

HORICON TOWN BOARD
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD

JUNE 17, 2021
7:00 PM

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

Also: Jake Gordon, Jason Letts, Assessor Christine Hayes, ZA Jim Steen, Matthew Magee, Chris Belden, Bill McGhie, HS Darian Granger, Matt Wood, Kevin Kilcullen, Bob Smith, Matt Simpson, John Donovan, Matt Strickland, Teri Schuerlein, and Angie Mead.

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

Local Board of Health:

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

#1 – Septic Variance Request – 18 N. Sand Beach Way / tax map #55.10-1-5 / Letts:

Supervisor Smith announced that they had planned to re-convene the public hearing for the septic variance request at 18 N. Sand Beach Way, however, the applicant has withdrawn their original application.

#2- Septic Variance Request – 18 N. Sand Beach Way / tax map #55.10-1-5 / Letts:

-Jake Gordon, CT Male, explained that in light of the recommendation letter from Cedarwood Engineering they decided to withdraw their original application. He said they are submitting a new application which is for a proposal to install a waste incinerator. Mr. Gordon explained that with this system all gray water is incinerated and what is left is sterile ash which can be taken to the landfill. He noted that this system would mitigate all the issues the previous proposed system posed. Mr. Gordon noted that they have proposed to put the incinerator in a shed and all setbacks will be met.

-Councilperson Olson asked if there were any of these systems in the Town of Horicon already. Mr. Gordon said he was not aware of any but believes there is one in Essex County and one in Ulster County. Councilperson Olson expressed concern that this type of system may not be addressed in the Town’s septic regulations and approving it may jeopardize APA approval. He said he feels this should be referred to Town Counsel to see if this can be treated as a variance or if the Town’s septic regulations would need to be amended. He also said it should be referred to the Fire Department to see if they would have any issues with it. Councilperson Olson said he is not prepared to accept this application as complete until these issues are addressed.

-Councilperson Palmer asked Jim Steen if holding tanks were allowed. Mr. Steen said they are allowed in some circumstances if there is an existing septic, however, this is new construction, not a replacement system, so holding tanks are not allowed and there is no waiver. Councilperson asked if this proposal is illegal then because holding tanks are not allowed in this case. Mr. Steen said the proposed system is not a holding tank, the incinerator would replace the leech field. Mr. Gordon said they refer to it as a “holding tank” but the waste water is actually pumped up to the incinerator so it is not technically a holding tank. Councilperson Palmer asked if the system is based on two people a day producing 40 gallons per day. Mr. Gordon said they did not base it on the manufacturer’s sizing, he estimates the usage will be more and therefore based it on the Department of Health guidelines. Councilperson Palmer then asked how bad the smell would be; Mr. Gordon said the smell would be minimal as the majority of the waste is gray water. He also noted the system can be programmed to operate at a certain time so if there were concerns over the smell it could be set to operate at night.

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-Councilperson Geraci asked if the manufacturer would deliver, install, and test this system. Mr. Gordon said they do. Councilperson Geraci asked where the manufacturer is located; Mr. Gordon said they are in Arkansas. Councilperson Geraci asked if they come all the way from Arkansas to do the installation; Mr. Gordon said he believes they must have certified installers that would take care of this. Councilperson Geraci asked if it was a propane incinerator; Mr. Gordon said it was but there are also other options. Councilperson Geraci asked if there was any type of video from the manufacturer that showed how the system works; Mr. Gordon said there is and he will get that for the Board.

-Councilperson Hill asked what happens to the waste water; Mr. Gordon said it evaporates.

-James Steen asked if these systems are designed to keep from freezing in the winter months; what happens with residual water in the system. Mr. Gordon said it is his understanding the pump sends one dose of volume to the incinerator and this one dose is completely used up during the incineration process so the pump is left dry. He also asked how long the process takes to process the waste water. Mr. Gordon said there is information in the brochure as to how many gallons can be processed, but it is largely based on the amount of water the owner uses.

-Councilperson Olson said he needs to research this more thoroughly before any action can be taken.

-Supervisor Smith agreed with Councilperson Olson. She asked the Board if they would like to refer this to Cedarwood Engineering and revisit at the July 15th Town Board meeting. All agreed.

Motion made by Councilperson Olson, seconded by Councilperson Hill, to refer the septic variance request for 18 North Sand Beach Way to Cedarwood Engineering for review. All Ayes.

A Motion was made by Councilperson Olson, seconded by Councilperson Geraci, to go back into regular session. The Board moved back into **regular session** at 7:15 PM.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of May 20, 2021 were approved by Motion of Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Olson.

Ayes: 5 (Hill, Olson, Geraci, Palmer, Smith)

Approval of June 17, 2021 Vouchers and Abstracts:

RESOLUTION #87-2021

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 87 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF JUNE ABSTRACTS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the payment of the June 17, 2021 Vouchers and Abstracts as follows:

General Abstract	6	\$ 92,231.40
Highway Abstract	6	\$ 51,905.09
HM	6	\$ 62.35

Ayes: 5 (Olson, Hill, Palmer, Geraci, Smith)

Correspondence to the Board...

- Donald Moore RE: Letter expressing how much he enjoyed Ride On!

- AOT RE: Update on American Rescue Plan Act funding

Resolutions...

RESOLUTION #88-2021

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Geraci introduced Res. No. 88 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO HIRE LIFEGUARDS AND ATTENDANT FOR SUMMER

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RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby hire Claudia Librett, Leona Denny, Roselynn Denny, and Matt Brown as lifeguards to cover the Brant Lake beach and the Adirondack beach on a rotating schedule for the 2021 summer season at a pay rate of \$14.57 per hour, and Bridget Jones as swim lesson attendant for four hours a week at a pay rate of \$14.57 per hour. The beach will be open 11am – 5:00 pm Monday through Thursday and 11am-6pm Friday through Sunday; swim lessons will be held Mondays and Tuesdays from 5pm to 7pm.
Ayes: 5 (Olson, Geraci, Hill, Palmer, Smith)

RESOLUTION #89-2021

Councilperson Geraci and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 89 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT FOR BOAT PATROL ON SCHROON LAKE

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize Supervisor Smith to sign the Intermunicipal Agreement with Warren County for the Boat Patrol on Schroon Lake and Brant Lake for 2021. The Board authorizes the funding for the Boat Patrol in the amount of \$2,500.00 to be taken from (A6410.4) Publicity.
Ayes: 5 (Geraci, Hill, Olson, Palmer, Smith)

RESOLUTION #90-2021

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Palmer introduced Res. No. 90 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN LEASE AGREEMENT FOR MILL POND BEACH

Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the Supervisor to sign the lease agreement with the Horicon Fire Department, Inc. for the Mill Pond Beach for \$1.00 per year; the lease agreement will be effective immediately and will remain in effect continuously year after year unless terminated by either party.
Ayes: 5 (Olson, Palmer, Geraci, Hill, Smith)

RESOLUTION #91-2021

Councilperson Geraci and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 91 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE TO AUTHORIZE BUDGET AMENDMENT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the Bookkeeper to make the following budget amendments in the General and Highway Funds in the amount of \$105,00.00 as follows:

Debit	A599	Unappropriated Fund Balance	\$ 105,000.00
Credit	A9901.9	Transfer to Other - Hwy	\$ 105,000.00
Debit	DA5031	Interfund Transfer – General	\$ 105,000.00
Credit	DA5110.4	General Repair – Contractual	\$ 105,000.00

Ayes: 5 (Geraci, Hill, Olson, Palmer, Smith)

RESOLUTION #92-2021

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Palmer introduced Res. No. 92 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AMEND RESOLUTION #1-2021 (DESIGNATING COMMITTEES)

WHEREAS, Supervisor Sylvia Smith appointed Committees in Resolution No. 1 of 2021, and WHEREAS, Michael Geraci, Sr. was recently appointed to fill the unexpired term on the Town Board so Supervisor Smith wishes to amend Resolution 1 of 2021 making changes to the following Committees, NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the following changes will become effective immediately for the Committees hereby named below with the first being Chair of the committee:

Beautification, Facilities, Grounds.....	Hill & Olson
Cemetery, Library.....	Olson & Hill
Finance, Insurance.....	Geraci & Olson
Highway.....	Hill & Palmer
Lake Committee	Brant Lake (dam included).....Palmer, Olson, Wayne Butler, & Kevin Kilcullen

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Schroon Lake..... Hill, Geraci, B. McGhie, R. Nawrot, & Kevin Kilcullen

Landfill / Transfer Station..... Palmer & Olson

Personnel..... Geraci & Olson

Planning / Zoning, Real Property Assessment.....Palmer & Hill

Public Info (website, Facebook, info technology, etc.)... Krista Wood

Public Safety (street lights, traffic safety, public health
fire & ambulance, emergency mgmt.).....Geraci & Olson

Schroon Lake Park District Commissioners.....Tom Luciano – Brant Lake
Scott Chadbourne – Schroon Lake
Adam Horowitz – Chestertown

Ayes: 5 (Olson, Palmer, Geraci, Hill, Smith)

RESOLUTION #93-2021

Councilperson Geraci and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 93 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SEND LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR ADIRONDACK MARATHON

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon authorizes the Supervisor to send a letter in support of the Adirondack Marathon to NYS DOT.

Ayes: 5 (Geraci, Hill, Olson, Palmer, Smith)

RESOLUTION #94-2021

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Palmer introduced Res. No. 94 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT TO HOFFMAN IRON WORKS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize a deposit in the amount of \$2,539.15 be paid to Hoffman Iron Works for the supply and installation of the ADA railings at the 1881 Union Church and will be taken from the HM 7997.4 fund, and be it further

RESOLVED, that final payment in the amount of \$2,260.85 will be made once the railings are completed and final inspection has been done and will be taken from General Fund A7450.4.

Ayes: 5 (Olson, Palmer, Geraci, Hill, Smith)

RESOLUTION #95-2021

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 95 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO CHANGE DATE OF AUGUST 2021 TOWN BOARD MEETING

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby change the date of the August 2021 Town Board meeting from Thursday, August 19 to **Tuesday, August 17, 2021** at 7:00PM.

Ayes: 5 (Olson, Hill, Geraci, Palmer, Smith)

RESOLUTION #96-2021

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

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ASSESSOR TO ATTEND NYSAA CONFERENCE

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize Assessor Christine Hayes to attend the NYSAA Conference in Ithaca from July 12-16, 2021. The cost of the seminar is \$320.00, plus lodging, and reimbursement for food and mileage. The total cost of attending the seminar will be shared with Town of Bolton.

Ayes: 5 (Olson, Palmer, Geraci, Hill, Smith)

RESOLUTION #97-2021

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Councilperson Geraci and Councilperson Olson introduced Res. No. 97 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE JUNETEENTH AS AN OFFICIAL HOLIDAY FOR 2021

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby recognize Juneteenth (June 19th) as an official holiday for June 19, 2021 for the General and Highway employees.

Ayes: 5 (Geraci, Olson, Hill, Palmer, Smith)

RESOLUTION #98-2021

Councilperson Geraci and Councilperson Olson introduced Res. No. 98 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE TRANSFER OF FUNDS

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

Highway:

<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
DA5140.1 Misc Brush – Pers Svcs	DA5142.4 Snow Rem Contr	\$ 12,500.00

Ayes: 5 (Geraci, Olson, Hill, Palmer, Smith)

RESOLUTION #99-2021

Councilperson Geraci and Councilperson Olson introduced Res. No. 99 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE RED WING RD FOR ADIRONDACK MARATHON

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize closure of Town of Horicon portion of Red Wing Rd to the intersection of East Shore Drive on Sunday, October 3, 2021 from 8:55 am to 11:45 am for the Adirondack Marathon.

Ayes: 5 (Geraci, Olson, Hill, Palmer, Smith)

Presentation by Chris Belden, Economic Dev Coordinator LC-LGRP:

Chris Belden, Economic Development Coordinator from the Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning Board talked to the Board about two grant opportunities. He noted both grant opportunities relate to topics addressed in the First Wilderness Plan the Town adopted.

The first grant opportunity is for the development of a Brant Lake Watershed Management Plan. Mr. Belden explained that in 2020 the NYS Legislature designated Brant Lake as an in-land waterway which allows the Town to apply for grant funding through NYS Department of State Local Waterfront Revitalization program. He said the LC-LGRP will prepare the grant application, administer the grant, and write the Brant Lake Watershed Management Plan. Mr. Belden said the proposed project cost for this is \$75,000, of which, the grant would cover 75% with a 25% match from the Town. He spoke with Wayne Butler of the Brant Lake Association who indicated he would bring this up at the next BLA meeting and seemed confident the BLA would be willing to cover \$9,375 of the 25% match amount. He expects the preparation of the watershed management plan for Brant Lake to take approximately three years. Mr. Belden noted the LC-LGRP develops actionable plans so once the project/plan is finished the Town can look for ways to start implementing those projects.

Councilperson Palmer asked if the \$75,000 is to develop the plan and who develops the plan. Mr. Belden said the fee is for the development of the plan which would be done by the LC-LGRP. He noted this is actually a lower cost than other groups would charge. Councilperson Palmer said he would like to see more information on what the plan involves before he would approve it.

Councilperson Olson noted the Town did a Watershed Plan years ago and asked if this is necessary. Mr. Belden said the Town actually did a Watershed Assessment Plan a while back not a Management Plan.

Councilperson Geraci asked what the start date and timeline would be with this project. Mr. Belden said the grant applications would go in by July 30, 2021 and the grant awards would be made sometime in December of this year. He

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said the plan development would then likely be completed by mid-2022. Councilperson Geraci asked if he understood correctly that the Town's total financial responsibility would be \$8,875 for the project, billed quarterly, for a total of twelve payments. Mr. Belden that is correct.

Councilperson Palmer asked if the term of the project is three years does that mean it will take them three years to do it; Mr. Belden said that is correct. Councilperson Palmer asked if the cost is \$8,000 a year; Mr. Belden said no, it would be \$8,875 total and be billed quarterly over a three-year period.

Councilperson Hill said he feels it is a good idea.

Councilperson Geraci said he feels it is a great opportunity for the Town.

RESOLUTION #100-2021

Councilperson Geraci and Councilperson Palmer introduced Res. No. 100 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE LC-LGRP TO SUBMIT APPLICATION FOR GRANT

WHEREAS, the Town of Horicon ("Town") recognizes the benefits of developing a Watershed Management Plan for Brant Lake, and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of State ("NYSDOS") has announced the availability of funding to communities wishing to develop watershed management plans through the New York State Department of States Local Waterfront Revitalization Program ("Grant Program"), and

WHEREAS, through the Grant Program eligible communities may submit applications for projects with a 25% match requirement, and

WHEREAS, the Lake Champlain – Lake George Regional Planning Board ("LCLGRP") will prepare an application for the Town and if awarded the LCLGRP will assist the Town with grant administration and development of the Watershed Management Plan, and, NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town of Horicon authorizes the LCLGRP to submit an application to the NYSDOS Local Waterfront Revitalization Program to allow for the development of a Watershed Management Plan for Brant Lake pending support from the Brant Lake Association in the amount of \$9,375.00.

Ayes: 5 (Geraci, Palmer, Olson, Hill, Smith)

Mr. Belden explained the second grant opportunity is for a Town Hall Infrastructure Feasibility Report. He said the issue of storm water runoff behind the Community Center was noted in the First Wilderness Plan as a concern. This grant would pay for a professional engineer to develop a feasibility report which could be used to pursue funding to make improvements behind the Community Center to mitigate storm water runoff. Mr. Belden explained this would be a one-year project and would require a \$3,000 contribution from the Town.

Councilperson Palmer asked if the Town needed such a thing. Mr. Belden said Warrensburg did this because they had similar issues. They put in vegetative swales, rain gardens, etc. to catch and treat the water to mitigate runoff.

Councilperson Olson said he is hesitant to sign on to any "green" infrastructure projects, and he is not in favor of this.

The Board was in agreement not to move forward with this particular grant.

Committee Reports...

1) *Matt Strickland – Brant Lake Canoe Race:* Matt Strickland thanked the Board for their support. He said in 2019 they had 78 participants and 51 boats. For 2021 they plan to grow the event, but not all at once, so they are capping the race at 110 individual participants. He said registration will open July 6th at 6:00 pm. Mr. Strickland said he will share logistics with the Board and welcomes feedback so they can improve the event.

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2) *Teri Schuerlein – Food Truck Fridays:* Teri Schuerlein said the official start date for Food Truck Fridays will be July 2nd and it will run from 4pm to 8pm on that one night because it is the kickoff event. She said they expect a full house with the trucks, they will have drawings for prizes donated by local businesses, and they will also have a banner with the local businesses on it. Looking forward to getting started.

3) *Councilperson Geraci reported on the following:*

- *NWEMS:* There were a total of 48 calls in May with 28 in Chestertown, 11 in Horicon, and 9 mutual aid requests. The Squad is contracting with a collection agency to attempt to recover significant outstanding debt from individuals who received insurance reimbursements but never paid the Squad. Staffing levels remain a challenge so various recruitment efforts will be taking place to address this. Lastly, the annual donation campaign via mailings is underway.

- *Zoning Administrator:* An ad was run for the Zoning Administrator opening and five applications were received. First round interviews were done by himself, Councilperson Olson, and Jim Steen on June 7th, and, from that, two finalists were selected for a second interview which was done by Supervisor Smith and Christine Hayes. He believes the process was very thorough, and after careful consideration he recommends Matthew Magee be hired as Zoning Administrator.

RESOLUTION #101-2021

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

RESOLUTION TO HIRE MATTHEW MAGEE AS HORICON ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby hire Matthew Magee as part-time Horicon Zoning Administrator effective June 18, 2021 at the pay rate set forth in the 2021 budget.

Ayes: 5 (Geraci, Olson, Palmer, Hill, Smith)

4) *Councilperson Hill reported on the following:*

- The shed for the Schroon Lake Boat Launch was delivered Wednesday, June 16th.
 - The axle on the small mower broke. The estimate to repair it was \$1,200.00 and the cost to purchase a new mower was \$2,700.00. So, a new mower was purchased on state contract and is in use.
 - The Kioti tractor needs a new clutch system and the estimated cost of the repair is \$2,400.00.
- Approval is needed to authorize this repair.

RESOLUTION #102-2021

Councilperson Geraci and Councilperson Olson introduced Res. No. 102 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE REPAIRS ON THE KIOTI TRACTOR

RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize repairs to the Kioti tractor in the amount of \$2,400.00.

Ayes: 5 (Geraci, Olson, Palmer, Hill, Smith)

5) *Councilperson Palmer reported on the following:*

- The price increase at the Landfill does not seem to have caused any issues, and he feels it should be raised again next year.

6) *Councilperson Olson reported on the following:*

- He spoke to Barb French said the volume is heavier at the Landfill but things are running fine.
- He said there were five applications for Zoning Administrator because the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Planning Board do such a great job protecting the community.

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Old Business... None

New Business... None

Privilege of the Floor... Supervisor Smith thanked Assemblyman Matt Simpson for attending the meeting.

Adjourn... There being no further business to attend to the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM by MOTION of Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Hill, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

Town Clerk