

**TOWN OF HECTOR**  
**REGULAR AUDIT MEETING**  
**June 14, 2016**

**Members Present:**

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

Robert Halpin, Attorney for the Town

**Others:**

Jane M. V. Ike, Clerk  
Randy Rappleye, Highway Superintendent  
Dan Thorpe                      Ralph Ward  
Barb Kelley                      Colin McNaull  
Alicia Mahaney                  Cindy Thomason  
Jeff Thomason                  Keith Caslin  
Dale Walter                      Steve Crout  
Jason Kelly                      Susanne Lipari

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

**RESOLUTION #79** – offered by J. White, seconded by B. Morley

Resolved to approve the minutes of May 10, 2016 and May 19, 2016 as written. Ayes 6, Nays 0

**RESOLUTION #80** – offered by J. White, seconded by M. Bergen

Resolved to approve the following 2016 budget amendments:

Budget Amendment #1, Highway Fund Part Town

Create a line item in Estimated Revenues DB4589, Federal Aid Other Transportation (USDA) and add \$244,294.52 of revenue to this line item.

Create a line items in Appropriations DB5112.22 Highway, Capital Project (Willamee Road) and add \$244,294.52 of expenditure to this line item.

Budget Amendment #2, Highway Fund Town-wide

Reduce DA5130.4, Machinery Contractual by \$1,500 to \$138,500 from \$140,000 and add \$1,500 to DA5140.4 Misc. Brush and Weeds Contractual to increase line from \$3,000 to \$4,500.

Discussion: Councilman Preston asked if this will cover just the mower or anything else down the road; feel this will keep us covered.

Ayes 6, Nays 0

**RESOLUTION #81** – 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 #168 thru #204 - \$11659.62; Highway Vouchers #116 thru #148 - \$122204.96; Water District Vouchers #83 thru #101 - \$19265.42; and Trust & Agency Vouchers #10 thru #11 - \$701.72                      Ayes 6, Nays 0

**Public Comment:** 7:06pm

Colin McNaull – thanked the road crew for taking care of the brush at intersection of Serrine and Stilwell Roads and the widened mowing on Stilwell.

Alicia Mahaney, Dean Road voiced concerns regarding Newtown and Steam Mill roads; no dust control at this time; looking for an update; dust is dangerous; 2 flat tires since road has been graded; asked if there are any grants for dust control or black top. Highway Superintendent Rappleye responded that dust oil is scheduled for Monday; roads will be watered tomorrow and Thursday.

Alicia Mahaney asked if there is a time frame for future improvements to either road. Highway Superintendent Rappleye explained the issues this year; grading crew had to slow down due to dry weather; we are ahead of schedule this year; but it has been very dry and dust is bad everywhere.

Supervisor A. White reviewed long range Highway plans. We are working on paving as many roads as we can each year; dust oil is expensive and is temporary; it's a slow process to get all 150 miles of road surfaced. Highway Superintendent Rappleye reported that in 2000 we had 18 miles of paved roads; we now have 68 paved miles; the State has increased funding somewhat; we are paving more miles this year.

Jeff Thomason, corner of Steam Mill and Newtown Roads asked if a tax increase would help the situation; we pay a premium to drive on dirt roads; higher vehicle repairs; inconvenience; power washing the house; I would rather pay more taxes to have the road paved.

Alicia Mahaney – have seen the road being fixed over and over; same thing done year after year; can we take a few years and just leave the road as it is and save money to improve the road; we're beating up our vehicles every day; work done only lasts a few weeks.

Highway Superintendent Rappleye reported that grading and dust oil does improve the road some; we cannot possibly pave everything in one year; until we can pave we need to put down dust oil to relieve the dust for residents. Supervisor A. White reported that every year the Highway Committee reviews road conditions and sets projects accordingly. Councilman Preston indicated that it is a liability if we do not do something with pot holes and dust. ;

Superintendent Rappleye reported that changes in elevations and weather determine how soon we can do something in the spring; we did start early this year; Mother Nature still plays a part in what and when we do something on roads. Comment Period closed at 7:19pm

**Department Reports:**

**Highway:** Superintendent Rappleye reviewed the bids received for the Asphalt in Place projects. Only bids received were from Seneca Stone Corp. Bids came in lower than preliminary projections. Councilman J. White asked if it was normal to only receive one bid. Councilwoman Morley asked if Stage Road was stone and oil. It is paved but in need of repair and topping.

**RESOLUTION #82** – offered by M. Bergen, seconded by B. Preston

Resolved to have reviewed the Blacktop project bids submitted and further resolved to award the bids to Seneca Stone Corp, Fayette, NY as follows: Project #1 – Newtown Road Section 1 - \$150,450.00; Project #2 – Newtown Road Section 2 - \$97,645.00; Project #3 – Picnic Area Road - \$140,125.00; and Project #4 – Stage Road - \$132,750.00. Ayes 6, Nays 0

**Proposed Local Law:** Driveway Permits – reschedule Public Hearing to July 12, 2016

Superintendent Rappleye reported the shared services Excavator was used replacing pipe in Town of Catharine; equipment got stuck in mud; several area organizations helped get it out, no one was injured. Town of Catharine sent a thank you letter to us, Schuyler County, Odessa Fire Company and Bergen Farms for help in getting the equipment out of the mud and for the use of our Excavator on their project read by Superintendent Rappleye.

Road work done during the past month included processing gravel; crossover pipes on Middle Road replaced; working on mowing roadsides; grading is 95% complete; dust oil will be done next week; PERMA and MSHA training; Cornell Local Roads sign training; stone for chip sealing projects has been hauled in; truck #3 dump box sanded and painted.

**Smith Park:** Manager Bond was called to park for a water emergency.

**RESOLUTION #83** – offered by J. White, seconded by B. Morley

Resolved to appoint Jeremy Brown as part time laborer for Smith Park retroactively to June 1, 2016 at the rate of \$15.00 per hour. Ayes 6, Nays 0

Supervisor A. White reviewed Manager Bond's written report.

Memorial Day weekend was busy with 80% of the transient sites booked. At the May 21<sup>st</sup> seasonal site lottery six available sites were taken. We have started a new waiting list for future site availability.

There are approximately ten pavilion rentals on the calendar to date (3 more than last year).

Transient camping reservations are consistent with last season at this time. We are totally booked for July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend.

The 2016 departmental income for Parks & Recreation charges (budget line item A2001) was set at \$95,000.00, which is \$5,000 above 2015. Our current balance on that line is approximately \$93,564.00. That puts the park on track to match or slightly exceed last year's total revenue of \$119,963.70. Any excess revenue over and above the budgeted revenues is moved to the Park Property Upgrade line item and can be used for that purpose

William Jennings returned to move the downed tree logs to the Park gravel pit area and also to grind several tree stumps. He also came back a week later to remove another small tree along the bank. He did not charge for this as it did not require a lot of time on the part of his crew. He said he appreciates the business relationship with the Town and would include that in the previously billed cost.

The water test performed prior to opening the park came back with negative results. There have been several major and minor water leaks repaired since the water was turned on. We are still currently using more water than is reasonable for the amount of campers in the park. Water Superintendent Stapleton will be checking the water meter at least weekly to give us an indication if we have a major leak. I am thankful for the help from the water and highway department staff in dealing with these issues. However, I feel very strongly that we need to replace the water system prior to another season at the park. Supervisor A. White and Manager Bond will be working with the Park Committee to try to determine where funding might be obtained to facilitate this project happening prior to next season.

Schooner Excursions has obtained a permit for on load and off load of their patrons at the boat launch seven days a week. So far this is going well with no problems arising from other boaters launching during this period of time in the afternoon between 1:30-2:30pm. Nick Kelly has not come in to sign the Special Use Permit to use our boat launch facility.

Jason Bond worked with the Lifeguards on Saturday, May 22, 2016 to clean up the beach area from the boat launch to the bathing beach. They will have one more work bee this Saturday to spread the sand that will be delivered on Wednesday and put the swim lines in. The beach will be opened for the season on June 25<sup>th</sup>.

We hired Don Adams as a laborer in April and he left to move back to Albany two weeks later. Jeremy Brown has agreed to work one full day a week (8 hours) for all of our maintenance and incidental duties at a rate of \$15.00/hour. I am respectfully requesting he be appointed to a laborer position at this rate effective retroactively to 6/1/2016.

There is an ad for one more laborer/office person for the park as we are still short staffed on weekends. I have asked two lifeguards to consider cross-training for the office in case we do not get any applicants willing to work weekends. The lifeguards all work weekend rotations so that is expected.

**Burdett Fire House** Letter of Intent read by Supervisor A. White requesting Town's support.

Discussion: Is there a 30 day time frame for the people in the Burdett Fire District to petition for a vote if they disagree? Supervisor A. White reviewed the process; public hearings will be held; this will help them search for funding; opens doors for grant possibilities; re-payment plan must be in place; Burdett tax rates for district are split 90% outside village; 10% inside village.

**RESOLUTION #84** – offered by A. White, seconded by B. Morley

Whereas, the Village of Burdett has proposed a new firehouse be constructed for the Burdett Fire Department (the "Project"), and

Whereas, the Town of Hector contracts with the Village of Burdett for the provision of fire protection services within the Burdett Fire District;

Now, therefore, the Town of Hector resolves as follows:

1. The Town of Hector agrees that the Project is needed.
2. It is contemplated that the cost of the Project will be borne by property owners within the Burdett Fire District proportionately in accordance with the assessed value of their properties, and that this cost will be a separate line item in the fire protection contract between the Town and the Village of Burdett, with the rate to be determined annually based upon the total assessed value of property within the district. Roll Call Vote: William Preston – Aye; Justin Boyette – Aye; Beverly Morley – Aye; John White – Aye; Michael Bergen – Aye; Alvin White – Aye Ayes 6, Nays 0

**Mecklenburg Ambulance:** Map, Plan and Report have been prepared. Propose to set Public Hearing for June 29. Councilman Preston asked questions regarding the written description of the proposed district. Description attached appears to be for the Trumansburg District. The proper written description will be attached prior to public hearing.

**RESOLUTION #85** – offered by A. White, seconded by B. Morley

THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HECTOR HEREBY ADOPTS THE FOLLOWING ORDER PURSUANT TO TOWN LAW SECTION 209-d, WITH RESPECT TO THE FORMATION OF A PROPOSED AMBULANCE DISTRICT IN SAID TOWN. PURSUANT TO SAID AUTHORITY, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

The boundaries of said proposed district are on file in the Town Clerk's Office as Exhibit A and attached herewith.

There are no improvements to be made in connection with the formation of the proposed district.

The maximum amount proposed to be expended for the improvements to be made in connection with the formation of the proposed district is \$0.00. The maximum amount to be expended in connection with the formation of the proposed district is \$3,100.

The estimated cost to the typical property within the proposed district for formation of the district is \$3.82. This cost was determined by dividing the \$3,100 cost to form the district by the number of tax-assessed properties in the district.

All costs for formation of the proposed district will be paid by a tax levied on real property in the proposed district.

A map, plan and report for the proposed district are on file in the Office of the Town Clerk. The Town Board of the Town of Hector will meet and hold a public hearing to hear all persons interested in the subject of the formation of the proposed district on June 29, 2016 at 7:00pm at the Mecklenburg Fire House, County Road 6, Mecklenburg NY

Roll Call Vote: M. Bergen – Aye; A. White – Aye; J. White – Aye; B. Morley – Aye; J. Boyette – Aye; B. Preston – Aye. Ayes 6, Nays 0

**Water District:** Water Superintendent Stapleton was excused from tonight's meeting. His written report was reviewed by Supervisor A. White covering gallons pumped; meter change outs; water flushing; leak repairs; equipment; service requests. Research is ongoing for the property Church Street; still looking for easements for the Railroad bed where the water line crosses.

**Code Enforcement:** Code Officer Patterson was excused from tonight's meeting. His written report was reviewed by Supervisor A. White covering number of permits issued; number open; number completed; special use permits; construction value; permit fees to date; pending fire inspections; property maintenance pending issues; working on amending permit application. Councilman Boyette questioned the number of property maintenance issues pending, number has not changed; is there a way to move some of these along to a resolution.

**Partnership with Social Services:** Letter and pre-rental inspection referral form reviewed outlining partnership with Code enforcement. Councilman J. White asked if we will be reimbursed for this service from the county. Councilman Preston asked what liability exposure the Town has. Councilman Boyette asked if we are liable if property is not up to code and county moves someone in.

Attorney Halpin indicated the County is not doing due diligence in checking out these properties prior to rental; Town has no liability with the lack of the County doing due diligence.

Colin McNaul expressed this is a very good thing to help keep people from moving into places that are not habitable; will put a message out to landlords that they will need to raise their standard of services. Susanne Lipari agreed this is really important; sub-code dwellings are more likely to be involved in issues creating dangers for firemen, rescue workers and ambulance crews.

**North Falls Road:** Attorney Navone sent a letter regarding North Falls Road and work being done by a neighboring land owner. Supervisor A. White stated this is really a DEC issue; we have no discretionary authority over the work being done; the letter is asking for some sort of action. Attorney Halpin will contact Attorney Navone. Councilman Preston asked the issue be tabled; don't believe we should take any kind of action.

Colin McNaul asked if this a situation where town people are threatening to sue the town over something that the town is not allowed to do.

**Supervisor:**

**Committee Reports:** Route 414 Corridor meeting will be later this week.

**Highway:** Councilman Preston reported the need for a salt storage area covered; need to proceed with engineering proposals.

**RESOLUTION #86** - offered by B. Preston, seconded by B. Morley

Resolved that we authorize the Highway Superintendent to proceed with Requests for Proposals for the engineering needed to start the process for a Salt Storage Shed. Ayes 6, Nays 0

**eCivis:** We contracted with eCivis to be used to search for grant funding; have not had much success; contract is due for renewal; would like a motion to cancel contract and use those budgeted funds of \$2300 toward the web site costs; they would reduce to \$1200 for only one access person. Councilman Boyette verified that we have entered into an agreement with SCOPED to search for grants, etc.

**RESOLUTION #87** – offered by J. Boyette, seconded by J. White

Resolved that we do not renew our agreement with eCivis as this time and to further use the budget line item toward website expenses. Ayes 6, Nays 0

**Hazard Mitigation Plan:** Plan is over 300 pages long; can provide to those that have email; County has requested a resolution from the Town. Supervisor A. White suggested this be tabled until the July meeting for board members to have time to look at the plan.

**Town Clerk/Tax Collector:** Clerk's monthly report filed

**Web Site:** Councilman Boyette presented information on the search and review of potential vendors for our web site re-design and hosting. Current web site is out of date; no one here can update or change. Communications committee is looking to start from scratch; 3 proposals obtained and reviewed; 2 webinars have been held; committee has made a choice to recommend Virtual Towns as they picked our site apart; showed us where and what they can improve; they provide design and planning; onsite training included in the price; department heads will have the ability to post on their page and news flash; goal is to have everything available within 3 clicks from the home page; two comparable proposals; one template and one custom design; approximately \$500 apart.

Susanne Lipari asked if we looked at any other towns' sites that use Virtual Towns. The Committee reviewed several from both vendors. Discussion of template versus custom design.

Supervisor A. White covered where funding would be covered from; time frame is to be up in running in 3-4 months.

**RESOLUTION #88** – offered by J. Boyette, seconded by J. White

Resolved to approve and authorize the Supervisor to proceed with and sign the contract for web site services with Virtual Towns after it is reviewed and approved by Attorney Halpin for the re-design and hosting of the Town's website at a cost of \$5495 with an annual support contract of \$1995.

Discussion: Susanne Lipari cautioned the Town to be sure we own the site. Ayes 6, Nays 0

**Recycling:**

New contract with Casella starts July 1; zero sort; many more things will be accepted. Dudgeons will have their dumpster removed by June 28<sup>th</sup>; Casella plans to bring dumpsters that day. Clerk Ike is working on a new flyer and hopes to have all the information needed by this weekend for distribution at Recycling on Saturday.

**Dumpster Day:** Preliminary report – do not have bills from Swarthout's or React yet.

Advertising costs \$486.88 plus paper for posters.

Mecklenburg: 8 volunteers; 3 dumpsters, 1 metal; \$211.00 donations

Hector: 5 volunteers; 3.5 C&D dumpsters; 1.5 metal dumpsters; \$330.18 donations

Burdett: 8 or 9 volunteers; 6 C&D dumpsters; 2 metal dumpsters; \$389.00 donations

Reynoldsville: 13 volunteers; 2 C&D trailers; 1 C&D dumpster; 2.5 metal dumpsters; \$870.00 donations

Electronics: 6 pallets picked up on 6/8/16; 17 pallets picked up on 6/14/16 (17 contained TV's; 3 full pallets were from Burdett). Councilman Bergen thanked all who volunteered for their time.

**Trumansburg Ambulance Rates:** Supervisor White reviewed recommended changes to the fee structure. Public Safety Committee has discussed and recommends we adjust our ambulance billing rates for Trumansburg Ambulance to be the same as the Village of Trumansburg as amended in March 2016.

**RESOLUTION #89** - offered by A. White, seconded by M. Bergen

Resolved to set the rates for the Trumansburg Ambulance effective July 1, 2016 as follows:

BLS Emergency - \$800.00

ALS 1 Emergency - \$1,050.00

ALS 2 Emergency \$1,150.00

ALS Interface - \$325.00

Mileage - \$20.00/mile

Ayes 6, Nays 0

**Southern Tier Regional EMS Council:** WGI application and letter reviewed regarding their intent to provide ambulance services for the track only; seeking comments within 30 days. Councilman Preston stated that if they have a problem it's immediate; why waste time; let them take care of it. No comments or action taken.

**Tompkins County Bicentennial Historic Marker:** We need to be actively looking for a place to install a sign; we have responded that we will accept one; we will ask our Historian Sandra Bradford to take a look at wording. Supervisor A. White will contact her.

**Miscellaneous/Correspondence/Others/Etc.**

Colin McNaull – impressed with all the board accomplished tonight.

Susanne Lipari asked a question regarding the letter from the Finger Lakes National Forest referring to properties on Texas Hollow Road; possible purchase of land; what is the status of taxes that should come to the Town. Supervisor A. White indicated that we still need to pursue that issue with the County regarding taxes paid that are supposed to come to the Town.

Adjourned at 9:00pm on a motion by Councilman J. White, seconded by Councilman B. Preston

Respectfully submitted,

Jane M. V. Ike. Clerk