

**The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Brighton was held Thursday, March 8, 2001 at 7:00 p.m. at the Brighton Town Hall, Paul Smiths, NY, with the following:**

**PRESENT:** Supervisor Christopher Leifheit  
Council Members: Linda Dobson  
John Quenell  
Roger Smith

**ABSENT:** Council Member Alicia Bodmer

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Elaine Sater-Town Clerk, Amber McKernan-Tax Collector, Don Oliver-Superintendent of Highways, Tom Willis-Historian

**RESIDENTS:** There were two residents present.

**GUESTS:** None

**Meeting was Called to Order** by Supervisor Christopher Leifheit at 7:04 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Motion made** by Supervisor Christopher Leifheit to accept the minutes of the Regular Town of Brighton Meeting on February 8, 2001, with the following changes:

- 1) Page 2, Business at Hand, Para 1, 7<sup>th</sup> line: Add two sentences after the first sentence that starts with “Roger Smith pointed out...” “Roger Smith voiced a concern that the contract should have been reviewed in the Fall of 2000. The Board passed the budget knowing the amount of the contract, this is not the time to review the contract.”
- 2) Resolution #22, Change Roll Call Vote by Roger Smith from “Aye” to “Nay”  
Second by Linda Dobson; Aye 4, Absent 1 (Bodmer)

**Motion made** by Supervisor Christopher Leifheit to accept the minutes of the Special Town Of Brighton Board Meeting of February 20, 2001 with the following change: Page 1, New Business, Para h., change date of “April 6” for posters to “April 16”, second by Linda Dobson, Aye 3, Abstain 1 (Leifheit), Absent 1 (Bodmer)

**Motion made** by Supervisor Christopher Leifheit to accept the minutes of the Public Hearing (Rescue Services) held on February 8, 2001, as written, second by Linda Dobson, Aye 4, Absent 1 (Bodmer)

**TOWN CLERK REPORT**

Total Revenue Collected as of February 28, 2001 was \$25.50 for:

- 3 Dog License Renewed
- 1 Building Permit BRI2001-02
- 4 Copies from the Copier
- 1 FOIL Request for 2 Tapes

**BUSINESS AT HAND**

**1. NORTH COUNTRY LIFE FLIGHT RESCUE CONTRACT**

**RESOLUTION #27**

**AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT AND EXPEND \$1,000 FOR LIFEFLIGHT CONTRACT**

**Motion made** by Supervisor Christopher Leifheit to accept the contract between the Town of Brighton and North Country Life Flight and expend funds of \$1,000 (SF3410.6) for services provided for 1 year, second by Roger Smith; Aye 4, Absent 1 (Bodmer)

**Roll Call Vote:**

Supervisor Christopher Leifheit	Aye
Council Members: Alicia Bodmer	Absent
Linda Dobson	Aye
John Quenell	Aye
Roger Smith	Aye

**Resolution #27 declared duly adopted.**

**2. VILLAGE OF SARANAC LAKE EMERGENCY RESCUE AND FIRST AID SQUAD RELIEF CONTACT**

Received letter dated February 14, 2001 from Janet Bliss, Attorney for the Town, Re: Village of Saranac Lake Emergency Rescue and First aid Squad Relief Contract, she reviewed the contact and made changes. She recommends the Town not pay the first payment until the State Comptrollers approves the contract. She also recommends the Town get a copy of the Resolution passed by the Fire Department/Village of Saranac Lake.

**RESOLUTION #28**

**AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT THE VILLAGE OF SARANAC LAKE EMERGENCY RESCUE AND FIRST AID SQUAD RELIEF CONTACT**

**Motion made** by Supervisor Christopher Leifheit to accept the three- year contract with the Village of Saranac Lake for Emergency Rescue and First Aid Squad Relief Services if the following conditions are met:

**1. Village of Saranac Lake accepts the changes recommended by Janet Bliss, Attorney for the Town Of Brighton, as follows under Covenants and Conditions:**

- A. **FIRST:** Add after “TOWN” in first sentence: “including emergency rescue and first aid squad relief”
- B. **THIRD:** Add before first sentence “The first payment for 2001 should be paid within 30 days of receipt of approval from the State Comptroller” Delete references in last sentence to “Village”, “fire protection” and “fire police protection”

**C. FOURTH: Fifth line delete reference to “fire protection” and “fire police protection”**

**D. ELEVENTH: Delete in its entirety**

**2. Obtain the resolution passed by Fire Department concerning this contract**

**3. Obtain the approval of the State Comptroller before the first payment is made to the Village of Saranac Lake,** second by John Quenell, Aye 4, Absent 1 (Bodmer)

**Roll Call Vote:**

Supervisor Christopher Leifheit	Aye
Council Members: Alicia Bodmer	Absent
Linda Dobson	Aye
John Quenell	Aye
Roger Smith	Aye

**Resolution #28 declared duly adopted.**

**3. PERSONAL WATER CRAFT PROPOSED LEGISLATION**

Concerns with this proposed legislation is the threat of a challenge to the Local Law by commercial concerns. John Quenell was in contact with Attorney for the Town Janet Bliss, and the Attorney General’s Office who is interested in helping the first town to have legislation and a challenge. Issues of concern are enforcement, whether to combine two laws (St Regis Lake and Osgood Pond) into one, and identity of organizations that plan to challenge the law.

**Motion made by John Quenell to schedule a Public Hearing for proposed Local Law #1-2001 to Establish a Personal Watercraft and Specialty Prop Craft Regulation Zone for Osgood Pond on Thursday April 19, 2001 at 7:00 p.m.,** second by Linda Dobson. After discussion **the Motion was withdrawn** to allow John Quenell to contact Michael Meyers at the Attorney General’s Office to review both proposed Local Laws before having a Public Hearing.

**4. TOWN CLEAN UP-PROJECT UPDATE:** Linda Dobson reported that the executed contract was received on February 22, 2001 for the grant. The Board met to discuss the details of “Brighten Brighton” on February 20, 2001. Town insurance is sufficient for project. A brochure with detailed information to be mailed to residents was presented to the Board. Brochures for the people in the Split Rock Road area and County Route 55 (Bloomingdale Road) will be hand dropped. Alicia Bodmer will be contracting volunteers to help anyone needing it. Linda Dobson is concerned about the money being available to pay the bills once the project starts on April 30. Boats and motors were not addressed they may be picked up depending on size.

**5. COUNCIL MEMBERS (Other Concerns):**

- a. **Adelphia Cable Contract-** John Quenell: Sent a copy to the Public Service Commission for review.
- b. **HUD Audit-** Before Keith Frantz can be contacted other things have to be looked into. The Town overspent on certain costs for the 92 HUD Grant. HUD wants a budget amendment to close out this grant. The new office in the Town Hall and consolations for the HUD 94 grant were included in the HUD grant expenses and should be not have been, need to find out if Town ever paid this money back. HOME 96 grant for \$135,000 needs to be closed out also. Records need to be found and reconciled before the CPA is hired.
- c. **Balances of Accounts: Account Balances as of March 1, 2001 are attached to these minutes, all checking accounts except one are current.** Bank accounts were actually not reconciled since March 2000. The Bookkeeper has reentered all checks for 2000 and recreated the books for the Town. An extension for the 2000 Fiscal Report has been requested until May 1. All checking accounts have been reconciled except for the Trust and Agency Account that will be done next week. The Bookkeeper does not expect extra compensation for the extra work.
- d. **CLASS Accounts:** Funds will be moved on Wednesday March 14.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Received a proposal for Code Enforcement Officer position from Mike Adams from the Town of Santa Clara. Three Towns could hire one full time Codes Officer for Santa Clara, Franklin and Brighton. Santa Clara will provide transportation for the position. The person would sit at each Town Hall one day a week.

**Motion made by John Quenell to authorize Supervisor Christopher Leifheit to look into the proposal offer by Mike Adams of the Town of Santa Clara for a full time Code Enforcement Officer for the Towns of Santa Clara, Brighton, and Franklin,** second by Supervisor Christopher Leifheit, Aye 4, Absent 1 (Bodmer)

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- 1. **JUSTICE - Nik Santagate:** Reviewed 25 cases and sent \$1,257 to the State Comptroller
- 2. **HIGHWAY – Don Oliver:**
  - a. Lots of Snow
  - b. No salt or sand left, using the bank behind the Garage
  - c. No break downs
  - d. Worked 14 hours on Tuesday, March 6
  - e. The board stated the Highway Department was doing a great job on the roads. Supervisor Christopher Leifheit heard from a resident on Sunny Side Road that the Highway was doing a great on the road
  - f. Need logs for the Town Garage

**RESOLUTION# 29**

**AUTHORIZATION FOR EXPENDITURE OF HIGHWAY FUNDS OF \$700 TO PURCHASE LOGS**

**Motion made** by Supervisor Christopher Leifheit to authorize Superintendent Donald Oliver to expend Highway Funds of \$700 to purchase logs for the Town Garage, second by John Quenell, Aye 4, Absent 1 (Bodmer)

**Roll Call Vote:**

Supervisor Christopher Leifheit	Aye
Council Members: Alicia Bodmer	Absent
Linda Dobson	Aye
John Quenell	Aye
Roger Smith	Aye

**Resolution #29 declared duly adopted.**

**3. TAX COLLECTOR - Amber McKernan**

- a. 721 tax bills paid to date, 145 still outstanding
- b. Received \$102,987.55 for February, total collected to date \$647,286.34
- c. Received notification of payments made directly to the Franklin County Treasurer’s Office for utilities and State of New York, payments were recorded in the tax roll book
- d. Two checks issued for overpayments, check #336 for \$14.52 and #338 for \$.02
- e. Issued Check #337 to Franklin County Treasurer’s Office on February 21 for \$70,000, total paid to date is \$145,000
- f. Issues Check #339 to Supervisor Christopher Leifheit for penalties of \$607.50.
- g. Both January and February Bank Statements have been reconciled to the penny
- h. At beginning of February balanced receipted tax bills, check register and tax roll book
- i. Mailed out several requests for STAR applications

**4. CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER - Ed Randig:**

- a. One Building Permit issued - \$15.00
- b. One Certificate of Occupancy/Compliance Issued
- c. Submitted a letter to Title company for insurance McGinn St Regis Lake Property
- d. Finalizing the report for the Insurance Services Organization for the Town Of Brighton
- e. Completed in-service training through the NYS Dept of State codes Division in Lake Placid on March 5-7, 2001
- f. Discussed application process with Rainbow Lake resident for the issuance of a boathouse permit with DEC and Army Corp of Engineers

**5. INSURANCE - John Quenell:** Nothing to Report

**6. CEMETERY – Roger Smith:**

- a. Received copy of new Cemetery Book from Town Clerk
- b. Would like to submit a bid proposal for cemetery maps with help from Supervisor Christopher Leifheit

**7. PARK – Roger Smith:**

- a. Ice Rink is in, water pressure is not enough to keep rink flooded properly
- b. Snow blowing and plowing is being done
- c. Fencing needs to be replaced and expanded to keep snowmobiles off the property
- d. Trees and braches need to be removed, need to contact Paul Smith College again for help
- e. Replaced door locks and had Bucko Lester looked at the doors, panic bar needs to be replaced
- f. Amber McKernan remarked that the Field House was kept clean and looked nice

**CITIZENS COMMENTS:**

**Tom Willis-Rainbow Lake:**

- a. Is the HUD project in Gabriels occupied? Two out of three units are completed and occupied.
- b. Franklin County Highway Department, Jeff Smith, will put Snowmobile crossing signs on the Rainbow Lake Road in the late summer or fall where the railroad crosses the road on the curve.
- c. History Lesson: The first Town Board meeting was held on March 2, 1859. The current board is the 142<sup>nd</sup> year of continuous government in the Town Of Brighton. The first meeting was held in Julius quarters home and the agenda included setting the budget of \$250 for highways and bridges and \$15 to purchase a complete set of NYS laws. Appointed Overseers of Highways for districts 1, 3, and 4. Town had five Highway Districts; you paid taxes or worked on the road. Make up of government was Supervisor: James Wardner, Town Clerk: Alphonso Rand, 2 Assessors, 2 Inspectors of Elections, 4 Justices of the Peace, 1 Tax Collector, 2 Overseers of the Poor, 4 Constables, and 1 Sealer of Weights and Measurers. James Wardner was the first Supervisor because when the Town was set off from the Town of Duane in November 1858 James Wardner was the Supervisor of Duane at the time. He automatically became the Supervisor because he was already a resident of the Town Of Brighton. Meetings were only held once a year until 1901.

**Roger Smith, Fire Chief-** Lasagna Dinner for the Paul Smiths/Gabriel’s Volunteer Fire Department is being held on March 10, 2001 at the Buxton Gymnasium from 4 to 7 p.m.

**RESOLUTION # 30**

**AUTHORIZATION TO PAY ALL BILLS LISTED ON ABSTRACTS**

**Motion made** by Supervisor Christopher Leifheit to pay all the bills as listed on the abstracts attached to theses minutes as follows:

**ABSTRACT #3 - General Fund: Voucher #35 through and including Voucher #49 as follows: \$6,797.99**

**ABSTRACT #3 - Highway Fund: Voucher #24 through and including Voucher #39 as follows: \$5,263.03**

**ABSTRACT #3 – Street Lighting District: Voucher #3 for \$54.13**

**ABSTRACT#2 – Special Funds: Voucher #2 for \$1,000**

Second by John Quenell; Aye 4, Absent 1

**Roll Call Vote:**

Supervisor Christopher Leifheit	Aye
Council Members: Alicia Bodmer	Absent
Linda Dobson	Aye
John Quenell	Aye
Roger Smith	Aye

**Resolution #30 declared duly adopted.**

**Motion made** by Supervisor Christopher Leifheit to **adjourn the Regular Town Board Meeting at 9:15 p.m.**, second by Roger Smith; Aye 4, Absent1 (Bodmer)

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine W. Sater  
Brighton Town Clerk