

TOWN OF BRIGHTON, FRANKLIN COUNTY, NEW YORK  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 9, 2018

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The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Brighton was held Thursday, August 9, 2018, at 7 pm at the Brighton Town Hall, Paul Smiths, NY, with the following:

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Meeting was Called to Order by Supervisor Peter Shrope at 7 pm  
“Pledge to the Flag” was recited.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

PRESENT: Supervisor Peter Shrope

Council Members: Brian McDonnell, Amber McKernan, Steve Tucker, and Lydia Wright

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Paul Blaine-Code Enforcement Officer, Andy Crary-Superintendent of Highways, and Elaine Sater-Town Clerk

GUEST: Scott Goldie, Attorney for the Town

**NOTICE OF MEETING:**

Notice of this meeting was posted on the Town Clerk’s Sign Board.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion made to GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 7:02 pm, was made by Supervisor Peter Shrope for the purpose of discussion related to litigation due to a “Notice of Claim” from a resident in accordance with Public Officers Law Article 7, Section 105(d); second by Brian McDonnell. The Attorney for the Town Scott Goldie, Town Officials, and one citizen in attendance at the meeting were invited to stay in the room. Aye 5 (McDonnell, McKernan, Shrope, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0

Motion made to GO OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION at 7:15pm by Supervisor Peter Shrope, Second by Lydia Wright, Aye 5 (McDonnell, McKernan, Shrope, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0

**RESOLUTION # 57-2018**

**ATTORNEY FOR THE TOWN TO FOLLOW THROUGH ON “NOTICE OF CLAIM”**

Motion made by Supervisor Peter Shrope, second by Amber McKernan,

WHEREAS the Town has received a “Notice of Claim” from a resident and

WHEREAS the Town’s insurance company has sent a letter of denial to the resident,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board authorizes the Attorney for the Town Scott Goldie to follow through with contacting the insurance company for further information and possible action.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye 5 (McDonnell, McKernan, Shrope, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0**

**Resolution # 57 declared duly adopted**

**REPORTS**

1. Highway Department - Andy Crary
  - a. Mowed and weed whacked Cemeteries and Town Hall lawns
  - b. Hauled tar for the Town of Franklin
  - c. Chipping downfall from storms on Keese Mille Road for the past 3 weeks
  - d. Cleaned beaver sticks out of culvert on Split Rock Road
  - e. Cold patched hole on Tebbutt Road
  - f. Received information on plow skin, funding will come from settlement from insurance company for plow damage and guard rail damage. Final cost to Town for plow skin will be \$387.85.

**RESOLUTION #58-2018**

**SKIN FOR PLOW**

Motion made by Supervisor Peter Shrope, second by Steve Tucker,

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WHEREAS the plow on the International truck was damaged during the winter and an entire assembly was paid for by the insurance company, and

WHEREAS the Superintendent of Highways has the parts from the damaged plow that just needs the steel cover "skin",

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board authorizes the Superintendent of Highways to purchase a new "skin" of steel from Viking Cives for the amount of \$2,985.25 to provide for a backup plow.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye 5 (McDonnell, McKernan, Shrope, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0  
Resolution #58 declared duly adopted**

2. Town Clerk- Elaine Sater:
  - a. Total Revenue to Supervisor as of July 31, 2018, was \$79.88 for: 2 Sport Licenses, 3 Certified Copies, 1 Dog License renewed, and 1 Building Permit (#18-017)
  - b. TOWN HALL REQUEST: None
  - c. TOWN PARK REQUEST: Monday, September 3, Saranac Lake Baptist Church, 12-3:30pm
  - d. RECORDS MANAGEMENT: Finished indexing minutes from 1935-1950, working on 1965-67
3. Historian - Elaine Sater: In 1965 the position of Town Historian was created and \$25 was budgeted for supplies
4. Tax Collector - Holly Huber: Nothing to Report  
The Tax Collector's Audit of Financial Records for 2018 was postponed by Tax Collector
5. Town Justice - Nik Santagate: Report received prior to meeting  
Supervisor Peter Shrope received a check in the amount of \$5,168 and the Town Justice reported he disposed of 42 cases for the month of July.
6. Code Enforcement Officer (CEO) - Paul Blaine: Report received prior to meeting
  - a. One (1) Building Permits (BP#18-017) was issued in July
  - b. One (1) Certificate of Compliance for BP#17-034 issued
  - c. Will be taking a 10 day vacation during August, his assistant from Village of Saranac Lake Code Enforcement Office will cover his office hours
7. Assessor- Roseanne Gallagher: Nothing to Report
8. Animal Control - Tri Lakes Humane Society: No report
9. Supervisor - Peter Shrope:
  - a. Budget as of July 31, 2018, was provided to Board members:
    - i. Revenues for July: \$5,168 from Town Justice, \$79.88 from Town Clerk, \$22,288 from Franklin County for Snow and Ice contract, and \$58.70 refund from Maguire Ins Agency for new loader
    - ii. NYCLASS interest received for the General Fund was \$165.60, total in account is \$107,395.87 (\$20,000 or Town Hall) and Highway Fund was \$63.11, total in account \$40,928.56.

**ACCEPT/AMEND MINUTES**

**-Regular Board – July 12, 2018**

Motion made by Amber McKernan, second by Lydia Wright, to accept the minutes of the Regular Board meeting of July 12, 2018 as written, **Aye 5 (McDonnell, McKernan, Shrope, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0**

**-Special Board - July 23 2018**

Motion made by Brian McDonnell, second by Supervisor Peter Shrope, to accept the minutes of the Special Board meeting of July 23, 2018, with the following addition: Page 1, Notice of Meeting, Add: "on Friday, July 20 at 11:16am time stamp, **Aye 4 (McDonnell, McKernan, Shrope, Tucker), Nay 0, Abstain 1 (Wright)**

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**CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

**Amber McKernan:** Said she appreciates the time it takes the Town Clerk to do the minutes, as she did the minutes for the Special Meeting (July 23). She also mentioned the structure fire in a trailer in Gabriels last Thursday afternoon (August 2) right behind her house, the Paul Smiths-Gabriels Volunteer Fire Department responded quickly and she applauds them for knocking down the fire quickly. Other fire department trucks showed up to help also.

**BUSINESS**

1. **Osgood Pond Association - Invasive Species Steward:** David Leavitt, representative for the Osgood Pond Association asked if the Town would add an employee on the payroll to be an invasive species steward at the NYS DEC Osgood Pond landing on White Pine Road. He said the Osgood Pond Association would provide the funding but they could not pay a person directly. They also would like the Town to provide funds to help cover the cost of the position. They have been providing the funds to the Adirondack Watershed Institute (AWI) at Paul Smith's College. Supervisor Peter Shrope contacted Franklin County Civil Service to see if this was possible. The Town would have to pay taxes for payroll, deductions, and any benefits it provides employees. The person would also qualify for the Local and State Retirement System which the Town would have to pay for also. He also contacted the Association of Town's attorney but did not receive a response as of this meeting. Discussion was held on the benefits to the Town for keeping invasive species out of the lakes. There are stewards at Buck Pond for Rainbow Lake that are funded by the Rainbow Lake Association, Inc.
2. **September Meeting Date - Supervisor Peter Shrope:** Due to the Primary Election on Thursday September 13 the Board meeting will be moved to Tuesday, September 11 to start right after the Audit of the Tax Collector's Financial Records at 6:15pm. The Town Clerk will post a notice for this change.
3. **Town Park - Supervisor Peter Shrope:** The playground needs a new basketball backstop and hoop to replace the old one.

**RESOLUTION #59-2018**

**BASKETBALL BACKSTOP AND HOOP FOR PARK**

Motion made by Supervisor Peter Shrope, second by Amber McKernan,

RESOLVED that the Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to purchase a new basketball backstop and hoop for the Park Playground to replace the old one in an amount not to exceed \$700.00

**ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye 5 (McDonnell, McKernan, Shrope, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0**

**Resolution #59 declared duly adopted**

4. **CSEA Vision Benefits for Retirees - Supervisor Peter Shrope:** Received a Memorandum of Agreement from CSEA concerning retirees being able to continue Vision benefits at their own cost.

**RESOLUTION #60-2018**

**VISION BENEFITS CSEA MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT**

Motion made by Supervisor Peter Shrope, second by Brian McDonnell,

WHEREAS the Town's Highway employees receive Vision Benefits from the CSEA Employee Benefits Fund under the CSEA bargaining unit paid for by the Town which cease after they retire, and

WHEREAS, CSEA is agreeing to make available Vision benefits to retirees at no cost to the Town,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign a MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT with CSEA Employee Benefits Fund to amend the CSEA collective bargaining agreement to make available Vision benefits to retirees who meet certain criteria set forth in the agreement at no cost to the Town.

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**ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye 5 (McDonnell, McKernan, Shrope, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0**  
**Resolution #60 declared duly adopted**

5. **ROOST - Brain McDonnell:** Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism (ROOST) is signing a contract with Franklin County. There is a marketing plan work session open to the public for comments on Tuesday, August 21 in Saranac Lake. The bed tax revenue for the County is up 40% .

**COMMITTEES:**

**Park and Recreation - Peter Shrope and Amber McKernan:** The dead trees need to be removed. Supervisor Peter Shrope will look at them again. Amber McKernan noticed people trying to get into the buildings; they should be checked for secure doors/windows.

**CITIZENS COMMENTS:** None

**AUDIT OF VOUCHERS:**

**RESOLUTION #61 -2018**  
**PAYMENT OF AUDITED VOUCHERS AS LISTED ON THE ABSTRACTS**

Motion made by Amber McKernan, second by Brian McDonnell,

RESOLVED that the Supervisor be authorized to pay the audited vouchers as listed on the abstracts as follows:

PREPAID FUNDS: Abstract #8 for Voucher #8A through and including #8C for 2018 General Funds in the amount of \$432.95 and STREET LIGHTING FUNDS in the amount of \$53.90

GENERAL FUND: Abstract #9 for Voucher #138 through and including #150 for 2018 funds in the amount of \$2,664.70

HIGHWAY FUND: Abstract #10 for Voucher #84 through and including #90 for 2018 funds in the amount of \$2,651.35

**ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye 5 (McDonnell, McKernan, Shrope, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0**  
**Resolution #61 declared duly adopted**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to Adjourn the meeting at 8:24 pm made by Amber McKernan, second by Lydia Wright, Aye 5 (McDonnell, McKernan, Shrope, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine W. Sater  
Brighton Town Clerk