

**Town of Northumberland
June 13, 2024
Regular Monthly Meeting**

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Northumberland Town Board was called to order by Supervisor Willard Peck @ 8:00 AM. Following the salute to the flag, roll call was taken. Those attending were Supervisor Willard Peck; Councilman Paul Bolesh; Councilman John DeLisle; Councilman George Hodgson and Councilwoman Patricia Bryant. Also attending were Clerk Denise Murphy, Town Attorney David Brennan and Building and Zoning Administrator Michael Terry.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no comments from the public.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Councilwoman Patricia Bryant made a motion to approve minutes for the May 9, 2024 Regular Monthly Meeting. Councilman George Hodgson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Dog Control Report: Ed Cross, Dog Control Officer, submitted his report for May 2024. Mr. Cross answered six (6) Complaints; issued one (1) Warning, issued one (1) Summons and One (1) Court Case for dog running at large.

2. Supervisor Peck received an email from Dan Obrien, 62 Leonard Street, regarding the CHPE (Champlain Hudson Power Express) project which runs high voltage direct current both underwater and above ground power cable from Canada to NYC. Mr. Obrien sent pictures regarding their backyard after the contractors for CHPE cut out all the vegetation along the railroad tracks. Town Clerk Denise Murphy stated that Hamlet is having a real problem with rats now. When the vegetation was torn up, the rats had to find new places. She stated you can go out at dusk and see them running across Leonard Street.

Supervisor Peck stated that he will reach out to CHPE to see if they can investigate this.

3. Supervisor Peck received an email from Jamie Counter regarding the Dutch Reform Church and the intersection of Stonebridge Road and Route 32N in the Hamlet of Bacon Hill. Ms. Counter states that there have been two accidents within the last week, one involving a small Schuylerville School Bus. There has been more within the past couple of years. Ms. Counter stated that she has witnessed numerous people going right through the stop sign at the end of Stonebridge Road. Ms. Counter asked if a flashing "Stop" sign or "Stop Ahead" sign be installed. Ms. Counter also stated that bushes obstructing the view to the left when coming off Stonebridge Road need to be cut back. To the right there are tall bushes on both sides of the Church sign that also obstruct the view. Ms. Counter also states there are a lot of speeders, especially in the morning, which are traveling 60+ miles per hour. It was the consensus of the Town Board Members to ask Highway Supt David

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Coffinger to add more signage to notify drivers of the Stop sign at the intersection. Supervisor Peck stated that he will also call NYS DOT to make them aware of the problem.

4. Supervisor Willard Peck stated that he received a letter from Town Engineer Charles Baker with EDP. Mr. Baker will be retiring at the end of 2024. Supervisor Peck will meet with Charlie Baker and Travis Mitchell in person to discuss the town’s needs and plan for a smooth transition.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Standard workday for elected and appointed employees in the NYS Retirement System:
Councilman Paul Bolesh introduced Resolution #47

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Northumberland hereby establishes the following as standard workdays for elected and appointed officials and will report the following days worked to the New York State and Local Employees’ Retirement System based on the record of activities maintained and submitted by these officials to the Clerk of this Board.

TITLE	Name	Standard Workday	Current Term	Submitted	Record of Activities Result
<u>Elected Officials</u>					
Supervisor	Willard Peck	7	01/01/24 -12/31/25	N	2.27
Town Clerk	Denise Murphy	7	01/01/24 – 12/31/25	N	23.11
Town Justice	James Evans	7	01/01/24 – 12/31/25	N	3.95
Town Justice	John Mannix	7	01/01/24 – 12/31/25	N	2.35
Board Member	John DeLisle	7	01/01/24 – 12/31/25	N	1.19
Highway Supt	Richard D Coffinger	8	01/01/24 – 12/31/25	N	22.50

Appointed Officials

Building/Zoning					
Admin.	Michael Terry	8	01/01/24 – 12/31/25	N	21.04
Town Attorney	David Brennan	7	01/01/24 – 12/31/25	N	2.30

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this Resolution will be posted on the Town’s Web Page and front board of the Town Hall located at 17 Catherine Street for a minimum of thirty (30) days.

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Councilman John DeLisle seconded the introduction of Resolution #47 of 2024

Supervisor Willard Peck – “Aye”

Councilman Paul Bolesh – “Aye”

Councilman John DeLisle – “Aye”

Councilman George Hodgson – “Aye”

Councilwoman Patricia Bryant – “Aye”

Resolution #47 of 2024 Adopted

2. Councilman Paul Bolesh provided two drawings for a “Honoring Northumberland Veterans” sign. The sign will be 26.5 in x 90 in, ¾ in MDO Plywood and Hand-painted with enamels. The total cost is \$1,250.00. The first drawing has a cannon, and the second drawing has a gold leaf. Town Clerk Murphy stated that when she googled “What is the Symbol for the Armed Services” it displayed a gold leaf, eagle, and star. Councilman John DeLisle made a motion authorizing the design and purchase of a “Honoring Northumberland Veterans” sign with a gold leaf for a cost of \$1,250.00. Councilwoman Patricia Bryant seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

3. Airbnb: Supervisor Peck stated that New York State lawmakers have passed a bill that would regulate short-term rentals, an issue that numerous municipalities have been discussing with some passing or beginning to create their own laws. If the Governor signs the bill into law, it will require property owners to register their short-term rental with the Department of State every two years and there will be a fee associated with registering rentals. The legislation would also require an evacuation diagram, emergency phone numbers for police, fire and poison control, a working fire extinguisher, records of guests to be kept for at least two years and insurance, including \$300,000 for third party claims of property damage and bodily injury. Supervisor Peck stated that he had asked Tracey Clothier to investigate how other towns are dealing with Airbnb’s.

4. 5th of July: Town Clerk Denise Murphy asked if the Town Hall can be closed on July 5th. Clerk Murphy stated that the Building Inspector, Town Clerk and Court will not be available on July 5th. It was the consensus of the Town Board Members to close the Town Hall on July 5th and to post it on our Facebook page and front door.

OLD BUSINESS

1. 2023 Updated Northumberland Comprehensive Plan (Draft): Councilwoman Patricia Bryant stated that she has not had an opportunity to compare the marked up 9/19/23 Draft with the May 2024 Final Draft. Councilwoman Patricia Bryant stated she will have it reviewed for next month’s Meeting.

2. Stonebridge Farm PUD Updated: Supervisor Peck stated that Building and Zoning Administrator Michael Terry and himself have not met on site with their Engineer to review their plans as the

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Engineer investigates the role of Saratoga County Health Department concerning farm worker housing.

DESIGNATIONS

1. Approval of Vouchers: Councilman John DeLisle introduced Resolution # 48 of 2024

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

A (General Fund) Vouchers # 150 - # 180 Total: \$ 35,408.13
DA (Highway Fund) Vouchers # 166 - # 195 Total: \$ 263,180.24
SS (Sewer Fund) Vouchers # 6 - # 7 Total \$ 4,953.61

Councilwoman Patricia Bryant seconded the introduction of Resolution # 48 of 2024.

Supervisor Willard Peck – “Aye”
Councilman Paul Bolesh – “Aye”
Councilman John DeLisle – “Aye”
Councilman George Hodgson – “Aye”
Councilwoman Patricia Bryant – “Aye” Resolution # 48 of 2024 Adopted

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Murphy
Town Clerk