

December 8, 2016

The regular Meeting of the Newfield Town Board was held at the Town Hall Board Room December 8, 2016 at 7:00. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Jeffery Hart and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

*Present were:* Supervisor Jeffrey Hart, Councilperson Joanne James, Councilperson Christine Laughlin, Councilperson Casey Powers and Councilperson Michael Allinger. Also present: Highway Superintendent Kevin Berggren, Tompkins County Legislature Representative David McKenna, Planning Board Member Tom Gerow, Code Enforcement Officer Alan Teeter, Atty. Smith, and 15 attendees.

### **Privilege of the Floor**

*Tom Gerow-* addressed road concerns for the Blakeslee Hill Road area. Mr. Gerow asked that the weight limit signs be moved closer to NYS RTE 34/96 as truck drivers say they do not see them until it is too late. Mr. Gerow also commented on guard rail that needed replacing on Decker Road and NYS RTE 34/96.

*Robert Seely:* commented regarding the joint Planning Board and Town Board meeting December 7, 2016: the BAN in place in Dryden has been proven in the courts and is ready and that a BAN is a tool that can be lifted if things change.

### **Approval of November 8 and November 22, 2016 Board Minutes**

Motion was made by Councilperson James to approve the November 8, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes, seconded by Councilperson Allinger.

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

Carried

Motion was made by Councilperson Laughlin to approve the November 22, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes, seconded by Councilperson Powers.

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

Carried

### **Reports:**

*Highway:* Highway Superintendent Kevin Berggren was absent during reports. Supervisor Hart reported that the Main Street Culvert has been certified by the State for one year. Superintendent Berggren arrived late and he reported that cross culverts on Stark road had been replaced and surveying done on Fishkill for a replacement. He also reported that the Main Street Culvert will be inspected bimonthly by the State. Its replacement should be in 2018|19. The Town will be working with Tompkins County for federal grants.

*Code Enforcement:* Code Enforcement Officer Alan Teeter reported 7 permits had been issued during the month of November. Mr. Teeter also commented E & V Energy was close to receiving a building permit pending approval for TCSW.

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*Water Sewer:* Highway Superintendent Kevin Berggren commented on his displeasure on the progress of the water tank project.

*Recreation:* Recreation Director Reid Hoskins was absent. Supervisor Hart read the Recreation report.

*Ad Hoc Park Committee:* Supervisor Hart reported that there was nothing new to report at this point.

*Tompkins County Legislature Report:* Newfield Representative David McKenna reported that the legislature had passed a pay increase for the representatives for the first time in seven years, awarded bid for the Red Mill and Malloryville bridges, gave the go ahead for the law enforcement shared service plan to a Rochester firm, scheduled a public hearing for Charter view changes and authorized notes.

*Planning Board:* Tom Gerow(Planning Board Member) reported the consensus from the Land Use Strategies Survey shows those that responded support land use planning.

*Environmental Management Council:* Michelle Henry reported on the meetings she had attended regarding microplastics and contaminants.

*Supervisor:* Supervisor Hart reported the water tank project would resume at the end of March. Supervisor Hart explained that another Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) would be going out for bid for expenses of the project. After the project was complete and expenses totaled the Town would then bond the entire project. Supervisor Hart also commented on land use strategies and Site Plan Review with the Planning Board.

### **New Business**

Councilperson Laughlin commented she noticed that the Verizon Cell Tower was given an address.

### **Old Business**

*Discussion of how to proceed with the Delaware River Solar project as far as taxing*

Atty. Smith reviewed that the Town of Newfield had received notice from Delaware River Solar of a solar project during the summer of 2016, the Town in turn gave notice to DRS that it would be inquiring of its intent to require a PILOT for the project. In NYS Tax Law, a PILOT can only be extended for 15 years, DRS is requesting a PILOT for 25 years for investors. Atty. Smith stated the only way to extend a PILOT beyond the 15 years, would be to go through Tompkins County Industrial Development Authority. Heather McDaniel, the administrator of the TCIDA is working on having a uniform policy for county wide for solar projects. Rich Winter from DRS commented that a proposed project on Trumbull Corner Road was now cancelled due to flicker issues. Councilperson Laughlin noted there were errors in the agriculture maps provide by DRS in regards to the proposed solar arrays. Mr. Winter's will get this corrected. Councilperson Laughlin asked about a decommissioning plan DRS had submitted to the Town. Mr. Winter agreed that \$60,000 per project would be escrowed for decommissioning.

*Discussion of the Site Plan Review Law*

Supervisor Hart noted the Town Board and the Planning Board had met regarding Land Use Strategies. They will meet January 11 next regarding a Site Plan Review Law.

*Discussion and Action Regarding Resolution No. 23 2016 2017 Water Rates*

Supervisor Hart commented the proposed water rate raise 3<sup>rd</sup>. increase as recommended by the water rate study.

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**RESOLUTION No. 23-2016 Water Rate Increase**

WHEREAS the Town Board adopted Resolution No. 17-2015 and proposed a tentative increase in 2017 water rates so that the 2017 water rate would be \$5.80 per 1000 gallons of water.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the water rated for 2017 will be \$5.80 per 1000 gallons of water.

Motion was made by Councilperson Powers to approve the water rate increase, seconded by Councilperson Allinger.

Vote:

AYES 5 Hart, James, Laughlin, Powers and Allinger

NAY 0

Carried

**Approval of the Payment of the December 2016 Bills**

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

General Fund	\$20,800.88
Recreation Fund	\$3,293.80
Highway Fund	\$18,727.71
Street light Fund	\$1,269.24
Sewer Fund	\$750.63
Water District 1 Fund	\$4,131.45
Water District 2 Fund	\$4,113.96
Capital Fund #2	\$1,152,964.70
Trust and Agency	\$4,458.45

Vouchers were audited by Councilpersons Allinger James or Laughlin and Powers.

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

NAY 0

Carried

The December 14, 2016 Board meeting is cancelled.

At 8:07 p.m., a motion was made to adjourn by Councilperson Powers, seconded by Councilperson Laughlin.

Respectfully Submitted,

December 13, 2016

Karen Miller Kenerson  
Newfield Town Clerk

