

The regular meeting of the Newfield Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Driscoll at 7:00PM. Present: CP James, CP Dolge, CP Laughlin, CP Hart and Supervisor Berggren. Also present: Atty. Edward Hooks, Code Enforcer Harry Wright and Water/Sewer Supervisor Rob Brewer.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Supervisor Driscoll.

#### PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Anne Chernish spoke to the Board regarding the King Bow Bridge and Mill Park. She stated that she, Lynn Watros and Karen VanEtten are the remaining members of the Zenas King Bow Bridge and Mill Park Committee. The bridge is done and is not in need a lot of work. The park however does need work and the Committee is looking for volunteers to help with weeding and the removal of the knotweed. She is going to contact the United Way to see if they know of anyone that would like to help with the weeding. It was suggested that Mrs. Chernish contact our local town justices and let them be aware they could use community service workers. She will contact both courts.

Karen VanEtten requested allocation to have signs removed from their temporary location on the bridge to a permanent installation on a boulder on the Main Street side of the bridge entrances. The cost would be \$350.00 to have a sandblaster come and mount the signs on the boulder. Mrs. VanEtten also stated that she had been talking to the NYS Office of Parks and would like to have the bridge put on the National Register. Now that ownership has been identified as the Town of Newfield the Committee would like to have the bridge put on the National Register. Having the bridge put on the National Register would ensure if there was project regarding bridge repairs etc. there are matching funds available for maintenance. Mrs. VanEtten left the application with Supervisor Driscoll.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Supervisor Driscoll reviewed the September Financial Report with the board. He stated he had reviewed the report and there is nothing unusual and everything is on track. There were no questions from the board.

Supervisor Driscoll stated he would like to add an item to the Agenda under New Business for the Board to entertain a variance for a building permit application on Miller Rd. There were no objections from the Board.

A discussion was held regarding the proposed request for \$350.00 to have permanent plague placement for the Zenas King Bow Bridge. CP Hart asked if there was a budget line for this expense. Supervisor Driscoll stated there was money in the budget.

Motion was made by CP James to approve the request to install 3 plagues on 2 boulders in Mill Park in the amount of \$350.00. Motion was seconded by CP Hart. All approved.

A discussion was held regarding the resolution to support the creation of a County Animal Population Control Program. After discussion motion was made by CP Hart to approve Resolution No. 12-2010. Motion was seconded by CP Dolge.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 12-201

#### SUPPORT FOR CREATION OF A COUNTY ANIMAL POPULATION CONTROL PROGRAM

**WHEREAS**, the New York State 2011 Budget contains new legislation concerning dog licensing and Animal Population Control Funds, and

**WHEREAS**, the new legislation gives a county the authority to create its own Animal Population Control Program, thereby receiving the Animal Population Control Funds collected within such county, and

**WHEREAS**, the Tompkins County SPCA and the Tompkins County Town Clerks Association have expressed a desire to create a plan for Tompkins County Animal Population Control, and

**WHEREAS**, the Tompkins County Administrator has indicated that the County would be in favor of such a plan, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Newfield is in favor of such a plan, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Newfield designates Katharine Crance, Town Clerk, to represent the interests of the Town of Newfield in the creation of a Tompkins County Animal Population Control Program, with the understanding that final determination and approval rests with the Town Board.

AYES	NAYS
CP Hart	
CP Dolge	
CP Laughlin	
CP James	
Supervisor Driscoll	

Motion carried.

Mr. Wright presented an application for variance/exception in connection with proposed construction of a 1400 square foot home at 215 Miller Road by Joel and Rebecca Leistikow. He explained that this property does not front a public road and, consequently, a building permit cannot be issued unless an exception or variance is granted by the Board. The Board was reminded of the requirements and purpose of Town Law Section 280-a and was briefed by Mr. Wright and Mr. Hooks about the guidelines which had been set and followed when considering whether a variance or exception could be granted or allowed. The Board reviewed those guidelines and the information submitted by the Leistikows in support of this application. Following discussion, the Board made the following findings:

1. The proposed construction will not have an adverse affect upon the Environment. The short form environmental assessment form ("EAF") was reviewed by the Board which determined none of the seven adverse effects listed in Part II c of the EAF exist with respect to this proposed action. A negative determination of environmental signature, therefore, was appropriate and Supervisor Driscoll was authorized to execute the EAF to such effect.

2. The applicants and the owners of the subject parcel have submitted a copy of the deed and survey to evidence this.

3. The property is serviced by an access road which has been inspected and found by Mr. Wright and the fire department to be sufficient for ingress and egress by traffic generally and, in particular, for emergency vehicles.

4. The applicants and residents of adjoining properties which are serviced by this road have maintained the road and have agreed among themselves to jointly continue doing so.

The Board further found that granting a variance or exception:

1. Shall not have any deleterious or adverse effect upon the environment.

2. Shall not produce an undesirable change to the character of the neighborhood or create a detriment to nearby properties.

3. Will provide a benefit to the applicant which cannot be achieved by some other method feasible for the applicant to pursue. FURTHER the variance is not substantial.

CP Hart asked if CP Dolge should recluse himself from the vote since he lives on Miller Rd. and he is giving the right of way on his property. Atty. Hooks stated that CP Dolge has no financial interest and it has been disclosed therefore CP Dolge does not have to recluse himself.

Motion was made by CP Hart to adopt the Findings of Fact. Motion was seconded by CP Laughlin.

AYES	NAYS
CP Hart	
CP Dolge	
CP Laughlin	
CP James	
Supervisor Driscoll	

Motion carried.

Mike Allinger, President of the Library Board, spoke to the Town Board regarding the future of the Newfield Library. He stated they were seeing a lot of changes from the 2009 and 2010 already. Especially to the building. The second floor has been revitalized and is getting a lot of usage. There is now a teen corner in the back of the library with computers and furniture. Mr. Allinger stated that the County has started decreasing its resources to the rural libraries and expect to see a \$3500.00 loss from them for 2011. The Town would be almost 1/3 of the operating income. They are asking for \$22,800 in the 2011 Town Budget. This would be an approximate 18% increase from the 2010 budget. CP Dolge questioned if the library tax that is on the school tax bill could be increased. Tina Winstead, Director of the Library, stated that that was something they would be looking at to do. The Library request will be discussed at the next Board work session.

Motion was made by CP James to approve the payment of the October, 2010 monthly bills. Motion was seconded by CP Laughlin. Motion carried.

General Fund	\$29,401.68
Highway Fund	\$72,487.63
Fire Protection	\$83,062.50
Street Light Fund	\$ 1,264.17
Sewer District Fund	\$ 746.88
Water District 1	\$ 3,597.16
Recreation	\$ 2,803.45
Water District II	\$ 370.41

Motion was made by CP James to approve the appointment of Dustin James as Recreation Director in training in the last quarter of the year. He will work 10 hours per week at \$11.00 per hour. Motion was seconded by CP Laughlin. All approved.

#### REPORTS

Supervisor – Supervisor Driscoll gave the board a description of accounts for the highway dept. to help in the budget process.

Highway Superintendent – Highway Superintendent Berggren was unable to attend the meeting. Water/Sewer Supervisor Rob Brewer gave the report. Replacement road signs have been put up to be in compliance with the new State laws. The Main St. Bridge has been repaved. Dassance Rd. is being worked on.

Water/Sewer Supervisor – Water/Sewer Supervisor Rob Brewer stated that he is still waiting for the valve for the Main St. tank.

Recreation - Recreation Director Richard Berggren stated that Basketball sign-up will be held on Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. Soccer is up and going. The Volleyball clinic is going well. Cheerleading is up and going.

Code Enforcement – No reports

County Board Representative – No report.

There being no further business motion was made by CP Hart to adjourn the meeting at 8:20PM. Motion was seconded by CP Laughlin. All approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Katharine Crance  
Town Clerk

October 28, 2010  
Date