

**SEPTEMBER 21, 2006 PUBLIC HEARING & TOWN BOARD MEETING**

Present at meeting: Ralph Bentley Supervisor  
Frank Hill Councilman  
Kenneth Higgins Councilman  
Robert Olson Councilman  
Shirley Hayes Councilwoman  
Arlene Mayer Town Clerk  
Laura Moore Warren County Planner

Also: Mike Erickson, Tom Johansen, Brandon Himoff, Norma Bowdy, Bill & Louise Trudsoe, Brandt Persons, Charlotte Lewis, Gayle Baker, Bob & Gert Newton, Ann Fleming, Sue Schloss, Anthony Sapienza, Val & Steve Steinman, Patricia Frasco, Becky Granger, Paul & Sandy Smith, Joe Dooris, Randy Duell, Martin Meade, Helen Smith, John Goode, Harry Balz, Priscilla & Jim Remington, others.

At 7:00 PM Supervisor Bentley opened the Public Hearing regarding the application to Empire State Development Corporation for a RESTORE-NY Program funding request.

The clerk presented the legal notice as required. Supervisor Bentley then Introduced Laura Moore from Warren County.

First question asked was what is the purpose of this application? Ms. Moore said it was for reconstruction of the store that burned and re-vitalization of the Community. Councilwoman Hayes asked if the new building needed to be built to resemble the old store? Ms. Moore said the conditions of the rebuilding would be set by the Committee, but the store would be serving the same function as before. Ms. Moore added that after the grant was decided, a contract would be agreed upon, and there would be a better understanding of what the requirements are. In answer to the question of what would happen if applicant wanted to sell the store in a few years, Ms. Moore stated they would have to pay back Grant monies, to the Town, on a pro-rated basis. Councilman Olson asked where the money is coming from, Ms. Moore said it was a legislative decision through New York State. Mr. Balz asked if there would be tax abatements. Ms. Moore said she was not aware of any. In answer to question of application being already filed, Ms. Moore said it had been. The comments and letters from this public hearing will be forwarded to the committee also.

The clerk read the three letters received:

Valerie Steinman (Store Owner):	Requesting Town's help for Grant.
Betty Newton	Not in favor
Troy Scripture	Not in favor

Mrs. Pat Frasco said it's a shame that people penalize those who advocate for victims. Mrs. Frasco said that asking the Community for help is not looking for a hand out. Mrs. Valerie Steinman said the bottom line is she does not have enough money to rebuild the store. Mrs. Steinman said "Ralph (Supervisor Bentley) came to me and asked if I wanted to apply for a grant". Mrs. Steinman said there is nothing she could do without the grant but walk away, and she didn't want to walk away without trying. Mrs. Steinman said if the Community wanted the store, she would need to have the Grant. In summation Mrs. Steinman said it would be easier to walk away then to rebuild, but she wanted to see the Community have a store.

Mr. Brandt Persons said when he was burned out and lost much of his antiques collections and belongings, he received no help from anyone. Mr. Persons added that everyone should be treated the same.

Mr. Steven Smith said the grant is more about restoring the Town and less about helping a person. Mr. Smith said it's time to separate fact from emotion.

There were no further comments. Supervisor Bentley closed the public hearing at 7:15 PM.

The regular Board meeting was then opened.  
The first order of business was to open the BIDS for the wooden playground equipment. The clerk produced the legal notice from the Adirondack Journal requesting BIDS. The Bids were as follows:

Wooden Train:	\$50.00	Betty Olden
	\$200.00	Robert & Susan Smith
	\$12.00	Dan Smith
Fire Truck:	\$5.00	Dan Smith
Train & Truck	\$512.00	Tony Sapienza (Country Haven Campground)

The following Resolution was then introduced:

**RESOLUTION NO. 116 OF 2006**

Mr. Hill & Mrs. Hayes introduced Res. 116 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO AWARD BID FOR PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT**

WHEREAS, the Town advertised for BIDS for the wooden playground equipment at the Community Center and the Albert Monroe Park, AND

WHEREAS, bids were received for the wooden train and truck, NOW,  
THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the bid for both pieces of equipment is awarded to Mr. Tony Sapienza of Country Haven Campgrounds for the amount of \$512.00.

Hill-aye, Higgins-aye, Olson-aye, Hayes-aye, Bentley-aye

Website- Mr. Brandon Himoff spoke of the need for a Website for the Town. Mr. Himoff said that Harvey Leidy spearheaded the project, and he and Dennis Doyle were working on it. Mr. Himoff said the internet service would run around \$25.00 a month. This will get the site up and running. All the Town's information (posted notices, meetings, etc.) can be put on the site and also the Master Plan. The Town Board will have the opportunity to review all the information before it becomes public. Mr. Himoff was hoping the Town could find some young web-savvy person to help keep the website current. Mr. Himoff would be willing to help when he was able. Councilwoman Hayes asked how long before it would be up and running? Mr. Himoff said they will be getting the construction pages up first

**RESOLUTION NO. 117 OF 2006**

Messrs. Olson & Hill introduced Res. 117 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO CONTRACT FOR WEBSITE SERVICES**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the expenditure of up to \$25.00 a month for the new Horicon website. The Supervisor is hereby authorized to supervise the project.

Hill-aye, Higgins-aye, Olson-aye, Hayes-aye, Bentley-aye

Minutes- Discussion regarding previous minutes. Councilwoman Hayes has a problem with the "Zoning Conflicts" section of the minutes. Councilwoman Hayes feels the discussion was not presented fairly as comments made by various other people were not included. The clerk responded that she tries to include the main points and also answers to questions. The clerk added that she is not required to record all comments, but tries to give a "sense" of what was discussed. Councilwoman Hayes suggested the meetings be taped. Councilman Olson said the minutes are the clerk's minutes and are official record, but did not have to be approved by the Town Board. Messrs. Higgins & Hill then made a MOTION to approve the minutes, all ayes.

Abstracts:

**RESOLUTION NO. 118 OF 2006**

Messrs. Hill & Olson introduced Res. 118 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF ABSTRACTS**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the bookkeeper to pay the September Abstracts:

Highway Vouchers # 164-181	\$14,887.75
General Vouchers # 252-284	\$21,436.70
Highway Abstracts 24 & 26	\$ 9,733.47
General Abstracts 24 & 26	\$24,527.76

Hill-aye, Higgins-aye, Olson-aye, Hayes-aye, Bentley-aye

Councilman Olson said the money being spent by the highway is for repairs long needed. Hwy. Superintendent Smith said the mechanic and crew are doing an excellent job and he is very pleased with how it is going.

Communications:

Sally Joiner, Friends of Library	RE: Plaque for Joan Henshaw
Marc Lustick, B.L. Foundation	RE: Update on fund raising for Mill Pond

Action on Communications- Regarding the plaque for library, it is totally up to Linda Hoyt to decide where it should be placed.

Old Business-

Mechanic's pay for Mark Younes.

**RESOLUTION NO. 119 OF 2006**

Messrs. Hill & Olson introduced Res. 119 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO PAY MARK YOUNES DIFFERENCE IN PAY RATE**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize paying Mark Younes the difference in pay rate between mechanics wages and MEO for two hours work. Mr. Younes did some repair work before new mechanic was hired for Highway.

Hill-aye, Higgins-aye, Olson-aye, Hayes-aye, Bentley-aye

New Business-

Holiday Dinners- Permission requested by Valarie Steinman to use the Community Center for Thanksgiving Dinner and Christmas Dinner that she would like to provide for the public. Mrs. Steinman did these dinners at her store last year, but because of the loss of the store a new place is needed. A MOTION was made and seconded by Councilman Olson and Councilwoman Hayes to allow the use of the building, all ayes.

South Horicon Cemetery- The custodian requested some fertilizer and top soil for the cemetery if possible. Supervisor Bentley said there is no money in the budget right now. For now the soil already up there can be used to fill in low places. In the spring the soil can be tested and we can go from there as far as fertilizer.

New Zoning Definitions-

The Board Members were given a copy of the proposed new definitions for GUEST COTTAGE and GARAGE. The Board will review the definitions between and discuss further at next month's meeting.

Mr. Steven Smith then stated that no one could find where in the Ordinance it says "no bathrooms in garages". Mr. Smith said he has had requests from customers and the ZO denied permits. Councilwoman Hayes said "contractors are losing business". Mr. Smith added that the ZO does not see an issue, but is waiting for this proposed clarification on the advice of the Town Attorney.

Councilman Olson said "what harm is there if we act on past practices until this new definition is adopted"? Mr. Olson added that we can go about adopting this new definition the legal way, but rely on past practices until then. Supervisor Bentley said the Town Attorney had advised the Board to wait until clarification was made, as this was a "gray area", Councilman Higgins agreed. The ZO could find no permits issued for a bathroom in a garage in the files. Councilman Olson then made a MOTION to let past practices rule until "we" put the new definitions into effect, Councilwoman Hayes seconded. Councilman Higgins voted "No" Councilman Hill voted "Yes", Supervisor Bentley voted "No". Motion carried three to two.

The definitions will be discussed further at October meeting and a public hearing will probably be set at that time.

Resolutions:

**RESOLUTION NO. 120 OF 2006**

Messrs. Higgins & Hill introduced Res. 120 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO REQUEST NEW STREELIGHT**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby request, in the interest of public safety, a new streetlight be placed on the currently unused pole NM 7 4 12206 located at 3915 East Schroon River Road at the new entrance to Wakonda Campgrounds.

Hill-aye, Higgins-aye, Olson-aye, Hayes-aye, Bentley-aye

**RESOLUTION NO. 121 OF 2006**

Messrs. Hill & Higgins introduced Resolution No. 121 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE DIVISION OF YOUTH BUDGET**

WHEREAS, the Resolution for authorizing the project application for division of Youth Budget is annually adopted by the Town of Horicon, AND

WHEREAS, Warren County Division of Youth will reimburse the local Youth Program 50%, up to \$1,600.00 for the year 2007, NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the Project Application for the Division of Youth.

Hill-aye, Higgins-aye, Olson-aye, Hayes-aye, Bentley-aye

**RESOLUTION NO. 122 OF 2006**

Messrs. Higgins & Hill introduced Res. 122 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO SET BUDGET WORKSHOP**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby set a Budget Workshop for Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM to review the 2007 Budget.

Ayes: 5    Nays: 0

**RESOLUTION NO. 123 OF 2006**

Messrs. Olson & Hill introduced Res. 123 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE FUND TRANSFERS**

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

General

<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
9060.8 (Health)	1620.4 (Build.)	\$10,000.00
1990.4 (Cont.)	7110.4 (Parks)	\$ 286.43
1990.4 (Cont.)	8510.4 (Beaut.)	\$ 1,500.00
7310.1 (Youth)	7310.4 (Youth)	\$ 1,000.00
Highway		
5140.4 (Mis. Brush)	5140.1 (Mis. Brush)	\$ 100.00

Hill-aye, Higgins-aye, Olson-aye, Hayes-aye, Bentley-aye

**RESOLUTION NO. 124 OF 2006**

Messrs. Olson & Hill introduced Resolution No. 124 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE BUDGET AMENDMENT**

WHEREAS, the Town of Horicon has received an increase in the amount of money it receives from the Consolidated Highway Improvement Plan (CHIPS), NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the following Budget Amendment be authorized:

Increase: D510	Estimated Revenues	\$11,981.00
	D3501 Consolidated Hwy.	
Increase: D960	Appropriations	\$11,981.00
Increase: D5112.4	Improvement	\$11,981.00

Hill-aye, Higgins-aye, Olson-aye, Hayes-aye, Bentley-aye

**RESOLUTION NO. 125 OF 2006**

Messrs. Olson & Hill introduced Resolution 125 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SUBMIT APPLICATION FOR 2006 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM THROUGH LABERGE GROUP**

WHEREAS, the Town Board, after due consideration, has determined that it is desirable and in the public interest to undertake the necessary planning steps and related work for community development improvements, AND

WHEREAS, it is hereby resolved that this project, be known as the 2006 Community Development Block Grant Technical Assistance Program and that the Town of Horicon, County of Warren, New York desires to apply for financial assistance from the Governor’s Office for Small Cities, AND

WHEREAS, the Supervisor is authorized and directed to submit an application for financial assistance under such programs and is authorized to execute all other documents necessary for the implementation of this work, NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the firm of Laberge Group, 4 Computer Drive West, Albany, New York 12205, duly licensed under the Laws of the State of New York be authorized to prepare and manage the aforesaid application for financial assistance and all other plans, specifications, contracts, drawings, documents, and other necessary planning and community development work as required and as directed by the Supervisor, BE IT ALSO

RESOLVED, that said Planning and Community Development Department shall begin the initial application preparation and that two copies of this Resolution be forwarded to said Laberge Group for inclusion into the application documents and that in order to avoid duplication of effort, all departments, agencies, etc., shall transmit to said Laberge Group copies of planning previously or collaterally accomplished under other Local, State or Federal Programs, such planning to be utilized wherever applicable.

Hill-aye, Higgins-aye, Olson-aye, Hayes-aye, Bentley-aye

**RESOLUTION NO. 126 OF 2006**

Messrs. Hill & Olson introduced Res. 126 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the clerk to advertise for the following Highway equipment:

- 1 2006 or newer One Ton Heavy Duty Dual Rear Wheel 4X4 Regular Cab & Chassis with Dump

- 1 New 2006 Production Model 20 Ton Tagalong Equipment Trailer

Bids will be accepted until 7:00 PM October 19<sup>th</sup> at which time they will be publicly opened.

Hill-aye, Higgins-aye, Olson-aye, Hayes-aye, Bentley-aye

**RESOLUTION NO. 127 OF 2006**

Mr. Hill & Mrs. Hayes introduced Res. 127 and moved its adoption:

**TOWN OF HORICON ADOPTION OF THE STATE OF  
NEW YORK DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN**

WHEREAS, the Town of Horicon wishes to adopt the Deferred Compensation Plan for Employees of the State of New York and Other Participating Public Jurisdictions (the "Plan") for the voluntary participation of all eligible employees; AND

WHEREAS, the Town of Horicon is a local public employer eligible to adopt the Plan pursuant to Section 5 of the State Finance Law, AND

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Plan is to encourage employees to make and continue careers with the Town of Horicon by providing eligible employees with a convenient and tax-favored method of saving on a regular and long-term basis and thereby provide for their retirement; NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY

RESOLVED, that the Town of Horicon hereby adopts the Plan for the voluntary participation of all eligible employees; AND IT IS FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the appropriate officials of the Town of Horicon are hereby authorized to take such actions and enter such agreements as are required or necessary for the adoption, implementation, and maintenance of the Plan; AND IT IS FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Administrative Services Agency is hereby authorized to file copies of these resolutions and other required documents with the President of the State of New York Civil Service Commission.

Hill-aye, Higgins-aye, Olson-aye, Hayes-aye, Bentley-aye

Privilege of Floor-

Mr. Harry Balz reported on the progress of the new highway building. Mr. Balz said there are very dedicated men on the highway crew, especially the 4 men he has been working closely with. Mr. Balz added that the new Highway Superintendent, Paul Smith is doing a terrific job, and he (Harry) can't say enough about these extremely co-operative and "top-shelf" people he has been working with.

This being all the business to attend to, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM by MOTION of Messrs. Higgins & Olson, all ayes.

Respectfully submitted:

Town Clerk

**OCTOBER 12, 2006      BUDGET WORKSHOP**

Present at meeting:	Ralph Bentley	Supervisor
	Frank Hill	Councilman
	Ken Higgins	Councilman
	Robert Olson	Councilman
	Shirley Hayes	Councilwoman
Arlene Mayer	Town Clerk	
Gary McMeekin	Zoning Officer	
Paul Smith	Highway Superintendent	

Also: Harvey Leidy

Supervisor Bentley called the 2007 Budget Meeting to order. The tentative budget prepared by the Supervisor was then discussed on a line-by-line basis. The Supervisor explained that some raises were based on 3%, others on .70 cents per hour. The .70 cents per hour is the same hourly raise the highway department receives in January.

### General

Assessor- There is money in next year's budget to start a Town-wide re-val. Right now, the word is that Chestertown does not want to do a re-val next year for financial reasons, and we cannot do one without them.

Special Items- The amount for Unallocated Insurance was changed from the proposed \$52,000 to \$48,000.

Control of Dogs- The amount under contractual was changed from the proposed \$1,250 to \$500, as no equipment seems to be needed for next year and Darrian's mileage cost is low.

Superintendent of Highways- Supervisor Bentley said the proposed raise is well deserved by Paul Smith. Councilman Hill said the highway superintendent and crew are doing an excellent job, and Bobby Donahue has finished a great deal of repair work in the short time he has been there. Councilman Hill added that he has been at the garage every day and Paul makes sure everyone knows their job and does it. Councilman Hill is very satisfied with the way things have turned around at the highway department.

Planning- Councilman Olson spoke of the request for money to get the Master Plan going. There is not enough proposed for the 2007 Budget. Discussion over actual amounts needed. The contractual was then changed from \$15,000.00 to \$28,000.00.

Insect Department- The contractual includes the Schroon Lake Water Study as well as the BTI Program.

### Highway

Highway Superintendent Paul Smith talked to the Board about the feasibility of buying an excavator. Councilman Higgins asked if it wasn't cheaper to rent than to buy one and have it sitting around most of the year. Paul said in his opinion it is cheaper to buy one in the long run. Paul also suggested if the Town is going to consider buying one, they put an order in before the end of the year as this will save quite a bit of money.

There were no further questions on Budget. The next discussion of the budget will be at the regular Board meeting next Thursday.

Workshop adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Town Clerk