

**HORICON TOWN BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 16, 2023
6:00 PM**

Present at meeting: Michael Geraci Supervisor
Rob Hill Councilman
Robert Olson Councilman
Peter Palmer Councilman
Krista Wood Town Clerk

Also: Jim Ventura, Janet Early, Barb French, Bob and Sylvia Smith, Matt Wood, Assessor Christine Hayes, Poul and MaryLou Carstensen, John Dunn, Scott Hayes, Barb Blum, Pam Eastman, Tammy LaGuerre, and others.

Supervisor Geraci opened the regular meeting at 6:00pm.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the January 19, 2023 meeting were approved by Motion of Councilman Olson and Councilman Hill.

Ayes: 4 (Olson, Hill, Palmer, Geraci) Nays: 0

Financial Report - February 2023 Vouchers and Abstracts...

RESOLUTION #37-2023

Councilman Olson and Councilman Palmer introduced Res. No. 37 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF FEBRUARY 2023 ABSTRACTS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the payment of the February 16, 2023 Vouchers and Abstracts as follows:

| | | |
|------------------|----|---------------|
| General Vouchers | #2 | \$ 36,306.84 |
| Highway Vouchers | #2 | \$ 88,002.31 |
| SA | #2 | \$ 100,000.00 |

Ayes: 4 (Olson, Palmer, Hill, Geraci) Nays: 0

Correspondence to the Board...

- Greg Francisco RE: Comments on Mill Pond Improvement draft plan

Reports... Town Clerk, Justice, Assessor, Zoning, Tax Collector, NWEMS, Landfill, Historian, Historical Society, Chester-Horicon Youth Commission, Food Pantry

Supervisor's Report – see copy attached

Town Board Committee Reports – see copies attached

Resolutions:

Councilman Palmer and Councilman Hill introduced Resolutions #38 to #42 and moved their adoption:

Ayes: 4 (Palmer, Hill, Olson, Geraci) Nays: 0

RESOLUTION #38-2023

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE POSTING OF ROADS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the Highway Superintendent to advertise and post the Town roads for spring conditions when warranted.

RESOLUTION #39-2023

RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE POLLING PLACES

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Article 4-104 of the New York State Election Law, the Town Board of the Town of Horicon must submit to the Warren County Board of Elections a listing of the polling places in the Town of Horicon in each Election District in which Elections are held, NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the following handicapped accessible locations be and are hereby designated as the respective polling places in the Districts as enumerated:

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Election District #1 | Horicon Community Center |
| Election District #2 | 6604 State Rt. 8, Brant Lake, NY 12815 |

RESOLUTION #40-2023

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE 2022 FIREFIGHTER RECORDS LISTING

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon has reviewed, and does hereby approve, the 2022 Service Award Program Firefighter Records listing for the Horicon Fire Department.

RESOLUTION #41-2023

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN MOU FOR GRANT ADMINISTRATION

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize Supervisor Geraci to sign the MOU for the administration of the 2022 Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan Funding Awards from NYS Department of State for mitigation and prevention of invasive species in Schroon Lake.

RESOLUTION #42-2023

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT FOR BOAT PATROL ON SCHROON LAKE

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize Supervisor Geraci to sign the Intermunicipal Agreement with Warren County for the Boat Patrol on Brant Lake and Schroon Lake for 2023. The Board authorizes the funding for the Boat Patrol in the amount of \$2,500.00 to be taken from A3310.4 – Traffic Control.

Old Business...

Sand bids: The Town Clerk opened the single bid that was received from Berness Bolton Exc., Co. for \$5.50 per yard.

RESOLUTION #43-2023

Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Olson introduced Res. No. 43 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AWARD SAND BID

WHEREAS, the Town Board legally advertised for bids for processed sand for highway use, and one bid was received and publicly opened on February 16th at 6:10 PM, NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby award the 2023 sand bid to Berness Bolton Excavating Co, Inc. for a bid of \$5.50 per yard for processed and loaded sand.

Ayes: 4 (Hill, Olson, Palmer, Geraci) Nays: 0

Highway garage floor repair bids: Supervisor Geraci said the Clerk advertised for bids for the Highway Garage floor repair and one bid was received. The Clerk then opened the bid from Absolute Remediation and Construction LLC which included three different repair options for the Town to choose from. Supervisor Geraci asked the Committee to review the repair options with HS Granger and the award will be made at the March meeting.

Salt use on highway: Supervisor Geraci said HS Granger planned to talk about salt use on the roadways, but was unable to attend tonight's meeting. He will talk about this at the March meeting.

Dog Control Officer: Councilman Hill said he interviewed two applicants, however, there are work schedule conflicts with both. He spoke to Darian about taking the position over again and Darian said he would.

RESOLUTION #44-2023

Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Olson introduced Res. No. 44 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO APPOINT DOG CONTROL OFFICER

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby appoint Darian Granger to serve as Horicon Dog Control Officer for the remainder of 2023 at the pay rate of \$17.08 per hour.

Ayes: 4 (Hill, Olson, Palmer, Geraci) Nays: 0

Zoning Administrator: Councilman Hill said they received a good number of applications for Zoning Administrator and all had comparable skills. He and Councilman Palmer interviewed the three applicants and recommend offering Kristena Williams the position of Zoning Administrator.

RESOLUTION #45-2023

Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Palmer introduced Res. No. 45 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO OFFER KRISTENA WILLIAMS THE POSITION OF ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon will offer Kristena Williams the full-time position of Horicon Zoning Administrator.

Ayes: 4 (Hill, Palmer, Olson, Geraci) Nays: 0

New Business...

Bookkeeper: Supervisor Geraci said the current Bookkeeper, Patty Monahan, has accepted a full-time position with the Town of Warrensburg. The Bookkeeper position has been advertised and applications will be accepted until February 24th.

Friends of the Library events: Tammie LaGuerre, President of the Friends of the Horicon Library, gave the Town Board an update on what programs they have had over the past several months. She also explained what their plans are for upcoming projects and events. Tammi encouraged people to give feedback on what things they like, what projects or events they would like to see, etc.

Authorization to approve Insurance updates: Supervisor Geraci said he met with the Town’s insurance agent recently to review the Town policy and premium updates. He said there is a need to increase the coverage amount for the Highway trucks. He said in order to do that at no additional cost the Board can raise the current deductible from \$1,000.00 to \$2,500.00 to offset the increase in premium. The Board agreed to raise the deductible to \$2,500.00.

Municipal investment options: Supervisor Geraci said there has been discussion at the County about the various investment options available to the Towns. He said the Town is currently getting next to nothing for interest with the current investments. He said with interest rates rising on municipal CD’s and money market accounts he would like to recommend the Town take advantage of one of these options. He said doing so will not create a shortfall. Supervisor Geraci said he would like to earmark whatever interest is earned for projects they would not normally take out of the budget. He said, for example, he would like to see bathrooms built and the garage behind the Town Hall refurbished or rebuilt. The Board was in favor of moving forward with the investments.

Award 2023 Town Occ Tax funds:

RESOLUTION #46-2023

Councilperson Palmer and Councilperson Olson introduced Res. No. 46 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE 2023 OCCUPANCY TAX FUNDS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize a total of \$26,750.00 in Occupancy Tax funds, code A6410.4 - Publicity, to be awarded to the following as listed:

| <u>Group/Individual:</u> | <u>Purpose/Event:</u> | <u>Amount:</u> |
|---------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Tri-Lakes Community Alliance | 7 th Annual Adirondack Woofstock | \$ 5,000.00 |
| Food Truck Fridays Committee | Food Truck Fridays on the Pond | \$ 13,250.00 |
| Matt Strickland | Brant Lake Canoe Race | \$ 5,000.00 |
| Joel Friedman | Adirondack Marathon | \$ 3,500.00 |

Ayes: 4 (Palmer, Olson, Hill, Geraci) Nays: 0

Privilege of the Floor...

-Chris DeGiovine, of ESSLA, spoke to the Board about the current SUNY ESF program to introduce a blight resistant American Chestnut tree. He said ESSLA is asking for permission to plant several of the chestnut trees in the park in Adirondack; he noted ESSLA will take care of them.

-MaryLou Carstensen asked how to request that something be put into the Town's budget. Supervisor Geraci explained the budget process begins in August. He said a request would need to be discussed with one of the Town Board Committee members who would then bring the request to the Budget workshop meeting for discussion by the Board. Supervisor Geraci said comments can also be made at the budget hearing. Mrs. Carstensen then asked if there was any update on the issue with the blacktop between the bridge and the beach, noting the area is a real hazard. Supervisor Geraci explained this section involves the State and the County and he has talked with them in the past. He said he will contact them again to see if a decision-making representative can come up and take a look at the issues. He said he will let her know when a representative is coming so she and Poul can talk to them and explain what some of the issues are.

-Poul Carstensen asked if there will be, and could be, more discussion on the Mill Pond Improvement plan, and if it is possible to get a preview of the plan. Supervisor Geraci said he is waiting for confirmation from Barton & Loguidice that they will be at the March meeting with changes to the plan based on comments to date. Mr. Geraci said information will be forthcoming, and stressed that this plan is in the very early stages of development and there will be public hearings as things progress.

-Barb French said she found a company that would take the tires at the Landfill for \$4.00/tire. She said she can also put a limited number of tires in the garbage container at no extra cost now that Waste Management is doing the hauling. She recommends the Board lower the fee for tires from \$0.25/lb. to \$0.20/lb.

RESOLUTION #47-2023

Councilperson Palmer and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 47 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AMEND LANDFILL FEE FOR TIRES

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby amend the Landfill fee schedule to reduce the tire disposal fee from \$0.25 per pound to \$0.20 per pound effective immediately.

Ayes: 4 (Palmer, Hill, Olson, Geraci) Nays: 0

Announcements:

-St. Patrick's Day parade will be Saturday, March 11th.

Adjourn... There being no further business to attend to the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM by MOTION of Councilman Olson and Councilman Hill, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

Town Clerk

Supervisor's Significant Meetings / Activities Report

January 20 – February 16, 2023

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| January 20 | Warren County Board of Supervisors Monthly meeting |
| January 23 | Warren County Board of Supervisors Committee meetings |
| January 24 | Warren County Board of Supervisors Committee meetings |
| January 26 | Adirondack Intercounty Meeting via Zoom |
| January 27 | Lake Champlain Lake George Regional Planning Board ref grant application for the Heintzelman Library restoration project |
| January 27 | Warren County Board of Supervisors Committee meeting, Finance |
| February 1 | Warren County Board of Supervisors Committee meetings |
| February 1 | Lake Champlain Lake George Planning Board & Barton and Loguidice ref Mill Pond project |
| February 1 | Friends of the Library reps ref upcoming projects |
| February 2 | 1-1 meetings with staff members |
| February 3 | Special Warren County Board of Supervisors meeting |
| February 6 | 1-1 meetings with staff members |
| February 8 | 1-1 meetings with staff members |
| February 8 | Lake George TV public informational meeting and demo at Town Hall |
| February 9 | Warren County Board of Supervisors Committee meeting, Occ Tax |
| February 10 | Meetings with financial institutions ref municipal investment opportunities |

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|--------------------|--|
| February 10 | NYS Assoc. of Towns, NYS Budget |
| February 13 | Horicon Historical Society |
| February 15 | Hazard Mitigation follow-up meeting with Warren County and contractor |
| February 15 | Monthly staff meeting |
| February 15 | Meeting with Chester Supervisor ref Youth Commission programs |
| February 16 | Town Board meeting |

Town Board Member Robert Hill
Activity Report 19JAN-16FEB 2023

DATE

ACTIVITY

| | |
|---------|---|
| 2/2/23 | Meeting with Supervisor to discuss 2023 tasks. |
| 2/7/23 | Meeting with Rob W. to discuss priorities of work for facilities, cemeteries and parks. Scheduling summer labor to assist |
| 2/8/23 | LGTV informational meeting: Attended and talked with local business owners and LGTV staff about how they can use this paid for tool to bring business into the community. |
| 2/13/23 | Conducted two interviews for zoning administrator. Scheduled interviews for Dog warden and book keeping. |
| 2/14/23 | Attended winter carnival meeting. |
| 2/14/23 | Met with North Warren Chamber of Commerce to discuss advertising and funding. |
| 2/16/23 | Conducted one interview for zoning administrator and one interview for dog warden. |

TOWN BOARD MEMBER ROBERT E. OLSON

ACTIVITY REPORT

January 20, 2023 – February 16, 2023

| DATE | ACTIVITY |
|--------------|---|
| 02/02 | Town Board Member Meeting with Supervisor on various items |
| 02/08 | Attend Lake George T.V. Informational Meeting |
| 02/15 | Attend Staff Meeting |
| 02/16 | Town of Horicon Town Board Meeting |

Town Board Member – Peter Palmer

Activity Report 1/18-2/15

DATE

ACTIVITY

| | |
|------|--------------------------------------|
| 2/8 | TOWN HALL /ZONING ISSUES |
| 2/13 | TOWN HALL /ZONING OFFICER INTERVIEWS |
| 2/16 | TOWN HALL/ INTERVIEWS |
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