

**Town of Northumberland
Town Board Meeting
September 4, 2019**

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 were Councilman Paul Bolesh; Councilman John DeLisle; Councilman George Hodgson and Councilwoman Patricia Bryant. Also attending were Clerk Denise Murphy; Building and Zoning Administrator Richard Colozza and Highway Supt David Coffinger. Town Attorney David Brennan was absent.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no comments from the public

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Councilman George Hodgson made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 8, 2019 Regular Monthly Meeting. Councilman Paul Bolesh seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Dog Control Officer: Ed Cross submitted his August 2019 Dog Control Report. Mr. Cross answered 7 complaints, brought 1 dog to the shelter, issued 3 warnings and issued 1 Summons.

2. Wilton Emergency Squad: The Town received an email from Nashua Alexander, COO of Wilton Emergency Squad. Wilton Emergency Squad is the 2019 recipient of the New York State Excellence in Prehospital Quality and Safety Award. Each year the Department of Health selects one recipient based on many criteria. Wilton Emergency Squad is the recipient of this award for the measurable changes in practice their organization made to the treatment of patients in sudden cardiac arrest. Wilton Emergency Squad is proud of the award winning service they provide to their community. Wilton Emergency Squad serves the southern part of the Town of Northumberland.

3. Saratoga County Soil & Water Conservation District Tire Recycling Program: Saratoga County Soil & Water Conservation District will be holding a tire recycling program on Tuesday, October 29, 2019 from 4pm – 6 pm. To participate in this program you must pre-register and be a Saratoga County resident. The cost is \$3.00 each for tires without rims and \$5.00 each for tires with rims. The Town Clerk informed Board Members that this has been posted on both our Web page and Facebook page.

4. Equalization Rate: The Town of Northumberland received the Final State Equalization Rate for the 2019 Assessment Roll. The Town's Equalization Rate is 97.90.

5. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation: The Town of Northumberland received a letter from NYS DEC regarding Isensee and Morris Property. NYSDEC is contemplating purchasing several parcels of land in the Town of Northumberland. These properties have been identified by their Biologists as being occupied by the Endangered Blanding's Turtles. They are either near or border other

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parcels NYSDEC has purchased to protect the turtles. New York State's Open Space Plan and Environmental Protection Fund process provides that the Department communicate with local governments when a State land acquisition is proposed. Two of the parcels NYSDEC wishes to purchase at this time are owned by Jesse and Carrie Isensee, identified as Saratoga County Tax Map Parcel ID Numbers, 142.10 – 1 – 2 and 142.10 – 1 – 3. Three other parcels they are currently interested in are owned by William Morris, identified as Saratoga County Tax Map Parcels Numbers 142.10 – 1 – 1, 142.10 – 1 – 4 and 142.10 – 1 – 5. It is important to note that under state ownership, full property taxes will be paid. The Town of Northumberland has a 90 day time period from the date on this letter to review these proposed acquisitions and respond to the Department with an opposition to the use of Environmental Protection Funds (EPF) monies for these proposed projects. There were no negative responses from the Town Board.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Change in Domestic Relation Law: Governor Cuomo signed into Law an Amendment to the Domestic Relations Law, in relation to waiving the State fee for Marriage Licenses for active duty members of the armed forces. The Law allows a Town/City to waive the fee for a Certificate when either of the parties making application for such Certificate is a member of the armed forces of the United States on active duty. Town Clerk Murphy recommended to the Town Board that they not waive the Town's portion for a Marriage License at this time. It was the consensus of the Town Board Members to agree and not waive the Town's portion for a Marriage License.

2. JCAP Grant: Town Justice James Evans submitted a letter stating the Justice Court requests authorization to apply for a grant from the Justice Court Assistant Program (JCAP) for the following:

Corded Desk Base Station Phone	\$179.00
Cordless Accessory Handset Phone	\$89.00
Judicial Robe	\$325.00
24 Stacking chairs/Courtroom	\$3,119.76
Rectangular Desk shell	<u>\$659.99</u>
	\$4,372.75

A discussion followed regarding the rectangular desk shell. The desk is 72 x 36 x 29. The court would like it to sit in front of the bench. The Town Clerk stated she had concern about moving it after court since it is made out of pressboard. It was the consensus to remove that item from the Grant request.

Councilwoman Patricia Bryant introduced Resolution # 61 of 2019 –

WHEREAS, the Northumberland Town Court has a total budget for 2019 in the amount of \$67,977.00 to cover all costs associated with the Northumberland Court System, and

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WHEREAS, the Northumberland Town Court is in need of funds for the following:

- Corded Desk Base Station Phone
- Cordless Accessory Handset Phone
- Judicial Robe
- 24 Stacking armless chairs

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Northumberland Town Board Authorizes the Justice Court to apply for a Grant in the Amount of \$3,713.00 from the Justice Court Assistance Program (JCAP).

Councilman John DeLisle seconded the introduction of Resolution #61 of 2019.

- Supervisor Willard Peck – “Aye”
 - Councilman Paul Bolesh – “Aye”
 - Councilman John DeLisle – “Aye”
 - Councilman George Hodgson – “Aye”
 - Councilwoman Patricia Bryant – “Aye”
- Resolution #61 of 2019 Adopted

3. Farmland Protection: The Town received an email from Michael Horn, Conservation Director with Saratoga PLAN. Saratoga PLAN would like to apply for County Farmland Protection Funding. The project is the 50 acres of land owned by Paul Bolesh at 7 Wilton Gansevoort Road, which also has frontage on the Snook Kill. The Town Board will need to adopt a Resolution in support of this project. Councilman George Hodgson introduced Resolution #62 of 2019 –

Supporting Bolesh Farm Application for Funding by the Saratoga County Farmland & Open Space Protection Program

WHEREAS, Paul Bolesh is the owner of certain real property (the “Property”) consisting of approximately 50.9 acres of viable agricultural land in tax map parcels 103.-2-22.1 103.-2-22.2 and 103.-2-22.3, located at 7 Wilton Gansevoort Road in the Town of Northumberland, Saratoga County, New York. The landowner is interested in protecting the Property for agricultural purposes by conveying a permanent conservation easement on the land; and

WHEREAS, the *Town of Northumberland 2003 Comprehensive Land Use Plan*, subtitled “*Preserving Agriculture, Open Space and a Rural Lifestyle*”, identifies agriculture as “the economic backbone of the Town” and “the most important industry in Northumberland”, has summary recommendations including “preserve and encourage agricultural uses” and “preserve the rural, open-space character of the town” and “protect view sheds and scenic vistas”, and identifies purchase of development rights is identified as a tool to achieve these recommendations.

WHEREAS, the Saratoga County Farmland Protection and Open Space Preservation grant program was established in 2003 by the County Board of Supervisors to enable the Purchase of Development Rights on eligible farmland; and

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WHEREAS, the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors has allocated \$100,000 for the 2019 Farmland Protection and Open Space Grant Program and eligible applicants include all Saratoga County Municipalities and Not-For-Profit Land Trusts; and

WHEREAS, Saratoga PLAN is a New York Not-For-Profit Conservation Organization dedicated to preserving the rural character, natural habitats and scenic beauty of Saratoga County so these irreplaceable assets are accessible to all and available for present and future generation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town of Northumberland Board, at a regular Town Board meeting on September 4, 2019 voted to endorse the application by Saratoga PLAN for the Bolesh Farm for funding from Saratoga County. The Town of Northumberland is willing to serve as the conduit for grant funding from Saratoga County to Saratoga PLAN.

Councilwoman Patricia Bryant seconded the introduction of Resolution #62 of 2019.

Supervisor Willard Peck – “Aye”

Councilman Paul Bolesh – “Abstain”

Councilman John DeLisle – “Aye”

Councilman George Hodgson – “Aye”

Councilwoman Patricia Bryant – “Aye”

Resolution #62 of 2019 Adopted.

4. Supervisor Willard Peck received a letter from Spencer Hellwig, Administrator, Saratoga County Board of Supervisors, regarding qualification of Saratoga County as an Urban County under the Community Development Grant Program. Saratoga County has recently become eligible for status as an Entitled Urban County under U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development designation, as per HUD Notice CPD-19-04. If the Town of Northumberland would like to be included in the urban county, they must formally adopt a Resolution. Councilman George Hodgson introduced Resolution #63 of 2019

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF NORTHUMBERLAND TO JOIN SARATOGA COUNTY AS PART
OF AN ENTITLED URBAN COUNTY UNDER THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK PROGRAM, AND
AUTHORIZING THE SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE ALL REQUIRED
COOPERATION AGREEMENTS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH**

WHEREAS, the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (24 U.S.C. 93-383 et seq.) created the Community Development Block Grant (“CDBG”) program by combining into a single grant program a number of previous federal grant programs administered by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”), which programs included the Urban Renewal, Model Cities, Open Space, and Water and Sewer programs; and

WHEREAS, the CDBG entitlement program provides annual grants on a formula basis to cities and counties to develop viable urban communities through: the construction of affordable housing; the

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promotion of economic opportunity through the creation of jobs and the expansion and retention of businesses; the expansion of community services; and neighborhood revitalization projects, principally for low- and moderate- income persons; and

WHEREAS, HUD annually allocates CDBG program funding to “entitlement communities” comprised of central cities of Metropolitan Statistical Areas; metropolitan cities with populations of at least 50,000; and qualified urban counties with a population of 200,000 or more (excluding the population of entitlement cities); and

WHEREAS, as Saratoga County’s population is now estimated to exceed 230,000, the County could qualify as an urban county eligible for entitlement status and CDBG funding; and

WHEREAS, in order for the County to obtain entitlement community status, the County would need to enter into HUD approved cooperation agreements with local municipalities with a combined population of 200,000 in which each local municipality must agree to the County serving as an entitlement community on the municipality’s behalf; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Northumberland acknowledges that an entitled urban county’s included units of general local government are ineligible to apply for grants from appropriations under the State CDBG Program for fiscal years during the period in which they are participating in the Entitlement CDBG program with the urban county; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town of Northumberland hereby wishes to be included in Saratoga County’s designation as an entitled urban county as cooperating unit of general local government; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the such election to be excluded will be effective for the entire three-year period for which the urban county qualifies; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is hereby authorized to execute any and all cooperative agreements with Saratoga County and/or the US Department of Housing and Urban Development needed in order for the County to qualify as an urban county under HUD regulations governing eligibility to receive and administer CDBG program funding; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Town of Northumberland shall forward a certified copy of this Resolution to the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors as part of the County’s application to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development for entitlement community status.

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Councilman John DeLisle seconded the introduction of Resolution # 63 of 2019.

Supervisor Willard Peck – “Aye”
Councilman Paul Bolesh – “Aye”
Councilman John DeLisle – “Aye”
Councilman George Hodgson – “Aye”
Councilwoman Patricia Bryant – “Aye”

Resolution # 63 of 2019 – Adopted

OLD BUSINESS

1. Sexual Harassment: Supervisor Willard Peck informed the Board Members that Robert Hartman, who retired from Saratoga County as the Safety Officer is available to provide mandated Sexual Harassment Prevention Training. Mr. Hartman charges \$200 for the first session, and \$100 for the second, if needed. The Sexual Harassment Prevention Training must be completed by October 9th. Councilman Paul Bolesh made a motion to hire Robert Hartman to do the mandated Sexual Harassment Prevention Training at a cost of \$200 for the first session and \$100 for the second session, if needed. Councilwoman Patricia Bryant seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. The Town Clerk will reach out to Mr. Hartman to see if he is available September 24th.

2. Grange Hall Road: The Town received an Evaluation from Charles Baker, EDP regarding the replacement of a culvert on Grange Hall Road. Highway Supt David Coffinger will do an evaluation of the current culvert along with Councilman John DeLisle and report back to the Board.

3. Foundation work at the Highway Garage: Councilman DeLisle and Building and Zoning Administrator Richard Colozza will work with Highway Supt Coffinger to put together a bid and reach out to contractors who do masonry work for the repair work on the foundation at the Highway Garage for quotes.

4. Culvert pipe/Stonebridge Road: Supervisor Peck stated that Highway Supt Coffinger has been approached by Chad Barber about placing a culvert under a portion Stonebridge Road near Boyce Lane. Supervisor Peck stated that Barber Farm owns the surrounding land on Boyce Lane of which they pipe their liquid manure to these fields. Councilman John DeLisle stated that agriculture is our town’s number one business and feels if the Barber Farm purchase’s the culvert, the town should install it. This would also ensure that it was installed correctly. Councilman John DeLisle made a motion that the Highway Department will install the culvert pipe on Stonebridge Road near Boyce Lane and Barber Farm will be responsible in purchasing the culvert after Highway Supt Coffinger verifies the correct size. Councilman George Hodgson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

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DESINGATIONS

1. Approve Vouchers for Payment: Councilman John DeLisle introduced Resolution # 64 of 2019

BE IT RESOLVED, the following Vouchers to be paid as presented:

A (General Fund) Vouchers # 251 - # 278 Total: \$ 27,749.73
DA (Highway Fund) Vouchers # 185 - # 204 Total: \$ 213,112.78
SS (Sewer Fund) Voucher # 12 Total: \$ 24.55

Councilman George Hodgson seconded the introduction of Resolution # 64 of 2019

Supervisor Willard Peck – “Aye”
Councilman Paul Bolesh – “Aye”
Councilman John DeLisle – “Aye”
Councilman George Hodgson – “Aye”
Councilwoman Patricia Bryant – “Aye” Resolution # 64 of 2019 Adopted

2. Supervisor Willard Peck presented the Supervisor’s Report for July, 2019 for the Town Board’s consideration. Councilwoman Patricia Bryant introduced Resolution # 65 of 2019 -

BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to Section 125 of the Town Law, Supervisor Willard Peck rendered the following detailed statement of all money received and disbursed during July 2019:

GENERAL

Balance as of 06/30/2019	\$	1,056,998.71
Increases	\$	149,879.09
Decreases	\$	55,446.75
Balance as of 07/31/2019	\$	1,151,431.05

HIGHWAY

Balance as of 06/30/2019	\$	318,123.11
Increases	\$	14,834.41
Decreases	\$	53,929.44
Balance as of 07/31/2019	\$	279,028.08

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SEWER DISTRICT #1

Balance as of 06/30/2019	\$	20,189.43
Increases	\$	2.23
Decreases	\$	2,402.37
Balance as of 07/31/2019	\$	17,789.29

BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board has reviewed and approved July 2019 Monthly Report by Supervisor Willard Peck as presented.

Councilman George Hodgson seconded the introduction of Resolution # 65 of 2019

Supervisor Willard Peck – “Aye”

Councilman Paul Bolesh – “Aye”

Councilman John DeLisle – “Aye”

Councilman George Hodgson – “Aye”

Councilwoman Patricia Bryant – “Aye”

Resolution #65 of 2019 Adopted

Councilman George Hodgson made a motion to adjourn the Meeting @ 9:00 AM.
Councilwoman Patricia Bryant seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Murphy, Town Clerk