

Town of Newfield Board Meeting Minutes

January 2, 2012

The Newfield Town Board met on January 2, 2012 for the Annual Organizational Meeting. The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by Supervisor Driscoll. Present were, Supervisor Driscoll, CP Trask, CP James, CP Laughlin and CP Powers.

Supervisor Driscoll then opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Supervisor Driscoll introduced Karen Miller Kenerson as the new Town. Clerk Council persons Casey Powers and Roy Trask were sworn the oath of office as Town Consul Members for the term of 2012 through 2015.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION NO. 1- 2012

APPOINTMENTS AND REMUNERATION

1. Harry Wright is hereby officially appointed Town of Newfield Fire and Building Code Enforcement Officer at an annual salary of \$29,236.
2. Environmental Code Enforcement Officer shall be Tony Petito at an annual salary of \$3,542.
3. Water and Sewer Billing Clerk shall be Karen Kenerson at an annual salary of \$1,507 per year.
4. Tax Collector shall be Karen Kenerson.
5. Youth Recreation Director shall be Dustin James at an annual salary of \$28,105.
6. Newfield Youth Treasurer shall be Katharine Crance at an hourly rate of \$11.00/hr. not to exceed \$ 572.00 adopted in the 2012 Town Budget.
7. School Crossing Guard shall be Jenny Rumsey at an hourly rate of 8.25 per hour, not to exceed \$3,200.00 as adopted in the 2012 Town Budget.

8. Water/Sewer Supervisor shall be Rob Brewer at the hourly rate of \$23.24.

OTHER REMUNERATION

1. Justice Payne's Court Clerk shall be paid a salary not to exceed \$7,500 as adopted in the 2012 Town budget. The hourly rate shall be set at the Town's next Regular Board Meeting.
2. Justice Dresser's Court Clerk shall be paid a salary not to exceed \$7,500 as adopted in the 2012 Town budget. The hourly rate shall be set at the Town's next Regular Board Meeting.
3. The Deputy Town Clerk shall be paid a salary not to exceed \$14,400 as adopted in the 2012 Town budget. The hourly rate shall be set at the Town's next Regular Board Meeting.
4. The Supervisor's Bookkeeper/Assistant shall be paid \$18.00 per hour not to exceed \$18,720 per year as adopted in the 2012 Town budget.

Motion was made by CP Trask to accept the appointments and remuneration, and was supported by CP Laughlin.

AYES

NAYS

CP Trask

CP James

CP Laughlin

CP Powers

Supervisor Driscoll

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION NO. 2 - 2012 OTHER AUTHORIZATIONS

- A. Official meeting dates for the Town Board Meetings are the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm corresponding the following dates: Jan. 12, Feb. 9, March 8, April 12, May 10, June 14, July 12, Aug. 9, Sept. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 8, and Dec. 13. The Organizational Meeting will take place on the first Monday after the New Year. Work Sessions will be held monthly on the fourth Thursday at 7:00pm.
- B. Town officials will be reimbursed for use of personal vehicles to conduct Town business at the rate of \$.55 per mile.
- C. Highway Department workers and the Deputy Highway Superintendent shall be paid weekly. Elected officials and all other Town employees shall be paid monthly on the first day of each month. The Town reserves the right in 2012 to change the payroll cycle from weekly and monthly to bi-weekly.
- D. The Highway Department is authorized to perform in-kind services for the Newfield School District but for the fuel costs which shall be reimbursed by the District to the Town.
- E. The Town shall pay monthly time sensitive recurring expenses such as utility bills prior to the regular monthly Board Meeting such payments to be included in the Monthly Abstract presented to the Town Board for its Audit.
- F. Highway Superintendent shall purchase salt, gas, diesel fuel and tires on State or County bid basis.
- G. The Bookkeeper is charged with the management of employee benefits and notice of these as required by contract and appropriate to the employees.
- H. Alan Chaffee shall be the Town Historian.

Motion was made by CP James to approve the other
Authorizations and supported by CP Powers

AYES

NAYS

CP Trask

CP James

CP Laughlin

CP Powes

Supervisor Driscoll

Motion Carried

RESOLUTION NO. 3 - 2010

RESOLVED, that Tioga State Bank, a New York bank (the "Bank"), be and hereby is designated a depository of the Town of Newfield (the "Depositor"); and be it further

RESOLVED, that, acting alone, either of the following persons (individually an "Authorized Party"):

	Name	Title
1.	Richard G. Driscoll	Supervisor
2.	Joanne James	Deputy Supervisor

be and is hereby authorized, directed and empowered, in the name and on behalf of the Depositor to represent and act in the legal financial interests of the Depositor as outlined by the Bank in the Deposit Account Certificate of Authorization.

Motion was made by CP Laughlin to approve Resolution NO. 3 and was supported by CP Trask.

AYES

NAYS

CP Trask

CP James
CP Laughlin
CP Powers
Supervisor Driscoll
Motion Carried

RESOLUTION NO. 4 – 2012

RESOLVED that Katherine Crance shall be appointed Temporary Assistant Deputy Clerk from the Tuesday January 3, 2012 to February 24, 2012 shall be paid a salary not to exceed \$3,600 as adopted in the 2012 Town budget. The hourly rate shall be set at the Town's next Regular Board Meeting.

Motion was made by CP James to approve Katharine Crance as Temporary Deputy Clerk, and supported by CP Powers

AYES

NAYS

CP Trask
CP James
CP Laughlin
CP Powers
Supervisor Driscoll
Motion Carried

RESOLUTION NO. 5 – 2012

Whereas the Members of the Town Board wish to adopt, by Resolution, Protocols for the clear and efficient conduct of Town business at all Town Board meetings,

Now therefore be it resolved that the Members agree that

1. Courtesy by and between Members is required at all times.
2. Discussion of other Members' motives is never allowed.
3. Members agree not to speak a second time on a matter before the Board until other Members who wish to do so have spoken once and Members agree not to engage in sidebar conversation with one another.
4. Members agree that enforcement of these protocols shall be permitted by the presiding officer.

Motion was made by CP Powers to adopt Resolution NO .5 and supported by CP James

AYES

NAYS

CP Trask

CP James

CP Laughlin

CP Powers

Supervisor Driscoll

Motion Carried.

Council Person Messages

CP Trask spoke first; he introduced himself and his experience last year as a Board Member. He hopes for 2012 is to see a room full of people and that the Town Board will do it's best to offer as much information to the

residents. He would like to see the budget process begin sooner in the year and that there be more community input on what they want to save and what they can do without in the next year's budget. His statement to the public is that you need to be willing to balance your wants and needs and be willing to pay more taxes for those wants (services), or do you want to keep your taxes low or below the tax cap. The Board needs to look closely as to what the people really want. And if they want more services, and pay higher taxes, so be it. He is proposing the Board go to various clubs and organizations and solicit input. He stressed again the need for more residents to attend the Town Board Meetings. He looks forward to the town finances getting smoothed out and figured out, and hopefully next year the budget process will begin earlier and be a smoother process.

CP James spoke next; she is looking forward to a collaborative relationship this year with the Board and the Community. We have a lot of big issues facing us: budget concerns, fracking issues, she hopes the Comprehensive Plan will be brought before the Board this coming year. One of her other goals she would like to see is to have more community building; in ways that may not be costly, but would bring together a sense of services and function that we could start in Newfield. She has hopes that maybe the Mill Street Park could be a center for music on Saturday evenings in the summer. She also mentioned they had been talking over the last year of perhaps starting a farmers market. These are things that do not have a lot of costs, but would be nice for the community.

CP Laughlin, welcomed CP Powers. She mentioned how grueling last year's budget process was and how everyone is still hurting from it. She feels people are stretched to their limits financially and are struggling. It is not going to get any easier. She feels the five Board Members are going to be able to work together. They have relationships outside of the Town Hall Meetings. She sees positives coming out of this, it will be hard, but it will work out.

CP Powers read letters from a second grade class at Newfield Elementary School, about what they liked about Newfield, and what they would like to see changed. She wanted the Board and the audience to remember that this is the children's home; they don't commute to Ithaca everyday...this is their community and they love it here. She thinks it would be nice if we asked ourselves what we liked about Newfield, and what we would like to see. She urged everyone to let the Board Members know.

Supervisor Driscoll spoke on how we can improve the way the Town Board works. He stated that the key word was participation, in every way, and better, clearer lines of communication. In talking with the Board Members he has asked them to participate with him with the governance and administration with the Town in such a way as to improve how is we operate. Each Board Member will act as a liaison to the departments of the Town. What each liaison will do is to act as a communicator to the departments and come back to the Board with information. CP Trask will be the liaison to the Highway and Water/Sewer Departments, CP Laughlin; Town Clerk's, Justice Courts and the Supervisors Offices, CP Powers, the Recreation Department. CP James will Chair the budget committee and she will also be working with the Town's new bookkeeper, Nadine Bennett.

He mentioned the rocky budget experience from last year. He plans on beginning the 2013 budget process in July.

He would like to propose to the Board for 2012 will be the continuing work to protect our assets, in the advent of industrial well drilling in the town. We already passed a construction law and have a signed contract with Delta Engineering. And this year will be ready to consider a road preservation law, based on the study and research by Delta Engineering. With heavy industrial activity comes a great deal of noise, and the largest of which comes from compression stations. He has hopes adopt a noise ordinance that will contain and require compression stations abate the noise pollution. He also mentioned that the Comprehensive Plan will be

ready to be presented to the Town sometime in the fall. Another organizational matter he would like to take care of is complete a full personnel policy for all nonunion members/workers of the town. At this point we don't have one and he feels we need one. We have the talent and skills in place to do good work and it is his hope to use our talents and skills in 2012. He thanked everyone for coming.

Being there no further business to discuss, Supervisor Driscoll adjourned the meeting at 7:35PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

January 12, 2012

Karen Miller Kenerson

Date

Town Clerk