

Town of Northumberland
March 5, 2009
Regular Monthly Meeting

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Northumberland Town Board was called to order @ 7:20 PM by Supervisor Willard Peck. Following the salute to the flag, roll call was taken. Those attending included Supervisor Willard Peck, Councilman Paul Bolesh, and Councilman George Hodgson. Councilwoman Patricia Bryant became present @ 8:00 PM. Councilman Daniel Gale, Town Attorney Douglas Ward and Highway Sup't Neil Petteys were absent. Town Clerk Denise Murphy, Highway Employee Jeffrey Crum and ACC Student Stephen Shannon were present.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Bob McLean with MuniPAY (Nationwide Payment Solutions) came before the Town Board regarding Government Credit Card Acceptance Program. This Program accepts Credit/Debit Cards now with no financial impact to the town's budget. Presently the Town's Court System accepts Credit/Debit cards for payment. Their program is through the New York State Court Administration. Bob McLean stated this program can be used in the Town Clerk, Building and Tax Collector's Office. Credit Card companies have changed their rules; municipalities can charge the consumer the convenience fee. It works with one swipe of the individual's credit card – the town receives their money the second convenience fee will go into the Nationwide Payment Solution's account. The consumer would be told prior to the transaction that they will be charged a convenience fee which will be 2.45% of the total charged a minimum fee of \$1.50. Visa Debit is a \$3.95 flat fee. A placard will be posted near the credit card machine making the consumer aware of the fees involved in using their Debit/Credit Card. Rob McLean stated there is zero cost to the town to set this system up. Nationwide Payment Solution will provide the necessary equipment free of charge. If the town goes forward, each Department would have their own terminal and Nationwide Payment Solution can deposit the funds in each individual Department's bank account within 48 hours of the transaction. Bob McLean will email proposed contracts to the Town Clerk for both the Supervisor's and Town Attorney's review.

APPROVE MINUTES

1. Councilman George Hodgson made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2009 Regular Monthly Meeting with the following changes:

Page 4 – 3rd paragraph should read: "Councilman Daniel Gale stated he is not against the Town of Northumberland paying their fair share for ambulance service, but when you look at what the Town of Northumberland is paying under the Contract and what you are receiving in 3rd party billing for the Town of Northumberland, Town of Moreau and the Village of South Glens Falls, Northumberland residents are paying almost double per call." Eliminate the sentence "The Town of Northumberland does not have slush funds."

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Page 6 - #1 Septic Bids: should read: "The difference between the lowest two bids @ \$.50 is minimal and the Town Board prefers to do business with those located within the town and Morning Star has done an outstanding job in the past."

Page 7 - #3 should read, "Supervisor Willard Peck stated he was under the impression that the Municipal Accounting Software would come with the Payroll Software".

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

CORRESPONDENCE

1. The Town Board received a Hudson Crossing Amended Contract/Synthesis for the Town Board's comments and review. The Town Board tabled taking action until Attorney Douglas Ward returns and is able to review and make a recommendation to the Town Board.
2. The Town Board received a copy of a letter sent from David Wickerham, Saratoga County Administrator to CHA regarding the Saratoga County Landfill.
3. The Town Board received a letter from Steven Dunkel; President of the Old Saratoga Athletic Association (OSAA) thanking the Town of Northumberland for all the help the town has given the OSAA over the past year.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Update on Schuyler Park: The project has been closed for the winter.
2. Update on Hudson Crossing Park: Councilman George Hodgson stated he will be preparing two reimbursement requests one for DOT and the other for Canal Crossing. He hopes to have these completed sometime next week for Supervisor Peck's signature.
3. 2009 Contracts for General Schuyler Emergency Squad and Schuyler Hose Fire Department: The Town Board tabled taking any action until Attorney Douglas Ward returns.
4. Fuel Oil Bid: The Town Board only received one sealed bid. John Ray & Sons stated they will provide a diesel/blend and unleaded gasoline fuel storage tank as prescribed in the "Notice to Bidders" for purchase of diesel/blend fuel and unleaded gasoline. The firm differential for diesel/blend and unleaded gasoline is \$0.21 per gallon each. Supervisor Willard Peck made a motion to award the 2009 fuel bid to John Ray & Sons for the firm differential for diesel/blend and unleaded gasoline @ \$0.21 per gallon each, and provide a diesel/blend and unleaded gasoline fuel storage tank as prescribed in the "Notice to Bidders". Councilman Paul Bolesh seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

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NEW BUSINESS

1. Supervisor Willard Peck informed the public that earlier tonight the Town Board held a Public Hearing on proposed Local Law #1 of 2009. There were no comments from the public. Councilman Paul Bolesh made a motion to adopt Local Law #1 of 2009 – A Local Law allowing the Town Attorney of the Town of Northumberland at the time of his/her appointment and throughout his/her term of office need not be an elector of the Town of Northumberland as long as he/she is a resident of the County of Saratoga, Warren or Washington of the State of New York. Councilman George Hodgson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
2. Dog Control Officer: Supervisor Willard Peck informed the public that Diane Ives resigned as Dog Control Officer effective February 1, 2009 due to health reasons. Ed Cross from the Town of Saratoga has been filling in. The Town advertised the position and received numerous Letters of Interest. The Supervisor will review the Letters of Interest and then interviews will be set up. The Town Clerk provided each Board Member with a Dog Control Officer job description from Saratoga County Personnel Department.
3. Councilman Paul Bolesh informed the Town Board Members that he has been approached by Kyle Westcott regarding an Eagle Scout Project. Mr. Westcott is interested in doing the improvements at the Veteran's Memorial. Councilman Paul Bolesh stated he will keep the Town Board updated.

DESIGNATIONS

1. Councilwoman Patricia Bryant made a motion to approve vouchers for payment as presented. Councilman Paul Bolesh seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
2. The Town Board received from Williamson Law Book Company an Annual Software Support Contract for the Payroll Program in the amount of \$625.00 per year for the Town Board's approval. Councilman George Hodgson made a motion authorizing the Town Supervisor to sign on behalf of the Town Board an Annual Software Support Contract for the Payroll Program in the amount of \$625.00. Councilman Paul Bolesh seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Councilman Paul Bolesh made a motion @ 8:15 PM to adjourn the Regular Monthly Meeting.
Councilman George Hodgson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Murphy
Town Clerk