

June 11, 2015

The regular Meeting of the Newfield Town Board was held in the Newfield Town Hall Board Room June 11, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Jeffrey Hart and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Present were: Supervisor Jeffrey Hart, Councilperson Roy Trask, Councilperson Joanne James, Councilperson Christine Laughlin and Councilperson Casey Powers. Also present: Code Enforcement Officer Butch Wright, Atty. Hooks, and 14 attendees.

Agenda Changes

Supervisor Hart asked to add an executive session to discuss pending litigation after the regular board meeting.

Privilege of the Floor

No one wished to speak

Approval of May 14, 2015 Regular Board Minutes, May 14, 2015 Public Hearing and May 28, 2015 Work Session/Special Board Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Councilperson Laughlin to approve the May 14, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes, seconded by Councilperson Powers.

Vote	AYES	5	Hart, Trask, James, Powers and Laughlin
	NAY	0	Carried

Motion was made by Councilperson Trask to approve the May 14, 2015 Public Hearing and May 28, 2015 Work Session/Special Board Meeting Minutes, seconded by Councilperson James.

Vote	AYES	5	Hart, Trask, James, Powers and Laughlin
	NAY	0	

Carried

Reports:

Highway: Highway Superintendent Kevin Berggren was absent. Supervisor Hart reported that Shelter Valley Road and Short Lane were being prepared for paving.

Code Enforcement: Code Enforcement Officer Harry Wright reported the site in violation on Shaffer Road had recently become compliant. The Adams Road site is beginning to show signs of compliance. COE Wright also noted there is a property on Crestview Lane with numerous cars. Supervisor Hart asked about a cabin that is precariously perched on a hillside on VanBuskirk Gulf Road. CEO Wright reviewed what had transpired regarding the cabin and asked the Board for advice on how to address the situation as the building is not violation the Town Property Code Regulations. CEO Wright stated the cabin in not in danger of coming down the hill.

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Councilperson James reported she had received calls regarding burning other than brush, she asked who should be called in order to lodge a complaint. CEO Wright suggested that the Tompkins County Health Department be called or the Newfield Fire Department.

Water Sewer: Supervisor Hart reported there had been a water main break in Shelter Valley and had been repaired

Recreation: Recreation Supervisor Hart read Recreation Director Reid Hoskins' monthly report

Tompkins County Legislature Report: Newfield Representative, David McKenna reported there had been a meeting and discussion regarding the Ag Plan for Tompkins County. He asked if anyone had any input to contact Debbie Teeter from Enfield. The Old Library Committee gave its recommendation of contractors to the County Legislature and that a new Personnel Commissioner had been hired.

Planning Board: Renee Borgella, reported the Planning Board was getting ready for a combined meeting of the Town Board and the Planning Board. The Planning Board would like to share what they have learned from the round table discussion/trainings regarding land use strategies. Mr. Borgella said the Planning Board's next focus would be improving communications regarding town wide activities. Mr. Borgella also reported there were residents who would be interested in volunteering to be grant writers for projects. The Planning Board is also working on a solution regarding the empty Agriculture seat on the Planning Board. It was asked if the wording could be changed. Mr. Borgella commented and questioned regarding taxation of properties with cell towers on them. The Town Board and Planning Board will meet together July 23, 2015.

Cemetery Committee: absent

Supervisor: Supervisor Hart reported he and Highway Superintendent Berggren will be meeting with the New York State Park and Recreation representatives regarding the replacement of the culvert on Douglas Road. Robert Treman State Park is concerned about the water quality conditions in the swimming area during the work. Negotiations regarding the fire contract with the Newfield Fire Department should begin at the end of July or August. The main focus for the next meeting will be the noise ordinance and discussion with Don Barber from TCCOG regarding health insurance with the consortium. Supervisor Hart also noted the site for the war memorial had been chosen in the rear corner near the Covered Bridge overlook area.

New Business

Discussion and approval to waive the fee for the Town Sponsored Broad Band Cell Towers

Motion was made by Councilperson Trask to approve waiving the permit fee for the Broad Band Cell Towers, seconded by Councilperson Laughlin.

Vote	AYES	5	Hart, Trask, James, Laughlin and Powers
	NAY	0	

Carried

Discussion to change the wording for the appointment of an Ag Person to the Planning Board

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Supervisor Hart commented on the difficulty of having an agriculture person fill the available seat on the Planning Board. It was felt from the attempts and failure to find an agriculture representative to the Planning Board that the Local Law No. 1 of the Year 2007 wording should be changed.

Motion was made by Councilperson Laughlin to approve the wording change for Proposed Local Law No. 2 of the Year 2015, seconded by Councilperson Trask.

Vote	AYES	5	Hart, Trask, James, Laughlin and Powers
	NAY	0	

Carried

Motion was made by Councilperson Trask to hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, July 11, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Newfield Town Hall for Public Comment regarding Proposed Local Law No. 2 of the Year 2015 To Amend Local Law No. 1 of the Year 2007 Which Establishes A Planning Board For The Town of Newfield, New York, seconded by Councilperson Laughlin.

**LOCAL LAW #2 OF THE YEAR 2015
TO AMEND LOCAL LAW #1 OF THE YEAR 2007
WHICH ESTABLISHED A PLANNING BOARD FOR
THE TOWN OF NEWFIELD, NEW YORK**

PURPOSE: Since the Town has found it difficult to attract an agricultural member to join the Planning Board, this amendment is intended to make the appointment of such member discretionary rather than mandatory. The language comports with that contained in Section 271(11) of the New York Town Law.

SECTION ONE:

Section 4.1 of Local Law #1 of the year 2007 to establish a Planning Board for the Town of Newfield, New York hereby is amended to delete therefrom the requirement that at least one member of the Planning Board shall be an “agriculture member” as defined under New York Town Law Section 271(11) and to substitute instead that at least one member of the Planning Board may be an agricultural member as that term is defined under New York Town Law Section 271(11) provided, however that an applicant who is an agricultural member and otherwise deemed suitable and qualified shall be given priority for appointment.

SECTION TWO:

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Effective Date: This amendment shall take effect immediately upon its filing with the New York State Secretary of State in accordance with Section 27 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

Vote AYES 5 Hart, Trask, James, Laughlin and Powers
 NAY 0
 Carried

Discussion and approval for the Supervisor to sign the Management Letter with Ciaschi, Dietershagen, Little, Mickelson & Co. LLP

Motion was made by Councilperson Trask to approve the Supervisor to sign the Management Letter regarding the 2014 Audit from Ciaschi, Dietershagen, Little, Mickelson & Co, LLP, seconded by Councilperson James.

Vote AYES 5 Hart, Trask, James, Laughlin and Powers
 NAY 0
 Carried

Discussion and approval for the Town Supervisor to sign the contract between the Town of Newfield and the Newfield School District for school tax collection.

Supervisor Hart posed several questions. Attorney Hooks was asked to amend the contract for the July regular meeting for approval.

Old Business

Discussion of the Noise Ordinance

Supervisor Hart asked for this to be tabled until the June 25, 2015 meeting.

Approval of the Payment of the June 2015 Bills

Motion was made by Councilperson Powers to approve the payments, seconded by Councilperson Trask. The Board authorized the payments of the following amounts:

General Fund	\$43,131.99
Recreation Fund	\$1,036.88
Highway Fund	\$59,892.51
Street light Fund	\$1,225.72
Sewer Fund	\$422.72

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Water District 1 Fund	\$27,487.41
Water District 2 Fund	\$7,247.04
Trust and Agency	\$3,079.07

Vouchers were audited by Councilpersons Trask and Powers.

Vote	AYES	5	Hart, Trask, James, Laughlin and Powers
	NAY	0	

Carried

At 7:53 p.m., a motion was made to move into an executive session to discuss pending litigation.

At 8:19, the Meeting was called back to the regular meeting of the Newfield Town Board, moving to adjournment at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

June 17, 2015

Karen Miller Kenerson
Newfield Town Clerk