.

Mr. Plumstead stated he did not receive a return phone call from the building/ Zoning inspector. He also stated his email was not answered. Mr. Senecal will be reminded to return his call.

Mr. Plumstead asked if North Hudson has a law on littering. He commented on the amount of garbage on the sides of the roads in Town.

Mr. Plumstead inquired when the NHVFD and the EMS contracts are done. He believes it was done late this year. He stated the Fire Department counts on that money in January as that is when their biggest expenses are due.

Mr. Plumstead questioned whether the Town of North Hudson contract say with EMS for BLS (Basic Life Support) or ALS (Advanced Life Support) services? He further explained the difference in what could and could not be performed by each.

No further discussion from the floor.

Executive Session

Councilman Dobie moved to go into executive Session for a personal matter at 7:10pm.
Seconded by Councilwoman Marsden.

Motion to return from Executive session at 8:20pm by Councilman Dobie and seconded
by Councilwoman Marsden.

Supervisor DeZalia will speak with the employee tomorrow and discuss the finishing of
the employees' probation and stipulations of the employees' employment.

No other action was taken.

Meeting adjourned by Councilman Dobie and seconded by Councilman Gero.

Respectfully Submitted

Martha M. King

Town Clerk