

August 13, 2015

The Business Meeting of the Newfield Town Board was held at the Town Hall Board Room August 13, 2015 at 7:05 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: Highway Superintendent Kevin Berggren, Atty. Hooks, and 13 attendees.

Supervisor Hart asked for a moment of remembrance for Code Enforcement Officer Butch Wright who had recently passed away.

**Agenda Changes:** Supervisor Hart asked to add to New Business a resolution requesting funding from Gov. Cuomo and information regarding the temporary closure of the Covered Bridge.

**Privilege of the Floor**

*Gene VanZile:* Thanked the Town Board members, Atty. Hooks and others who work for Newfield.

**Approval of July 13, 2015, July 23, 2015 and August 4, 2015 Board Minutes**

Motion was made by Councilperson Trask to approve the July 13, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes, seconded by Councilperson Laughlin.

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

Carried

Motion was made by Councilperson James to approve the July 23, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes, seconded by Councilperson Powers.

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

Carried

Motion was made by Councilperson Trask to approve the August 4, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes, seconded by Councilperson Powers.

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

Carried

**Correspondence:**

None

**Reports:**

August 13, 2015

*Highway:* Highway Superintendent Kevin Berggren reported the Highway Department is continuing to work on flood damage repairs.

*Water/Sewer Department:* Superintendent Kevin Berggren reported there had been an issue with the water main on Main Street. An aged corroded tap was shown to the Board Members.

*Code Enforcement:* Supervisor Hart expressed his gratitude to Butch Wright for his many years of service to the Town. Supervisor Hart reported that Bill Baker had been appointed as Code Enforcement Officer through the end of the year. Mr. Baker will also be the Environmental Code Officer and Storm Water Management Officer.

*Recreation:* Supervisor Hart read a report from *Recreation* Director Reid Hoskins reviewing the Recreation summer program.

*Planning Board:* Planning Board Chair, Karen Trask, reported that the Planning Board has been working on Land Use Strategies and will have a presentation for the Newfield Town Board at a September meeting. Nancy Dolge also reported on a grant she is pursuing regarding land use planning education. Mrs. Dolge presented the Board Members with a draft application to be submitted to the Park Foundation for a grant concerning the education of land use planning education. Mrs. Dolge would like to submit the application by September 15, 2015. Mrs. Dolge requested a commitment of \$3,500.00 annually for the next 2 years in the Town Budget from the Town Board. Mrs. Dolge stated she has a commitment of 2,000.00 from Stainable Newfield for 2016, if the Town Board will commit to 1,500.00 annually. Councilperson Laughlin clarified that Mrs. Dolge was requesting funding for part one for 2016 and the \$3,500.00 was for the project not the Planning Board. Supervisor Hart confirmed that the Planning Board budget request reflected this as well.

*Tompkins County Legislature Report:* Newfield Representative David McKenna reported that Tompkins County had accepted grants for various work to be done at the Tompkins County Regional Airport and that the Travis Hyde project had been awarded the Old Tompkins County Library.

*Cemetery Committee:* Marie Terlizzi and the Town Board members agreed on a site for the Bank Street Cemetery sign placement.

*Supervisor:* Supervisor Hart thanked Keri Blankinger for her reporting of town meetings and functions for the Newfield News. Ms. Blankinger will be moving on to the New York Daily News.

## **New Business**

*Discussion and action regarding Resolution No- 2015 supporting a public hearing for the Town of Newfield*

*Noise Law:*

Atty. Hooks questioned whether the proposed law was ready for introduction and then a public hearing. After discussion, it was decided to postpone the introduction. More work will be done regarding the Newfield Noise Law at the August 27, 2015 meeting. The introduction will be tabled until the September Business Meeting.

*Approval to appoint Bill Baker as Temporary Storm water Management Officer*

Motion was made by Councilperson Trask to approve the appointment of Bill Baker as Storm water Management Officer, seconded by Councilperson Laughlin.

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

August 13, 2015

NAY 0

Carried

*Request for funding from Governor Cuomo*

Attorney Hooks summarized his conversations with Assemblywomen Lifton regarding the need of State Aid for the Town regarding the damage from the June 14, 2015 storm. Councilperson Trask commented regarding similar conversations and a tour regarding storm hit areas with Senator Thomas O'Mara.

Motion was made by Councilperson Laughlin to support a request to New York State for emergency disaster funding to mitigate damage due to severe rainstorm on June 14, 2015 and June 15, 2015 that severely damaged various Town highways in the Town of Newfield, seconded by Councilperson Trask.

**Resolution No. 12-2015**

In Support of Request to New York State for Emergency Disaster Funding to Mitigate Damage Due to Severe Rainstorm on June 14, 2015 and June 15, 2015 Which Very Seriously Damaged Various Town Highways in the Town of Newfield.

WHEREAS, over the course of June 14, 2015 and June 15, 2015, the Town of Newfield experienced an extraordinary rain storm that deposited in excess of five inches of rain over a short period of time; and,

WHEREAS the damage that occurred as a consequence of that deluge is estimated to exceed \$700,00 as more particularly described in the itemization of damage submitted with and made a part of this resolution; and,

WHEREAS this expense would have a devastating impact upon the Town's highway budget; and,

WHEREAS as a consequence, the Town Highway Department will be unable to proceed with any other critical projects on and with respect to other roads within the Town; and,

WHEREAS it is crucial that the Town seek and obtain emergency funds to pay for and/or to reimburse the Town for the substantial cost of repairs and the procurement of materials necessary to effect such repairs,

NOW THEREFORE UPON MOTION BY COUNCILPERSON LAUGHLIN SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON TRASK, IT IS:

RESOLVED that the Newfield Town Board hereby support requests by its Highway Superintendent (Kevin Berggren) working together with the Town Supervisor (Jeffery Hart) to seek funding to mitigate the cost of repairs made necessary by the extraordinary June 14, 2015 rainstorm; and,

RESLOVED that copy of this Resolution be provided to Governor Andrew Cuomo, Senator Thomas O'Mara, and Assemblywomen Barbara Lifton.

August 13, 2015

SEQR Action: Type II-20.

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

Carried

*Covered Bridge Update:*

The Covered Bridge will close to all through traffic from August 17, to October 30, 2015 for repairs and the installation of a fire suppression system.

**Old Business**

Verizon Cell Tower: no update

**Approval of the Payment of the August 2015 Bills**

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

General Fund	\$46,587.88
Recreation Fund	\$6,677.23
Highway Fund	\$54,583.98
Fire District	\$1,776.00
Street light Fund	\$1,276.11
Sewer Fund	\$9,472.01
Water District 1 Fund	\$2,080.15
Water District 2 Fund	\$848.64
Trust and Agency	\$1,808.78

Vouchers were audited by Councilpersons James or Laughlin.

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

Carried

At 7:58 p.m., a motion was made to move into an Executive Session to discuss pending litigation.

At 8:28, the Meeting was called back to the Regular Meeting of the Newfield Town Board, moving to adjournment at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

September 1, 2015

Karen Miller Kenerson  
Newfield Town Clerk