

**TOWN OF HECTOR  
REGULAR AUDIT MEETING  
February 9, 2016**

**Members Present:**

Alvin J. White, Supervisor  
William Preston, Councilman  
Justin Boyette, Councilman  
Michael Bergen, Councilman  
John White, Councilman

**Absent:** Beverly Morley, Councilwoman

**Others:**

Jane M. V. Ike, Clerk  
Robert Stapleton, Water Superintendent  
Randy Rapple, Highway Superintendent  
Robert Stapleton, Water Superintendent  
Barb Kelley    Colin McNaul  
Tim Noon, FLNL  
Jodie Vanselow, FLNF  
Tim Dunlap                      Deb Reid  
Michele Greigo                Susanne Lipari

Called to order at 7:00pm by Supervisor A. White, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**RESOLUTION #28** – offered by J. White, seconded by J. Boyette

Resolved to approve the minutes of January 5, January 12, and January 21, 2016 as written.

Discussion: Councilman J. White – completed all audits except Justice Fitzsimmons – scheduled for March 8<sup>th</sup> at 6pm; Supervisor A. White will notify him that no further extensions will be allowed. Ayes 5, Nays 0

**RESOLUTION #29** – offered by M. Bergen, seconded by B. Preston

Resolved to approve Journal Entry #\_\_\_ as presented. Ayes 5, Nays 0

**RESOLUTION #30** – offered by M. Bergen, seconded by J. Boyette

Resolved to have audited the bills and further authorize the Supervisor to pay the bills from the following funds: General Vouchers #36 thru #70 - \$11076.55; Highway Vouchers #17 thru #43 - \$23226.60; Water District Vouchers #14 thru #31 - \$14829.17; and Trust & Agency Vouchers #4 thru #5 - \$1030.74. Ayes 5, Nays 0

**Public Comment:** 7:05pm

Michele Greigo submitted pictures to the Board regarding manure spreading being dumped on the property next to hers on Updike Road; identified her property line and where manure is being spread; no setbacks according to DEC; manure was spread and then it rained causing manure to run; property has now been plowed; asked the Town Board to support the residents life, health, protect encroachment of property and streams; believe this was done intentionally; no dividing line between my property and where the manure was spread; realize this is a right to farm town. Asking the Town Board to protect the residents as well regarding water and air quality; don't believe assessment should go up compared to other communities where this practice is not being done; there are issues of potential water contamination of wells, truck traffic, more pot holes, etc. Would like Town Board to support residents as well as farmers; feel this was literal dumping not spreading; contacted DEC this past week. Current public comment period relating to CAFO operations and water quality is open. Asked Councilman Bergen as a CAFO farmer to listen to her concerns. Sent pictures to DEC; will contact Ag & Farmland Protection Board next. Does not know if anyone from DEC came out to look.

Councilman Preston asked for clarification in the pictures as to where her property line is.

Colin McNaull asked how we are coming along with updating the web site. Supervisor A. White stated that the committee will meet and take a look at options, agreed it needs attention.

Tim Dunlap asked if he could address Highway and Water during their reports; Kudos to the Highway Department for a good job plowing this year; noticed aggressive ditching on Burnt Hill Road; asked what are the plans for that road; North Potomac Road a couple years back the same thing was done. Water district – what is the major repair that we are paying for?

Superintendent Rappleye responded that a crossover pipe had failed on Burnt Hill; had not ditched in a long time, no plans to widen or change the surface. North end of Potomac – no plans to oil and stone or widen at this time; will be changing cross over pipes that are failing.

Tim Dunlap expressed concerns with the FLNF logging planned; will put heavy impact on roads.

Superintendent Stapleton responded regarding the major expenses; last expense from reserves was for the replacement of the heating system in the filtration plant that failed more than a year ago.

**Finger Lakes National Forest:** Jodie Vanselow and Tim Noon presented an overview of the upcoming “FLIPS” project; 800 acres of vegetation management; Finger Lakes Invasive Pests Strategy. In development stage, getting feedback from the public; formal scoping expected in March; primary issues regarding Forest health; dealing with existing pests in the forest; looking to do some restoration work; soft wood plantations are not doing well; oak and hickory stands will be introduced; attempting to create some more hardwood mass; 800 acres planned for harvest includes 520 commercial harvest; 123 pre-commercial; getting into stands harvested in 1980’s; 83 acres road side fire wood units by permit; 74 acres in pastures with declining hedgerows; will be doing some planting; analysis will be done all thru winter; prepping sales for logging next late summer, fall, winter; could be done over several years; don’t have Emerald Ash Bore yet but they are only 20 miles away.

Councilman Preston indicated there is some possibly off Searsburg Road; ash are dying. Ash Yellow is a fungal pathogen killing trees too. Ash trees will begin to fall in the next 10 to 15 years. Stands along the road sides will be taken for firewood; hope to get ahead of issues.

Jodie Vanselow – we work closely with Superintendent Rappleye; if working in right of way there are no issues; do have a road use agreement with the Town to leverage monies; Town can assess an overweight fee on trucks if necessary; will keep Town informed as get closer to logging time.

Councilman J. White asked they come back and address the board as work actually gets closer.

Colin McNaull asked about pine plantings that are basically dead; will those come down. Tim Noon responded with a yes. The Town will receive a portion of the proceeds through the Payment In Lieu of Taxes program.

**Department Reports:** No report from Codes and Park as both department heads were excused.

**Highway:** Superintendent Rappleye reported work being done as weather has been good; pulled shoulders and ditched on Grove; replaced pipe on Maple Avenue; patching pot holes; plowed 10-12 times; Williamee Road opened 1/25, not complete still under construction; will finish after May 15; CPE interlink scheduled to start installation Feb 16; equipment listed on Auctions International as surplus has been sold and pickup up; need to follow up on funds from Auctions International. Installed shelves upstairs for parts storage. Requested authorization to post weight limit of 8 tons on several roads effective immediately through May 15, 2016 due to constant freeze and thaw. Legal notice will be place in paper and posted at the Town Hall.

**RESOLUTION #31** - offered by B. Preston, seconded by J. White

Resolved to authorize posting and advertising an 8 ton weight limit effective immediately through May 15, 2016 on roads recommended by Superintendent Rappleye. Discussion: Questions were asked regarding any exemptions for Agriculture and Local delivery. Requests will be considered based on road conditions. Ayes 5, Nays 0

**F250 Super Duty Pick up:** Superintendent Rappleye asked for approval to order a new truck by piggy backing off Chautauqua bid.

**RESOLUTION #32** - offered by M. Bergen, seconded by J. White

Resolved to authorize the purchase of a Ford F250 4 door Super Duty Truck at a cost of \$37,001 by purchasing from the Chautauqua County bid. Discussion: Are funds available? Yes, budget adjustments will be made when the truck arrives. Councilman J. White asked about the bidding process; lowest bid; etc. We do not have to bid based on the State's process of piggy backing on an existing contract as allowed per law. Ayes 5, Nays 0

Highway Crew meeting: Scheduled for 7am February 12 weather permitting.

**Water District:** Superintendent Stapleton reported number of gallons filtered & treated; daily average pumped; DOH reports complete; water testing – second list; meters read; new billing WLB program ran bills and sent; working out some small issues; batteries for new water meters failing; currently have about 70 that have failed recently; \$120 prorated replacement cost; have to turn in the failed meter heads; losing out on reserve funds because there is no reading; need to look at pulling monies out of the current reserve fund; to purchase 120 would be \$14,640 to replace all; takes quite some time to get replaced; shut offs in new part of system; those installed in 2008 and 2009; entire new system has failed. City of Ithaca is having same problem; will be contacting them. Councilman J. White asked if we should do some market research; should we replace with this company or find something else. Superintendent Stapleton responded that to continue with radio reading, we need to keep with something compatible; cannot read manually because meter is dead; to convert would cost \$10,000 to \$16,000 plus cost of meters; 25 miles of line takes a long time to read manually. Councilman J. White – don't like the proprietary part of this. Supervisor White – curious how Ithaca is handling; can we put any pressure on Master Meter; need to resolve and make a decision soon; must advertise for using reserve funds. Councilman J. White will look to see if he can find some monies to help.

New water services: Request at Cherry Landing; per DOH this is doable; several things need to happen; rights of ways for the lines need to be obtained and a couple of other things. Another inquiry on Mathews Road and Giles Road; looking to install 10 houses on Giles.

Well house; PALL and CHN systems in good working order; service truck had to have some repairs; backup generators working; drain lines, domestic water lines and lighting have been repaired to DOH standards. VFD's need replacing for generators to work in Village pump house; soft starts will not start the pumps or generators; too old.

Fire hydrant on Factory Street was leaking; hydrant is split; is shut off; will replace when weather allows; Fire Department has been notified.

Annual review of Safety Data Sheets information will be reviewed. Josh received his IIA certification from DOH in January 2016; we no longer need an outside backup operator.

Councilman J. White asked questions regarding billing structure; he would like to get more information; would like to know how much are we losing in gallons or monies; need to move to create the best revenue stream; needs as much info as possible to search for funding.

Supervisor White asked Councilman Boyette to attend Water Board meetings; and will ask Ben Dickens to serve on the water board also as he has a wealth of knowledge about our water system. Next meeting April 6<sup>th</sup> at 1pm.

**RESOLUTION #33** - offered by J. White, seconded by M. Bergen

Resolved to approve and authorize the Supervisor to sign the Water Billing Software Support Contract with Williamson Law Book Company effective January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 at a cost of \$935. Ayes 5, Nays 0

**Code Enforcement:** Officer Patterson's written report reviewed by Supervisor A. White covering permits issues, outstanding permits, fees collected, fire inspections, property maintenance issues pending; etc.

**Liquor License Renewals:** Notice of renewal applications filed received from Leidenfrost Vineyards and Bloomer Creek Vineyards.

**Smith Park:** No report; Manager excused from meeting.

Set Park Committee meeting for Thursday, February 18 at 2pm; would like to review rates for 2016 camping season.

**Supervisor:**

**Committee Reports:** Personnel Committee meeting changed to Tues February 16<sup>th</sup> at 7pm due to conflict with Trumansburg Fire meeting.

**Economic Development:** Meeting scheduled for April 6<sup>th</sup>

**Communications:** Need to get something going on the web site to get updated and operating better.

**Route 414 Corridor:** Working on getting a list of people together to determine who is interested in working on the issues; will set up a meeting at Hector Fire House; asking County Legislators; County Administrator, etc. to join. Ted Marks has been pushing the State to deal with safety concerns; will meet with DOT again with Task Force; corridor is growing; need to see what can be done to keep this corridor safe. Concerns have gone as far as the State DOT Commissioner.

**Dumpster Day:** Discussion of dates available; Seneca Lake Wine & Food festival is May 21st; looking at June 4 or 11. Preliminary date of June 4. Committee is Alvin, Mike, Bill and Jane; they will meet February 18 at Noon.

**Electronics Recycling:** Running into issues in getting CRT's picked up at no cost; Reacts grant has not come through; some monies may come out of State budget this year. We have approximately 16 currently on site; React wants 20 cents per pound to dispose; we can hold onto them for a bit to see what happens with funding; we may have to pay for disposal or go back to charging for CRT's.

Now have to report what was collected in 2015 electronically. Swarthout's is also looking for sources to dispose. Can we contact Tompkins County to see if they will take it; they do not charge for individuals at their recycling center; React claims they do not make any money from TV's.

**Board of Assessment Review:** No other applications have been received; Colin McNaul is still interested. Councilman J. White suggested we move forward.

**RESOLUTION #34** - offered by J. White, seconded by B. Preston

Resolved to appoint Charles Colin McNaull Jr. of 5305 Stilwell Road, Trumansburg, NY 14886 to the Town of Hector Board of Assessment Review effective immediately to a 5 year term to expire September 30, 2020. Ayes 5, Nays 0

Supervisor A. White reported that Carol Golden is willing to prepare our 2014 Annual Financial Report at a cost of \$1200. Susanne Lipari asked is there not someone who can do this at the Town Hall; we have so many accountants already. Supervisor A. White explained the process; we were behind; getting caught up; we need to get 2014 filed before 2015 can be filed; the A1220.4 line may run short in order to get everything up to date; working on a plan to keep things up to date once done.

**RESOLUTION #35** - offered by J. White, seconded by B. Preston

Resolved to authorize the \$1200 expense to get the 2014 Annual Financial Report filed. Discussion: Councilman Boyette voiced his concern that this does not become an annual expense. Supervisor A. White will become the backup person for accounting and payroll; will be proactive in keeping up to date and will be changing to a modified accrual basis for accounting as part of this process. Ayes 5, Nays 0

**Town Clerk/Tax Collector:** Clerk Ike reported that the in person and mail tax payments were very heavy for the February 1<sup>st</sup> deadline; still working on getting everything receipted and deposited; receipts will be mailed after everything else is caught up.

**State DEC Texas Hollow property acquisition:** Letter reviewed; questions asked as to town taxes; need to research further as to how the Town receives the taxes on State Lands.

**RESOLUTION #36** – offered by J. White, seconded by J. Boyette

Resolved to send notification to DEC that we support their acquisition of the 51 acres along the edge of the Texas Hollow State Lands. Ayes 5, Nays 0

**Miscellaneous/Correspondence:**

STC Regional is holding a grants training class Feb. 23; SCOPE also offers municipalities 16 hours of grant writing assistance annually. STC Regional Annual Leadership Conference is March 31<sup>st</sup>. Registration forms must be to Clerk Ike by March 7<sup>th</sup>.

Department of State is accepting written comments on the WG Local Waterfront Revitalization Program until April 5, 2016.

**Junk Yard License** renewals will be reviewed at March 8 meeting; Councilmembers should do a drive by inspection prior to meeting; Schuyler Wrecker & Auto, Joe Brown on County Road 4 and Coxy's, Mike Cox on State Route 79 in Bennettsburg.

Adjourned at 9:06pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jane M. V. Ike, Clerk