

**TOWN OF HECTOR
REGULAR AUDIT MEETING
February 14, 2017**

Members Present:

Alvin J. White, Supervisor
Beverly Morley, Councilwoman
William Preston, Councilman
Justin Boyette, Councilman
John White, Councilman

Absent: Michael Bergen, Councilman

Others:

Jane M. V. Ike, Clerk
Randy Rapple, Highway Superintendent
Richard Bump, Deputy Highway Supt.
Robert Stapleton, Water Superintendent
David Patterson, Code Enforcement
Ralph Ward Colin McNaull
Charlie Stevenson Carol DeSarno
Martin Conwell Van Harp
Mark Smith Payton White
Bo Lipari

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

RESOLUTION #20 – offered by B. Morley, seconded by J. Boyette

Resolved to approve the Minutes of December 29, 2016, January 13, 2017 and January 26, 2017 as written. Ayes 5, Nays 0

RESOLUTION #21 – offered by A. White, seconded by B. Preston

Resolved to approve the following Budget Amendments/Journal Entries: Transfer \$19,120.00 from Building Reserve funds to A5132.22 Highway Building Improvements; transfer \$25,242.71 from the 2016 unexpended funds (fund balance) to A7110.23 Park Property Upgrade.

Ayes 5, Nays 0

RESOLUTION #22 – offered by B. Morley, seconded by J. White

Resolved to have audited and further resolved to authorize the Supervisor to pay the bills from the following funds: General Vouchers #27 thru #59 - \$12,150.43; Highway Vouchers #16 thru #39 - \$25,361.99; Water District Vouchers #15 thru #32 - \$7,949.87 and Trust & Agency Vouchers #2 thru #3 - \$1,217.18 Ayes 5, Nays 0

Public Comment: 7:05pm

Colin McNaull asked status of web site. It's down today; trying to figure out why; may be an issue with the domain name.

Carol DeSarno voiced concerns with things happening on State Route 414 that appear to be non-conducive our rural character. Happy with the 2015 Comprehensive Plan which includes guidelines for community, business, residential, agriculture. Residential development not in the best taste; respecting your neighbors, set back, views, scenic byway, etc. Current development happening does not respect that vision; wondering if there would come a time in Hector to make some things in Comprehensive Plan as law (zoning); no oversight; no regulations; wine industry is tremendous asset to community; but when land is purchased and put into grapes every tree and shrub gets removed; more and more trees are going away; they hold the soil. Wish there was some way to have something in place regarding setbacks, size of structure, etc. Comprehensive Plan page 18 discusses appropriate size, set back and height.

Bo Lipari agreed with sentiment of Ms. DeSarno. Really more than a hope that this board would just do something; this board would have to be willing to pass laws that might be considered as zoning; hard to imagine this board would be willing to pass such regulations and/or laws; ask the board to consider moving forward and take some very big steps in the future; Hector needs some form of zoning or regulations/laws.

Supervisor A. White agreed there is a lot of development going on; we do need to look at these things seriously; we are seeing a lot of activity along State Route 414; it is an important discussion that does need to be had. Councilman J. White indicated that many people come in with concerns regarding scenic byway; can we regulate that corridor; some regulations might not apply to other areas of the town.

Bo Lipari reported that he will file a complaint regarding a property in Mecklenburg; numbers of vehicles growing there. Code Officer Patterson reported that we have problems getting things removed that have value.

Environmental Management Council: Charlie Stevenson reported that the Council has been restructured recently; submitted some information regarding ecologically sensitive areas identified in the county including Texas Hollow State Forest Bog and the Finger Lakes National Forest. EMC would like input for changes, additions, deletions, etc. View sheds listed include Carley Road, Route 414, Route 79 west of Mecklenburg and Seneca Lake. Agricultural lands being stripped for vineyards outside of Burdett is causing some issues for Town and State Roads; new driveway installed with no DOT permits; planting grapes on the lower side of Middle (Blue Goose); wants to put a driveway onto 414 – not safe; he did apply for a DOT permit – not sure the status; is now on his 3rd Engineer (one was Fagan).

Councilman J. White asked questions regarding the swamp on Route 227; beaver dam; question access to properties; damage to highway and private property; should that be added to this report. Charlie responded that he believes NYS DOT is applying for a permit to remove the beavers and the dam. Asked board to review the information he presented and provide input back to him next month.

Supervisor A. White asked Charlie to report next month on the results of the restructuring of the committee.

Project Seneca: lakefront improvements, sewer plant, kayak and canoe launch at end of lake. The Town should keep an eye on the canoe launch part of the project as that piece is probably in the Town of Hector; need to check where Town line is and who owns a piece there; area is used by public to access lake. Supervisor A. White will review the tax maps to determine where the Town line is.

Department Reports:

Highway: Superintendent Rappleye submitted the Five Year Road Improvement Plan update to the board for review and approval. Highway Committee has reviewed.

RESOLUTION #23 – offered by B. Preston, seconded by J. Boyette

Resolved to approve the new Five Year Road Improvement Plan, and further authorize it be posted on the web site. Supervisor A. White reminded all that the plan is still subject to change as something might develop in areas that require quicker action. Ayes 5, Nays 0

Inter-municipal Agreement States Gravel Pit: Schuyler County asked for an agreement including them as the Town of Hector and the County are the only municipalities that get gravel and sand from this pit. Attorney Halpin has reviewed the agreement. We hold the DEC mining permit; and have control over the pit.

RESOLUTION #24 – offered by A. White, seconded by J. White

Resolved to approve and authorize the Supervisor to sign the Inter-municipal agreement with Schuyler County for use of States Gravel Pit. Ayes 5, Nays 0

Two trucks had to be towed back this weekend; computer on one and coolant hoses on another. Superintendent Rappleye asked for approval to travel to Albany for advocacy day March 7 and 8.

RESOLUTION #25 – offered by A. White, seconded by B. Morley

Resolved to authorize Highway Superintendent Randy Rappleye to attend Advocacy Days March 7 and 8 in Albany. Ayes 5, Nays 0

Water District: Superintendent Stapleton reviewed written report covering gallons pumped and treated; water sampling completed, service leak on Route 414 turned off at the main; 5th or 6th one in Valois; working with Scale House brewing on plans to convert building back to one unit; Glen Eldridge plans to replace water lines to some cottages; new winery on Route 414. Still have one fire hydrant out of service; cannot get the valve out; going to try Coke to see if we can get rust to loosen. Big pockets of clay eat away at any metal in contact on Route 414 & Fausold Road. Josh is rebuilding parts of old hydrants to use. Continuing VFD issues with HMI control unit. DOH inspection done in October; still waiting for report. Changing MSDS sheets to SDS sheets to meet new requirements. Requested approval to order new truck.

Councilman J. White asked about bidding process. Superintendent Stapleton reported this order would be a piggy back on Onondaga's bid. Cannot find a state bid for a 250; could only find a bid for a 350. Councilman J. White asked gas vs diesel; not sure we could afford a diesel.

RESOLUTION #26 - offered by B. Morley, seconded by J. Boyette

Resolved to authorize the Water Superintendent to purchase a 2017 Ford F-350 Regular Cab 4x4 SRW Pickup Truck with 8' box by piggy backing on Onondaga bid 7974 2017PU SRW Quote #22951 for a total cost of \$30,805.01 Ayes 5, Nays 0

Code Enforcement: Officer Patterson reviewed his written report; single family homes at 11 so far this year; Rabbit run entering phase 2 of their project; other permits light at this time; 79 open permits; approx. 30 fire inspections due this year; Schickel project on going.

Supervisor A. White has found a relative that may be the owner for the Covert Road property. Officer Patterson indicated there are violations; they stay with the property; owner will have to come up with a plan to remedy; something should happen prior to warm weather.

Office Patterson asked for a waiver of permit fees for Fire Companies and Churches. Councilman Preston asked if there were any concern waiving fees for non-profit's; fire companies, and churches. Supervisor A. White would agree not to charge the fire company; we need to properly word this resolution; will ask Attorney Halpin to review. Board will look at these on a case by case situation at this time.

RESOLUTION #27 - offered by B. Preston, seconded by B. Morley

Resolved to waive the fee for the current building permit and the anticipated second permit to be filed shortly for the Valois Logan Hector Fire Company. Ayes 5, Nays 0

Smith Park: No Report – Park Committee meeting moved to 4pm on Thursday, February 16th.

Supervisor:

Committee meetings: Highway Committee meeting moved to February 24th at 1pm.

Communications, public safety, infrastructure committees will meet March 6 starting at 9am.

Communications Committee: Three bids were received for re-wiring Town Hall for computer server and phone lines, including removal of old internet wiring; SCT computers \$5341.25 low bid; we did go back to all 3 and ask further questions; committee recommends accepting the bid from SCT computers.

RESOLUTION #28 – offered by A. White, seconded by J. Boyette
Resolved to accept the bid from SCT computers for \$5341.25 for re-wiring the Town Hall for internet and server installation. Ayes 5, Nays 0

Mecklenburg Ambulance Certificate of Need: We have received both the BLS and the temporary ALS certificates; Trumansburg will hold a training on February 21st with Mecklenburg and calls for ambulance will be rolled over beginning on February 22, 2017. Trumansburg now has to do a full ALS application with STREMS for Schuyler County. We still need to complete the final paperwork to have a permanent certificate of need.

Annual Financial Audit Meeting: Scheduled for February 16, 2017 @ 5pm

Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Court Clerk:

RESOLUTION #29 - offered by B. Morley, seconded B. Preston
Resolved to authorize Town Clerk Jane Ike to attend the Annual Clerk's Association Conference April 23-26, 2017 in Rochester, NY. Ayes 5, Nays 0

Miscellaneous/Correspondence:

Southern Tier Central Regional Planning & Development training classes and annual conference will be Thursday, April 6, 2017; registration information provided to the board.

Association of Towns letter regarding Governor Cuomo's continued assault on local governments including unfunded state mandate for approved efficiency plans; under the AIM program Hector gets approximately \$18,000; that only covered 1/3 of the health insurance increase; this will not result in property tax relief; this requires public vote; we need to push back now. We share services now and we have kept taxes down for many years.

Swim Program: Letter from Kate LaMoreaux received asking for continued support for the summer swim program at the school. We included \$1000 in the 2017 budget for the program.

Legislator Van Harp reported that the County has advertised a RFP for facility and events management at the Middle school.

Adjourned at 8:34pm on a motion by B. Morley, seconded by B. Preston

Respectfully submitted,

Jane M. V. Ike, Clerk