

The regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Newfield was held at the Newfield Town Hall, 166 Main Street, Newfield NY on Thursday October 10, 2013.

Present were: Richard Driscoll: Supervisor
Roy Trask: Councilperson
Joanne James: Councilperson
Christine Laughlin: Councilperson
Casey Powers: Councilperson

Also present were: Kevin Berggren: Highway Superintendent, Ed Hooks: Town Attorney and 13 residents in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Driscoll and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Opening Privilege of the Floor:

Jeff Golden: applauded the Town Board for passing the Comprehensive Plan. He commented on the review of one of the Plan's key points: Section 3 concerning development. He felt the Board needs to understand and act accordingly. He spoke of the detailed data: 80% of Newfield residents felt planning was valuable, 82% said no to large scale development, 71% were opposed to unrestricted development, and 14% felt there should be unrestricted development. He also commented on other facts associated with the same section: to encourage quality development that would minimize future burdens to the Town: roads and pollution. Ensure development minimizes future conflict between developer and neighbors. Also to ensure and promote responsible development: real plans, with the right roads for the right business. He noted the Route 13 corridor was the overwhelming choice for development. He noted that the Comprehensive Plan was a culmination of years of work, gathering data and its creation is only effective if used as a guide line by this Board or any other group of Board Members. He noted that the Comprehensive Plan is the request of the residents of the Town of Newfield, not the ideas of one or a few. It was not created by the Planning Board, but facilitated by the Planning Board. He asked that the Board ensure the findings of its work and guidelines within it are used for all projects in process or proposed. He felt it was the responsibility of the Board to follow the guidelines as they are the request of the Towns people.

Bob Mente: wanted to let the Board know he was continuing to bring fill in on his Bishop Road property, and has not encroached on the markers placed by the DEC, Army Corps of Engineers, Tompkins County Soil and Water and Code Enforcer Wright. He has also retained a surveyor to provide a survey with a certified and stamped copy for the Town Board. Mr. Mente will also

provide the Town Board with a list of materials coming onto his property that show where and how it has been tested . He stated his business has continued to grow and expand. He said he will continue to do so and not allow the neighborhood to stop the process. He invited the Board to view the site on Bishop Road or telephone him with any concerns or questions.

Brenda Lapp: she asked if the job descriptions on the Personal Policy were being updated as well. She noted on the public meeting agendas that there are reports to be given from the Department Heads and often times the department heads are not present. She feels that with the job description it should state how many meetings should be attended and what should be put into the report if not already stated. She also felt the Board needed to have a policy concerning the retention of the audio tapes the Town Clerk makes of the Town Board meetings. She feels the tapes should be retained for at least twelve months. Ms. Lapp stated she would forgo that retention policy request if the audio tapes were digitized then put on line and retained on the Town Website. She also thought an organizational chart on the website would be beneficial. She felt that if a resident had a problem with a Town employee or elected official the resident should be able to know who to contact with their question or concern regarding the employee or officials job performance

Michelle Henry: came to the Board with concerns of a suggested cautionary speed limit on Newfield Depot Road.

Agenda Review

No additions

Adoption of the September 12, 2013 Board Minutes:

Motion was made by Councilperson Powers to accept the September 12, 2013 regular Board Meeting minutes. Councilperson Laughlin seconded the motion.

ADOPTED: AYE 5 Driscoll, Trask, James, Laughlin and Powers

NAY 0

Correspondence:

Requests from Senior Citizens and the NICE program for consideration during the budgetary process.

Reports:

Highway: Superintendent Kevin Berggren reported that the Highway Department had been cleaning ditches, replacing driveway culvert and road cross pipes.

Water Sewer: Water Sewer Manager Robb Brewer was absent. Supervisor Driscoll reported on the progress of the water meter installation.

Recreation: Recreation Director Reid Hoskins was absent due to activities at the school. A written report was provided to the Board.

Environmental and Building Code Enforcement: Code Officer Wright was absent, but had provided the Board with a monthly report and his daily work log for review.

County Representative: Representative McKenna was absent.

Supervisor's Report: Supervisor Driscoll reported that the Memorandum of Agreement has been filed. It updates the contract with the Town and the CSEA bargaining unit for the Highway department. Supervisor Driscoll reported that the Board has had three meetings and gave a list of the remaining meeting till the end of October.

New Business:

Supervisor Driscoll read the following proposed RESOLUITON to Convene a Public Hearing on a Local Law to Override the NYS Tax Cap

**TOWN OF NEWFIELD
RESOLUTION NO. 39- 2013**

WHEREAS, according to New York State General Municipal Law §3-R(5), if a town government decides to adopt a town budget with a property tax levy that exceeds the level set by the State, the town government must pass a local law to override that cap; and,

WHEREAS, adopting said local law is not predictive of the final tax levy but will provide the Newfield Town Board flexibility to exceed the Property Tax Cap if it is deemed necessary;

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Town Board to adopt a budget that does not exceed the 2014 tax cap requirement for the Town; and

WHEREAS, however during the Budget process and deliberation between today's date and the adoption of the Town's 2014 Budget in mid-November the Town Board may find that it may need to exceed the cap in order to provide the Town's residents with a level of services the Board Members deem desirable and or necessary;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT,

RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held before the Town Board at the Newfield Town Hall on November 8, 2013, at 7:00 o'clock in the evening thereof concerning proposed Local Law #3 of 2013 Local Law Overriding Tax Levy Limit for Fiscal Year 2014. At such time and place all persons interested in the subject matter will be heard concerning the same.

RESOLVED, further, that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to place proper notice of such public hearing in the official newspaper of the Town and to post the same in accordance with Law.

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20

Discussion: Attorney Hooks noted a correction to be made concerning the year, so noted and corrected.

Motion was made by Councilperson James to adopt Resolution 39-2013, seconded by Councilperson Powers.

ADOPTED: AYES	5	Driscoll, Trask, James, Laughlin and Powers
NAYES	0	

Supervisor Driscoll read proposed the proposed Resolution to Convene a Public Hearing on the adoption of the 2014 Newfield Town Budget as follows:

TOWN OF NEWFIELD
RESOLUTION NO.40 – 2013

**TO CONVENE A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE ADOPTION OF THE TOWN OF
NEWFIELD 2014 BUDGET**

WHEREAS the Newfield Town Board is currently in the process of creating a Town Budget for the year 2014 to be presented to the Town Residents for their consideration,

NOW THEREFORE Be It Resolved that the Town Board does hereby call for a Public Hearing on Thursday November 8, 2013 at 7:15 p.m. on a proposed adoption of the Town of Newfield 2014 Budget, and

Resolved, further, that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to place proper notice of such public hearing in the official newspaper of the Town and to post the same in accordance with Law.

Motion was made by Councilperson Trask to adopt Resolution 40-2013, seconded by Councilperson Powers.

ADOPTED	AYES	5	Driscoll, Trask, James, Laughlin and Powers
	NAYES	0	

Old Business:

Councilperson Laughlin asked about applications for the Planning Board. She noted there was one in her Board Packet. Supervisor Driscoll said there were two more, he would send those to the Board Members by email to then discuss how to proceed with the interviews. He would like to entertain the interviews by the end of the month. He hopes to bundle the interviews with another meeting. He would like to appoint the new Planning Board members at the regular monthly meeting in November.

Audit of Claims :

Motion was made by Councilperson Laughlin and seconded by Councilperson Powers to approve the September Expenses.

Discussion: Councilperson Laughlin asked about the Aquifer Study payments. Supervisor Driscoll stated there was a payment in 2011 that was not paid that was carried forward to 2012. Supervisor Driscoll made arrangements to make payment in 2013. He asked to set up an advanced payment system with the USGS to then be current in 2014 and 2015. Councilperson Trask asked why the payment in 2011 was not paid. Supervisor Driscoll said it happened during the time the Bookkeeper left and it fell off the radar. Councilperson Trask asked if the funds were then carried to the fund balance, and why not pay it now. It was agreed by the Board to do this. Councilperson Laughlin asked how long the Town had the Aquifer Study contract with the USGS. Supervisor Driscoll felt it was through 2016.

Councilperson Laughlin added she was glad to see the work report from the Code Enforcement Officer, she would like to see it accompany the mileage voucher. Councilperson Trask asked

how much had been budgeted for mileage. Supervisor Driscoll stated that it would be over budget his year. It was decided this topic would be discussed at the budget work session.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Driscoll, Trask, James, Laughlin and Powers
NAYES 0

Vouchers were reviewed by Councilpersons Laughlin and Powers, the Board authorized the payments of the following amounts:

General Fund	\$31,549.62
Recreation Fund	\$1,793.36
Highway Fund	\$32,459.78
Street Light Fund	\$1,288.29
Sewer Fund	\$1,823.07
Water District 1 Fund	\$3,893.70
Water District 2 Fund	\$553.70
Fire District Fund	\$87,928.30
Trust and Agency	\$1,692.70

Work Session: October 24, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

Supervisor Driscoll added the sequence for the 2014 Newfield Town Budget Calendar as follows: a preliminary draft budget will be needed by October 29, for 2014 in order to meet the requirements of filing public notice. Public Hearing on November 7 and adoption of the 2014 budget on November 14th.

A motion to amend the Resolutions 39 and 40 the dates for the Public Hearing dates from November 8th to November 7, 2013 was offered by Councilperson James and seconded by Councilperson Laughlin.

ADOPTED AYES 5 Driscoll, Trask, James, Laughlin and Powers
NAYES 0

At 7:34 Supervisor Driscoll moved to adjourn the October 10, 2013 Regular Meeting of the Newfield Town Board.

Respectfully Submitted,

October 14, 2013

Karen Miller Kenerson, RMC
Town Clerk

