

The September 23, 2021 regular work session meeting was held in person at the Newfield Town Hall, and remotely via Zoom.

Present were: Michael Allinger, Supervisor, Councilmembers- Joanne James, Christine Laughlin, Town Bookkeeper Blix Taetzsch, Town Clerk Karen Miller Kenerson, Planning Board Members: Leo Tidd, James Haustein and Randy Brown and 1 other attendee. Attending via Zoom were Councilpersons McCarty and Powers and 3 others. Supervisor Allinger called the Town Board Meeting to order at 7:02 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Privilege of the Floor

Randy Brown voiced his concerns about Payment in Lieu of Tax agreements and the building permit fees for large scale solar development.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval to apply for the NYS Water Infrastructure Improvement Grant- Tim Steed from Hunt Engineering

Mr. Steed stated the grant applications were due by November 22, 2021 for Clean Water (waste) and Drinking Water grants. Motion to approve the authorization to apply for the Clean Water grant was offered by Councilperson Laughlin, seconded by Councilperson McCarty.

2021 WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT ACT

RESOLUTION No 38- 2021: REGARDING TOWN OF NEWFIELD, TOMPKINS COUNTY, NYTOWN OF NEWFILED SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

WHEREAS, the Town of Newfield (hereinafter the “Town”) maintains Town of Newfield Sewer District; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Newfield proposes to undertake Town of Newfield Sanitary Sewer System Improvements Project; and

WHEREAS, the Preliminary Engineering Report prepared by Hunt Engineers recommends improvements to include septic tank rehabilitation, enhanced flow monitoring, construction of manholes throughout the system to meet Ten State Standards placement requirements, with a total project cost estimate of \$741,062; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Newfield is seeking financial assistance through the 2021 NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation's Water Infrastructure Improvement Act Program; and

WHEREAS, the grant application requires that the applicant adopt a resolution that authorizes: the undertaking of the project and the maximum total cost of the project; expenditures for the project, including identification of any non-municipal source of funds; obligation of funds necessary to meet any required local match, including any cash and/or in-kind services; and when applicable, the submission of an application for financial assistance. The resolution must also designate a representative of the applicant who is authorized to sign the funding agreement with EFC and any associated documents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT:

RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Newfield authorizes the undertaking of the Project and the maximum total cost of the project \$741,062; and when applicable, the submission of an application for financial assistance; and

RESOLVED that the Town of Newfield authorizes preparation and submission of an application for grant funding under the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation's Water Infrastructure Improvement Act Program on behalf of the Town of Newfield; and

RESOLVED that the Town Supervisor is authorized to execute a Grant Agreement with the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation and any and all other contracts, documents and instruments necessary to bring about the Project and to fulfill the Town's obligations under the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act Grant Agreement; and

RESOLVED that the Town Supervisor is authorized to execute expenditures for the Project under the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation's Water Infrastructure Improvement Act Program on behalf of the Town of Newfield.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Vote: AYES 5 Allinger, James, Laughlin, McCarty and Powers

NAY 0

Carried

Motion to approve the authorization to apply for the Drinking Water Source Supply grant was offered by Councilperson Laughlin, seconded by Councilperson Powers.

2021 WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT ACT

RESOLUTION No 39-2021 REGARDING

TOWN OF NEWFIELD, TOMPKINS COUNTY, NY

TOWN OF NEWFIELD DRINKING WATER SOURCE SUPPLY

WHEREAS, the Town of Newfield (hereinafter the “Town”) maintains Town of Newfield Municipal Water System; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Newfield proposes to undertake Town of Newfield Drinking Water Source Supply Project; and

WHEREAS, the Preliminary Engineering Report prepared by Hunt Engineers recommends securing a new water source and watermain replacement, with a total project cost estimate of \$4,348,121; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Newfield is seeking financial assistance through the 2021 NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation’s Water Infrastructure Improvement Act Program; and

WHEREAS, the grant application requires that the applicant adopt a resolution that authorizes: the undertaking of the project and the maximum total cost of the project; expenditures for the project, including identification of any non-municipal source of funds; obligation of funds necessary to meet any required local match, including any cash and/or in-kind services; and when applicable, the submission of an application for financial assistance. The resolution must also designate a representative of the applicant who is authorized to sign the funding agreement with EFC and any associated documents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT:

RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Newfield authorizes the undertaking of the Project and the maximum total cost of the project \$4,348,121; and when applicable, the submission of an application for financial assistance; and

RESOLVED that the Town of Newfield authorizes preparation and submission of an application for grant funding under the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation's Water Infrastructure Improvement Act Program on behalf of the Town of Newfield; and

RESOLVED that the Town Supervisor is authorized to execute a Grant Agreement with the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation and any and all other contracts, documents and instruments necessary to bring about the Project and to fulfill the Town's obligations under the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act Grant Agreement; and

RESOLVED that the Town Supervisor is authorized to execute expenditures for the Project under the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation's Water Infrastructure Improvement Act Program on behalf of the Town of Newfield.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

Carried

Adoption of SEQRA Lead Agency Resolutions

Motion to approve Resolution No. 40-2021 was offered by Councilperson James, seconded by Councilperson Laughlin.

RESOLUTION No 40-2021 WITH REFERENCE TO THE PROPOSED
TOWN OF NEWFIELD, TOMPKINS COUNTY, NY
TOWN OF NEWFILED DRINKING WATER SOURCE SUPPLY

STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT (SEQRA)

LEAD AGENCY ESTABLISHMENT

WHEREAS, the Town of Newfield (hereinafter the “Town”) proposes to undertake Town of Newfield Drinking Water Source Supply Project; and

WHEREAS, Preliminary Engineering Report prepared by Hunt Engineers recommends securing a new water source and replacement of asbestos cement pipe to ensure reliability in the source and distribution system; and

WHEREAS, the proposed new improvements consist of non-agricultural use in one or more Agricultural Districts formed under provisions of NYS Agriculture and Markets law; and

WHEREAS, various regulatory, funding and public approvals will be needed in the planning and development of the proposed improvement projects:

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT:

1. The District Board of the Town of Newfield determines pursuant to Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law and the regulations contained in 6 NYCRR Part 617, hereafter called SEQRA, that the proposed project is a Type I Action under SEQRA Section and reference, and therefore a Full Environment Assessment Form (FEAF) must be prepared.
2. The Town Board declares its intent to establish itself as lead agency in the coordinated review of this action;
3. The Town Supervisor or agent of the Town shall notify all Involved Agencies of the Town’s intention to designate itself lead agency.
4. A coordinated review will be performed.
5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Vote AYES 5 Allinger, James, Laughlin and Powers

NAY 0

Carried

Motion to approve Resolution No. 41-2021 was offered by Councilperson Powers, seconded by Councilperson McCarty

RESOLUTION NO 41- 2021 WITH REFERENCE TO THE PROPOSED
TOWN OF NEWFIELD, TOMPKINS COUNTY, NY
TOWN OF NEWFIELD SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS
STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT (SEQRA)
LEAD AGENCY ESTABLISHMENT

WHEREAS, the Town of Newfield (hereinafter the “Town”) proposes to undertake Town of Newfield Sanitary Sewer System Improvements Project; and

WHEREAS, Preliminary Engineering Report prepared by Hunt Engineers recommends improvements to include septic tank rehabilitation, enhanced flow monitoring, construction of manholes throughout the system to meet Ten State Standards placement requirements; and

WHEREAS, various regulatory, funding and public approvals will be needed in the planning and development of the proposed improvement projects:

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT:

1. The District Board of the Town of Newfield determines pursuant to Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law and the regulations contained in 6 NYCRR Part 617, hereafter called SEQRA, that the proposed project is an Unlisted Action under SEQRA Section and reference, and therefore a Full Environment Assessment Form (FEAF) must be prepared.

2. The Town Board declares its intent to establish itself as lead agency in the coordinated review of this action;
3. The Town Supervisor or agent of the Town shall notify all Involved Agencies of the Town's intention to designate itself lead agency.
4. A coordinated review will be performed.
5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

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| Vote | AYES | 5 | Allinger, James, McCarty, Laughlin and Powers |
| | NAY | 0 | |

Carried.

Local Law No. 4 of 2021- Solar Energy Systems and Battery Energy Storage Systems

Motion to adopt proposed Local Law No. 4 of 2021 Solar Energy Systems and Battery Energy Storage Systems, seconded by Councilperson McCarty.

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| Vote | AYES | 5 | Allinger, James, McCarty, Laughlin and Powers |
| | NAY | 0 | |

Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Re-Vote on Stretch Law (due to mis-communication about filing with DOS, Division of Corporations)

Motion was offered to affirm the adoption of the NY Stretch Law by Councilperson Powers, Seconded by Councilperson McCarty.

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| Vote | AYES | 4 | Allinger, James, McCarty and Powers |
| | NAY | 1 | Laughlin |

Carried.

Discussion - Adding a Referendum to the November 2nd. Ballot for Opt-Out of the NYS adult-use cannabis retail dispensaries or on-site consumption licenses

It is too late for referendum. Attorney Smith will be asked to draft a local law to opt out and offer public opinions.

Motion to hold a Public Hearing October 28, 2021 at 7:00 PM regarding the proposed 2022 Town of Newfield Budget was offered by Councilperson Laughlin, seconded by Councilperson Powers

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| Vote | AYES | 5 | Allinger, James, McCarty, Laughlin and Powers |
| | NAY | 0 | |

Carried.

Motion to hold a Public Hearing October 28, 2022 immediately following regarding public comment and opinion regarding Opt-Out of NYS adult-use cannabis retail dispensaries or on-site consumption licenses was offered by Councilperson James, seconded by Councilperson McCarty.

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| Vote | AYES | 5 | Allinger, James, McCarty, Laughlin and Powers |
| | NAY | 0 | |

Carried.

NYSERTA Flex Energy Study

Councilperson McCarty commented the 2nd grant funding has been delayed. Councilperson McCarty stated she had received information regarding an energy study funded by the Flex Tech Energy Program where a more comprehensive study could be conducted at a lower cost. Councilperson McCarty requested the Board to consider using the Clean Energy grant funds for the cost of the study. This will be discussed in more detail at the October meeting.

At 8:30 PM motion was offered by Councilperson Laughlin to adjourn, seconded by Councilperson James.

Respectfully Submitted,

October 8, 2021

Karen Miller Kenerson, RMC
Town Clerk