

**HORICON TOWN BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING**

**MAY 21, 2020
7:00 PM**

Present at meeting:	Matthew Simpson	Supervisor
	Frank Hill	Councilperson
	Robert Olson	Councilperson
	Peter Palmer	Councilperson
	Sylvia Smith	Councilperson
Krista Wood	Town Clerk	

Also Present: HS Darian Granger and Bret Winchip

Local Board of Health:

A Motion was made by Councilperson Olson, seconded by Councilperson Smith, to go into session as the Local Board of Health. The Board moved into session as Local Board of Health at 7:00 PM.

Septic Variance Request – Lakeview Dr. (Blue Sky Estates) / tax map #36.12-1-36 / Halvorsen:

Bret Winchip, Winchip Engineering, explained that Mr. Halvorsen would like to build a home on his lot in Blue Sky Estates. He noted this lot is in a pre-existing, Department of Health approved subdivision which pre-dates the APA and the current Horicon Zoning Regulations and Septic Code. He noted there is a community water system so there is no issue with private wells. Mr. Winchip explained this is an extremely difficult site with shallow soil, therefore, they are proposing a Presby enhanced treatment unit with a raised bed. This proposal requires several variances, which again are extremely tight due to the nature of the lot. The variances being requested are as follows: proposed absorption field toe of fill slope to stream where 100' is required and 5.5' is being proposed, which is a variance of 94.5' or 94.5%; proposed absorption field toe of fill slope to property line where 10' is required and 0' is being proposed, which is a variance of 10' or 100%; proposed absorption field toe of fill slope to house where 20' is required and 0' is being proposed, which is a variance of 20' or 100%.

Councilperson Olson asked if the adjoining properties are on the community water system; Mr. Winchip said all of them are. Councilperson Olson then asked what the property owners would do if the water system were to fail. Mr. Winchip said it is a DOH regulated community water system so he imagines they would have to fix it.

Councilperson Palmer asked how long Mr. Halvorsen has owned the property. Mr. Winchip responded that he believes Mr. Halvorsen's father bought it for him when he was a kid.

Councilperson Olson asked if it would be possible to locate a well site on the property if the community water system failed. Mr. Winchip said it is highly unlikely they could locate a good well site. Basically, if the water system were to fail the HOA would have to fix it as that would really be their only option.

Councilperson Palmer said he believes that brook runs year-round; Mr. Winchip said it does. Mr. Winchip said every house in there has the same issue; the brook runs right by them.

Councilperson Olson asked if the house had been designed yet. Mr. Winchip said it has not as they wanted to know if they would be able to get a septic first.

Supervisor Simpson asked if the system could be turned 180 degrees to help alleviate some of the variances. Mr. Winchip said it could not because it has to run parallel with the contours of the ground. He noted they tried other locations on the lot, but none offered better options or setbacks, noting again the extreme difficulty with this lot. Supervisor Simpson then asked if the system could be shortened. Mr. Winchip said you cannot really shorten a Presby system, but he will definitely look at it further to see if there are alternatives.

Councilperson Olson asked if owner needs a four-bedroom home or maybe he would have to go with a three-bedroom home. Mr. Winchip said he used a four-bedroom home for reference because that is what the Presby system supports. He noted the proposed system uses the same amount of pipe whether it is a three-bedroom home or a four-bedroom home.

Councilperson Palmer asked if the system could be moved closer to the road. Mr. Winchip said they might be able to, but in order to get the enhanced treatment they need to keep as much of the the treatment area in the fill before it comes back to natural grade.

Supervisor Simpson asked if a sealed system could be used instead. Mr. Winchip said he does not believe a holding unit would be allowed in this situation. He noted there is some confusion in the wording in the Town regulations, and the Department of Health does not allow for holding tanks with new construction. Supervisor Simpson will get clarification on the regulation wording.

Councilperson Hill asked if the Zoning Officer had reviewed this. Councilperson Olson said Scott had looked at it and felt it was the best option.

Councilperson Olson asked if the Norweco system would be a better option. Mr. Winchip said it would not because although the Norweco helps clarify the water there is no reduction in separation because the pathogens are not removed.

The Board asked Mr. Winchip to play with this and see if he could come back next month with some alternatives. Mr. Winchip said he will.

A Motion was made by Councilperson Olson, seconded by Councilperson Smith, to move back into regular session. The Board moved back into regular session at 7:30 PM.

Reports... Supervisor, Town Clerk, Justice, Assessor, NWEMS

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of April 16, 2020 were approved by Motion of Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Palmer, all Ayes.

Approval of May 2020 Vouchers and Abstracts:

RESOLUTION #63-2020

Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Olson introduced Res. No. 63 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF MAY ABSTRACTS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the payment of the May 21, 2020 Vouchers and Abstracts as follows:

General Abstract	5	\$ 39,873.70
Highway Abstract	5	\$ 139,727.86

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

Correspondence to the Board:

- NYS DOT RE: Speed limit reduction request from Town of Chester on Route 8
- NYS DOT RE: Speed limit study east of Schroon River bridge
- LA Group RE: Summary of grants currently available
- Albert Maday RE: Letter of resignation as SLPD Commissioner
- James Maday RE: Letter of resignation as SLPD Alternate Commissioner

Resolutions:

RESOLUTION #64-2020

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Palmer introduced Res. No. 64 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE JUSTICE COURT AUDIT

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Horicon authorized Councilperson Sylvia Smith to perform an audit of the 2019 Horicon Town Court in accordance with Appendix F provided by the Office of the State Comptroller, and WHEREAS, Councilperson Smith completed the audit of the Court records and presented the audit to the Horicon Town Board for review on April 16, 2020, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby accept and approve the 2019 Horicon Town Court audit as presented.

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

RESOLUTION #65-2020

Councilperson Smith and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 65 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE CONTRACT WITH GLENS FALLS ANIMAL HOSPITAL

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize Supervisor Simpson to sign the contract with Glens Falls Animal Hospital for the handling of unidentified dogs. This agreement will be effective January 1, 2020 for the 2020 calendar year and will be renewed annually thereafter unless either party notifies the other of their desire not to renew.

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

RESOLUTION #66-2020

Councilperson Smith and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 66 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO CHANGE DATE OF JUNE 2020 TOWN BOARD MEETING

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby change the date of the June 2020 Town Board meeting from Thursday, June 18 to **Wednesday, June 24, 2020** at 7:00PM.

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

RESOLUTION #67-2020

Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Smith introduced Res. No. 67 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO DECLARE COMPUTERS AS SURPLUS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby declare eight computers and the old Zoning copier as surplus equipment and authorize their disposal by StoredTech.

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

RESOLUTION #68-2020

Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Smith introduced Res. No. 68 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO APPOINT TOM LUCIANO AS SLPD COMMISSIONER

WHEREAS, Albert Maday has tendered his resignation as SLPD Commissioner effective May 18, 2020, and James Maday has tendered his resignation as SLPD Alternate Commissioner effective May 18, 2020, now therefore be it RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby appoint Tom Luciano to fill the unexpired term as Schroon Lake Park District Commissioner that will expire on December 31, 2021, effective upon his resignation as SLPD for Chestertown.

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

Committee Reports...

-Councilperson Sylvia Smith updated the Board on the following:

-There will be brief Memorial Day ceremonies in Chestertown and in Adirondack on May 25th.

-There was a meeting on May 20th with the six boat stewards to brief them on the upcoming season. They will also be doing a two-hour online training session on June 10th for further instructions.

-Beautification/Cemeteries: There will be flower baskets on the walkway bridge, flowers in the box by the Fire House, flower barrels at the Adirondack beach, and flower barrels at the Community Center. Also, the cemeteries look good.

-Greg Bolton will be doing the work on the headstones as part of the CFGMR grant project. The Town can apply for another grant this year but decided not to in light of the covid-19 situation.

-In regard to the beaches, there are a lot of things the Town will have to do in light of Covid-19 if they want to open the beaches. The Board will try and formulate a plan to open the beaches.

Old Business...

Budget Adjustment recommendations: Supervisor Simpson asked the committees if they had reviewed the budget and have suggestions for things the town can save on. Councilperson Smithy said she looked at Beautification and noted the flowers will be reduced this year. Supervisor Simpson said he met with HS Granger and they talked about only doing roadwork that is equivalent to what CHIPS funding the town receives; HS Granger will put together a plan for that. Supervisor Simpson asked HS Granger if he planned on ordering any equipment. HS Granger said he did, but he can push that out. Supervisor Simpson said he also looked at the General Fund and believes there is approximately \$106,000 that could be saved. He noted the Museum will not be opening, there is no Little League, no Youth program, savings in Beautification, among other things which will save quite a bit. He feels between Highway and General there could be pretty good savings that will help to offset a potential \$600,000 drop in sales tax revenue.

Adjourn... There being no further business to attend to the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 PM by MOTION of Councilperson Smith and Councilperson Olson, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

Town Clerk