

Town of Newfield Board Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2011

The regular meeting of the Newfield Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Driscoll at 7:00PM. Present: CP Laughlin, CP Trask, CP Hart and Supervisor Driscoll. Also present: Atty. Edward Hooks, Code Enforcer Tony Petito, Highway Superintendent Kevin Berggren, Water/Sewer Supervisor Rob Brewer and County Legislator Dave McKenna. Absent: CP James

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

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Amy Heffron, Van Kirk Rd., spoke to the Board regarding her concerns for the Recreation Committee and stated that she resigned her position as chair of the committee but did not resign her seat.

Rodney Heffron, Van Kirk Rd. asked what constituted a public meeting and could the Supervisor make a decision for the Board without the Board's knowledge. He also asked if the Board Members could pass a resolution on what the Supervisor can or cannot do and can the Board meet with the Supervisor at a public place would it constitute a meeting. Attorney Hooks stated that if a majority of the Board were to meet socially and had an informal discussion no action may be taken during these discussions. Atty. Hooks stated he would like to review this law and get back to the Board.

Motion was made by CP Laughlin to approve the March 2011 Meeting Minutes. Motion was seconded by CP Trask. CP Hart abstained he didn't think he received the March Minutes in the mail. Motion carried.

AGENDA CHANGES

Supervisor Driscoll stated that he would like to remove under new business section 4a Planning Board request to increase planning budget line A8020.4. Mr. Goff had asked that this item be removed because no student has applied for the intern position. Supervisor Driscoll also stated that he would like to add the re-appointment of Christine Ranney to the Planning Board.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Christine Ranney has fulfilled the term of Crystal Doner's position on the planning board. That term is now up and Christine has agreed to serve a full 5 year term with the Town Board's approval. CP Trask made motion to appoint Christine Ranney to a 5 year term on the Planning Board. CP Hart stated before he voted he would like to know what Christine's attendance is for the meetings. CP Trask withdrew his motion and Supervisor Driscoll will check with Gary Goff, Chairman of the Planning Board on her attendance. This will be discussed at next month's meeting.

b. Approval of Contract with US Geological Survey – Todd Miller from the US Department of Geological Survey spoke to the Board on the aquifer studies in the Tompkins County area before gas drillings begin.

Supervisor Driscoll reviewed the contract between the U.S. Geological Survey and the Town of Newfield with the Board. He stated the following amounts shall be contributed to cover all the cost of the necessary field and analytical work directly related to this program. 2(a) \$36,393.00 by the party of the first part, U.S. Geological Survey, during the period of April 2, 2011 to March 31, 2017 and 2(b) \$84,634.00 By the party of the second part, Town of Newfield, during the period April, 2011 to March 31, 2017. All field and analytical work of either party pertaining to this program shall be open to the inspection of the other party, and if the work is not being carried on in a mutually satisfactory manner, either party may terminate this agreement upon 60 days written notice to the other party. The maps, records or reports resulting from this program shall be made available to the public as promptly as possible.

Upon review of the contract motion was made by CP Laughlin to approve the signing of the contract between the Town of Newfield and the USGS. Motion was seconded by CP Hart. All approved.

Financial Statements – Supervisor Driscoll stated that the First Quarter Financial Statements were given to Board in their packets. They will be reviewed and discussed at the Work Session on the 28th.

Motion was made by CP Trask to approve the payment of the April Monthly Bills. Motion was seconded by CP Laughlin. All approved.

General Fund totaling	\$ 9,819.65
Highway Fund totaling	\$35,596.65
Recreation Fund totaling	\$ 2,440.16
Sewer Fund totaling	\$ 582.99
Street Light Fund	\$ 1,273.21
Water District 1 totaling	\$ 394.09
Water District 2 totaling	\$ 1,398.41

REPORTS

Supervisor – Supervisor Driscoll stated that Tina Winstead asked him to participate in the time line capsule that will be closed at the Old Home Days celebration. He agreed to do that.

Highway – Highway Superintendent stated that the highway crew was still working on cleaning up after the winter. All personnel issues were taken care of.

Water/Sewer – Water/Sewer Supervisor Rob Brewer stated that all is fine in the Water/Sewer Dept.

Code Enforcer – Code Enforcer Tony Petito reported on the 2 cases he is doing final inspections on. Mr. Petito also stated he had 3 complaints since January and feels the Board should review the Local Law and consider a different way to enforce this law. The Board will discuss this at a work session in 2-3 months.

Recreation – Recreation Director Dustin James report the Baseball program is up and going. Coaches are all signed up and ready to go. There are about 100 kids signed up for this program. He has started a new program this year which is Track. 10 kids have signed up and will run opposite the Baseball so if children want to participate in both they can. Dustin gave the Board a copy of the newsletter he sends home with the children informing parents of all the programs, when signups will be held and contact information.

Motion was made by CP Trask to approve the appointment of CP Hart as Temporary Vice Chair of the Recreation Committee until a chair can be decided. Motion was seconded by CP Laughlin. All approved. CP Hart abstained.

Tompkins County Legislator – County Legislator Dave McKenna reported the population was up 1.39% in the Town of Newfield. As of the 2010 census the population is 5,179. Sales tax distribution for the Town of Newfield will be \$871,723.

A Rural Broad Band meeting will be held on April 25th in Borg Warner Room at the Ithaca Library from 1-3PM. Dr. Thomas and CP James will be attending to gather information.

The County Legislators are working on the 2012 budget, would have to be a 13.5% increase in taxes in order to keep services at the current level.

There being no further business Supervisor Driscoll adjourned the Board Meeting at 8:35PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Katharine Crance
Town Clerk

April 27, 2010
Date

Work Session April 28th at 7:00PM