

**TOWN OF NORTHUMBERLAND
TOWN BOARD MEETING
MAY 10, 2012**

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; Councilman George Hodgson and Councilwoman Patricia Bryant. Councilman Daniel Gale; Highway Sup't Neil Petteys and Town Attorney Douglas Ward were absent. Town Clerk Denise Murphy was present.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Dale Cox, 238 Grange Hall Road, came before the Town Board to request a speed reduction for Grange Hall Road. Mr. Cox stated ever since Grange Hall Road has been repaved the cars fly down it. Mr. Cox stated that he would like to see the speed reduced to 45 MPH. Mr. Cox also stated that there is no speed posted for Starks Knob Road. After talking to NYS DOT, Mr. Cox was informed that if a road is not posted the speed limit is 55 MPH. Mr. Cox stated that was way too fast since that road was an unpaved road. Supervisor Willard Peck explained how the Town can't change speed limits on any roads in the Town of Northumberland. The Town Board must pass a Resolution requesting the Speed Reduction. The request is forwarded to the Saratoga County Commissioner of Public Works and if he is in agreement the request is forwarded to New York State Department of Transportation. Supervisor Willard Peck stated that Joseph Ritchey, Commissioner of Public Works, historically has always supported the Town's request and has forwarded it to the State. NYS Department of Transportation then conducts a study to see if the speed reduction request is warranted. Historically the Town of Northumberland has not had a favorable response from NYS Department of Transportation. Supervisor Willard Peck stated he will discuss Mr. Cox's request with Neil Petteys Highway Sup't.

Chris Benn, President of General Schuyler Emergency Squad gave the Town Board a service report. Mr. Benn stated that in March the Emergency Squad answered 58 calls of which 1 was from the Town of Northumberland. In April, the Emergency Squad answered 64 calls of which 6 were from the Town of Northumberland. The General Schuyler Emergency Squad will hold a Blood Drive on May 12th from 8 – 12 noon at their new building. Mr. Benn reported that the General Schuyler Emergency Squad just accepted an offer for their old building. Mr. Benn stated this is extremely positive since these funds will be used to offset some of their debt plus put the old building back on the Assessment Roll. Mr. Benn stated that they have just purchased a 2009 ambulance from West Glens Falls Emergency Squad. The cost was roughly \$100,000 less than purchasing a new one.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. The Town Board received Ed Cross, Dog Control Officer's April's Monthly Report. Mr. Cross received 6 dog complaints; brought 2 dogs to the Saratoga County Animal Shelter; issued 1 warning and had 1 dog bite case.

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2. Councilman George Hodgson received a letter from Michigan Senator Debbie Stabenow. Senator Stabenow thanked Mr. Hodgson for contacting her office regarding the potential budget cuts at the Farm Service Agency. Senator Stabenow is a member of the Senate Agriculture Committee.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Hudson Crossing Park: Councilman George Hodgson reported that the 3rd Annual Triathlon will be held on June 10th at Hudson Crossing Park. There are roughly 250 participants in this year's race. . Councilman George Hodgson stated that he would like to rebid the revised plans for the construction of the 1,400' Riverwalk Trail and adjacent Canoe/Kayak Launch located along the Hudson River at Hudson Crossing Park. Councilman George Hodgson stated that he would like to do an "Itemized Bid Form" for the Riverwalk Trail and adjacent Canoe/Kayak Access and Launch. Councilman Hodgson stated he has been working with the Hudson Crossing Park Committee and there are some areas of savings that could be implemented into the Bid.

Sensory Trail

- Only include benches along the trail (5 total), not in the classroom area.
- Make sure all planting is removed from the bid
- Bids should be submitted on the bid itemization bid form on the CD
- Make sure all bidders are aware that the concrete footings can be replaced with steel techno-posts
- Remove all reference to soil stabilization/dirt glue – SECTION 31 3213
- The BID simply includes the grading of path, installation of sub-base and stone dust surfacing, topsoil fill to grade where necessary, stone benches, wood intersection markers and overlook decks.
- The Town of Northumberland will transport to the site all sub base and stone dust surfacing materials for the Sensory Trail.
- Trying to get stone dust & aggregate donated from Pallette Stone Co.

Canoe/Kayak Launch

- Eliminate pavers and curb for off loading area
- Stone, wood for bank stabilization, if costs are still too high

Councilman George Hodgson stated that he would make the bid CD available to the Town Board Members. Supervisor Willard Peck made a motion authorizing the soliciting of revised public bids for the construction of the 1,400' Riverwalk Trail and adjacent Canoe/Kayak Launch located along the Hudson River at Hudson Crossing Park, Lock C5 north of Schuylerville NY. All bids submitted will be

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opened and read publicly at noon on Tuesday, June 5, 2012. The Town of Northumberland reserves the right to reject any or all bids. The motion is contingent upon bid approval of the Town Attorney. Councilman Paul Bolesh seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

2. Councilman Paul Bolesh reported that 13 town roads were cleaned during the Town Wide Clean-Up Day. 35 people participated.

NEW BUSINESS

1. The Town Board received a letter from Jeff Townsend, Director, Saratoga County Agricultural Society requesting permission to place a promotional billboard in a prominent located in the Town of Northumberland in support of the 2012 Saratoga County Fair. The billboard will be high quality, full color vinyl mounted to 4' x 8' plywood, and supported by metal fence posts. There will be no commercial sponsors indicated on these signs. The installation and removal of these signs will be done by Fair Staff. Mr. Townsend is requesting permission to place a sign, within the Town of Northumberland, the week of June 18th and have it removed the week of July 23rd. Mr. Townsend attached a sample of the sign. Councilwoman Patricia Bryant made a motion to approve the request for a 4' x 8' plywood sign to be placed on Town property in the Town of Northumberland starting June 18th and being removed July 23rd. Councilman Paul Bolesh seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

2. The Town Board received a letter from the Turning Point Parade Committee regarding the 18th Annual Turning Point Parade scheduled for Sunday August 5th. It was the consensus of the Town Board Members that they will participate in the 18th Annual Turning Point Parade.

3. Supervisor Willard Peck stated that the Town of Northumberland has not kept its NYS Retirement Plan current. Presently the Town still operates under Retirement Law 75 (c). Almost all the other towns have adopted Resolutions to operate under Retirement Law 75 (i). While this doesn't make much of a difference to other Tiers, for Tier 1 folks (Neil Petteys and Douglas Ward) it means a much less favorable retirement percentage. Supervisor Willard Peck introduced Resolution # 38 of 2012

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Northumberland does hereby elect to provide the additional pension benefits of Section 75-e, 75-g and 75-i of the Retirement and Social Security Law, as presently or hereafter amended.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the effective date of such shall be the 11th day of May, 2012.

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Councilman Paul Bolesh seconded the introduction of Resolution #38 of 2012.

Supervisor Willard Peck – “Aye”

Councilman Paul Bolesh – “Aye”

Councilman George Hodgson – “Aye”

Councilwoman Patricia Bryant – “Aye”

Resolution #38 of 2012 Adopted

APPOINTMENT

1. Councilwoman Patricia Bryant made a motion to reappoint Tom Reitano-Stayer to the Schuyler Park Committee (term will expire 05/2015). Councilman George Hodgson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

2. Supervisor Willard Peck informed the Town Board that he met with Councilman Daniel Gale and they were hoping to hire a Summer Youth Director that could be on site for the Summer Program. Supervisor Willard Peck stated that Dee Cogan has done an outstanding job the last few years but has a full time job in Washington County and is unable to participate in the actual program. Supervisor Willard Peck stated that both Councilman Gale and himself met with Jennifer Amidon, a certified school teacher, and were excited about some of her ideas. Councilman Paul Bolesh made a motion to appoint Jennifer Amidon Summer Youth/Recreation Director @ \$13.20 per hour. Councilwoman Patricia Bryant seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Supervisor Willard Peck stated that he would like to personally thank Dee Cogan for all her outstanding years of service as the Youth Director. The Summer Youth Program has grown to an outstanding program that the residents love and it would not have been possible with Dee Cogan’s hard work and dedication.

DESIGNATIONS

1. Transfers: Councilman George Hodgson introduced Resolution #39 of 2012:

WHEREAS, the following accounts are could soon to be over with anticipated future expenses:

A1355.4 - \$600.00

BE IT RESOLVED, the Town authorizes the transfer the money from the following account to cover these anticipated expenses:

A1990.4 - \$600.00

Councilwoman Patricia Bryant seconded the introduction of Resolution #39 of 2012.

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Supervisor Willard Peck – “Aye”
Councilman Paul Bolesh – “Aye”
Councilman George Hodgson – “Aye”
Councilwoman Patricia Bryant – “Aye” Resolution #39 of 2012 –Adopted

2. Approval of Vouchers: Councilman George Hodgson introduced Resolution #40 of 2012

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

A (General Fund) Vouchers #157 - # 214 Total: \$ 112,367.18
DA (Highway Fund) Vouchers # 107 - # 137 Total: \$ 42,205.91
SS (Sewer District #1) Voucher #4 - #5 Total: \$ 1,707.28

Councilwoman Patricia Bryant seconded the introduction of Resolution # 40 of 2012

Supervisor Willard Peck – “Aye”
Councilman Paul Bolesh – “Aye”
Councilman George Hodgson – “Aye”
Councilwoman Patricia Bryant – “Aye” Resolution #40 of 2012 –Adopted

3. Town Clerk Denise Murphy stated that has prepared the 2012 Recreation/Youth Budget. Town Clerk Denise Murphy stated that funds have been cut back and there may not be any funding available this year.

Councilwoman Patricia Bryant introduced Resolution #41 of 2012

WHEREAS, the Town of Northumberland has prepared a New York State Office of Children and Family Services – “Individual Program Application” form and “Program Budget Form”,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Northumberland Town Board authorizes Supervisor Willard Peck to sign the “Individual Program Application – Program Information” Form on behalf of the Town of Northumberland.

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Councilman Paul Bolesh seconded the introduction of Resolution #41 of 2012

Supervisor Willard Peck – “Aye”

Councilman Paul Bolesh – “Aye”

Councilman George Hodgson – “Aye”

Councilwoman Patricia Bryant – “Aye”

Resolution #41 of 2012 –Adopted

DEPARTMENTS

Supervisor Willard Peck stated that he met with Highway Sup’t Neil Petteys regarding some of his concerns. Mr. Petteys has been approached by Chuck Waldron, Developer of Brampton Woods, regarding the Town Highway Department maintaining the eyebrows within the Subdivision since they are owned by the Town of Northumberland. Supervisor Willard Peck stated he will continue to talk with Highway Sup’t Petteys to come up with an affordable plan to maintain these areas within the Brampton Wood Subdivision.

Councilman Paul Bolesh made a motion @ 8:35 PM to go into Executive Session to discuss employee issue. Councilman George Hodgson seconded the motion. All in favor motion carried.

Councilwomen Patricia Bryant made a motion @ 9:10 PM to reconvene the Regular Monthly Meeting. Councilman Paul Bolesh seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Supervisor Willard Peck stated there was no action taken during Executive Session.

Councilman Paul Bolesh made a motion @ 9:13 PM to adjourn the Regular Monthly Meeting. Councilman George Hodgson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise D Murphy
Town Clerk