

HORICON TOWN BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD

JUNE 18, 2015
6:00 PM
7:00 PM

Present at meeting:	Matthew Simpson	Supervisor
	Kenneth Higgins	Councilperson
	Robert Olson	Councilperson
	Frank Hill	Councilperson
	Sylvia Smith	Councilperson
Krista Wood	Town Clerk	
Mark Schachner	Town Counsel	

Also: Assessor Christine Hayes, HS Paul Smith, ZA Jim Steen, Tom Johansen, Bill McGhie, Harvey Leidy, Dennis Doyle, Wayne Butler, Tom and Jayne Wynne, Matt Wood, Pete Palmer, Teri Schuerlein, Jane Smith, Georgia McMeekin, Jack Roulier, Gary Frenz, Wayne Cioffari, Wes Butler, Don Butler, Anthony Lashway, Tom Turcotte, Mike Raymond, Jerry and Elna Meader, and others.

SPECIAL MEETING – 6:00 pm

Supervisor Simpson called the Special Meeting to order at 6:00 PM and explained the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the proposed Boat Launch agreement with DEC.

Before starting discussion, Councilperson Olson asked everyone to join him in a moment of silence in honor of Doug Paton who recently passed away.

Supervisor Simpson reviewed the minor changes suggested by Counselor Schachner. Counselor Schachner explained these changes were mainly for the purpose of consistency. Counselor Schachner reiterated that the lease is worded in such a way that the Town can get out of the lease if they so choose with ninety days notice. He also noted there is a provision in the lease that if the State makes substantial improvements to the property, and the Town wants to get out, the Town may have to reimburse the state for a proportional amount depending on how many years are left on the lease. The Board was satisfied with the lease agreement.

Privilege of the Floor...

-Wayne Butler asked the Board to have an open forum to discuss the lease further. He said it should remain an open launch but should be modeled after Loon Lake, wherein it would be closed certain hours. He again urged for an open committee to review the options and come up with the best solution to reduce the risk to the lake and do what is best for all.

-Tom Wynne asked the Board to ask for a show of hands to see who wants the lease and who does not. The Board refused noting a show of hands would indicate nothing.

-Dennis Doyle said he does not feel the lease is in the best interest of the Town, nor is it in conjunction with the Comprehensive Plan. He said there should be further assessment of all the options available, it should be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan, and the decision that is best for the Town should be made.

-John Donovan said he feels the request for an open forum has been granted. He also noted that the Town has looked at other DEC launches in comparison, and he feels the proposed lease agreement is a solid, well negotiated, well thought out plan.

-Harvey Leidy said there was a survey done during the writing of the Comprehensive Plan wherein people were given the opportunity to express their comments on the Boat Launch. He said he spoke to

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Jim Lieberum who noted that with collaboration between Warren County Soil and Water, the Adirondack Lakes Alliance, and the Town they are able to get more grants apportioned to the Town. Harvey noted the Town only has eleven spaces at the boat launch, and pointed out there is much more infestation potential from the number of private boat launches on the lake that have nothing to do with the lease. He added the areas of higher infestation seem to be those in the intense use areas.

-Supervisor Simpson agreed that not enough is being done to check the private boat launches. He noted there are close to twenty-six different private boat launch sites that are unchecked 100% of the time, and these areas need to be looked at. Mike Raymond responded saying probably 95% of those launchings are boats that are taken in and out of Brant Lake. Wayne Butler added that every three years the Brant Lake Association distributes literature to these people, and they try and work with the homeowner's associations.

-Anthony Lashway encouraged the Board to sign the lease. He said he feels he has a right, as does everyone else, to use the lake. Anthony said it is difficult to control the invasives, but he feels the Town really makes an effort to protect the lake and they do a good job. He noted the lake also draws people into Town which helps the local businesses.

-Don Butler said he is a business owner in Brant Lake and in Chestertown, and it is nice to hear how people enjoy Brant Lake. He noted that people cannot enjoy Friends Lake. He is proud that Brant Lake allows others to enjoy the lake.

-Supervisor Simpson said the Town Board has recognized the issue of invasives and has reacted in a very positive way. He said he is aware of all the options, and he and the Board are all concerned about the health of the lake.

-Councilperson Higgins said the Town Board will not sit back and let the lake deteriorate; if there needs to be a change they will adjust for it and they will be proactive.

-Wayne Butler pointed out that the biggest risk is the 24/7 access, and the question is how that risk should be managed. Supervisor Simpson said he feels the solution is to increase the coverage by increasing the hours of the stewards while still allowing 24/7 access.

-Councilperson Olson noted that tracking the increase in milfoil with the previous lease is undeterminable. He said his wife, during her time as Supervisor, was the first person to obtain a map of the milfoil in the lake, which was done after the lease was signed. He noted there was no information on milfoil before that so it could not be said that signing the original lease opened the door for milfoil.

-Jane Smith said she feels the Town Board has been phenomenal in protecting the lakes in the Town. She also noted DEC is becoming much more aware of what is happening and they are making an effort to make sure things are done as they should be. Councilperson Higgins added DEC is writing tickets for invasives.

-Jayne Wynne asked when the shelter material was going to be delivered. Supervisor Simpson said he is holding them off until the parking lot is paved so this can be done right the first time.

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-Wayne Cioffari asked when the stewards work. Harvey Leidy responded that they work Tuesday through Sunday from 8am-4pm, and they started May 22nd and work through Columbus Day. Wayne asked if the Town was considering any type of monitoring with all of the private launches. Supervisor Simpson said that this needs to be looked at. Wayne Butler reiterated that they (BLA) do try to get literature out to these people.

-Mike Raymond asked how the stewards will know if a boat has been washed at the Boat Wash Station. Supervisor Simpson said right now it is all voluntary; a steward cannot force someone to wash their boat. Supervisor Simpson said there is still planning to be done on how the Boat Wash Station will work. He feels eventually it would be best to hire one adult that can manage the launch, check boats in, and do the inspections, then split the time and have another person washing boats.

Supervisor Simpson noted the time, and the Board moved into regular session at 7:00pm.

REGULAR MEETING – 7:00 pm

Supervisor Simpson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of May 21, 2015 were approved by Motion of Councilperson Olson Councilperson Hill.

Ayes: 5 (Olson, Hill, Smith, Higgins, Simpson) Nays: 0

Approval of June 18, 2015 Vouchers and Abstracts:

RESOLUTION #96-2015

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Higgins introduced Res. No. 96 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF JUNE ABSTRACTS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the payment of the June 19, 2014 Vouchers and Abstracts as follows:

General Vouchers	#156-194	\$ 19,664.42
Capital (HA) Vouchers	# 1-2	\$ 1,434.02
Highway Vouchers	# 98-112	\$ 35,355.79
General Abstracts	15 & 16	\$ 20,874.92
Highway Abstracts	15 & 16	\$ 14,391.77

Ayes: 5 (Olson, Higgins, Smith, Hill, Simpson) Nays: 0

Correspondence to the Board:

- Maureen Rossley RE: Note complimenting work done by Mark Wilson in the cemeteries
- North Country Arts RE: Letter of appreciation to Town for support of Youth Visions Exhibit

Resolutions:

RESOLUTION #97-2015

Councilperson Higgins and Councilperson Smith introduced Res. No. 97 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF TANNERY RD. AND LANDFILL RD.

WHEREAS, on Sunday, August 2, 2015 Hudson Headwaters will hold the Care for Kids 5K race, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon, in consideration of the safety of the participants of the 5K Race, does hereby authorize the closing of Tannery Road and Landfill Road between 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM on Sunday, August 2, 2015.

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Ayes: 5 (Higgins, Smith, Olson, Hill, Simpson) Nays: 0

RESOLUTION #98-2015

Councilperson Higgins and Councilperson Smith introduced Res. No. 98 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER FUNDS

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize the Bookkeeper to make the following fund transfers:

From:	To:	Amount:
<i>General:</i>		
7140.4 (Boat Launch-Cont)	5182.4 (Street Lts-Cont)	\$ 45.23

Ayes: 5 (Higgins, Smith, Olson, Hill, Simpson) Nays: 0

RESOLUTION #99-2015

Councilperson Smith and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 99 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO DECLARE BOOK RACKS AS SURPLUS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby declare the old book racks used for Library Book Sales as surplus and of no value.

Ayes: 5 (Smith, Hill, Olson, Higgins, Simpson) Nays: 0

RESOLUTION #100-2015

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Higgins introduced Res. No. 100 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE BUDGET AMENDMENT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the Bookkeeper to make the following Budget Amendment in the Highway Fund to increase revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$17,595.16 due to an increase in CHIPS funding:

Increase.....	Revenues:	
	D510 - Estimated Revenues	\$17,595.16
	D3501 - Consolidated Highway	\$17,595.16
Increase.....	D960 - Appropriations	\$17,595.16
Increase.....	Subsidiary Code:	
	D5112.4 – CHIPS	\$17,595.16

Ayes: 5 (Olson, Higgins, Smith, Hill, Simpson) Nays: 0

RESOLUTION #101-2015

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Smith introduced Res. No. 101 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT HITS TRIATHLON

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby support the HITS North Country Triathlon being held June 27-28, 2015.

Ayes: 5 (Olson, Smith, Higgins, Hill, Simpson) Nays: 0

RESOLUTION #102-2015

Councilperson Smith and Councilperson Higgins introduced Res. No. 102 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO DISPOSE OF SURPLUS BOOK RACKS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize two of the surplus book racks be given to the Horicon Historical Society and the rest to the Thurman Free Library.

Ayes: 5 (Smith, Higgins, Olson, Hill, Simpson) Nays: 0

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Committee Reports...

-Councilperson Sylva Smith updated the Board on several items. She thanked the Lazy Moose for donating replacement flats for the flowers hit by frost, and she thanked Chuck Hilton for donating a replacement basket for the barrel taken from the Heintzelman Library. Councilperson Smith pointed out that the Town does not have anything to do with the flowers in front of the Post Office. She also noted that the shrubs in front of the Adirondack Schoolhouse either need to be replaced or removed and asked what the Board wanted to do. Councilperson Smith said she has a meeting with Victoria Bush from Selective Insurance to see what needs to be done to get the playgrounds up to code as per the guidelines of the Town's insurance policy. Lastly, she noted that Mark Wilson (Beautification & Cemeteries) is resigning effective June 30th. The position was advertised and nine applications were received. Councilperson Olson said he and Councilperson Smith had interviewed several of the applicants and recommend Kevin Kilcullen for the position.

RESOLUTION #103-2015

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Smith introduced Res. No. 103 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO HIRE CEMETERY/BEAUTIFICATION WORKER

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby hire Kevin Kilcullen to work Cemeteries and Beautification at a pay rate of \$15.00 per hour. He is to start June 25th.

Ayes: 4 (Olson, Smith, Higgins, Simpson) Abstain: 1 (Hill) Nays: 0

-Councilperson Hill advised the Board there are issues with the Cub Cadet and the Woods mower. He will check to see if either is worth keeping or if they should be replaced.

Old Business:

Assessor Clerk: Two applications were received and interviews will be conducted.

Lifeguard: No applications have been received.

Vessel Inspection Technician: Two applicants were interviewed for this position.

RESOLUTION #104-2015

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Higgins introduced Res. No. 104 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO HIRE VESSEL INSPECTION AND DECONTAMINATION TECHNICIAN

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby hire Justice Parker and Johannes Helgren as Vessel Inspection Technician's at a pay rate of \$12.00 per hour up to forty (40) hours per week. The two gentlemen will start June 25th.

Ayes: 5 (Olson, Higgins, Smith, Hill, Simpson) Nays: 0

Fuel/Propane Bid: Supervisor Simpson is still researching the State contracts.

Boat Launch Lease: Supervisor Simpson asked the Board if they were ready to move on the Lease.

RESOLUTION #105-2015

Councilperson Higgins and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 105 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE LEASE AGREEMENT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the Supervisor to sign the Lease Agreement with New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for the Brant Lake Boat Launch in form approved by Town Counsel.

Ayes: 5 (Higgins, Hill, Olson, Smith, Simpson) Nays: 0

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New Business...

JGS Recycling proposal: Supervisor Simpson advised the Board that in light of recent changes, the Town will have to start paying for the removal of electronics. He has a proposal from JGS Recycling who quoted removal at \$0.25 per pound for CRT's, and everything else would be free. Supervisor Simpson said the Town could either absorb the cost or the Board could consider raising the Landfill fee to help cover some of the cost.

RESOLUTION #106-2015

Councilperson Higgins and Councilperson Smith introduced Res. No. 106 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE INCREASE IN LANDFILL FEE

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize an increase in the fee charged for garbage at the Landfill of \$.02 (cents) per pound effective immediately in order to defray the cost of paying for the disposal of electronics.

Ayes: 5 (Higgins, Smith, Hill, Olson, Smith, Simpson) Nays: 0

-Councilperson Hill said he had a request from a group in Adirondack who would like to use the Schoolhouse a couple days a week for exercise. Supervisor Simpson there are a couple things that need to be looked into.

-Supervisor Simpson said he was contacted by the Horicon Fire Department about the LOSAP. He was told the account is doing well and they are proposing to change the benefit from \$5.00 to \$10.00. The Fire Department asked what the process is to do this. Supervisor Simpson said this would need to go on the ballot, and Counselor Schachner confirmed there is still time to do this.

-Councilperson Hill asked Supervisor Simpson if he had talked to Frank Costello on reversing the agreement with the Fire Company on the Schoolhouse property. Supervisor Simpson said he had not. He explained they had been thinking of possibly reversing the agreement which would allow the Town to take ownership of the Schoolhouse so repairs could be made to it. Supervisor Simpson said the Fire Department had asked about the possibility of subdividing the property so the Fire Company could retain ownership of the Fire House. Supervisor Simpson asked Zoning Officer Jim Steen if the property could be subdivided. ZO Steen did not feel there would be any issues with that as long as the usage for the septic did not change and the setbacks are met. Supervisor Simpson said there are issues with sharing the well, septic, driveway, etc that would need to be worked out, but if the Board wishes he will pursue this. The Board felt it was worth pursuing.

-Councilperson Olson noted there is a funding website called Adirondack Gives that the Union Church project has been listed on. John Donovan explained the website offers information on the projects and allows people to donate to the projects.

Privilege of the Floor...

-Tim Squadere asked the Board if the Town has a plan for a new beach. Supervisor Simpson said he feels the reason the Town does not have a beach on the lake is due to the availability of property. There was lengthy discussion regarding the Town's options. Supervisor Simpson appointed Councilperson Higgins and Councilperson Smith to research some of the potential areas.

-John Donovan, Horicon Historical Society, told the Board that the grant funding they applied for will not be available to complete the new foundation on the Union Church before winter. He suggested the Town might consider contributing the \$26,000.00 to cover the shortfall between the \$40,000.00 they

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have raised and the actual cost of the foundation repair which came in around \$66,000.00. Councilperson Higgins said he remembers when this project was originally undertaken by the Historical Society the Board did not wish to be involved financially. Supervisor Simpson said there is no extra money in the Budget, so if the Board wishes to do this the only options are to take it out of the unappropriated fund balance, use occupancy tax monies, or borrow the money with a BAN. Councilperson Olson asked the Supervisor to lay out the three options for the Board to review to see if it is worth changing the Town's expenditures mid-year. The Board agreed the Supervisor should lay out the options.

-Jane Smith told the Board the price for the sign for Adirondack is \$357.00 higher than originally quoted due to the increase in size to accommodate the Town of Horicon logo. She asked the Board if this would be alright.

RESOLUTION #107-2015

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Higgins introduced Res. No. 107 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ADDITIONAL MONEY FOR SIGN

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the additional amount for the sign in Adirondack, not to exceed \$400.00, to come from Bed Tax Funds (A6412.4).

Ayes: 5 (Olson, Higgins, Smith, Hill, Simpson) Nays: 0

-Gary Frenz, NWEMS representative, gave the Board an update on the North Warren Emergency Squad.

Adjourn... There being no further business to attend to the meeting was adjourned at 8:30PM by MOTION of Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Higgins, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

Town Clerk