

**TOWN OF BRIGHTON – FRANKLIN COUNTY, NEW YORK
REGULAR BOARD MEETING – OCTOBER 11, 2012**

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The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Brighton was held Thursday, October 11, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. at the Brighton Town Hall, Paul Smiths, NY, with the following:

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting was Called to Order by Supervisor Peter Shrope at 7:00 p.m.
Pledge to the Flag was recited

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

PRESENT: Supervisor Peter Shrope

Council Members: David Knapp, Brian McDonnell, Steve Tucker and Lydia Wright

ABSENT: None

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

RESIDENTS: There were three residents present

GUESTS: None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. HIGHWAY – Andy Crary: Report submitted prior to meeting

a. Report:

- i.** Screening of sand is all done
- ii.** New radios installed for trucks, loader and base station
- iii.** Fixed patch in front of gas/fuel shed.
- iv.** Hauled crusher run to Slush Pond Road, almost completed
- v.** Attended Franklin County Highway meeting in Malone
- vi.** Cleaned out culverts on Keese Mills Road near the horse barn
- vii.** Installed a new Keese Mills Road sign, to replace stolen one

Brian McDonnell recommended letting Paul Smith's College security know about the sign so they can be on the lookout for it.

- viii.** Need to order salt
- ix.** Need to order 2 sets of carbides for plows
- x.** Purchased a leaf blower for the park
- xi.** Superintendent will be off next week

2. TOWN CLERK – Elaine Sater: Report submitted prior to meeting

- a.** Total Revenue to Supervisor as of September 30, 2012, was \$186.54 from 1 NYS DEC Sport Licenses, 2 Certified Copies, 9 Dog Licenses (5 new and 4 renewed, 2 deceased); and 2 Building Permits (#12-018 and 019).
- b.** September 27 posted notices at local post offices and businesses for Special Board meetings on October 4 and 18 at 6 p.m. Notice was published in the Adirondack Daily Enterprise on September 27 and October 4.
- c.** TOWN HALL REQUEST: Wednesday, September 26, Franklin County Traffic Safety Board, 10 am to 12:30 pm
- d.** TOWN PARK REQUEST: Saturday, September 23 and October 6, Paul Smith's College Rugby, 10 to 5 pm; Sunday, October 28, DeDivitis Family, 1 to 4:30 pm
- e.** Records Management: Nothing to report

3. TAX COLLECTOR – Holly Huber: No report received

4. TOWN JUSTICE – Nik Santagate: Report submitted prior to meeting.

Supervisor Peter Shrope received a check in the amount of \$3861.00 for fees and fines from the Justice with a list of 61 cases disposed for the month of September 2012.

5. CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER (CEO) – Paul Blaine: Report submitted prior to meeting.

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- a. **Report:**
 - i. **Building Permits (BPs):** 2 BPs (#12-018 and 019) were issued
 - ii. **Certificate of Occupancy (CO)/Compliance (CC) Issued:** One CO issued for BP #11-022
 - iii. **Avoidable Alarm Complaints:** Received 6 complaints, all completed
 - b. Two new houses are going in, one on Vosburgh Road and in the Spring, one on Rainbow Lake Road; there is also a complete renovation on Split Rock Road
6. **ASSESSOR – Douglas Tichenor:** No Report received
7. **HISTORIAN - Mary Ellen Salls:** No Report received
8. **TOWN PARK – Dan Spencer:** Report submitted prior to meeting
- a. **Report**
 - i. Still cleaning up pine needles and picking up piles
 - ii. Working with food pantry taking care of trash, there was a lot more this time
 - iii. Working with soccer, helping any way he can
 - iv. Working with rugby players, talked to them about putting dirt back in holes so soccer children didn't hurt themselves stepping in holes.
 - v. Received new leaf blower, thanks to Andy (Crary, Superintendent of Highways)
 - vi. The new grills are in and the swings and chains are up
 - vii. Haven't heard any more about garage breakin
 - viii. Will be taking certified first responder course till the end of December to refresh and update training.
 - ix. Usage by day recorded on calendar
9. **FOOD PANTRY – Barb Marshall:** Report submitted prior to meeting
- a. Served 203 families, 630 individuals.
 - b. Watt meter for electric service will be installed shortly.
 - c. Volunteers will be putting up a door to block the excess heat from outside. Area does not need to be heated above 55 degrees. The refrigerator/freezers will work more efficiently as well.
 - d. Com-Links (in Malone) has officially closed it doors. There will no longer be food items from them. They provided a great service and will be missed. They lost state funding but she is hopeful whoever takes over will reinstate the good they did for so many.
10. **ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER (Tri-Lakes Humane Society):** No report received
11. **SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**
- a. **Financial Report:** Budget showing revenues and expenses as of September 30, 2012, was distributed to Board members.
 - b. **Report:**
 - i. **ADKCAP Clim-Aid:** On September 24 attended a presentation at the Wild Center in Tupper Lake concerning climate changes. Towns need to be aware of how climate change may affect them. The highway departments were asked to inventory culverts in case of major flooding, not as much a problem in Brighton as in more mountainous towns like Keene and Jay in Essex County.
 - ii. **AARCH Heritage Award Ceremony:** On September 25 attended an awards ceremony in Lake George, the Town received an award for the restoration of the Town Hall completed in 2012. Gave a Power Point presentation on the project with the help of Pat Willis and Kevan Moss. Carl Stearns, the Preservation Architect, also attended.
 - iii. **Time Warner Cable:** TWC sent a request for support for a grant; funding is available for the "Last Mile Broadband". Sent a letter of support for the Paul Smiths to McColloms/Meacham Lake line since the Board has discussed this in the past and is in favor of it.
 - iv. **Local Government Day:** On October 9 attended an all day session in Potsdam for local government officials. The Town Clerk Elaine Sater also attended. Topics covered were regional funding for local projects, FOIL and open meetings law. He saw evidence of "life long learning" in action as most of

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- the attendees were middle age and older.
- v. **Franklin County Supervisors Meeting:** Will be held Nov 1st Paul Smith's College, he plans to attend
 - vi. **Town Hall Grant:** Met with Gail Underhill-Plumb on Friday, October 5. Toured the Town Hall for the final walk through inspection of the Town Hall project. He asked about the reimbursement funding as the BAN is due in November and there are no funds to pay it off. She will check to see if we are in the October payment cycle. Before and after pictures of the building for the final report are completed. The Senator Little grant will be reimbursed as soon as the State releases funds to her bank account.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Regular Board Meeting – September 20, 2012

Motion made by Supervisor Peter Shrope, **second** by David Knapp, **to adopt the minutes of the Regular Town Board meeting held on September 20, 2012, as written.**

Roll Call Vote: Aye 5 (Knapp, McDonnell, Shrope Tucker, Wright), Nay 0

- Special Board Meeting – October 4, 2012

Motion made by Supervisor Peter Shrope, **second** by David Knapp, **to adopt the minutes of the Special Board meeting as written with the following error corrected: Page 1 General Fund: Para 1 Appropriations, Youth Programs, “\$2000” is “\$1500” and “\$1500” is “\$1000” for SLAYP.**

Roll Call Vote: Aye 5 (Knapp, McDonnell, Shrope Tucker, Wright), Nay 0

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

Andrew Knapp – said he has been plowing for the last couple of winters and asked about the cut in the seasonal highway employee position. He has not heard that he would not be working and is depending on the job.

Sarah Knapp – said she came to the meeting to support her husband and was wondering about the job also.

Supervisor Peter Shrope said the Town has to work within the budget that it has and the Board will be discussing the Highway Budget at the next meeting on October 18, 2012, at 6 p.m. There are some restraints that need to be addressed. Superintendent Andy Cray is the one who hires the seasonal worker.

BUSINESS:

1. **Association of Senior Citizens in Franklin County - Supervisor Peter Shrope:** Received a letter from the Association of Senior Citizens in Franklin County, Nominating Committee, dated September 12, 2012. Their By-Laws call for the supervisor in each town in Franklin County to select a representative to serve on the Board of Directors of the Association for a three year term. Ruth Woodward has been representing the Town of Brighton and is willing to continue representing the Town. The Brighton Seniors also have a representative on the Board of Directors.

RESOLUTION #91

TOWN REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ASSOCIATION OF SENIOR CITIZENS OF FRANKLIN COUNTY

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

WHEREAS the Association of Senior Citizens in Franklin County have asked each Supervisor in Franklin County to select an interested, energetic and active representative from the Town to serve on its Board of Directors for a three year term in accordance with their By-Laws,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that **Ruth Woodward, a Brighton resident, is appointed to represent the Town of Brighton on the Board of Directors of the Association of Senior Citizens in Franklin County for a three year term 2013 to 2015.**

Roll Call Vote: Aye 5 (Knapp, McDonnell, Shrope, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0

RESOLUTION #91 declared duly adopted.

2. **Unsafe Building Local Law #1-1981 Violation - Supervisor Peter Shrope:** 652 Keese Mills Road property is

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in violation of the Town's Local Law #1-1981, Unsafe Buildings. Letter dated October 2, 2012, was served by certified mail with a signature receipt request to the property owner. A hearing has been set for Thursday, October 18 at 6:00 p.m.

3. Town Hall – Supervisor Peter Shrope:

- a. **BAN Loan:** Payment on BAN is due on November 16, if funds are not received from the grant the Town will have to refinance by paying off the current BAN interest of \$3,339.00. If refinanced the interest rate will be lower.
- b. **Roof Leak:** The roof leaked again in a different spot when it rained on Saturday. Supervisor Peter Shrope called Chad Quinn to request he provide an estimate to go over the whole roof and seal the screw heads.

4. CSEA Contract for Highway Employees – Supervisor Peter Shrope: Spoke with Glenn Perrino, shop steward for the CSEA Union, he has not received a new contract from the Union, discussed what the employees wanted and will discuss it at the Special Meeting on October 18, 2012.

5. Paul Smiths Gabriels Volunteer Fire Department (PSGVFD) – Supervisor Peter Shrope:

- a. **Budget and Contract:** Received a letter from the PSGVFD dated October 1, 2012, they are asking for a 2% increase to \$79,193.00 for 2013 and a three year contract with a 2% increase each year. No budget or contract was included with the letter.
- b. **Open House:** There will be an open house at the Fire Department on Saturday, October 13.

6. Hydraulic Fracturing *de facto* Moratorium Support - Supervisor Peter Shrope: Received an email from the Elected Officials to Protect NY, requesting the Town support sending a letter to Governor Cuomo to urge him to continue the *de facto* moratorium on hydraulic fracturing (“hydrofracking”) until studies are completed. No one else in Franklin Country had signed the letter when Supervisor Peter Shrope checked out the website.

RESOLUTION #92

SUPPORT FOR DE FACTO MORITORIUM ON HYDRAULIC FRATURING

Motion made by Brian McDonnell, second by Lydia Wright,

RESOLVED that the Town Board authorizes Supervisor Peter Shrope to add the Town of Brighton's name to the letter written by Elected Officials to Protect NY urging Governor Cuomo to continue the *de facto* moratorium on hydraulic fracturing in New York State until a health impact assessment, a revised socioeconomic study, and a cumulative impact study are completed.

Roll Call Vote: Aye 5 (Knapp, McDonnell, Shrope, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0

RESOLUTION #92 declared duly adopted.

7. Health Insurance for Elected Officials - Supervisor Peter Shrope: After much discussion over the past year the following resolution is being proposed concerning the Town paying for Health Insurance for elected officials.

RESOLUTION #93

HEALTH INSURANCE FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS

Motion made by Supervisor Peter Shrope, second by David Knapp,

WHEREAS the cost of health insurance continues to increase each year and has become too burdensome for the Town to continue paying for it for elected officials,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that effective January 1, 2013, elected officials starting new terms of office and working less than 20 days per month as reported to the New York State and Local Retirement System will no longer be eligible to receive health insurance or payments in lieu of health insurance (buyouts) that is provided by and paid for by the Town of Brighton, Franklin County, NY.

Roll Call Vote: Aye 5 (Knapp, McDonnell, Shrope, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0

RESOLUTION #93 declared duly adopted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. HIGHWAY - David Knapp and Steve Tucker:

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CSEA Contract: David Knapp asked if the Board would be sitting down with the CSEA representative and highway employees to discuss a new contract. Supervisor Peter Shrope said he would ask Glenn Perrino, the Shop Steward.

2. **ADIRONDACK REGIONAL AIRPORT - Thomas McKernan and David Knapp:** Nothing to report
3. **PARK & RECREATION - Steve Tucker and Peter Shrope:**
 - a. **TREE REMOVAL:** Paul Smith's College professor Randall Swanson will have his class cut the trees that need to be removed on Monday, November 5, from 1 to 5 p.m. The Town will be responsible to remove the wood. The Highway Department will plan to clean up the wood on Wednesday, Nov 7 if they don't need to plow the roads. It will be used to fill in the holes behind the Town Garage. The College will need a Certificate of Liability.
 - b. **GARBAGE:** David Knapp asked why there is a lot of garbage at the Park. There was no food pantry today.
4. **INSURANCE/INVESTMENTS - David Knapp and Lydia Wright:**

NYSCLASS: Interest was \$2.60 for General and \$1.24 for Highway, Total \$3.84
5. **CEMETERY& TOWN BUILDINGS - David Knapp and Steve Tucker:**

Town Hall:

 - i. New Light bulbs were received and put in, two more bulbs burnt out before this was completed.
 - ii. Chad Quinn said the whole roof needs to be replaced; he can replace the screws and put silicone in the holes to prevent it from leaking further for the winter.

RESOLUITON #94

EMERGENCY REPAIR OF TOWN HALL ROOF

Motion made by David Knapp, second by Lydia Wright,

WHEREAS the entire Town Hall was recently restored, and

WHEREAS during a heavy rainstorm the ceiling started to leak and needed an emergency repair, and

WHEREAS during the next rainstorm the ceiling leaked in another place,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Supervisor Peter Shrope be authorized to contract with Chad Quinn to inspect the entire roof, screw the metal down where needed, and seal it to prevent further damage to the recent restoration of the Town Hall.

Roll Call Vote: Aye 5 (Knapp, McDonnell, Shrope, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0

RESOLUTION #94 declared duly adopted.

6. **WEBSITE - Supervisor Peter Shrope:** Nothing to report
7. **TOWN HALL PROJECT/OPEN HOUSE: Supervisor Peter Shrope and Lydia Wright:** See Para 5, Cemetery & Town Buildings above
8. **ASSESSMENT- Brian McDonnell and Lydia Wright:** Nothing to report
9. **SALARIES/BENEFITS ADMIN - David Knapp and Supervisor Peter Shrope:** Nothing further to report

CITIZENS COMMENTS: None

AUDIT OF VOUCHERS

RESOLUTION #95

PAYMENT OF AUDITED VOUCHERS AS LISTED ON THE ABSTRACTS

Motion made by Lydia Wright, second by Steve Tucker,

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

PRE PAID: Abstract #10 for Voucher #10A and 10B for General Funds in the amount of \$334.59 and Street

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Light Funds in the amount of \$61.11

GENERAL FUND: Abstract #11 for Voucher #213 through and including #228 for 2012 funds in the amount of \$5,698.57

HIGHWAY FUND: Abstract #11 for Voucher #102 through and including #109 for 2012 funds in the amount of \$14,923.00.

CAPITAL PROJECT TOWN HALL FUND: Abstract #39 for Voucher #93 for Capital Project Funds in the amount of \$1,300.00.

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

Resolution #95 declared duly adopted.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn at 8:40 p.m. made by Supervisor Peter Shrope, Second by David Knapp; Aye 5 (Knapp, McDonnell, Shrope, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine W. Sater
Brighton Town Clerk