

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Brighton was held Thursday, March 9, 2000 at 7:00 p.m. at the Brighton Town Hall, Paul Smiths, NY, with the following:

PRESENT: Deputy Supervisor Roger Smith
Council Members: Linda Dobson
John Quenell
Wilhelmina Sheridan

ABSENT: Supervisor Debra Meyer

OTHERS PRESENT: Elaine Sater-Town Clerk, Arlene Hogan-Tax Collector, Don Oliver-Superintendent of Highways, Tom & Pat Willis-Historian, Doug Tichenor-Assessor, Robert Byno, Sr.-Maintenance

RESIDENTS: There were two residents present.

GUESTS: None

Meeting was Called to Order by Deputy Supervisor Roger Smith at 7:20 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion made by Wilhelmina Sheridan to accept the minutes of the Regular Town of Brighton Meeting on February 10, 2000, second by John Quenell; Aye 4, Absent 1 (Meyer)

TOWN CLERK REPORT

1. Total Revenue Collected as of February 29, 2000 was \$49.28 for:
3 Dog License Renewed
2 Certified Copies
1 Town Hall Use Donation
2. Sent copies of notice for Local Government Day, March 16 & 17 to all Town Officials
3. Received fax dated February 14, 2000 from Griffin International, Re: Documents needed for Landfill Closure Application for Funding; sent package with documents to Al Liptak on Friday, February 18.
4. Received MEMO dated February 18, 2000 from Franklin County Legislature, Re: Dog Quarantine; all dogs must be securely confined from February 23 to May 1, 2000 to keep dogs from pursuing and killing deer and turkeys, posted MEMO bulletin board and gave copy to Animal Control Officer
5. Sent letter dated 2/22/00 to Diane Leifheit, Re: Return of Keys for Town Hall; there are no keys available to give out to people, I have called twice with no response. Keys were returned just before start of meeting.
6. Sent letter dated February 24, 2000 to Board of Elections, Re: There are no elected officers to be voted for in the November 2000 election at this time
7. Sent fax dated Feb. 29, 2000 to Adirondack Daily Enterprise, Re: Public Hearing on March 9 at 6:30 p.m.
8. Request a resolution to attend the NYS Town Clerk's Association Annual Conference in Saratoga Springs, NY from April 30 to May 3, 2000 and expense of registration (\$50), three nights lodging and meals (\$148 per day), and mileage

RESOLUTION # 32

AUTHORIZATION TO ATTEND NYSTCA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Motion made by Wilhelmina Sheridan to authorize the Town Clerk, Elaine Sater, to attend the New York State Town Clerk's Annual Convention April 30 to May 3 in Saratoga Springs and the expense of registration (\$50), three nights lodging and meals (\$148 per night) and mileage, second by John Quenell, Aye 4, Absent 1

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Debra Meyer	Absent
Council Members: Linda Dobson	Aye
John Quenell	Aye
Wilhelmina Sheridan	Aye
Roger Smith	Aye

Resolution # 32 declared duly adopted.

HUD REPORT

1. STATUS OF PROGRESS 1994 HUD GRANT: Thirteen applications are completed, thirteen are approved, ten are under construction and three are closed out.
2. Received letter from Friends of the North Country dated February 23, 2000, Re: NYS HOME Application; request support from the Town Of Brighton for their application to obtain \$400,000 in grant funds to provide low income, owner occupied housing rehabilitation activities in Franklin County. Supervisor Meyer sent a letter of support dated February 23, 2000.
3. A homeowner complained about the work done to a house; the new roof is leaking. Friend's was notified but nothing has been done. The Board requested the homeowner supply copies of the letters sent to Friends. Deputy Supervisor Roger Smith will contact Friends to discuss the situation.
4. There are no payments, no new projects, or change orders this month
5. John Quenell asked what the projected closeout date of the open projects, what is the projected Town obligation on these projects, and how many projects are actually closed out. The report does not show this information clearly. Requested this information be provided at the next meeting.

LANDFILL

1. Received Landfill Closure Project application for funding NYS Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) from Griffin International dated February 24, 2000; Supervisor Meyer signed and sent to NYS Environmental Facilities Corp. on February 25, 2000
2. Received letter from Joan Bleikamp of Walsh & Walsh dated February 10, 2000, Re: Financing of Landfill Closure Cost; sent documentation to Al Liptak of Griffin International for the application, requested Town

Clerk, Elaine Sater to send a copy of the Affidavit of publication of the Notice of Bond Resolution, (the “estoppel notice”). The Town Clerk stated that this had been done.

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT AND CORRESPONDANCE:

1. **Balances of Accounts as of February 29, 2000 were read and are attached to these minutes.** Roger Smith noted the headings had been changed. John Quenell questioned why the interest was not shown for NOW or CLASS accounts. **John Quenell offered to write a letter to Pete Duquette for answers on the questions asked last meeting.** He still was not clear on the heading on expenses (page 1 and page 4) “Percent of Budget” were correct, but the other pages had “Percent of Balance” which is not correct.
2. Received letter from the APA announcing Local Government Day March 16 &17
3. Received letter from State of New York dated 2/22/2000 Re: Promotion of the Importance of Census
4. Received from DEC Personnel Listing for the Division of Law Enforcement–Region 5 (Ray Brook)
5. Received MEMO from Industrial Development Agency of Franklin County dated February 22, 2000, Re: Application for APA Permit from Paul Smiths for construction of library/classrooms. John Quenell made the comment that the architect would like to add storm drains for run off to go into the lake.
6. Received a second request from NY Municipal Insurance Reciprocal (NYMIR) dated February 23, 2000, Re: Risk Management Program, **Town must appoint a Safety Coordinator** to maintain the town’s record of safety issues. **John Quenell offered to take the appointment as the Insurance Committee Chair.**
7. Received letter from NYMIR Re: Y2K Extension Endorsements for Coverage of Computer Related Losses
8. Received notice from NYS Office of Real Property Services dated 02/28/2000, Re: Residential Assessment Ratio, Town’s ratio is 84.28 percent for the period of sales 7/1/98 through 6/30/99 for residential sales only. Doug Tichenor gives this information to the Board of Assessment Review; it can be used to grieve residential property values.
9. Received from CSEA the annual Report, available to be reviewed
10. Sent letter to Senator Stafford’s Office dated February 15, 2000, Re: Request for Funding through the North Country Enhancement Programs, Town would be interested in funding for several projects around the Town
11. Received letter from Thomas LaBombard dated February 11, 2000, Re: Engineering Firm for Planning Boards, looking for Town business
12. Received information from Legislative Commission on Rural Resources dated February 22, 2000, Re: Results of Survey for Electronic Filing of Local Laws, much support was received to be able to file and access local laws electronically.
13. Received letter from Friends of Mount Pisgah dated February 22, 2000, Re: Request for Funding, Board will not provide funds this year since it was not put in budget, **Supervisor Meyer should send a letter to let them know this and to send request in September for budget consideration.**
14. Received letter from Supervisor of the Town of Brandon, Re: Soaring Fuel Prices, would like support from Town to request funding from New York State to aid small municipalities of the North Country with the burden of increased fuel prices; sign and return letter so he can forward to appropriate state legislators

Motion made by John Quenell to sign letter of support from William J. Duryea, Supervisor Town of Brandon concerning the rise of fuel prices and requesting funding for small municipalities from New York State, second by Wilhelmina Sheridan, Aye 4, Absent 1 (Meyer)

15. Received letter from US Bureau of the Census dated February 16, 2000, Re: Proclamation in Support of the Census, would appreciate the Town doing a proclamation and letting the news media know support of Census

Motion made by John Quenell to support the Census Proclamation, second by Wilhelmina Sheridan; Aye 4, Absent 1 (Meyer)

WHEREAS, the next DECENNIAL CENSUS will be taken in the year 2000, and political representation to the United States House of Representatives, State Legislatures, and Local governments is determined by the DECENNIAL CENSUS, and the Town Of Brighton recognizes the equal importance of each resident in the 2000 Census count; and

WHEREAS, the Town Of Brighton has agreed to be one of 39,000 government entities in partnership with the US Bureau of the Census; and

WHEREAS, the Town Of Brighton understands its role is to bridge the gaps between the community and the Bureau of the Census on geographic matters, outreach activities, and information centers; and

THEREFORE, I Deputy Supervisor Roger Smith of the Town Of Brighton hereby proclaim full support of and participation in the overwhelming success of Census 2000

16. Received letter from Doug Tichenor, Re: Building Permits, requested Building Permits from Ed Randig, Code Enforcement Officer, from 3/99 to present so he can do new construction updates, the taxable status day was March 1. He has called twice and has had no response. Other people mentioned having trouble getting in touch with the Code Enforcement Officer for permits. The Town Clerk said the previous Code Officer would leave a copy of each request with each payment; the new Officer hasn’t left any copies. Doug Tichenor requested **Supervisor Meyer send a certified letter requesting the permits. The Board will check further into the situation.**
17. Received letter from the State Board of Real Property Services dated February 25, 2000, Re: Certificate of the Final State Equalization Rate for the 1999 Assessment Roll; Town Of Brighton’s Final Equalization Rate is 100%
18. Tri-Lakes Humane Society sent an updated contract for one year

RESOLUTION#33

AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN TRI-LAKES HUMANE SOCIETY AGREEMENT & EXPEND \$920

Motion made by Deputy Supervisor Roger Smith to authorize Supervisor Debra Meyer to sign the agreement with the Tri-Lakes Humane Society for one year (2000) and expend \$920.00 of General Funds for the services provided by the contract, second by Linda Dobson, Aye 4, Absent 1

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Debra Meyer	Absent
Council Members: Linda Dobson	Aye
John Quenell	Aye
Wilhelmina Sheridan	Aye
Roger Smith	Aye

Resolution # 33 declared duly adopted.

19. Received a letter from Diane Leifheit dated March 7, 2000, Re: Grant for Painting Four Churches; received an Artist and Community Exchange Grant from Art Council of Northern Adirondacks to create water color/pen & ink of each of the four churches in the Town Of Brighton, would like to display them at the Town Hall. Will have "open studio" days for people to come and watch the work in progress. The Brighton Architectural Heritage Committee will be the curator for the finished paintings. Two will be finished for the Brighton History Day in July. A news release is included for publishing in the local newsletter. **Board gave permission for Diane to hang paintings and post hours of "Open Studio" in the Town Hall**
20. **BRIGHTON 2000 PROJECT:** Pat Willis gave an overview of what is happening with this project. Besides the four paintings from Diane Leifheit, there will be 8 panoramic photographs by Mark Kurts and 6 aerial photographs by Hank Snow which will be framed by Diane and hung as one large exhibit. There will be a CD with information as well as a book. These will be kept in the local library.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. ASSESSOR- Doug Tichenor:

- a. Deputy Supervisor Roger Smith introduced him to the new Board Members
- b. Discussed the State's plan to mandate towns to reassess each year; described his plan to update the town's assessment in 2001 on a three year cycle with the other four towns he assesses. Town would receive \$5 per parcel to update every year under the State's plan. Town already receives money for the updates done.
- c. STAR Exemptions for Senior were sent out and all but 5 were received back; those people are still residents. For next year people who turn 65 anytime during the calendar year are eligible for Senior STAR

2. TAX COLLECTOR- Arlene Hogan:

- a. Bank Deposits: \$215,326.52
- b. Issued a check for penalty collection to Supervisor Meyer: \$233.76
- c. Issued two checks to Franklin County Treasurer: \$165,000
- d. Besides the basic tax collectors duties, March included activities such as responding to taxpayers request to produce their previous years tax bill for income tax purposes

3. COURT- Nik Santagate:

- a. Reviewed 29 cases and sent \$1,365 to the State Comptroller
- b. Received Quarterly Report from Comptroller: \$2,357

4. HIGHWAY – Don Oliver:

- a. New tires are installed on loader
- b. Roads are in good condition
- c. County will pave Hull Road about June 18
- d. Need more sand next winter, ran out during last snow storm; using bank run now
- e. Need to start talking about new snowplow to replace 1989 Ford L9000, needs considerable work before next winter, (i.e., radiator, brakes, clutch, metal fatigue). Will look into prices and obtain specs for new one for next meeting. Roger Smith and Don Oliver will do a cost analysis (repair vs. purchase)
- f. Had an accident with the plow on Sunday, March 5. A car crossed over into plow's lane and hit plow front, no injuries. Reported incident to John Quenell, Insurance Committee
- g. Handicapped parking signs are in and will be put up near handicapped elevator

5. ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER – Andy Crary: No Report

6. CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER - Ed Randig: No Report

7. INSURANCE - John Quenell:

- a. Workers Compensation: The Franklin County Self-Insurance Liability Assessment amount of \$18,177.85 was not audited by county. Sent a letter to Supervisor Meyer dated February 17, 2000 asking her to send a letter to the County asking for full disclosure regarding how the \$651,535.85 outstanding liability number was arrived at and a five-year track of year-end outstanding liability totals. Did not get a response from the Supervisor. The dead line is April 1, 2000 and letter needs to be written before this date so the Town is not a fault for not paying. NYS Municipal Workers Compensation Alliance has volunteered to help the Board evaluate the county data if and when it is received.

Motion made by John Quenell requesting Supervisor Debra Meyer write a letter in response to the Office of Franklin County Self-Insurance Plan letter of February 3, 2000 requesting full disclosure regarding how the

Supervisor Debra Meyer	Absent
Council Members: Linda Dobson	Aye
John Quenell	Aye
Wilhelmina Sheridan	Aye
Roger Smith	Nay

Resolution # 35 declared duly adopted

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

Linda LaVair-Gabriels:

- a. Wanted to know if the hours of the Field House could be posted again, she asked Diane Leifheit before and nothing was ever put back up. She said the Field House was not always open when it should be. **Roger Smith will check into the hours and why the Field House is not always open.** Linda Dobson asked Linda to provided documented days and hours when the Field House was not open before the Park Attendant is approached.
- b. Snow on the roof was thick and falling off so the Brighton Blues Parents Association (BBPA) asked the kids to clean it off. The Park Attendant yelled at the kids for climbing on the roof. It was a hazard and should have been removed. She is interested in what the BBPA is allowed to do and what they are not allowed to do. Is there a job description for the Park Attendant and is clearing the roof part of it? Roger Smith said Dan Spencer was looking for a roof rake at one time but couldn't find one. **Roger will post the job description.**

Tom Willis-Rainbow Lake:

- a. Are the Books Closed for 1999 yet? No, the Town asked for an extension for the new bookkeeper
- b. What is the Status of Enhanced 911? Have not seen any more information on this program since last update, not in the Town yet but it's a two year program, forms will be mailed to residents.

Pat Willis-Rainbow Lake:

- a. Brighton History Day is set for July 23, 2000 at Asplin Tree Farms; PSGVFD will do a BBQ. Theme is "TimeLine"
- b. Would like to see the Brighton Bulletin continued, people have been asking where it is. Discussion took place as to how the Brighton Bulletin was started by Supervisor Al Graf, than Debra Meyer took it over as his secretary and then kept doing it as Town Clerk even though it was not a Town Clerk's responsibility. The current Town Clerk does not have time to do it. Publishing a newsletter is recommended as a Supervisor responsibility. **John Quenell said he would try to produce a copy for next month.**

Roger Smith- Fire Chief: Lasagna Dinner for the Paul Smith/Gabriel's Volunteer Fire Department is Saturday, March 9, 2000 at the Buxton Gymnasium at Paul Smith College from 4 to 7 p.m.

Motion made by Roger Smith to go IN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 9:32 p.m. to discuss the employment of a particular person per Public Officers Law, Section 105 (f), second by John Quenell, Aye 4, Absent 1 (Meyer)

Motion made by Roger Smith to go OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION at 9:52 p.m., second by Wilhelmina Sheridan, Aye 4, Absent 1 (Meyer)

RESOLUTION #36

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY ALL BILLS LISTED ON ABSTRACTS

Motion made by Linda Dobson to pay all the bills as listed on the abstracts attached to theses minutes as follows:

ABSTRACT #3 - All Funds: Pre-Paid Voucher #3A through and including Voucher #3B as follows:

\$920.00 General Fund, \$26,720.00 Special District

ABSTRACT #3 - General Fund: Voucher #48 through and including Voucher #72 as follows:

\$69.72 for 1999 and \$6,351.72 for 2000

ABSTRACT #3 - Highway Fund: Voucher #31 through and including Voucher #44 as follows:

\$129.80 for 1999 and \$4,112.43 for 2000

ABSTRACT #2 – Street Lighting District: Voucher #2 for \$57.42

Second by Wilhelmina Sheridan; Aye 4, Absent 1

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Debra Meyer	Absent
Council Members: Linda Dobson	Aye
John Quenell	Aye
Wilhelmina Sheridan	Aye
Roger Smith	Aye

Resolution #36 declared duly adopted.

Motion made by Linda Dobson to adjourn the Regular Town Board Meeting at 10:01 p.m., second by John Quenell; Aye 4, Absent1 (Meyer)

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine W. Sater
Brighton Town Clerk