

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

**SEPTEMBER 19, 2019  
7:00 PM**

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

Also: John Donovan, Tom Johansen, Joyce Greenidge, Bill McGhie, Pete Palmer, Pat Farrell, Rich and Joanne Nawrot, Zack Monroe, ZA Jim Steen, Wayne Lamothe, Gary Frenz, Robert French, HS Darian Granger, Matt Wood, Bob Smith, Ross Schoembs, Tom Hutchins, Kris Remington, Linda Remington, Brandon Himoff, Jim Martin, and Jeremy Monti.

Supervisor Simpson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**LA Group – First Wilderness Heritage Corridor presentation:** Jim Martin of the LA Group gave a presentation on the First Wilderness Heritage Corridor plan they are working on for the Town of Horicon. They will have one more meeting before finalizing the Horicon plan.

**Local Board of Health...**

A Motion was made by Councilperson Olson, seconded by Councilperson Higgins, to go into session as the Local Board of Health. The Board moved into session as Local Board of Health at 7:24 PM.

**Public Hearing -Remington (Wesleyan Church) septic variance request / tax map #88.7-1-3:**

-Supervisor Simpson opened the public hearing for the septic variance request at 6692 State Route 8.

-Tom Hutchins, Hutchins Engineering, reviewed the proposal to install a replacement wastewater disposal system designed to serve a proposed three-bedroom residence.

-Councilperson Olson asked if this is the same system that was proposed for a previous project at this location. Mr. Hutchins responded that conceptually it is the same system, however it is sized smaller.

Supervisor Simpson said there is no other location on the property for the system. He added that it is definitely better than what is currently there and will alleviate the existing issues.

**RESOLUTION #107-2019**

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Higgins introduced Res. No. 107 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO GRANT VARIANCE FOR A REPLACEMENT SEPTIC SYSTEM AT 6692 STATE ROUTE 8**

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board acting as Local Board of Health, based on the receipt of a set of stamped plans from Hutchins Engineering (project #291312A-01), and the \$100.00 variance fee, does hereby grant a variance for a replacement septic system at 6692 State Route 8, Brant Lake (Tax Map #88.7-1-30) because the strict application of the minimum setback requirements, or the minimum lot size requirement, would result in a specified practical difficulty to the applicant. Further, the alternative proposed would not be materially detrimental to the purpose of this regulation, or to the property or natural resources in the area in or near the site of the proposed individual sewage disposal system, or otherwise conflict with the description, purpose, or the objectives of any plan or policy of the Town, and that the alternative proposed is the minimum variance which would alleviate the specified practical difficulty as found by the Board to affect the applicant.

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

**Septic Variance request for 206 East Shore Dr / Derr / tax map #36.3-3-15:**

-Zack Monroe, Winchip Engineering, explained the proposal to install a replacement wastewater disposal system on the Derr's property that will serve an existing three-bedroom home. Mr. Monroe said there are currently

two seepage pits on the property which they plan to remove. They will replace the seepage pits with an aerobic enhanced treatment unit which is designed to maximize all of the separation distances. He added this is the best, and only, location on the property to place the system. Mr. Monroe explained that the proposed system would require the following variances: 1) proposed absorption field to drilled well #1, 100' required, 78.6' proposed, variance of 21.4' requested; 2) proposed absorption field to drilled well #2, 100' required, 49.6' proposed, variance of 50.4' requested; 3) proposed absorption field to drilled well #3, 100' required, 93.8' proposed, variance of 6.2' requested; 4) proposed absorption field to property line, 10' required, 5.8' proposed, variance of 4.2' requested; 5) proposed absorption field to existing home, 20' required, 5.6' proposed, variance of 14.4' requested.

-Councilperson Olson said this seems to be a pretty severe request in his view and would like to refer this to Cedarwood for review. He asked what would be in the flow path of the system. Mr. Monroe said the only well that is in the direct flow path is the owner's well and they will be providing UV treatment on the owner's well. Councilperson Olson said he does not feel qualified to make a decision on this and would like Cedarwood to review the proposal.

-ZA Steen said, in his opinion, he does not feel it is necessary to refer this to Cedarwood. He said Winchip Engineering is proposing a Norweco system along with UV treatment of the well. ZA Steen noted that if a standard system was being proposed he would agree that it should be referred, but in this case being that it is an enhanced treatment system he feels it is unnecessary.

-Councilperson Hill and Higgins agreed with Councilperson Olson that it should be referred to Cedarwood as the proposed separation distances seem very tight.

**RESOLUTION #108-2019**

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 108 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO SET PUBLIC HEARING**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon, acting in its capacity as the Local Board of Health, considers the application made by Winchip Engineering for a septic variance at 206 East Shore Drive in Adirondack complete, and does hereby set a Public Hearing for Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Horicon Community Center pending review by Cedarwood Engineering.

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

**Septic Variance request for 2 Burnt Pond Estates Rd / Cowell / tax map #105.-2-19:**

-Zack Monroe, Winchip Engineering, explained the proposal to install a new enhanced treatment unit, a Presby system, that is designed to serve a new four-bedroom home. He said they are requesting a 58.3' variance for the proposed absorption field to the mean high-water mark of Burnt Pond where 100' is required and they are proposing a 41.7' setback. Mr. Monroe noted this parcel is mostly ledge and what is not ledge is almost vertical, therefore this is the farthest area from the lake that provides adequate soil for placement of the system. He said there is an existing cabin on the property but does not know if there is any type of septic system there.

-Supervisor Simpson asked if Cowell's are planning on building on the property; Mr. Monroe said yes. He then asked what the difference is between the Presby and the Norweco systems. Mr. Monroe explained they both use their own system, but both accomplish the same thing, and both are classified as NSF 40 approved enhanced treatment systems.

**RESOLUTION #109-2019**

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Higgins introduced Res. No. 109 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO SET PUBLIC HEARING**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon, acting in its capacity as the Local Board of Health, considers the application made by Winchip Engineering for a septic variance at 2 Burnt Pond Estates Rd in Brant Lake complete, and does hereby set a Public Hearing for Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Horicon Community Center.

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

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 7:40 PM.

**Regular Meeting...**

**Reports:** Supervisor, Town Clerk, Zoning, Justice, Assessor, and Museum Secretary

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of August 15 and September 5, 2019 were approved by Motion of Councilperson Smith and Councilperson Olson.

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

**Approval of Vouchers and Abstracts:**

**RESOLUTION #110-2019**

Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Smith introduced Res. No. 110 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF SEPTEMBER 2019 ABSTRACTS**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the payment of the September 19, 2019 Vouchers and Abstracts as follows:

General Abstract	9	\$ 69,782.59
Highway Abstract	9	\$ 19,125.38
Adk Church Museum	9	\$ 10,490.00

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

**Correspondence to the Board...**

- Jim Steen RE: Letter of Resignation from Zoning Administrator position

Supervisor Simpson expressed regret at having to accept Jim's resignation, but thanked him for all he has done.

**Resolutions...**

**RESOLUTION #111-2019**

Councilperson Smith and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 111 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO SET BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby set a Budget Workshop Meeting for Monday, October 7, 2019 at 8:00 am to discuss the 2020 Preliminary Budget.

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

**RESOLUTION #112-2019**

Councilperson Higgins and Councilperson Smith introduced Res. No. 112 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO RE-APPOINT KAREN BURKA TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby re-appoint Karen Burka to a new term on the Horicon Board of Assessment Review. The new term is to run from October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2024.

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

**RESOLUTION #113-2019**

Councilperson Smith and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 113 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN PLEDGE TO REDUCE ROAD SALT MOU**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the Supervisor to sign the Pledge to Reduce Road Salt MOU along with a letter urging NYS DOT to take action on this matter.

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

**RESOLUTION #114-2019**

Councilperson Smith and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 114 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ORKIN SERVICE CONTRACT FOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNEX**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the Supervisor to sign an agreement with Orkin Pest Control for monthly services at the Historical Society Annex in Adirondack; the first treatment will be \$350.00 and thereafter will be \$95.00 every other month.

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

**RESOLUTION #115-2019**

Councilperson Higgins and Councilperson Olson introduced Res. No. 115 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ATTENDANCE AT NORTH COUNTRY STORMWATER TRADESHOW & CONFERENCE**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize interested members of the Zoning and Planning Boards to attend the North Country Stormwater Tradeshow and Conference in Queensbury on October 17, 2019. The cost is \$95.00 per person plus reimbursement for food and mileage.

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

**RESOLUTION #116-2019**

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 116 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:

*General Fund...*

<b><u>From:</u></b>	<b><u>To:</u></b>	<b><u>Amount:</u></b>
A1990.4 (Conting.)	A7510.4 (Historical-Contr)	\$2,000.00

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

**Committee Reports...**

-*Robert French*, Horicon Rep to NWEMS, reported the Squad had 51 runs (31 for Chester, 11 for Horicon, and 9 mutual aid calls), they are finalizing their budget for submittal to the towns, and they are moving forward in a positive manner.

-*Councilperson Sylvia Smith* reported on the following:

-The trees in the Brant Lake Cemetery have been removed and the company did a wonderful job. Photos were taken throughout the process and she will be putting together a photo album of the project.

-She is looking for the right person to do the cemetery headstone repair work. She has also spoken to Greg Bolton who can do the repair work for \$22 an hour.

-She and Councilperson Hill met with the Library Trustees to discuss the 2020 Budget. She also noted how wonderful the library looks.

-She is still hearing feedback on Food Truck Fridays. She said the final two dates drew 1200 and 1700 people respectively, and an awesome job was done by all. She added how conscientious the community was of trash as the grounds were always so clean at the end of each night.

-She and Councilperson Olson have interviewed one candidate for the Justice position and have one more potential candidate to interview.

-The fourth-grade class from North Warren CSD visited the Museum recently and it was the most successful student tour the Historical Society has ever had. She said the kids had a great experience.

-She said Mary Ann Hill accepted the CFGMR grant for the Horicon Historical Society and Supervisor Simpson accepted the CFGMR grant for the Town of Horicon. She noted the presentations were awesome.

-The final committee meeting for the First Wilderness plan will be October 1<sup>st</sup> at 1:00pm.

-She noted that Rich and Joanne Nawrot have done a wonderful job taking care of the Adirondack sign planter and it looks very nice. She said Karen Gereau helped her with the mums in the Brant Lake flower beds. She said the mums were donated by Karen Gereau, herself, Bobby Smith, and Teri Schuerlein. She also thanked Bonnie Rosbozom for doing a wonderful job taking care of the flowers.

-*Councilperson Bob Olson* said it was brought up at the last meeting that the duck was in need of repair. He spoke to Eric Isaachsen who will take a look at the duck to see what it needs.

**Old Business...**

**Woods Mower Bids:** The Clerk advertised for bids for the Woods mower. One bid was received and opened September 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:52 pm. Carl Younes bid \$226.00 for the Woods mower.

**RESOLUTION #117-2019**

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Higgins introduced Res. No. 117 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO AWARD BID FOR MOWERS**

WHEREAS, the Town Board advertised for bids for the Woods mower that had previously been declared as surplus, and one bid was received and opened on September 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:52 PM, now, therefore be it, RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby award the bid for the Woods mower to Carl Younes for a bid price of \$226.00.

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

**Possible sale of property / Emma Jones:** Supervisor Simpson explained that Emma Jones has asked if the Town would sell a 50' x 100' piece of property that adjoins her property to use for a beehive. He asked if the Board members had been up to the property to look it over and what their thoughts were. He explained there is a process the Town would go through if the Board decides they want to sell it. Councilperson Olson looked at the property but could not find the pins. There was discussion back and forth. Councilperson Hill said he is not in favor of selling it. Councilperson Olson said he will meet with HS Granger to see where the line is and report back at the October meeting.

**Community Center Parking Lot:** Supervisor Simpson spoke with Kevin Hajos about the parking lot. He said Kevin Hajos now feels the parking lot should be milled, rather than just re-paved, which would increase the cost by \$5,000 over what he quoted in the spring. The total to mill the parking lot and then pave it will be \$35,000.00.

**RESOLUTION #118-2019**

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Higgins introduced Res. No. 118 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR PARKING LOT PAVING**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the additional expenditure for milling and paving of the Horicon Community Center parking lot, under the current contract with Warren County, at an additional cost not to exceed \$5,000.00, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes the Bookkeeper to make the following Budget Amendment in the General Fund to reduce the unexpended fund balance to cover the additional cost of the paving project:

Debit	A599.....Appropriated Fund Balance.....	\$ 5,000.00
Credit	A1620.4.....Buildings-Contractual.....	\$ 5,000.00

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

***New Business...***

Compensation for Interim Town Justice: Supervisor Simpson said Dave Cavanaugh has asked for the balance of the prior Justice's salary. He said Mr. Cavanaugh gets a stipend of \$125 per court session from OCA but he is requesting further compensation. Supervisor Simpson said the Board is not obligated to compensate him. The Board agreed he will not receive compensation from the Town as he is already getting paid.

1881 Union Church Project: Supervisor Simpson said the 1881 Union Church project should be done next week.

Electronics Recycling Fee: Supervisor Simpson said he was recently notified that the Town's pricing structure from the electronics recycler is based on a rebate the recycler receives from DEC. If the Town charges a fee for disposal of electronics then it violates the DEC rebate, DEC will not give the recycler the rebate, and the Town will end up paying a higher fee to the recycler. Supervisor Simpson said they can either waive the Landfill fee for the disposal of electronics and assume the cost, or they can raise the fee to the residents. The Board agreed to waive the fee for now and then monitor the costs and make changes accordingly. Supervisor Simpson will confirm with the County what the effective date of this change will be and then notify the Landfill.

**RESOLUTION #119-2019**

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Higgins introduced Res. No. 119 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO ELIMINATE FEE FOR DISPOSAL OF ELECTRONICS**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby amend the Horicon Landfill fee schedule to eliminate the fee for disposal of electronics at the Landfill.

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

Compactor Repair: Supervisor Simpson said the repairs are complete on the compactor and it is working great. It will be serviced approximately every three months going forward.

Fountain Repair: Supervisor Simpson said the fountain repair should be complete around the middle of the first week in October. He said Roger Houck recommends sealing the fountain in the spring each year.

***Privilege of the Floor...***

-Rich Nawrot asked if the Town is considering re-instating the BTI program. Supervisor Simpson said they did get a quote for the BTI program and it was about \$90,000 - \$100,000 for a three-year program. He explained that for reference, \$15,000 is all that can be raised in taxes in order to stay under the tax cap, therefore the Board does not feel this is feasible. It was noted that other towns have the program but are paying less than what was quoted to Horicon and they still have black flies. There was further discussion on the topic. The Board feels the cost is too great.

**Adjourn...** There being no further business to attend to the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM by MOTION of Councilperson Higgins and Councilperson Hill, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Town Clerk