

REGULAR BOARD MEETING - TOWN OF BRIGHTON - FRANKLIN COUNTY, NY

July 12, 2007

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The Regular Town Board Meeting of the Town of Brighton was held on Thursday, July 12, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. 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 Martin at 7:02 p.m.
“Pledge of Allegiance” to the flag was recited

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

PRESENT: Supervisor Peter Martin, Sr.

Council Members: Sheila Delarm, David Knapp, Steve Tucker and Lydia Wright

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Donald Oliver - Superintendent of Highways, Amber McKernan - Tax Collector, and Elaine Sater - Town Clerk

RESIDENTS: One

GUESTS: Robert Haynes and Robert Curtis, NYS Department of Transportation

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Regular Board June 14, 2007

Motion made by David Knapp, **second** by Steve Tucker, **to approve the minutes of the Regular Town Board meeting held on June 14 with the following: Page 6, Old Business, Para 1a: Delete second sentence from the end beginning with “Christy Fontana has replaced...”**

ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye 4 (Delarm, Knapp, Martin, Tucker), Nay 0, Abstain 1 (Wright)

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

Total Revenue to Supervisor as of June 30, 2007 is \$13.25

6 Dog License renewals

1. The Final Assessment Role for 2007 was filed by the Assessor in the Town Clerk's Office and is available for public viewing until September 1, 2007.
2. Election Inspectors now have to attend training every year
3. TOWN HALL REQUESTS: None
4. TOWN PARK REQUESTS: Foster Family - Sunday, August 19, 12 noon to 8 p.m.

Discussion was held on how Election Inspectors are chosen. **Supervisor Peter Martin** said each political party Chair submits names to the Board of Elections every year.

SUPERVISOR'S CORRESPONDENCE/FINANCIAL REPORT

1. Financial Report: Distributed the Financial Report as of June 30, 2007 to Board members, total cash on hand as of June 30 is \$573,066. Interest from CLASS investments for June 2007 was \$2,053.16; total for year-to-date is \$12,474.84. Balances of CLASS Accounts are: General \$293,200.88 and Highway \$192,645.46.

2. Correspondence: None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER (Tri-Lakes Humane Society): Report submitted prior to meeting

- a. There were 6 turn-ins of animals
- b. 1 animal pick-up
- c. 18 phone calls concerning dog matters
- d. One Court hearing for potential dangerous dog

2. ASSESSOR (Doug Tichenor): Needs to be reappointed

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RESOLUTION #60

APPOINTMENT OF ASSESSOR FOR 6-YEAR TERM

Motion made by Supervisor Peter Martin, Second by David Knapp, To Wit:

RESOLVED, that the Town Board appoints Douglas Tichenor as Sole Assessor for a 6-year term from October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2013 pursuant to Real Property Tax Law Section 310.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye 5 (Delarm, Knapp, Martin, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0

Resolution #60 declared duly adopted.

- 3. CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER (CEO) (Ed Lagree):** Report submitted prior to meeting
- Seventeen building permits have been issued for 2007; two permits were completed and two Certificate of Completion (COC) were issued.
 - Four permits were completed from 2006, 1 was closed; 22 permits are still open
 - Three permits were completed from 2005, 1 COC was issued; 8 permits are still open
 - No change for 2004; 6 permits are still open
 - One permit is closed from 2003; one permit is still open

Supervisor Peter Martin said the CEO is now using the NYS Building Code Law for property maintenance. The Local Law for property maintenance needs to be changed so the town attorney can defend the Town; in its current form the District Attorney has jurisdiction.

- 4. TAX COLLECTOR (Amber McKernan):** Submitted prior to board meeting
- Sent 4 faxes and received many phone calls during the month of June
 - Received and balanced the May bank statement; it agreed with the online statement used for the audit. The account balance now stands at zero
 - Received a phone call concerning burning brush. Who is the contact for burning permits?

Steve Tucker said the people with burn permits have to call the Saranac Lake Fire Department so they know the individual is burning brush; the DEC rangers issue burning permits.

- 5. TOWN JUSTICE (Nik Santagate):** Report submitted prior to meeting
Disposed of 33 cases and issued a check in the amount of \$2,431.00 to the Supervisor

- 6. HISTORIAN - Mary Ellen Salls:** Unable to attend meeting
Board members reported History Day was a great success. The story teller, Amber Mckernan, did a great job.
Supervisor Peter Martin read a letter dated July 11, 2007, from our Franklin County Legislature Gordy Crossman addressed to Mary Ellen Salls, Town Historian:

“ I wish to express my sincere appreciation for a very enjoyable and enlightening time while visiting the Gabriels Historic Days Event. Rouse Fountain was kind enough to spend time introducing me to a number of people. The band, food and displays of the history of Brighton were exceptional, your hard work was obvious.

“The most impressive thing to me was the hospitality and warmth shown by you and the people of Brighton. I went home thinking what a wonderful community. Thank you very much”

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1. HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT - David Knapp and Steve Tucker:**
- Will be getting an excavator to demolish the old town garage next week
 - Bid opening** on Surplus Equipment - Road Grader

RESOLUTION #61

AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT BID FOR SURPLUS EQUIPMENT - ROAD GRADER

Motion made by David Knapp, second by Steve Tucker, To Wit:

WHEREAS, the Town has agreed to share services with the Towns of Santa Clara and Harrietstown and no longer needs its own road grader, and

WHEREAS, a public notice was posted on June 19 on the Town Clerk's sign board, and published twice in the Adirondack Daily Enterprise on June 20 and 28 for sealed bids on surplus equipment - a 1967 120 Cat Road Grader, and

WHEREAS, sealed bids were received by the Town Clerk as follows:

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1. J. T. Erectors, Malone : \$5,000.00
2. Trudeau Sand and Gravel, Inc. Saranac Lake: \$1,572.00
3. Art Leavitt, Gabriels: \$3,636.00
4. Twin "D" Inc, Saranac Lake: \$5,703.00

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the highest bid for the 1967 120 Cat Road Grader be accepted from Twin "D", Inc. of Saranac Lake, for \$5,703.00.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye 5 (Delarm, Knapp, Martin, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0

RESOLUTION #61 declared duly adopted.

- a. **CSEA Contract:** No word on contract
- b. **Decals for Ford Truck:** No further information
- c. **State Route 86 Drainage Ditch ("Gabriel's Pond"):** Robert Curtis, Regional Design Engineer, from the NYS Department of Transportation (DOT) addressed the issue. He, Supervisor Peter Martin and Robert Haynes, Region 7, Resident Engineer, Franklin County, looked at the drainage ditch in Gabriels and determined there is nothing more that can be done to remove the water. The water is standing in the drainage ditch created by the new road project near the Burt LaFountain Road. Borings taken showed sandy soil in the area for water drainage. There is a wet land between the Burt LaFountain Road and State Route 86 where all the water drains from the upper part of the road. The water slowly percolates into the ground or it evaporates. The water table is at the bottom of the ditch. The upper part of the road is now dry because of the closed drainage system that was put in when the road was reconstructed. All the water drains into the low spot where the ditch is located. More stone could be put in the ditch but it would only hide the water not remove it. There is no place to pump the water out since it is already in the lowest spot on the road. There is no more of a safety issue due to standing water than from the wet land already there.
- d. **White Pine Road Bridge:** Robert Curtis addressed the damage to the bridge. He recommended the Town contact the County Engineer to look at it and decide whether to repair it or replace it. The damage is on the outer edges of the girders; the concrete has separated from the metal girder so it is not supporting the bridge on the outside edges. The railing is attached to the outside girders so the repair has to be done. Removing some of the blacktop will reduce the weight on the bridge. If the Town decides to replace the bridge, an engineer will have to be hired to do the work. If only repairs are done anyone can be hired to complete the repair. The Town should send a letter to the Department of Transportation, Regional Director, to request a load rating for the bridge. There are a few companies in the area that could do the repairs; **David Knapp** will contact them for more information on repairs and cost.
- e. **Split Rock Road:** The dry hydrant at the bridge was not functioning so the Paul Smiths Gabriels Volunteer Fire Department went to repair it. They noticed the guard rails were loose and there were rails lying in the grass. This is a Town Road but a County bridge so the County DOT will look at it.

Discussion was held with the DOT on the different types of guard rails and their functions. DOT said the guard rails near Paul Smith's College will be replaced later this year. The brown guard rails will be replaced with updated rails.

- f. **McCulloms Road:** Brush removal is still ongoing
- g. **Paving:** Paving will be done by the County at the end of July; they will start with the Wardner Road then do the Tebbutt Road until the funds run out.
- h. **Snow Plowing Complaint:** Discussion was held on the plowing situation at the end of the Tebbutt Road. The plowing has been done the same way for years and there have been no complaints in the past. Recently there has been a change in the driveways. **Supervisor Peter Martin** will talk to Don Oliver about replying to Don Busch's complaint.

2. PARK & RECREATION - Steve Tucker and Lydia Wright

- a. The Saranac Lake Area Youth Program is up and running due to the efforts of some parents who raised funds to continue the program. Parents registered 104 children for the program. It is being held at the Civic Center with the same hours as last year. There are fourteen counselors.
- b. Soccer is being held at the Lake Clear School and baseball is being held in Bloomingdale.

3. INSURANCE/INVESTMENTS - Sheila Delarm and Lydia Wright:

- a. **Health Insurance:** Notice was received that a dependent is being removed due to age unless proof of college attendance is received. Information has been received about an additional mental health rider being offered for

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an additional premium.

- b. **NYMIR:** David Knapp provided information for some vehicles to be added and others to be dropped from the insurance. More information is needed for the vehicles being added.

4. CEMETERY - Steve Tucker and David Knapp:

- a. Someone dug a grave by hand in the Mt. View Cemetery last week
- b. Received three requests for lot reservations

Supervisor Peter Martin said there is an individual who has to complete 150 hours of community work. He is looking for somewhere to complete these hours. Discussion was held on who would be liable for any injury if working for the Town. **Supervisor Peter Martin** will look into this further.

5. TOWN BUILDINGS - Steve Tucker and David Knapp

- a. **Town Hall Project:**
 - i. **David Knapp** has been in contact with Cate Blakemore at Crawford and Stearns (C&S). She had several questions about the project; these questions were already answered last November. Discussion was held on what was expected during restoration: construction of addition, abatement of asbestos, window replacement, kitchen, landscaping, septic, well, and furniture. **Lydia Wright** will contact C&S to ask why the questions were not already addressed in the project plans. She will invite Cate Blakemore to visit the Town Hall and go over the information with her.
 - ii. Grants applications are being worked on for Betty Little's and Janet Duprey's offices
- b. **Furnace at Town Hall:** Griffith Oil will send a technician to service furnace next week
- c. **Town Garage:** The chimney needs repair. Water needs to be tested in well to see if the water is drinkable

OLD BUSINESS

1. FIRE ADVISORY BOARD (FAB) UPDATE(David Knapp):

- a. The FAB met on July 10, 2007. The Saranac Lake Village Board did not approve the hiring of a full-time Emergency Medial Technician (EMT); they do not want the responsibility of liability for disability. If the towns back out of the contract the Village would be left with the cost of disability for an EMT. The Standard of Care in the area (Tupper Lake and Lake Placid both have paid EMTs) is to have a full time EMT available for the rescue service. \$50,000 was budgeted that could cover a full-time EMT. The FAB agreed that if the EMT went over budget the towns would cover the cost. Harrietstown will look into the possibility of hiring the EMT.
- b. Mary Brown a lobbyist in Albany is working on the third-party billing for combined fire/rescue departments, the bill has stalled because the legislative session ended. There is one more year for it to be presented.
- c. Equipment for rescue and fire services was discussed for future budgets: EMT, rescue truck, new station, replacement of pump trucks, turn-out gear, ladder truck
- d. Getting reports on calls for rescue services, it took 6 alarms for a call within the Village. Response time is not recorded, only average time to respond to the call (average 7 minutes to leave the fire house for the Town of Brighton after call is received).

Discussion was held on the amount of time allowed between alarms. **Steve Tucker** said Franklin County says it should be 5 minutes.

- e. Lump sum payments to be made to the Saranac Lake Volunteer Fire Department; the SLVFD has not provided a budget to the Village until this year. The lump sum paid to SLVFD will be provided based on the budget.
- f. Santa Clara is investigating other rescue services to cover part of their town. The town's people are demanding better service for the places further away from the Village of Saranac Lake.
- g. David Knapp asked Lee Burns and Joe Farrel from the Department of Health who was the governing body concerning dispatching of rescue services. Joe Farrel said the Franklin County EMS is the dispatch authority in Franklin County. David Knapp was referred to Ricky Provost in Malone. Rick Provost responded that the E-911 dispatch in Malone is the Franklin County final authority.

2. **EMERGENCY FIRE ALARMS POLICIES (Supervisor Peter Martin):** Waiting to hear from Susan Sweeney who is setting a time and place for a meeting at Paul Smith's College.

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3. **ALTERNATE RESCUE SERVICES CITIZENS COMMITTEE(Sheila Delarm):** Request for Proposal (RFP) for Rescue Services was presented. Sheila Delarm was concerned about the reaction from the Saranac Lake Volunteer Fire Department when the RFP is advertised and she drafted a "Letter to the Editor." Discussion was held concerning this issue. The Board felt the letter was not necessary; the Town needs to be self-sufficient and should not worry about the reaction of the Saranac Lake Rescue Service. **David Knapp** will notify the FAB that the Town is requesting RFPs.

RESOLUTION #62

APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR RESCUE SERVICES

Motion made by Lydia Wright, **Second by** Steve Tucker, **To Wit:**

WHEREAS, the Town of Brighton is seeking alternate rescue services to reduce the response time and cost of emergency medical services to the residents of the Town,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board approves a Request for Proposal for Rescue Services as follows:

The Town of Brighton, located in southern Franklin County New York, is leading an effort seeking proposals to provide advanced life support (ALS) rescue services to the area comprising all of Brighton. See attached map.

Currently, this geography is served by the Saranac Lake Volunteer Fire Department. This proposal seeks to find a vendor who will allow for decreased BLS/ALS response time by positioning equipment and personnel centrally in the operational area described.

Key Information:

- ! The start date for the proposed service will be determined with the chosen vendor.
- ! The expectation is that the service will provide the best coverage possible utilizing both vendor and local resources. At no time should on-scene response time exceed 20 minutes to any part of the operational area.
- ! This service will be expected to operate within the area's mutual aid system.
- ! Housing for the service will be provided by the local hiring authority.
- ! The "Holder of the Certificate of Need" (CON) will be determined based on the most reasonable course of action, either expanding a vendor's CON to cover the area, or placing a CON with the hiring authority.
- ! Historically, the number of rescue calls in the area has been approximately 50 per year.
- ! The local area is covered by the Franklin County E-911 system which will handle dispatch.

Special Considerations:

- ! The four primary differentiations to be used in selecting a vendor are:
 - # Demonstrated competency
 - # Plan for maintaining consistent high level of care and motivation of personnel in a low call volume service area
 - # Price
 - # Creativity of proposed methods to maintain quality and low response time
- ! Local resources for volunteer EMT support include:
 - # Community based EMT's
 - # First Responder Emergency Services Association (FREMSA)
 - # Life Flight
- ! Possible housing locations:
 - # Brighton Town Garage area

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Paul Smiths – Gabriels Volunteer Fire Department

Gabriels community

Deadlines and Timing:

- ! RFP released to potential vendors: July 16, 2007
- ! Clarification questioning with requesting authority: July 16-Sept. 1, 2007
- ! Proposals due to requesting authority: postmarked by Sept. 1, 2007
- ! First round finalist interviewing: TBD
- ! Final agreement: TBD

Questions related to this proposal may be directed toward:

Sheila Delarm 518-327-3554 sdelarm@newandimproved.com

David Knapp 518-524-1188 daknapp63@hotmail.com

Three copies of your proposal, postmarked no later than Sept. 1, 2007, should be sent to:

Sheila Delarm/David Knapp

Brighton Town Board

P.O. Box 260

Paul Smiths, NY 12970

ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye 4 (Delarm, Knapp, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0, Abstain 1 (Martin)

Resolution #62 declared duly adopted.

RESOLUTION #63

APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE FOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR RESCUE SERVICES

Motion made by Lydia Wright, Second by David Knapp, To Wit:

WHEREAS, the Town of Brighton is seeking alternate rescue services to reduce the cost of emergency medical services to the residents,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the Town Clerk to advertise for Request for Proposals (RFPs) for Rescue Services at least twice in several newspapers (Adirondack Daily Enterprise, Press Republican, Malone Telegram, Tupper Lake Free Press, and Watertown Daily Times) to allow for extensive coverage for this RFP.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye 5 (Delarm, Knapp, Martin, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0

Resolution #63 declared duly adopted.

4. **SIGN FOR PWC'S ON OSGOOD POND: David Knapp** will send a letter to Camp Gabriels to officially request the signs be made. DEC has agreed to place the signs for the Town.

5. **TIME WARNER CABLE(TWC): Sheila Delarm** found out that Mark Ryan is the General Manager at Time Warner. The cost for running a line to McColloms will be divided by the number people who actually sign up for cable. A public hearing is needed before the franchise agreement is approved. A copy of the franchise has gone to the Attorney for the Town.

NEW BUSINESS

NEW POST OFFICE FOR GABRIELS: Paul Snek, Real Estate Manager for the US Postal Service, said the final approval for a new post office will be made in September. A 500 to 700 square foot building is being proposed.

CITIZENS COMMENTS: None

AUDIT OF VOUCHERS

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RESOLUTION #64

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY AUDITED VOUCHERS AS LISTED ON THE ABSTRACTS

Motion made by Lydia Wright, second by David Knapp, To Wit:

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

PRE-PAID: Abstract #7 for Vouchers #7A through #7C for 2007 General Funds in the amount of \$680.81, Voucher #7C for 2007 Street Light Funds in the amount of \$55.86

GENERAL FUND: Abstract #7 for Voucher #182 through and including #201 for 2007 funds in the amount of \$1,723.01

HIGHWAY FUND: Abstract #7 for Vouchers #64 through and including #70 for 2007 funds in the amount of \$2,271.21

CAPITAL PROJECT FUND (HIGHWAY GARAGE): Abstract #30 for Voucher #93 in the amount of \$550.00

ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye 5 (Delarm, Knapp, Martin, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0

Resolution #64 declared duly adopted.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn at 11:25 p.m. made by David Knapp, second by Lydia Wright, Aye 5, Nay 0

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine Sater
Brighton Town Clerk