

**Town of Northumberland
Town Board Meeting
January 14, 2021**

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Northumberland Town Board was called to order @ 8:10 AM by Supervisor Willard Peck.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Councilman George Hodgson made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2020 Regular Monthly Meeting. Councilman John DeLisle seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
2. Councilman John DeLisle made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 31, 2020 End of Year Meeting. Supervisor Willard Peck seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Dog Control Officers Report: Ed Cross submitted his Dog Control Report for December, 2020. Mr. Cross answered 1 complaint had 1 dog bite.
2. Town Historian Georgia Ball submitted her Historian Report for 2020.
3. Supervisor Willard Peck stated that he reached out to County Planning to look at the feasibility of locating a cell tower on County Forestland in the Town of Northumberland. Jason Kemper, Director of Planning doesn't believe that County Reforestation Law (Section 219) allows it but he will bounce it by the County Attorney's office for review. Supervisor Peck received confirmation from the County Attorney's office that they have reviewed County Law §219, Opinions of the New York State Attorney General interpreting this section, and administrative decisions issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, that they agree with the assessment that this section of law prohibits the placement of a cell tower on this or any other county-owned reforested lands.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Fee Estimate for Landfill Monitoring Services: Supervisor Willard Peck received an email from CT Male proposing to do the work for 2021, landfill monitoring, for the same cost of last year, \$4,560.00. They will see if they can get NYSDEC to reduce any of the requirements for 2021. Councilman George Hodgson made a motion to continue using CT Male for Landfill Monitoring at the same rate as 2020. Councilman John DeLisle seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
2. Inter-Municipal Agreement with the Town of Saratoga regarding Board of Assessment Review. Supervisor Willard Peck stated that the Agreement the Town of Northumberland had with the Town of Saratoga regarding Grievance Day has expired. The Agreement is in place so if either Town has a conflict with a filed Grievance, it can be heard by the other Town. Councilman John DeLisle introduced Resolution # 22 of 2021

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**AUTHORIZATION TO RENEW AN INTER-MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF SARATOGA –
BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW**

WHEREAS, the Town Board has determined that it is required by §523 of the RPTL to enter into an inter-municipal agreement with another municipality when a property assessment complaint has been filed by a Board of Assessment Review member where they have a direct or indirect interest in the property; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is authorized to sign an Inter-Municipal Agreement with the Town of Northumberland so that any such complaint can be heard by their respective Boards of Assessment Review; and further be it

RESOLVED, that the form of such agreement shall be subject to prior review and approval by the Attorney for the town.

Councilman George Hodgson seconded the introduction of Resolution #22 of 2021

Supervisor Willard Peck – “Aye”

Councilman John DeLisle – “Aye”

Councilman George Hodgson – “Aye”

Councilwoman Patricia Bryant – “Aye”

Resolution #22 of 2021 Adopted

3. Seniors and Disabled Tax Exemptions: Supervisor Willard Peck stated that due to COVID-19, New York State has recently amended the Real Property Tax Law to require Town Assessors to carry-over Senior Citizens and Disabled Homeowners Tax Exemptions from the 2020 Assessment Roll to the 2021 Assessment Roll at the same levels without requiring renewal applications for the exemption. In order for the Town of Northumberland to do this, the Town needs to adopt a Resolution. Councilwoman Patricia Bryant introduced Resolution #23 of 2021 –

WHEREAS, the State of New York has recently amended the Real Property Tax Law to require town assessors to carry-over Senior Citizens and Disabled Homeowners tax exemptions from the 2020 assessment roll to the 2021 assessment roll at the same levels without requiring renewal applications for the exemption; and

WHEREAS, the State amendment also requires localities to provide by mail or electronic means renewal applications to individuals who may be entitled to larger exemptions in 2021 than in 2020 and also allows assessor to require renewal applications from those no longer believed to be eligible for the exemption for the following reasons; change of his or her primary residence, add an additional owner to the deed, transfer the property to a new owner or died, Now, therefore be it

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RESOLVED, that the Town of Northumberland adopts the changes made to New York Real Property Tax Law sections 467 and 459-c on December 28, 2020 and hereby allows the Town Assessor to carry-over the Senior Citizens and Disabled Homeowners tax exemptions from the 2020 assessment roll to the 2021 assessment roll at the same levels.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Assessor is hereby empowered to request an application for the applicable exemption where he or she has reason to believe that the owner may have (1) changed his or her primary residence, (2) added an additional owner to the deed, (3) transferred the property to a new owner, or (4) died; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Assessor is hereby directed to make renewal forms available, either by mail or electronically, to recipients that think their income may have changed between 2020 and 2021.

Councilman John DeLisle seconded the introduction of Resolution #23 of 2020.

Supervisor Willard Peck – “Aye”

Councilman John DeLisle – “Aye”

Councilman George Hodgson – “Aye”

Councilwoman Patricia Bryant – “Aye”

Resolution #23 of 2021 Adopted

4. Agreement for the expenditure of highway moneys: Highway Supt David Coffinger stated that he is proposing Mott Road from the bridge to West River Road (Co Rt. 29). Councilman John DeLisle introduced Resolution #24 of 2021 –

Whereas, this Agreement is between the Town Superintendent of Highways for the Town of Northumberland, Saratoga County, New York and the Northumberland Town Board, and

BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to the provision of Section 284 of the Highway Law, the Town Board and Highway Supt 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 IMPROVEMENT: The following Town Highways and repairs on various roads as needed.

Mott Road from the bridge to West River Road (Co. Rt. 29) 22 ‘ x 7800’, grind the road, relay it down, grade and compact.

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Councilman George Hodgson seconded the introduction of Resolution #24 of 2021.

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

Resolution #24 of 2021 Adopted

APPOINTMENTS

Planning Board: Holly Rippon-Butler (Term expires 09/2021)
ZBA: Gary Applegate and Aimee Smith (Term expires 09/2021)
BOAR: Lisa Clark (Term expires 09/2021)
Schuyler Park: Tom Stayer (Term expires 05/2021)

DESIGNATIONS

1. Approve Vouchers for Payment: Councilman John DeLisle introduced Resolution # 25 of 2021

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

A (General Fund) Vouchers # 1 - # 14 Total: \$ 26,993.71
DA (Highway Fund) Vouchers # 1 - # 22 Total: \$ 23,786.90

Councilman George Hodgson seconded of Resolution # 25 of 2021:

Supervisor Willard Peck – “Aye”
Councilman John DeLisle – “Aye”
Councilman George Hodgson – “Aye”
Councilwoman Patricia Bryant – “Aye” Resolution #25 of 2021 Adopted

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Daniel Farnan, PE with Maser Consulting, came before the Town Board regarding a proposed PUD District for Stonebridge Farm. Mr. Farnan introduced the following people who are involved with the project. In attendance were Jeffery Tucker, Owner, Ronald Mattia, General Manager of Stonebridge Farm and Genevieve Trigg, Special Counsel with Barclay Damon. Mr. Farnan gave an overview of what they are proposing. The proposal involves allowable uses with the Commercial Use area (outlined in Exhibit B) include Agricultural Event Venue, Catering Kitchen, adequate parking and any allowable uses in the Agricultural Use Area

Genevieve Trigg, Special Counsel, gave a brief overview as to what is involved in a Local Law Amending the Town of Northumberland Zoning Ordinance to Establish a Planned Unit Development for

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Stonebridge Farm. The Town Board may refer the proposed Stonebridge Farm PUD Application to the Planning Board for their review and recommendations.

Ms. Trigg also provided the Town Clerk with a Short Environmental Assessment Form.

Councilman George Hodgson introduced Resolution #26 of 2021

BE IT RESOLVED, the Northumberland Town Board refers the proposed Stonebridge Farm PUD to the Planning Board for their review and recommendations as required by Zoning Law Article V(B)(1).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Town Board refers SEQRA to the Planning Board for their review and recommendation.

Councilwoman Patricia Bryant seconded the introduction of Resolution #26 of 2021.

Supervisor Willard Peck – “Aye”

Councilman John DeLisle – “Aye”

Councilman George Hodgson – “Aye”

Councilwoman Patricia Bryant – “Aye” Resolution #26 of 2021 Adopted

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Murphy, Town Clerk
Town of Northumberland

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