

HORICON TOWN BOARD
REGULAR MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING

OCTOBER 17, 2019
7:00 PM

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

Also: Pete Palmer, Pat Farrell, Gary Frenz, Brandon Himoff, Joan Johnson, Assessor Christine Hayes, ZA Jim Steen, Brett Winchip, Zack Monroe, Bob Smith, Robert French, Dean and Peg Munson, and Susan Purdy.

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. Supervisor Simpson opened the first public hearing.

Public Hearing #1 - Septic Variance request at 206 East Shore Dr / Derr / tax map #36.3-3-15

-Zack Monroe, Winchip Engineering, reviewed the proposal to install a replacement wastewater disposal system.

-Councilperson Olson noted the severe slope and the huge boulders that would need to be removed; he asked if the owners have spoken with a contractor yet. Mr. Monroe said they have not. He said the advantage of the location is the system will be going into existing grade. Councilperson Olson asked if Mr. Monroe had received a copy of Cedarwood's comments; Mr. Monroe said he has.

-Mr. Monroe then reviewed Cedarwood's comments, the first being the request for the model number of the treatment unit. Mr. Monroe said they found out the system they proposed is no longer available, therefore they will need to use a different system. He noted the newer system will require several more variances because the it is bigger. He provided the Board with updated plans showing the new system, and explained the additional variances are for the separation distance from the tank to the house and the tank to the effluent property line. He noted that although there are more variances needed with this new system, it is a more advanced system and is better at treating wastewater than the old style.

-Councilperson Olson asked on Cedarwood's recommendation for a perc test on the fill that is brought in. Mr. Monroe noted that Cedarwood's comment on this is not applicable. He explained there is no perc rate requirement with this project because the system trenches are going into existing grade. Councilperson Olson asked about Cedarwood's comment regarding the Anoxic Chamber. Mr. Monroe said the Anoxic Chamber is already a built-in part of the enhanced treatment unit, so he is not sure why Cedarwood included that.

-Councilperson Olson said he feels the monitoring system should be universal to any of these systems. Mr. Monroe said the Town should be getting yearly maintenance reports on these types of systems already. Councilperson Olson said his concern is that at any given time they can be turned off and become just a normal septic system. He noted it would be substantially better than the existing, but not as effective as it would be if it were running.

-Mr. Monroe noted the system does not just revert to a regular septic if it is shut off, it actually would not function properly and would likely clog. He further noted the monitoring company is going to know if the system has been shut off at any point.

-Councilperson Olson suggested delaying a decision for another month to allow them additional time to review. Mr. Monroe and ZA Steen said the adjoining landowners would need to be re-noticed in light of the changes to the system anyway.

There were no further comments at this time. The Board will leave the public hearing open and re-convene at the next meeting. In the meantime, adjoining landowners will be re-noticed with the new information. ZA Steen said he will speak with Cedarwood about the Board's questions on several of the recommendations Cedarwood made.

Public Hearing #2 - Septic Variance request at 2 Burnt Pond Estates Rd / Cowell / tax map #105.-2-19)

-Zack Monroe, Winchip Engineering, reviewed the proposal to install a new enhanced treatment system, a Presby system, at 2 Burnt Pond Estates Rd that will serve a new four-bedroom residence. He said a variance is needed for the setback to Burnt Pond. Mr. Monroe explained that this is the only location on the property that is feasible as the rest of the property is either pure rock or vertical.

-Supervisor Simpson agreed there is no other alternative for placement of the system.

-Councilperson Olson agreed as well. He then asked Mr. Monroe how the Presby system works. Mr. Monroe said that basically the system maximizes surface area for bacteria to grow on. Councilperson Olson said the proposal is exactly what should be required.

There being no further comments Public Hearing #2 was closed at 7:20 PM.

RESOLUTION #120-2019

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Higgins introduced Res. No. 120 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO GRANT VARIANCE FOR A SEPTIC SYSTEM AT 2 BURNT POND ESTATES ROAD

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board acting as Local Board of Health, based on the receipt of a set of stamped plans from Winchip Engineering (project #19-063), and the \$100.00 variance fee, does hereby grant a variance for an alternative septic system at 2 Burnt Pond Estates Road, Brant Lake (Tax Map #105.-2-19) 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

A Motion was made by Councilperson Higgins, seconded by Councilperson Olson, to move back into regular session. The Board moved back into regular session at 7:21 PM.

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Supervisor Simpson took a moment to recognize the recent tragic loss of a good member of the community – Joe Turcotte. He said his time at the Town was appreciated, and he will be greatly missed.

Regular Meeting...

Reports... Supervisor, Town Clerk, Zoning, Justice, Assessor, and Historian

Approval of Minutes... Minutes of September 19 and October 7, 2019 were approved by Motion of Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Olson.

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

Approval of Vouchers and Abstracts...

RESOLUTION #121-2019

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Smith introduced Res. No. 121 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF OCTOBER 2018 ABSTRACTS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the payment of the October 17, 2019 Vouchers and Abstracts as follows:

General Abstract	10	\$ 77,803.73
Highway Abstract	10	\$ 18,596.57
Perpetual Care	10	\$ 19,000.00

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

Correspondence to the Board:

- APA RE: Letter of response on Remington (Wesleyan Church property) septic variance
- Assoc. of Towns RE: Information packet for 2020 Training School and Annual Meeting

Resolutions:

RESOLUTION #122-2019

Councilperson Smith and Councilperson Olson introduced Res. No. 122 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE FIRST WILDERNESS HERITAGE CORRIDOR PLAN

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby accept the final Town of Horicon First Wilderness Plan as prepared by the LA Group.

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

RESOLUTION #123-2019

Councilperson Smith and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 123 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION URGING SENATOR ELIZABETH O'C. LITTLE TO PROPOSE LEGISLATION TO THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO INCLUDE TOWN OF HORICON AS PART OF THE INTERCOASTAL WATERWAY SYSTEM- PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon hereby requests that Legislation be introduced in the State Legislature to include Brant Lake as part of the Intercoastal Waterway System so that the lakes would be eligible for funding under the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program, and be it further RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Town of Horicon be, and hereby is, authorized and directed to forward copies of this Resolution to Senator Elizabeth O'C. Little.

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

RESOLUTION #124-2019

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 124 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE AGREEMENT WITH WARREN COUNTY FOR 2020 ROADWAY MAINTENANCE

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize Supervisor Simpson to sign the contract with Warren County for roadway maintenance for 2020 according to the 2020 Schedule A Highway Payment Rate. Compensation to the Town of Horicon from Warren County will be in the amount of \$263,973.00, of which \$10,000.00 will be used for equipment upgrades.

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

RESOLUTION #125-2019

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Higgins introduced Res. No. 125 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AMEND EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby amend the Employee Handbook to reflect the updated Sexual Harassment Policy as adopted in Resolution #152 of 2018.

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

RESOLUTION #126-2019

Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Olson introduced Res. No. 126 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT FOR NEW HIGHWAY TRUCK

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize payment to Carmody Ford in the amount of \$32,845.00 for the new 2019 Ford F250 Highway Truck. This is to come out of Machinery – Equipment DA5130.2.

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

RESOLUTION #127-2019

Councilperson Higgins and Councilperson Olson introduced Res. No. 127 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT BUDGET 2020 PRELIMINARY BUDGET AND SET PUBLIC HEARING

WHEREAS, the Budget Officer has prepared a tentative budget for the Town of Horicon for 2020 and said Budget has been reviewed by the Town Board and certain changes have been made, NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby adopt the tentative Budget as the Preliminary Budget for 2020, AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby set a public hearing for said Budget on Thursday, October 24, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Horicon Community Center.

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

Committee Reports...

-NWEMS representative Robert French reported that the squad had 47 runs.

-Councilperson Sylvia Smith reported on the following:

-On October 1st the final advisory committee meeting was held for the First Wilderness plan. They decided to keep a local committee together to keep things moving forward. Committee members, besides Councilperson Smith, are Bill McGhie, Rich Nawrot, Brandon Himoff (Chair), Teri Schuerlein, Steve Mullins, Drew Cappabianca, and Supervisor Simpson. Their next meeting is October 29th at 9:00 am.

-On October 3rd she attended the Salt Summit in Lake Placid and there were quite a few towns present. She said Horicon was recognized, along with twenty-four others, for their pledge to reduce road salt.

-Two candidates have been interviewed for the Zoning Administrator so far, one of which has since withdrawn, and she is trying to set up an interview with the third candidate. She would like to advertise again. There will also be another interview for the Justice position.

-Kevin Kilcullen, Beautification, will be done for the season on Friday, October 18th and will be on call as needed. Rob Wallace will work through the end of November.

-Updated website photos for those interested will be done after November 5th.

Old Business...

Health Insurance: Supervisor Simpson gave the Board the updated quote for health insurance costs for retirees and those on Medicare. He asked the Board to review the information so a decision can be made at the November 21st meeting.

2020 Budget: Supervisor Simpson said the changes made to the 2020 Budget at the workshop meeting held on October 7th have been made as follows:

-Buildings - Personnel Services increased. Councilperson Smith worked with Vicki Monthony (Cleaning Custodian) regarding her job duties. Councilperson Smith said Vicki averages 29.5 hours a week and recommended increasing her to 35 hours a week. This is based on the addition of cleaning the Museum once a week along with her other duties. Councilperson Olson felt this was reasonable.

-Buildings – Contractual increased \$5,500 for a concrete slab for the metal pile at the Landfill. Councilperson Hill asked if this was necessary; Supervisor Simpson said he agrees with Steve Smith that it is necessary.

-Dog Control – Personnel Services increased to \$6,000 per year.

-Zoning – Contractual increased to cover \$500 per year for Deputy Zoning Administrator, an increase in ZBA & PB meeting fees from \$25/meeting to \$35/meeting, and an increase for ZBA and PB Chairpersons from \$750/year to \$900/year.

-Capital Outlay in the amount of \$3,500 was deleted because the Town did not get the grant.

-Health Insurance increased \$10,000 from 2019.

-Highway Transfer to balance Highway in the amount of \$171.

-Fire Protection District increased from \$217,973 to \$253,973 for a building fund.

-Amount of unexpended fund balance being used in the preliminary budget is \$273,217.00.

1881 Union Church: Supervisor Simpson said the 1881 Union Church is close to being done.

New Business...

Adirondack Welcome Sign: Peg Munson explained to the Board that each year they collect a vendor fee at the Adirondack garage sale. She has two years' worth of vendor fees and they would like permission to put a "Welcome to Adirondack" sign on Red Wing Road. She asked the Board if they would be willing to contribute \$200 towards the sign if the Town logo is on it. Mrs. Munson also asked if the Town could put up the sign post. There was agreement among the Board that the sign and post could be paid for with Occ Tax money. She will meet with ZA Steen to review the zoning rules for signs and also find out who owns the property that they are hoping to place the sign on.

Privilege of the Floor...

-Susan Purdy spoke to the Board on behalf of residents of Adirondack who are requesting the Town re-instate the BTI program. She said the black flies are so bad that many of the people who go to Florida for the winter are now coming back later in the spring to avoid them. She asked the Board to re-visit this issue.

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Supervisor Simpson explained that the Board has looked into this, but the cost is just too high and there are no alternatives. Ms. Purdy asked if there were any grants available that could help offset the cost; Supervisor Simpson said there are not.

Adjourn... There being no further business to attend to the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 PM by MOTION of Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Higgins, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

Town Clerk