

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

September 12, 2019

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The Regular Meeting for the Town Board of the Town of Brighton, Franklin County, NY, was held Thursday, September 12, 2019, at 7:00pm at the Brighton Town Hall, 12 County Road 31, Paul Smiths, NY, with the following:

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting was Called to Order by Supervisor Peter Shrope at 7:00pm

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, Elaine Sater-Town Clerk and 2 residents

GUESTS: None

NOTICE OF MEETING:

Notice of this meeting was posted on the Town Clerk's Sign Board and in three local post offices.

REPORTS

1. **Highway - Andy Crary, Superintendent of Highways:** Report provided prior to meeting
 - a. Mowed Town Hall, Garage and cemeteries
 - b. Had flat tire, had to purchase 2 new tires for the 2013 International
 - c. Fixed stop signs on two roads
 - d. Paved Split Rock Road, cost came in under estimate
 - e. Hauled tar for towns of St. Armand and Tupper Lake and Village of Tupper Lake
 - f. Welded crack in plow
 - g. Chipped entrances to some roads
 - h. Picked up flags in cemeteries for winter
 - i. New employee Chris Reid started work on 9/3/2019
 - j. Other employee is out on sick leave for three months
 - k. Filed for CHIPS funding
 - l. Ordered 250 tons of salt for winter
 - m. Contacted Trudeau Sand and Gravel to start screening sand for winter roads
 - n. Need to order new wing, controls, and parts for 2013 International truck, can get from Viking for about \$7,500.

RESOLUTION #45-2019

AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE NEW WING, CONTROLS, AND PARTS FROM VIKING

Motion made by Amber McKernan, second by Lydia Wright,

RESOLVED that the Superintendent of Highways be authorized to purchase a wing and controls and parts from Viking for the 2013 International Truck Not to Exceed \$7,500

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

Resolution #45 declared duly adopted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made to GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION by Supervisor Peter Shrope at 7:13pm in accordance with Public Officers Law, Article 7, Section 105, Para (f), to discuss the employment history of a particular person, the

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people in the room were invited to attend; second by Amber McKernan.

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

Motion made by Brian McDonnell, second by Steve Tucker, that the Supervisor be authorized to look into the cost of obtaining clothing with a stipend from IBC, Inc. in Malone.

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

Motion made by Supervisor Peter Shrope to GO OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION at 7:28pm, second by Amber McKernan.

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

2. **Town Clerk - Elaine Sater:** Report provided prior to meeting
 - a. Total Revenue to Supervisor as of August 31, 2019 was \$235.00 from 2 Sport Licenses, 1 dog license renewed, 4 Building Permits (#19-022 thru 025) and 1 Notary signature
 - b. Town Clerk's office will be closed from Tuesday, September 17 thru Thursday, September 26; it will reopen on Tuesday, October 1. Supervisor Peter Shrope will pick up the mail on Tuesday and Thursday.
 - c. TOWN HALL REQUESTS: Monday, August 26, Rainbow Lake Water Protection District, 9 to 11am.
 - d. TOWN PARK REQUEST: None
 - e. RECORDS MANAGEMENT: Completed indexing Vol 7 Minutes covering 1971 and 1972; shredding records from 2012 as per MU-1 retention schedule.
3. **Historian - Elaine Sater:** Report given at meeting
Will be attending the Franklin County History Day on October 5, will take the posters and copies of old minutes
4. **Tax Collector - Holly Huber:** No report received
5. **Justice - Nik Santagate:** Report provided prior to meeting
Supervisor received a check in the amount of \$3,074.00 for 24 cases disposed during August
6. **Code Enforcement Officer - Paul Blaine:** Report provided prior to meeting
 - a. Four (4) building permits (BP #19-022 thru 025) were issued during August
 - b. Issued one (1) Certificate of Compliance for BP#18-019
 - c. Still having issues with new computer and software update, may have to look into a different software program as fees are going up
 - d. Will be out of the office September 26 and October 3, will have coverage during that timeThe Town Board members have received several complaints concerning a derelict property and asked the Code Enforcement Office if he was aware of it. He said he will look into it, people should send their complaints directly to him.
7. **Assessor - Rosanne Gallagher:** Report provided prior to meeting
Received several calls concerning the increase in school taxes. New York State Real Property Tax Services does a "market value survey" every four or five years, which is completed if a reevaluation is not done in the Town. This is the "equalization rate" that was set at 74% for the Town.
8. **Animal Control - Tri-Lakes Humane Society:** Nothing to report
9. **Supervisor - Peter Shrope:** Report provided prior to meeting
 - a. Charter Communications: Received a notice dated September 6, 2019, that rates are going up October 6 for services and equipment for Spectrum cable TV
 - b. Census 2020: Sent in 71 corrections to property records, received information back and reviewing changes
 - c. Frontier Telephone Issues: Received a call from Andrea Dumas, County Legislature, concerning safety issues with poor maintenance service from Frontier.
 - d. Budget Report: Report as of August 31, 2019, was provided to Board members

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- e. Revenues: \$23.89 from Franklin County for stumpage fees, \$3,074 from Town Justice, and \$235 from Town Clerk
- f. NYCLASS Investments: Interest for August was \$196.56 for General, Total Amount \$109,938.47 (\$20,000 for Town Hall), and \$74.91 for Highway, Total Amount \$41,897.64.

MINUTES AMENDMENT/ACCEPTANCE

- Minutes of Regular Board Meeting August 8, 2019

Motion made by Amber McKernan, second by Supervisor Peter Shrope, to accept the minutes of the August 8, 2019, Regular Board meeting with the following change: Page 5, Adjournment, Change second by "Lydia Wright" to "Supervisor Peter Shrope".

ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye 4 (McDonnell, McKernan, Shrope, Tucker), Nay 0, Abstain 1 (Wright)

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None

BUSINESS

1. **Franklin Snowmobilers Contract - Supervisor Peter Shrope:** Received a contract for 2019 for grooming snowmobile trails in the Town.

RESOLUTION #46-2019

CONTRACT FOR GROOMING SNOWMOBILE TRAILS IN TOWN

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

RESOLVED that the Supervisor be authorized to sign a contract with Franklin Snowmobilers, Inc., of Lake Clear for grooming snowmobile trails in the Town of Brighton during the 2019-2020 winter season, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Supervisor be authorized to pay the amount of \$300.00 for this service for 2019.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye 5 (McDonnell, McKernan, Shrope, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0
Resolution #46 declared duly adopted.**

2. **ADKAction Road Salt Use - Supervisor Peter Shrope:** Received a request for a letter to be sent to NYSDOT concerning the use of Road Salt as a deicing practice in the Adirondacks.

Supervisor Peter Shrope made a motion to send a letter to the New York State Department of Transportation in Albany addressing the use of road salt as a deicing practice in the Adirondacks, second by Lydia Wright, Aye 5 (McDonnell, McKernan, Shrope, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0

3. **AATV-Tree Cutting - Brian McDonnell:** Received a statement from the Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages concerning a court determination concerning the definition of "timber". The court determined that timber was any tree, seedling, or sapling, not just those 3inches in diameter or larger, as has been the policy of NYS Department of Environmental Conservation for purposes of maintaining trails in the Forest Preserve.
4. **Park Trees - Amber McKernan:** There are more trees that should be looked at in the Town Park. Supervisor Peter Shrope will contact Randall Swanson to see if he would be able to remove them. Amber McKernan and Supervisor Peter Shrope will mark the trees they think need removal.
5. **Adirondack Daily Enterprise 125th Anniversary - Supervisor Peter Shrope:** Received an invitation to provide an ad to recognize the Adirondack Daily Enterprise on its 125th Anniversary.

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RESOLUTION 47-2019

PURCHASE AN ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE 125th ANNIVERSARY OF THE ADE

Motion made by Supervisor Peter Shrope, second by Lydia Wright,

RESOLVED that the Supervisor be authorized to purchase a 3X5in advertisement in the Adirondack Daily Enterprise to recognize its 125th Anniversary in the amount of \$256.50.

**ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye 5 (McDonnell, McKernan, Shrope, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0
Resolution #47-2019 declared duly adopted.**

6. **Park Property Survey - Supervisor Peter Shrope:** No response yet, will resend request
7. **Staining Town Hall - Supervisor Peter Shrope:** Completed and looks good
8. **Website - Amber McKernan:** Attended on “on-line” seminar for more information on ADA compliance for access to website documents. The Town needs a “plan” to determine what level of access is needed, how to address any lawsuits, and what level of pricing the Town needs. The company providing the seminar has an \$80 per hour charge for accessibility. The Town needs to determine how many “hits” each document gets. Supervisor Peter Shrope and Amber McKernan will meet to discuss this issue further.

COMMITTEES

1. **Adirondack Regional Airport - Amber McKernan/Tom McKernan:** The Pumpkin Festival is scheduled for September 21 on the East Ramp.
2. **Park - Amber McKernan/Supervisor Peter Shrope:** The port-a-potty will be removed on October 31.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Supervisor Peter Shrope to GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 8:35pm in accordance with Public Offices Law, Article 7, Section 105, Para a, to discuss a public safety issue, second by Brian McDonnell .
ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye 5 (McDonnell, McKernan, Shrope, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0

Motion made by Supervisor Peter Shrope to GO OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION at 9:00pm, second by Amber McKernan

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

BUDGET 2020 MEETING:

Supervisor Peter Shrope requested a Special Meeting be held on Thursday, October 17, at 5pm to discuss the Tentative Budget for 2020. Budget sheets should be in by September 20th from all departments so the Budget Officer can prepare the Tentative 2020 Budget.

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AUDIT OF VOUCHERS:

RESOLUTION #48-2019

PAYMENT OF AUDITED VOUCHERS AS LISTED ON THE ABSTRACTS

Motion made by Amber McKernan, second by Lydia Wright,

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

PREPAID FUNDS: Abstract #9 for Voucher #9A through 9C for 2019 General Funds in the amount of \$440.54, and Voucher #9C for STREET LIGHTING 2019 FUND in the amount of \$58.76,

GENERAL FUND: Abstract #9 for Voucher #144 through and including #161 for 2019 General funds in the amount of \$8,829.29,

HIGHWAY FUND: Abstract #9 for Voucher #75 through and including #84 for 2019 funds in the amount of \$31,719.63

**ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye 5 (McDonnell, McKernan, Shrope, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0
Resolution #48 declared duly adopted.**

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn at 9:06pm made by Amber McKernan, second by Lydia Wright, Aye 5 (McDonnell, McKernan, Shrope, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine W. Sater, RMC
Brighton Town Clerk