

**Town of Northumberland  
Town Board Meeting  
July 9, 2020**

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Northumberland Town Board was called to order @ 8:00 AM by Supervisor Willard Peck. Following the salute to the flag, roll call was taken. Those attending included Supervisor Willard Peck; Councilman Paul Bolesh; Councilman John DeLisle and Councilwoman Patricia Bryant. Councilman George Hodgson was absent. Also attending was Clerk Denise Murphy and Town Attorney David Brennan.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no comments from the public.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Councilman John DeLisle made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2020 Regular Monthly Meeting. Councilwoman Patricia Bryant seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Dog Control Officer's Report: Ed Cross submitted his Dog Control Report for June, 2020. Mr. Cross answered 3 Complaints; issued 2 Warnings and had 1 Bite Case.

2. The Town received an email from David Winchell, Public Outreach with NYS DEC regarding Nuisance Bears in the Town of Northumberland. NYS DEC Wildlife staff and Environmental Conservation Police are dealing with one or more nuisance black bear in the Town of Northumberland, mainly in the hamlet of Gansevoort. The biggest problem is people with bird feeders which attract the bears to residential areas. They are hoping that the Town can help spread the message for people to not feed birds in the summer. The Town Clerk was instructed to post a notice on both our Web Page and the Town of Northumberland's Facebook page.

3. Supervisor Willard Peck stated that he has received numerous complaints from a property owner, Robert Walsh, on West River Road regarding activities on the Island in the Hudson River owned by George Story. Mr. Walsh stated that the Town needs to modify our Noise Local Law to limit activities between the hours of 8:00 AM – 5 PM. Mr. Walsh was also concerned with the burning of huge amount of brush on the Island. Supervisor Peck stated that he talked with Mr. Story regarding Mr. Walsh's concerns. Mr. Story stated that he sustained substantial tree damage on his property from the Tornado that passed through previously. Mr. Story is trying to clean his property up. Supervisor Peck stated that he has talked with NYS DEC and was told there is no "Burn Ban" South of the Adirondack Park at this time and being an Island, he is surrounded by water so any safety concerns of spread is alleviated.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Agreement to Spend Highway Funds: Highway Supt David Coffinger presented “Agreement for the Expenditure of Highway Funds” for 2020. Councilman John DeLisle introduced Resolution # 48 of 2020.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, pursuant to the provision of Section 284 of the Highway Law, the Town of Northumberland and the Town Superintendent agree that moneys levied and collected in the Town for the repairs and improvement of highways, and received from the State for State Aid for the repair and improvement of highways, shall be expended as follows:

1. GENERAL REPAIRS: The sum of \$410,000.00 shall be set aside to be expended for primary work and general repair upon 60.38 miles of town highways, including sluices and culverts.

2. PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS: The following Town Highways and repairs on various roads as needed.

Homestead Road commencing at King Road to the Town Line a distance of 9700’ in length, 22’ wide and a thickness of 3”, type 3 binder, subbase reclaimed, adding rubble and reclaimed blacktop to raise the road south of Virginia Place, replacement of culverts and ditching.

Councilman Paul Bolesh seconded the introduction of Resolution #48 of 2020

Supervisor Willard Peck – “Aye”

Councilman Paul Bolesh – “Aye”

Councilman John DeLisle – “Aye”

Councilwoman Patricia Bryant – “Aye”      Resolution #48 of 2020

2. Changes regarding Policy Against Discrimination and Harassment, mandated by New York State.

The Town Clerk provided Board Members with a copy of the Updated Sample Policy to Comply with New York State Amendments Against Discrimination and Harassment provided by NYMIR, our Insurance Co. NYMIR revised its sample based on the amendments to the State’s anti-discrimination and anti-harassment laws. Municipalities utilizing this policy should adopt the updated version prior to August 12, 2020. The updates specifically include:

- The extended statute of limitations for filing claims of sexual harassment with the Division of Human Rights. This is effective for claims that accrue on or after August 12, 2020.
- The scope of the policy is clarified to include language consistent with the expanded coverage of contractors under the Human Rights Law. The clarification does not change the meaning of the policy.

The Town Board will review the revised document for next month’s Town Board Meeting.



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