

Town of Newfield Board Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2012

The regular meeting of the Newfield Town Board was called to order at 7:00PM January 12, 2012 by Supervisor Driscoll. Present were: CP Trask, CP Laughlin, CP James, CP Powers, and Supervisor Driscoll. Also present were Town Atty. Edward Hooks, Code Enforcement Officer Tony Petito, Highway Superintendent Kevin Berggren, Water/Sewer Supervisor Robb Brewer, Recreation Director Dustin James and County Legislator David McKenna.

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

Supervisor Driscoll introduced his new bookkeeper Nadine Bennett the Board and Audience.

Privilege of the Floor:

Randy Brown, Current Chair of the Planning Board stated that the Planning Board would be having community meeting involving local businesses on Wednesday, January 18. The goal is to discuss economic plans for the future of Newfield. The following Wednesday (January 25) there will be a similar meeting with members of our Agriculture community invited to attend. He also stated the Planning Board is in the process of drafting a letter to the Town Board asking for a moratorium for gas drilling.

Amy Heffron, a local business owner and resident questioned if the January 2, 2012 Organizational Meeting was a legal meeting as she did not see a posting. She also asked how the compliancy was being handled with the State Comptroller's Office.

Motion to approve the December 8, 2012 was made by CP Trask, and supported by CP Laughlin. Motion carried.

Correspondence: A letter from a concerned resident was given to the Board in regards to the Town's Website. Supervisor Driscoll said the Board would address this at the Work Session on January 30th.

Reports:

Highway: Highway Superintendent Kevin Berggren said they were hauling a lot of salt from Cargil that was free! The backhoe has a leak and will need repair. The town will be signing for the new backhoe on Tuesday, January 17th. Supervisor Driscoll said that Tompkins County will be doing some updating at the Covered Bridge.

Water/Sewer report was read by Supervisor Driscoll that had been prepared by Robb Brewer.

Code Enforcement: Tony Petito reported that his open cases are progressing and that he has 2 new cases he is going to be looking in to.

Recreation: Recreation Director Dustin James reported that Basketball is underway and doing well... The Basketball uniforms have arrived and that most of the cost of those were covered from the Shootathon. The spring volleyball clinic will be coached by Tony Hackett. Dustin is also working on a fundraiser with Doug's Fish Fry. The date has yet to be set. Summer camp dates, rates and applications are ready to be distributed soon. He is also thinking of having a 5K race through the town, and having it end coming through the Covered Bridge, with a gathering behind the Town Hall in the park.

County Legislator: David McKenna told us the current topic is "Who" is going to be the new chairperson? They will find out on Tuesday (January 17th) County Office for the Aging will be moving to old Carpet Bazar building on State Street and the County Legislative offices will be moving to the second floor of County Annex building.

New Business

RESOLUTION NO. 6 – 2012

RESOLVE that Justice Payne's Court Clerk shall be paid at the rate of \$12.00 an hour, not to exceed \$7,500.00 and that

RESOLVE that Justice Gary Dresser's Court Clerk shall be paid at the rate of \$12.00 an hour, not to exceed \$7,500.00.

Motion was made by CP James to accept Resolution NO.6-2012, and supported by CP Powers,

Ayes

CP Trask

CP James

CP Laughlin

CP Powers

Supervisor Driscoll

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 7 – 2012

RESOLVE that Christine Wright shall provide cleaning services for the Newfield Town Hall at an annualized rate of \$3,000 payable monthly.

Motion was made by C James to accept Resolution NO. 7-2012, and supported by CP Powers,

AYES

NAYES

CP James

CP Trask

CP Powers

CP Laughlin

Supervisor Driscoll

Motion carried

RESOLUTION NO. 8 – 2012

RESOLVE that the Supervisor is authorized to sign a contract with Harris Beach PLLC for the services of Edward Hooks, Esq. for the year 2012.

Motion was made by CP Laughlin to accept Resolution NO.8-2012 and supported by CP Trask

AYES

NAYES

CP Trask

CP Laughlin

CP James

CP Powers

Supervisor Driscoll

Motion carried

RESOLUTION NO. 9 – 2012

RESOLVE that Town Clerk Karen Kenerson is authorized as a signatory for the following Town of Newfield Checking Accounts at Tioga State Bank: Tax Accounts and Town Clerk.

Motion was made by CP Trask to accept Resolution NO. 9-2012 and supported by CP Laughlin

AYES

NAYES

CP Trask

CP Laughlin

CP James

CP Powers

Supervisor Driscoll

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION NO. 10 – 2012

RESOLVE that the Supervisor is authorized to sign a contract with Tompkins County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for dog control services for the year 2012.

CP Trask had concerns about the annual increases over the next 2 years of over 10% each year. He felt that the increases were excessive during these tough financial times. CP Laughlin asked if we had less calls to respond to if our rate would change any. Members of the audience asked about increasing the license fees, how Ithaca College and Cornell University affected the numbers and also how the SPCA budgets. Motion was made by CP James to accept Resolution NO. 10-2012 and was supported by CP Powers.

AYES

NAYES

CP James

CP Trask

CP Laughlin

CP Powers

Supervisor Driscoll

Motion carried

Old Business

Supervisor Driscoll reported that an auditor from the NYS Comptroller's office was in December 28-30, he interviewed Town Hall employees, and has recommended that the State conduct an audit. He was not sure when the audit would take place. Supervisor Driscoll stated this would be brought up at the next work session. An audience member asked if the penalties had been resolved yet, and Supervisor Driscoll stated that he was filing an appeal and the penalties were unpaid. He is also asking the bookkeeper to review the accounts, as he feels there may be an error in the 3rd. quarter. We are awaiting the penalties for the October payment.

The December 2011 and January 2012 (Abstract 13) expenses were reviewed and a motion was made by CP Laughlin and supported by CP Trask to accept the payments.

Abstract 13

General Fund	Totaling	\$18886.17
Highway Fund	Totaling	\$30989.50
Street Light	Totaling	\$1727.70
Sewer District	Totaling	\$986.71
Water District 1	Totaling	\$3590.68
Recreation	Totaling	\$1166.71
Water District 2	Totaling	\$1766.29

January 2012

General Fund	Totaling	\$35994.17
Highway Fund	Totaling	\$16145.42
Sewer Fund	Totaling	\$184.92
Water District 1	Totaling	\$574.15
Water District 2	Totaling	\$337.15

Motion carried.

Being there no more business to discuss, Supervisor Driscoll adjourned the meeting at 7:59PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Miller Kenerson

January 24, 2012

Town Clerk

DRAFT