

**Town of Northumberland
Town Board Meeting
September 11, 2014**

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Northumberland Town Board was called to order @ 7:00 PM by Supervisor Willard Peck. Those attending included Supervisor Willard Peck; Councilman Paul Bolesh; Councilman John DeLisle; Councilman George Hodgson and Councilwoman Patricia Bryant. Also attending were Clerk Denise Murphy; Highway Sup't Harold Vance Jr and Building and Zoning Admin Richard Colozza.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chris Benn, General Schuyler Emergency Squad, gave his total calls for August. They answered 16 calls for the Town of Saratoga; 7 for the Town of Northumberland; 2 for the Village of Victory Mills and 27 for the Village of Schuylerville. Mr. Benn stated they are on target for 600 calls for this year. Mr. Benn stated that they are beginning the search for a new "Chief of Operations/ALS Director" this month. General Schuyler Emergency Squad participated in the Turning Point Parade and Festival. On Saturday, September 13th they will be holding a member recognition picnic at Fish Creek Rod and Gun Club. They are also working to establish a new preventative maintenance plan for all their vehicles.

Colleen Trossbach, Peter and Suzann Bobley and Ron Hart came before the Town Board to request their assistance to require Time Warner Cable Co (or Comcast) to provide High Speed Internet, TV and phone service to the 23 dwellings located between 120 Beaver Street and 375 Beaver Street. The homeowners and residents of Beaver Street stated they have written several requests to Time Warner Cable but they were denied coverage dating back to 2006. These denials were reportedly based on subjective home density requirements, which always seemed to change as additional new homes were constructed on their street. The most recent ambiguous roadblock was that the length of the individual driveways were included in the home density calculation, which was incorrect because nearly all of the residents on the street have already installed the buried coax cable to the power poles, which makes this argument meaningless. On August 28, 2014 they contacted Carol McTague, Utility Analyst III at the NYS Office of Telecommunications. Ms. McTague indicated she would assist the Town in resolving this issue or any negotiations with the cable companies. She also directed these homeowners to request an updated survey by contacting David Whalen, Time Warner Cable VP of Governmental Regulations. Mr. Hart stated that it is almost impossible to get cable or cell service in their area with the old dial up. Mr. Hart stated this is having an impact on the students in this area since the schools now require papers to be turned in electronically. Mr. Hart stated this is no longer a trivial issue. Supervisor Peck stated that he, along with Town Attorney Douglas Ward had a conference call with Mr. David Whalen. He was extremely helpful. Mr. Whalen stated that Time Warner Cable would not increase coverage for house density less than 20 homes per mile. Mr. Whalen gave information on the formula they use to determine density. The Public Service Commission regulations state coverage must be provided when there are 35 homes within a mile. Supervisor Peck gave a brief history on how the Town of Northumberland came about having Time Warner Cable. Back in the late 1980's Councilman Guy Murphy worked hard to have Cable brought to our town. At that time, Time Warner Cable only brought cable into the more populated areas, which is the northern part of the Town. Back at that point, the density was 35 homes within a mile. When Supervisor Peck took over, previous Supervisor Edgar King signed a new 10 year Franchise Agreement with a density of 20 homes per mile. That Franchise Agreement ran out in 2013. Supervisor Peck and Town Attorney Douglas Ward have been reviewing the

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maps that were provided by Time Warner cable regarding service area and found these maps are not up to date. Supervisor Peck stated there is a process and he will continue to work on it. Ms. Trossbach stated that she was told there are grants available for rural communities to increase High Speed Internet. Supervisor Peck thanked the residents who came out tonight and told them the town will continue to work through the process to increase coverage within the town.

MINUTES

1. Councilman Paul Bolesh made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 14, 2014 Regular Monthly Meeting. Councilman George Hodgson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Dog Control Officer Report for August 2014: Edward Cross answered 3 complaints; brought 1 dog to the shelter and issued 1 warning.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Time Warner Cable: Supervisor Willard Peck stated that he will contact Time Warner Cable to obtain up to date maps of services for the Town of Northumberland and Town Attorney Douglas Ward will contact the Public Service Commission tomorrow and ask them for suggestions.

2. Employee Handbook: Councilwoman Patricia Bryant stated that she is progressing and hopes to have it to Supervisor Peck soon.

3. Supervisor Willard Peck reported that the sealed bids were opened on Tuesday, September 9, 2014 @ 2:00 PM for the possible construction of a new Town Hall. The following bids were received:

General Bid:

Bunkoff General Contractors: \$938,000.00
Hoosick Valley Contractors, Inc: \$945,800.00
Riverview Construction Assc.: \$958,800.00
Gallo Construction: \$1,031,700.00
Bast Hatfield Cont: \$1,033,000.00
Machinick Builders: \$1,060,400.00
Bishop Beaudry: \$1,082,000.00

Electric Bid:

Dunham Electric: \$222,000.00
Flex Electric Const: \$269,500.00
Harold R Clune: \$277,900.00

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CDE Electric: \$298,335.00
Brunswick Electric: \$306,610.00
McBain Electric: \$312,208.00
Kasselman Electric: \$327,911.00
Stilsing Electric: \$406,091.00

Mechanical Bid:

Alltek Energy Systems: \$110,650.00
T.McElligott, Inc: \$150,000.00
Crisafulli Bros: \$158,400.00
Mazone Plumbing & Heating: \$159,751.00
Family Danz Mechanical: \$166,787.00
Tri-Valley Plumbing & Heating: \$173,716.00

Plumbing Bid:

Alltek Energy Systems: \$58,400.00
Crisafulli Bros: \$80,800.00
Tri Valley Plumbing & Heating: \$83,084.00
Mazone Plumbing & Heating: \$83,881.00
Collett Mechanical Services: \$98,750.00
RF Gordon Mechanical: \$98,860.00

Brandon Ferguson, engineer with Environmental Design Partnership, stated that he has reviewed the bids and is ready to make a recommendation.

Councilman Paul Bolesh made a motion to go into Executive Session@ 8:20 PM to discuss the bids.
Councilwoman Patricia Bryant seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilman John DeLisle made a motion to resume the Regular Monthly Meeting @ 8:50 PM.
Councilman George Hodgson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Supervisor Willard Peck made a motion to have a Special Town Board Meeting on Thursday, September 25, 2014 @ 7:00 PM so the Town Engineer can do a public presentation on the proposed new town hall.
Councilwoman Patricia Bryant seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Hudson Crossing Park: Councilman George Hodgson presented Town Board Members with a list of Proposed Short Term and Long Term Goals for Hudson Crossing Park. Councilman Hodgson stated that the volunteers who sit on the Hudson Crossing Park Committee are starting to get burned out and would like to secure \$20,000 to provide funding for a 6 month, part-time consultant position. The person

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chosen for this position will be charged with creating the documents and proposals necessary to see funding for permanent administrative staffing for Hudson Crossing Park. Councilman Hodgson stated that Sara Idleman, Supervisor with the Town of Greenwich, stated that her town will donate \$1,500.00. Councilman Hodgson stated he would like the Town of Northumberland to match the \$1,500.00 donation. Councilman George Hodgson stated after receiving small donations for the surrounding town's involved with Hudson Crossing Park, they hope to use that to some of the bigger private businesses that have also done business with them and seek financial support. Town Attorney Douglas Ward stated he will need to check on the legalities of the Town of Northumberland making a \$1,500 donation.

DESIGNATIONS

1. Approval of Vouchers: Councilman George Hodgson introduced Resolution # 79 of 2014

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

A (General Fund) Vouchers # 290 - # 318 Total: \$ 21,972.53
DA (Highway Fund) Vouchers # 234- # 251 Total: \$ 17,607.24
SS (Sewer District #1) Voucher # 9 Total: \$ 32.21

Councilwoman Patricia Bryant seconded the introduction of Resolution # 79 of 2014.

Supervisor Willard Peck – “Aye”
Councilman Paul Bolesh – “Aye”
Councilman John DeLisle – “Aye”
Councilman George Hodgson – “Aye”
Councilwoman Patricia Bryant – “Aye” Resolution #79 of 2014 Adopted

3. Supervisor's Financial Report: Councilman John DeLisle introduced Resolution # 80 of 2014:

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 the month August 2014:

GENERAL

Balance as of 07/31/2014	\$ 1,355,995.29
Increases	\$ 183,750.84
Decreases	\$ 67,619.16
Balance as of 08/31/2014	\$ 1,472,126.97

HIGHWAY

Balance as of 07/31/2014	\$ 381,999.00
Increases	\$ 0.00

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Decreases \$ 93,401.63
Balance as of 08/31/2014 \$ 288,597.37

SEWER DISTRICT #1

Balance as of 07/31/2014 \$ 32,925.66
Increases \$ 1.66
Decreases \$ 33.88
Balance as of 08/31/2014 \$ 32,893.44

BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board has reviewed and approved August, 2014 Monthly Report by Supervisor Willard Peck as presented.

Councilwoman Patricia Bryant seconded the introduction of Resolution # 80 of 2014

Supervisor Willard Peck – “Aye”
Councilman Paul Bolesh – “Aye”
Councilman John DeLisle – “Aye”
Councilman George Hodgson – “Aye”
Councilwoman Patricia Bryant – “Aye” Resolution #80 of 2014 Adopted

COMMITTEES

There were no Committee Reports

DEPARTMENTS

Justice Court: Town Clerk Denise Murphy informed the Town Board that the Justice would like to submit a grant to the Justice Court Assistance Program for 2015. Councilman George Hodgson introduced Resolution # 81 of 2014:

WHEREAS, the Northumberland Town Court has a total budget for 2014 in the amount of \$51,987 to cover all costs associated with the Northumberland Court system, and

WHEREAS, the Northumberland Town Court is in needs of funds for furniture for the Court Office and Court Room.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Northumberland Town Board authorizes the Justice Court to apply for a grant in the amount of \$ 2,600.00 from the Justice Court Assistance Program.

Councilman Paul Bolesh seconded the introduction of Resolution # 81 of 2014.

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Supervisor Willard Peck – “Aye”

Councilman Paul Bolesh – “Aye”

Councilman John DeLisle – “Aye”

Councilman George Hodgson – “Aye”

Councilwoman Patricia Bryant – “Aye”

Resolution # 81 of 2014 Adopted

Councilman Paul Bolesh made a motion to adjourn the Regular Monthly Meeting @ 9:25 PM.
Councilman John DeLisle seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Murphy
Town Clerk