

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

**JUNE 20, 2024
6:00 PM**

Present at meeting:	Michael Geraci	Supervisor
	John Francisco	Councilmember
	Teri Schuerlein	Councilmember
	Ed Sim	Councilmember
	Krista Wood	Town Clerk
Absent:	Kayla Carlozzi Hodgson	Town Councilmember

Also: HS Darian Granger, Assessor Christine Hayes, Barb French, Becky Ross, Bob and Jean Olson, Robin Gotshall, Scott and Amy Olson, Assemblyman Matt Simpson, Senator Dan Stec, Joyce Greenidge, Camille Dougan, Bob and Sylvia Smith, Matt Wood, Allison Gaddy, Jim Ventura, Janet Early, Sarah Brugger, John Dunn, Wayne Butler, Joan Johnson, and Dianne Dreyer Iasevoli.

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

Supervisor Geraci welcomed guests and noted the first order of business would be the administering of the Oath of Office to the newly appointed Town Board members. The Town Clerk administered the Oath of Office to:

- Teri Schuerlein Town Board member
- Edward Sim Town Board member

Recognition of former Town Board member Robert Olson:

Assemblyman Matt Simpson spoke about Bob Olson’s involvement with so many things in the Town of Horicon over the years. He said in honor of Bob, both he and Senator Dan Stec passed resolutions in their respective houses recognizing former Councilman Robert Olson for his many years of service to the Town of Horicon; they then presented Bob with the resolutions.

Senator Stec said Bob has been a good friend of his, a good friend to the Adirondacks, and a good friend to Warren County for many years. He said to be a Board member for twenty-six years is a lot to give, and certainly represents a life of service.

Supervisor Geraci said it has been a pleasure to serve with Bob. He then presented Councilman Bob Olson with a plaque in honor of his devoted commitment to the community throughout his years of service.

Bob Olson thanked everyone and said he is tremendously humbled by this. He said he is proud to have been a member of this Board and to have had the opportunity to serve the Town.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the May 16, 2024 regular meeting and June 12, 2024 special meeting were approved by Motion of Councilmember Schuerlein and Councilmember Sim.

Ayes: 4 (Schuerlein, Sim, Francisco, Geraci) Absent: 1 (Hodgson) Nays: 0

Allison Gaddy, Principal Planner LCLGRP – Comprehensive Plan update:

Supervisor Geraci explained that the Town’s Comprehensive Plan, which was adopted back in 2010, is in serious need of being updated. He said the Town was awarded a grant through the NYS Department of State Smart Growth Comprehensive Planning Grant Program. He said what is needed to move forward is for people to volunteer to be on the Comprehensive Plan Committee; he said they need participation and opinions from the community. Allison Gaddy, Principal Planner of the Lake Champlain Lake George Regional Planning Board explained that a Comprehensive Plan is a document that provides a blueprint for the future. She said it is recommended that the plan be updated every 5 to 10 years to account for the changing characteristics and needs of the community. To do this, Ms. Gaddy said they are looking for an 8-12 member committee that encompasses a broad cross section of the community to work on updating the plan. She then gave an overview of what the process of developing the plan will involve.

Supervisor Geraci asked people to consider getting involved in this project.

Monthly Abstract:

RESOLUTION #91-2024

Councilmember Francisco and Councilmember Schuerlein introduced Res. No. 91 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF JUNE 2024 ABSTRACTS

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize the payment of the June 20, 2024 Vouchers and Abstracts as follows:

General Abstract	#6	\$ 69,491.98
Highway Abstract	#6	\$ 52,155.09

Ayes: 4 (Francisco, Schuerlein, Sim, Geraci) Absent: 1 (Hodgson) Nays: 0

Correspondence to the Board:

Chester Conservation Club	RE: Thank you letter for Town's support of the Fishing Derby
Hartford Steam Boiler/Insur. Co.	RE: Insurance loss prevention and inspection of boiler
NYS Dept of Tax & Finance	RE: Final report of the 2024 State equalization rate

Supervisor Geraci asked Assessor Christine Hayes to talk about the equalization rate. She said the 2024 equalization rate is 88% but the state likes to see the rate at 100%. She explained that when the assessments are lower than the sales then the Town is not running at 100%. She said because of the current inventory and sales the assessments cannot keep up, so, the only way to get back to 100% equalization rate is to do a reval.

Supervisor Geraci said the Board will need to decide whether another reval should be done.

Reports: Town Clerk, Justice, Zoning, Assessor, NWEMS, Transfer Station, Library, Historian, Historical Society,

Supervisor's Report – see copy attached.

Town Board Liaison Reports – see copies attached.

Councilmember Francisco said he does not have anything for this month. He said he wants the record to reflect he does not like how Councilmember Sim was appointed. He added that he has his ice bubbler committee all together now.

Resolutions:

Councilmember Francisco and Councilmember Sim introduced Resolutions #92 to #96 and moved their adoption:

Ayes: 4 (Francisco, Sim, Schuerlein, Geraci) Nays: 0 Absent: 1 (Hodgson)

RESOLUTION #92-2024

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN THE WARREN COUNTY TOURIST & CONVENTION DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize the Supervisor to sign the Warren County Tourist & Convention Development Agreement for their sponsorship of Food Truck Fridays in the amount of \$23,812.00.

RESOLUTION #93-2024

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT FOR FOOD TRUCK FRIDAYS ENTERTAINMENT

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize payment from A6410.4 for entertainment at Food Truck Fridays to be issued as follows:

July 5, 9, Aug 2, 16, 30, 2024 – Natalie Martin \$250.00 per date

- July 12, 26, Aug 9, 23, 2024 – Jim Snack \$250 per date
- July 5, 2024 - \$700 - Willie Playmore Band
- July 5, 2024 - \$300 - Andy Smith & Bob Gagnon
- July 12, 2024 - \$600 - The Po' Boys
- July 19, 2024 - \$500 – Mountain Gators Band
- July 19, 2024 - \$500 - Willie Trio Band
- July 26, 2024 - \$600 - Toss the Feathers
- July 26, 2024 - \$300 - Northern Borne Trio
- Aug. 2, 2024 - \$650 - Andy Smith & Friends
- Aug. 2, 2024 - \$200 - Billy Notemeal
- Aug. 9, 2024 - \$400 - DMT
- Aug. 9, 2024 - \$250 - Andy Gorton & Ralph Lane
- Aug. 16, 2024 - \$550 - Three Quarter North
- Aug. 16, 2024 - \$250 - Michelle & Tyler
- Aug. 23, 2024 - \$700 - Willie Playmore Band
- Aug. 30, 2024 - \$1,750 - Prydein

RESOLUTION #94-2024

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ASSESSOR TO ATTEND NYSAA TRAINING SEMINAR

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize Assessor Christine Hayes to attend the NYSAA training seminar July 15-16, 2024. The cost of the two-day training seminar is \$260.00, and lodging is \$328.04, plus reimbursement for food and mileage; total cost will be split between the Town of Horicon (40%) and the Town of Bolton (60%).

RESOLUTION #95-2024

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

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to send a letter to NYS DOT in support of the Adirondack Marathon to be held September 21 - 22, 2024.

RESOLUTION #96-2024

RESOLUTION TO HIRE JOHN DOWER AS PER-DIEM PARKS & RECREATION LABORER

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby hire John Dower as Parks and Recreation Laborer on a per day basis at a pay rate of \$16.56 per hour effective immediately.

Supervisor Geraci asked Sarah Brugger to explain the Pro-Housing Community program.

Ms. Brugger explained that designation as a Pro-Housing Community allows the Town to apply for grants to address the lack of adequate housing in the community.

RESOLUTION #97-2024

Councilmember Francisco and Councilmember Schuerlein introduced Res. No. 97 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SEND LETTER OF INTENT TO BE A PRO-HOUSING COMMUNITY

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to send a letter of intent to apply for designation as a Pro-Housing Community through NYS Homes and Community Renewal (HCR).

Ayes: 4 (Francisco, Schuerlein, Sim, Geraci) Nays: 0 Absent: 1 (Hodgson)

Old Business

Status of Lifeguards: Supervisor Geraci said, as of now, there are no lifeguards for the Brant Lake beach, and there is just one lifeguard for the beach in Adirondack. He said the Town has advertised for months with no response; lifeguards are very difficult to find. He said if anyone is interested in lifeguarding, or knows someone who might be, please call the Town office for more information.

HORICON TOWN BOARD
REGULAR MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING

JUNE 20, 2024
6:00 PM

Watering tub update: Supervisor Geraci said there was a discussion last month about moving the Watering Tub rock to the Horicon Museum. He said, in summary, after looking at everything the Historical Society has decided not to take the Watering Tub rock. Councilmember Francisco said at the last meeting the Board passed a resolution to move the Watering Tub rock from the SLPD property to the Horicon Museum. Sylvia Smith, President of the Horicon Historical Society, said the Historical Society had said they would take the Watering Tub rock, however, once they looked at it, they realized it was not possible because they have no place to put it. Mrs. Smith said instead, they are offering to put a marker on the Watering Tub rock recognizing the Towns of Schroon Lake, Chestertown, and Horicon, put the date on it, and leave it where it is. She said the Historical Society apologizes but they have rescinded their resolution to accept it.

Supervisor Geraci asked, at this point, that the Town Board work in partnership with the Historical Society on their offer. He said a plaque would be nice and very appropriate. Councilmember Francisco said he has no problem with what happens with the rock, but if the Town wants to gift it to the SLPD they need their approval.

Supervisor Geraci said without any disagreement then, the Town will continue to work with the Historical Society on a design for the plaque.

Status of 2024 significant projects: Supervisor Geraci gave an update on the status of the significant projects the Town is working on.

New Business

Horicon Tourism video: Supervisor Geraci showed the video for the Town of Horicon that was created by Margaret Holmes for Lake George TV. He also acknowledged and thanked Carl Heilman for the use of his photos in the video.

Community Center door repairs:

RESOLUTION #98-2024

Councilmember Francisco and Councilmember Sim introduced Res. No. 98 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE FURTHER REPAIRS TO COMMUNITY CENTER DOORS

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board authorizes additional repair work to the exterior Community Center doors by Versatile Glass at an estimated cost of \$3,755.00.

Ayes: 4 (Francisco, Sim, Schuerlein, Geraci) Nays: 0 Absent: 1 (Hodgson)

Local Law to provide for the use of extraordinary circumstances videoconferencing: Supervisor Geraci said the Town can pass a Local Law that would allow the use of extraordinary circumstances videoconferencing. In order to do this the Town Board will first need to develop a policy and regulations. He said they may have something prepared by the August meeting.

Privilege of the Floor

-John Dunn, President of the BLA, said the ProcellaCor project was successful because of the community involvement and the opportunity to address any concerns people had. He thanked the Town and the community for supporting the BLA. He further acknowledged Bob Olson for his time and dedication to the Town. He noted one last thing, the winter edition of the BLA Brant Laker won #1 in NYS for NYS Federation of Lake Associations.

-Barb French said the Landfill will be open on July 4th.

-Dianne Dreyer Iasevoli said there are lights at Point O' Pines that are on all night long and asked the Town Board if they can do anything about this issue. Supervisor Geraci said he will talk to them and get more information.

HORICON TOWN BOARD
REGULAR MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING

JUNE 20, 2024

6:00 PM

-Wayne Butler explained that Brant Lake is a loon friendly lake, and they currently have two collection tubes on the lake for fishing tackle. He asked the Board if the BLA could put another collection tube at the upper dam. The Board is fine with this.

-Joyce Greenidge asked how long before the work on Palisades Road will be finished. Supervisor Geraci said this is a Warren County road. He said he spoke to Kevin Hajos, Warren County Superintendent of Public Works, who said there is a lot of work that must be done, and it is going to take some time.

Adjourn... There being no further business to attend to the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM by MOTION of Councilmember Sim and Councilmember Francisco, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

Town Clerk

**Supervisor's Significant Meetings / Activities Report
May 17, 2024 – June 20, 2024**

May 17	CSEA Negotiations session
May 17	Discussion with the Warren County Board of Elections ref Town Board vacancy
May 18	Attended fishing derby on Mill Pond
May 20	Meeting with Town Counsel ref finalizing transfer documents for sale of Transfer Station to Northwoods Concrete
May 21	Warren County BOS Committee meetings
May 22	Warren County BOS Committee meetings
May 22	Zoning Clerk applicant interview
May 22	Meeting with LCLGRP, Zoning Admin. & Deputy Supervisor to discuss Comprehensive Plan grant action plan
May 23	Tour with Deputy Supervisor and Parks & Recs staff of all Town owned properties for an assessment of conditions and needs
May 23	North Warren Chamber event
May 24	Review of TD Bank Investment options
May 27	Memorial Day event in Chester
May 28	National Grid ref recurring power outages
May 29	CSEA negotiations session
May 30	Warren County BOS Committee meetings
June 2 & 3	Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages in Lake Placid
June 8 & 9	Woodstock and Woodstock events
June 10	Warren County BOS workshop
June 11	Comprehensive Plan kick-off meeting with NYS DOS & LCLGRP
June 11	Meeting with NYS DEC ref boat launch grounds maintenance
June 12	Adirondack/GFTC Policy Committee meeting
June 12	Meeting with Versatile Glass ref Town Hall door repairs
June 12	Webinar with National Grid ref potential rate changes
June 12	Special Town Board Meeting
June 13	ESSLA event in Schroon Lake
June 13	CSEA Negotiation Session
June 17-18	Out of the office
June 19	Juneteenth, Town Hall closed
June 20	Monthly Town Board Meeting

