



**DESIGNATIONS**

1. Councilman Daniel Gale made a motion to approve vouchers for payment as presented. Councilman George Hodgson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

2. Transfers: Supervisor Willard Peck stated that the Town Board needs to consider the following transfers:

transfer \$5,000 from the Parkland Savings Account to the 2007 General Budget and increase the 2007 General Budget appropriations by \$5,000 and to create account A7140.4 and place \$5,000 in the line item.

Due to incorrect coding (they were coded A8020.4) for the following vouchers: V#42, V#70, V#173, V#174 and V# 232 for EDP, LLC they need to be changed to reflect the correct code A1440.4.

Councilman George Hodgson made a motion to approve transfers as presented. Councilman Daniel Gale seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

1. The Town Board received a letter from James Mitchell, PE regarding the Preserve at King Road. Mr. Mitchell states the construction estimate prepared by Boswell engineering dated May, 2007, for the road, in the amount of \$447,611 has been reviewed and approved by his office and the office of the Highway Sup't. Supervisor Peck stated the Town Planning Board needs to review the costs and approve the amount before the Town Board can approve the Performance Guarantee.

2. The Town received a letter from Assemblyman James Tedisco regarding the skyrocketing property taxes across New York State. Assemblyman Tedisco stated the Assembly is trying to combat this tax crisis, his Assembly Minority colleagues and himself recently introduced the New York State Property Taxpayer Protection Act – Bill #A8775. Assemblyman Tedisco asked the Town Board to review the enclosed sample resolution endorsing the NYS Property Taxpayer Protection Act. Councilman Hodgson stated the Town Board adopted Resolution #20 of 2007 on January 8, 2007 – Petitioning the State of New York to adopt Legislation to provide for Property Tax Reform. Councilman George Hodgson stated Saratoga County Board of Supervisors and many of the Town's in Saratoga County passed a similar Resolution. Councilman George Hodgson introduced Resolution #36 of 2007

**WHEREAS**, The tremendously high property tax burden on New York families and businesses is the number one issue facing our community today, and the sheer cost of living in New York has forced many residents and businesses to leave, thus slowing the economic engine of the State; and

**WHEREAS**, Young people are finding it difficult to purchase homes, seniors are struggling to maintain their homes, and businesses are facing immense challenges to create and retain jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, New Yorkers face the highest property taxes in the nation, and when measured as a percentage of home value, nine of the top 10 property tax rates in the entire country-belong to counties in New York; and the State must act now to thwart the detrimental effects that high property taxes are having on local governments; and

**WHEREAS**, Assembly Minority Members have introduced the “New York State Property Taxpayer Protection Act (Assembly Bill 8775),” which puts forth new and innovative ideas for property tax reform that limit the amount school districts can raise annually through local tax levies to four percent or the rate of inflation, whichever is less; in addition the Act would relieve municipalities and school districts of unfunded mandates, reduce county Medicaid costs, strengthen financial accountability over school tax dollars, promote local government efficiency, and encourage local option insurance pooling; and

**WHEREAS**, The “New York State Property Taxpayer Protection Act” will help fix New York’s broken property tax system, providing homeowners, businesses and municipalities significant and lasting relief from the crushing burden of skyrocketing property taxes; and now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Town of Northumberland Town Board acknowledges New York State’s property tax crisis and urges the immediate passage and chaptering of the “New York State Property Taxpayer Protection Act” which will help local governments reinvigorate New York’s economy by providing incentives for people and businesses to move and stay here; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this duly certified resolution, be transmitted to the Governor of the State of New York, the Temporary President of the New York State Senate, the Speaker of the New York State Assembly, and to each member of the New York State Legislature.

Councilman Harold Vance Jr. seconded the introduction of Resolution #36 of 2007:

Supervisor Willard Peck – “Aye”  
Councilman Paul Bolesh – “Aye”  
Councilman Harold Vance – “Aye”  
Councilman George Hodgson – “Aye”  
Councilman Daniel Gale – “Aye”                      Resolution #36 Adopted

Councilman George Hodgson stated he would like to have the Town Clerk forward a copy of the Town’s Resolution #20 of 2007 that they adopted in January, 2007 along with this Resolution to the appropriate parties.

3. The Town received a letter from Tom Wood, Supervisor for the Town of Saratoga regarding the first meeting of the joint Town of Saratoga and Town of Northumberland Town Park Committee. The first meeting of the will be held on Tuesday, July 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. Supervisor Peck stated the following will serve on the Committee representing the Town of Northumberland:

Supervisor Willard Peck  
Councilman Daniel Gale  
Wayne Durr, 42 St. Johns Drive, Gansevoort  
Geoffrey Saddlemire, 41 Cramer Path, Gansevoort

4. The Town Board received a speed reduction request from Shane Bushey for Peters Road. The portion from State Route 32 to the entrance road to the Scott/Finch Landfill is a County Road and the speed limit is presently 55 MPH. The Town Board referred the request to Neil Petteys, Highway Sup't.

5. The Town Board received a letter from Saratoga County Real Property Tax Service regarding the Town of Northumberland's choice for the town's share of the 2007 Sales Tax Revenue. Councilman George Hodgson introduced Resolution #37 of 2007

**WHEREAS**, The Town of Northumberland has a choice for distribution of the Town's share of the 2007 Sales Tax Revenue, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Northumberland Town Board authorizes Supervisor Willard Peck to request that the Town of Northumberland receive the town's share of the 2007 Sales Tax Revenue be distributed as cash.

Supervisor Willard Peck – "Aye"  
Councilman Paul Bolesh – "Aye"  
Councilman Harold Vance – "Aye"  
Councilman George Hodgson – "Aye"  
Councilman Daniel Gale – "Aye"

Resolution #37 Adopted

6. The Town Board received a letter from Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area regarding the Henry Knox Cannon Trail. This historic trail traverses the Town of Northumberland. There is one monument located in the Town of Northumberland – Monument #12: This monument is located on the northwest corner of the intersection of Route 32 and Stark's Knob Road. The monument is located along the road Knox, and later his sleds, would have taken heading south towards Schuylerville. The Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area is coordinating the refurbishment or replacement of the Henry Knox Cannon Trail markers, their designation on the National Register of Historic Places, and the establishment of a cohesive trail with interpretive signage complemented by an educational map/brochure. They are working with the NYS Department of Transportation in determining access to the trail markers, commissioning the refurbishment or replacement of the monuments, and communicating the significance of these historic markers to their network of partners. They are looking forward to working with the Town of Northumberland as they develop and implement the plan for the restoration, interpretation, maintenance, and celebration of the Henry Knox Cannon Trail.

**APPOINTMENTS**

1. The Town Clerk received a letter from New York State Real Property informing the town that assessor terms expire September 30, 2007 in New York State. The next term will begin October 1, 2007 and end September 30, 2013. The Town Board appoints the assessor to the six year term. Supervisor Peck stated he would like to table any action this evening until he has had an opportunity to talk with Walter Smead the Town’s Sole Assessor.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Supervisor Peck stated that Tracey Clothier, LA Group, has prepared another Grant Application for \$350,000 from the NYS Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation. This Grant is for a intermunicipal recreation park that would be used and maintained jointly by the towns of Saratoga and Northumberland. A local developer has donated the land for the new park which is centrally located on Route 29 along the border of the two municipalities. The deed is expected to be finalized by July, 2007. The new facility will fulfill a long overdue need for recreational playing fields for both growing communities. The total project cost of these improvements is \$820,500. The requested grant amount is \$350,000. The Towns will provide a cash match in the amount of \$145,500 for a total cash amount of \$495,000. The Towns will contribute an additional \$325,000 in In-Kind services to the project. Councilman Daniel Gale introduced Resolution #38 of 2007

**RESOLVED**, That Willard H Peck, Supervisor of the Town of Northumberland, is hereby authorized and directed to file an application for funds from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in accordance with the provisions of Title 9 of the Environmental Protection Act of 1993 or the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, in an amount not to exceed \$ 350,000.00 and upon approval of said request to enter into and execute a project agreement with the State for such financial assistance to the Town’s of Saratoga and Northumberland for a intermunicipal recreation park that is to be used and maintained jointly by the towns of Saratoga and Northumberland on Route 29 in the Town of Saratoga.

Councilman George Hodgson seconded the introduction of Resolution #38 of 2007

Supervisor Willard Peck – “Aye”

Councilman Paul Bolesh – “Aye”

Councilman Harold Vance – “Aye”

Councilman George Hodgson – “Aye”

Councilman Daniel Gale – “Aye”

Resolution #38 Adopted

2. Hudson Crossing Update: Councilman George Hodgson reported that he has received a letter from New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation regarding Hudson Crossing Lock 5C Recreation Area Improvements. The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has reviewed the information submitted for this project. SHPO concurs with the conclusions and recommendations of the above-cited reports with respect to areas A, C, D, and E provided that project-related ground disturbances extend no deeper than those described in the June 20, 2007 letter from himself to SHPO. Within these parameters, SHPO recommends that the

planned construction activities will have No Adverse Effect on cultural resources listed or eligible for listing on the State or National Registers of Historic Places. Councilman Hodgson stated this was one of the pieces needed to move on to the actual construction phase. Councilman Hodgson stated that both New York State DOT and New York State Canal Corp. still need to approve the design specifications for the Hudson Crossing Play Garden. The Town originally had a signed agreement from New York State DOT for \$53,000 for the engineering costs, now the town needs a supplemental agreement with new York State DOT for the remainder \$197,000 which will be used for the construction phase. One these forms are completed they will be forwarded to New York State DOT. Councilman George Hodgson stated he has talked with Michele Sawyer, Adirondack Insurance, to make sure volunteers are covered if they are hurt on the site. Councilman George Hodgson stated he would like to thank Forest Duckett (A&A Excavation) for volunteering his time and the Highway Department for spending their day helping at site.

3. Turning Point Parade: Supervisor Peck wanted to remind the Board Members that the Turning Point Parade will be on August 5, 2007 and any Board Members that participates needs to be in Schuylerville for line up at 12:00 Noon. The parade kicks off at 1:00 PM.

4. Delivery of Gradall: Councilman Daniel Gale wanted to let the public know that the Gradall has been delivered to the Highway Department. Supervisor Peck asked if the bid notice has been posted for the sale of the Town's used gradall. Councilman Gale stated no and he will work with the Highway Sup't when he returns.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Councilman Daniel Gale stated he would like the Town Board Members and Town Employees to put together articles for a Town Wide Newsletter. Councilman Gale stated he will also include the form for "Special Needs Inventory" which Article 2B of the Executive Law was amended this year to require county Emergency Services Planning Offices to establish a registry for person with special needs. Any resident who has a special need will fill out the form and return it to the Town Hall. Councilman Gale stated he would like the articles by early August.

2. Councilman Daniel Gale stated the summer youth program will start July 10 and ends August 16, 2007. There will be a Family Celebration Day from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm on August 11, 2007 and will be held at the Town Hall. The event will be free due to the Town receiving a grant from the Board of Supervisors to cover the cost for events like this.

3. Supervisor Peck stated he has been approached by Tom Roberts, owner of Roberts Garage on Leonard Street, regarding Hill Street Extension. Apparently on old maps in the town, Hill Street cut across State Route 32 (Leonard Street) and ended at the railroad tracks. This portion of Hill Street was never built. Mr. Roberts would like to abandoned this portion and have it convert back to the adjoining property owners. Supervisor Peck stated he will discuss this with the Town Attorney.

4. Dog Control Officer/Assistant: Supervisor Peck informed the Board Member that Diane Ives has hurt her ankle and is unable to go out on calls. Both Dog Control Officers in Town of Saratoga and Town of Moreau had indicated that they would be willing to help. The Dog Control

Officer from the other town will be compensated \$35.00 per call plus mileage. All complaints will still go to Diane Ives and she will screen the calls.

5. Councilman Paul Bolesh has indicated that there is a large amount of turtles that cross Fortsville Road. Councilman Bolesh stated he rides his bike on this road and has seen numerous turtle's dead. These turtles are big and could cause an accident when a car tries to avoid it. Councilman Bolesh stated he would like the County to consider placing "Turtle Crossing" signs in this area for safety purposes. Supervisor Peck stated he will contact the County Department of Public Works to see if this is feasible.

6. Attorney General's office will hold a meeting with the residents of Stevens Court/Castlewood Drive on August 6, 2007 @ 6:30 PM at the Town Hall. The meeting will discuss installation of new wells to meet Department of Health requirements.

7. Supervisor Peck received a letter from Dolores Valenti, Court Clerk, regarding approval to submit a application for the 2007 Justice Court Assistance program. Mrs. Valenti would like to request funds for Net Working, Cash Box and a new Fax Machine. Councilman Paul Bolesh introduced Resolution #39 of 2007 – **WHEREAS**, the Northumberland Town Court has a total budget for 2007 in the amount of \$27,800 to cover all costs associated with the Northumberland Court System, and

**WHEREAS**, the Northumberland Town Court is in need of computer networking, a cash box and a new fax machine to use in the Court Room during session to expedite court matters,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Northumberland Town Board authorizes the Justice Court request to apply for a grant from the Justice Court Assistance Program.

Councilman George Hodgson seconded the introduction of Resolution #39 of 2007

Supervisor Willard Peck – "Aye"

Councilman Paul Bolesh – "Aye"

Councilman Harold Vance – "Aye"

Councilman George Hodgson – "Aye"

Councilman Daniel Gale – "Aye"

Resolution #39 Adopted

Councilman George Hodgson made a motion @ 8:45 PM to go into Executive Session to discuss legal issues. Councilman Daniel Gale seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilman Paul Bolesh made a motion @ 9:10 PM to reconvene the Regular Monthly Meeting.

Councilman George Hodgson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Supervisor

Peck stated the Town Board discussed legal issues no action was taken. Councilman Harold

Vance made a motion @ 9:14 PM to adjourn the Meeting. Councilman Paul Bolesh seconded the

motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

*Denise Murphy*

Town Clerk

