

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

**JULY 16, 2020
7:00 PM**

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

Also: ZA Scott Olson, Brett Winchip, HS Darian Granger, Craig Relyea, Assessor Christine Hayes, Bill McGhie, and Teri Schuerlein.

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

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

Local Board of Health...

1) Public Hearing -Kney/Wilson septic variance request / tax map #72.13-1-23:

Supervisor Simpson opened the Public Hearing regarding the septic variance request at 13 Brant Lake Estates Loop in Brant Lake.

Bret Winchip, Winchip Engineering, reviewed the proposal once again. He explained the proposed system actually eliminates two existing non-conformities related to the neighbor's wells and will require one variance of 21.9' for the absorption bed to the owner's well.

Councilperson Olson asked Mr. Winchip to explain in detail what will change from what is currently on the property to what is being proposed. Mr. Winchip explained that currently the owner has a seepage pit which is only 113.1' from the westerly neighbor's drilled well and 117.3' from the easterly neighbor's well. He said the required separation to each well is 150' . Mr. Winchip explained that with the proposed system the required separation distance of the absorption bed to each of the neighboring drilled wells is 100' and the proposal is well within that 100' separation, therefore, the two existing non-conformities will be eliminated. He said the owner's drilled well is supposed to have a separation distance of 150' to the existing seepage pit, however, it is 89' from the drilled well. Mr. Winchip said the proposed absorption bed to the owner's drilled well is 78.1' where 100' is required, and although they require a variance of 21.9' it is a vast improvement over the existing system.

Councilperson Olson agreed this is substantially better and also said he feels this is the best possible solution.

ZA Olson said he had not received any inquiries or comments on this.

Supervisor Simpson closed the Public Hearing at 7:05 pm.

RESOLUTION #75-2020

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 75 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO GRANT VARIANCE FOR AN ALTERNATIVE SEPTIC SYSTEM AT 13 BRANT LAKE ESTATES LOOP IN BRANT LAKE

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 #20-015), and the \$100.00 variance fee, does hereby grant a variance for an alternative septic system at 13 Brant Lake Estates Loop, Brant Lake (Tax Map #72.13-1-23) 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, Hill, Smith, Palmer, Simpson) Nays: 0

2 – Septic Variance request - Lakeview Drive, Blue Sky Estates / Halvorsen / tax map #36.12-1-36:

Mr. Winchip said this will be postponed until the August meeting.

A Motion was made by Councilperson Olson, seconded by Councilperson Hill, to go back into regular session. The Board moved back into **regular session** at 7:07 PM.

Regular Meeting...

LOSAP Administration: Craig Relyea, Firefly Admin Inc., gave a presentation to the Board regarding his company's approach to LOSAP administration.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of June 24, 2020 were approved by Motion of Councilperson Smith and Councilperson Olson.

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

Approval of Vouchers and Abstracts:

RESOLUTION #76-2020

Councilperson Smith and Councilperson Olson introduced Res. No. 76 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF JULY 2020 ABSTRACTS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the payment of the July 16, 2020 Vouchers and Abstracts as follows:

General Abstract	7	\$ 44,911.63
Highway Abstract	7	\$ 22,179.53

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

Correspondence to the Board...

- Robert French RE: Letter of resignation as Horicon NWEMS rep
- Gerald Delaney RE: Statement condemning racist acts

Discussion on Correspondence:

-Supervisor Simpson explained the email from Mr. Delaney was in regard to a statement that had been prepared condemning racist acts after what happened in Saranac Lake recently. Mr. Delaney had reached out to see if any of the Board members would like to sign the statement. Councilperson Olson said he did not think it was right to support just one single issue with all of the extreme unrest that is

going on throughout the country. He feels it would be important to support the local law enforcement in some manner. He also expressed concern that signing on could be misconstrued as support of the whole philosophy behind the issue at hand. Councilperson Hill agreed. Supervisor Simpson said the statement covers more than just the racist act in Saranac Lake, noting it condemns all acts of racism and discrimination. There was lengthy discussion on whether or not to sign on to this.

RESOLUTION #77-2020

Councilperson Palmer and Councilperson Smith introduced Res. No. 77 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT STATEMENT AGAINST RACISM

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby support the Adirondack Park LGRB statement condemning any and all actions of racism and discrimination and instead promoting a culture and community of mutual respect for all.

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

Resolutions...

RESOLUTION #78-2020

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Smith introduced Res. No. 78 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AGREEMENT TO EXPEND HIGHWAY MONIES

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby approve the 2020 Agreement to Expend Highway Monies, submitted by the Highway Superintendent, in the amount of \$78,847.30 for reconstruction on a 5,280' section between 230 Beaver Pond Rd and the Johnson Rd intersection.

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

RESOLUTION #79-2020

Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Olson introduced Res. No. 79 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE CLERK TO ADVERTISE FOR HORICON NWEMS REPRESENTATIVE

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the Clerk to advertise for a Horicon NWEMS representative.

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

Committee Reports...

-Councilperson Sylvia Smith updated the Board on the following:

-She thanked Teri and Paul Schuerlein for donating and planting the additional flowers for the box by the stop sign.

-The Beautification crew did a great job on the monument park in Adirondack and also leveled out the area around the sign near the boat wash station in Adirondack.

-There was a ceremony held at the Adirondack monument park to celebrate the hanging of three local veteran's banners.

-The beaches did open following the state guidelines. There are not enough lifeguards so the beach in Adirondack has been closed a couple of days, however, the Millpond beach has stayed on a regular schedule.

-Greg Bolton is on target to finish the cemetery headstone repair project.

-There were 57-1/2 bags of milfoil harvested from high traffic sites in Schroon Lake during the week of June 27th; this is less than was harvested in 2019.

Old Business...

Review Landfill fee schedule: Supervisor Simpson expressed the need to review the current landfill fee schedule and consider some possible increases. The Board will review the fee schedule to determine what adjustments are needed.

Supervisor Simpson said he met with Joe Brand, and landfill employees Barb French and Steve Smith, to discuss the bottle redemption. Mr. Brand said he would come and pick up the bottles, he will sort them, and he will pay the town 5-1/2 cents per bottle. Supervisor Simpson said he will require a check be sent every two weeks so the Board can monitor this. He will have Counselor Schachner draw up a contract if the Board is in favor. The Board agreed to move forward with the contract with Mr. Brand for the bottles.

New Business...

Removal of bathrooms in Adirondack: Councilperson Hill explained that the existing bathrooms in Adirondack were never built right because the septic pipes are in the concrete floor. He suggested tearing the existing building down and put up a 16'x8' building in its place. Supervisor Simpson suggested the Town could possibly get volunteers to put up the new building. The Board agreed the building will be torn down in the fall.

Removal of tree in lake: Supervisor Simpson has had a request to remove a tree that came down in the 2019 Halloween storm and has floated down the lake. He noted the tree is not on town property and it is not on private property. Supervisor Simpson said if the Board is in support of removing the tree they would need to get a permit from DEC and do an RFP. The Board is not in support of removing the tree.

Privilege of the Floor...

-Assessor Hayes asked the Board if they had put any more thought into the reval; do they want to do a reval, do they not want to do a reval, or are they still thinking about it. Supervisor Simpson said he wants to do a reval and feels it is a good time to do one. Councilperson Hill asked if Chestertown is interested in doing one; Assessor Hayes said she does not believe they are but is not sure. Councilperson Olson asked if she has any estimates yet; Assessor Hayes said she is still waiting on that information. Councilperson Olson agreed that the time is right, and the Town should move forward with a revaluation.

Executive Session...

Councilperson Olson made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Smith, to go into Executive Session to discuss highway contract negotiations. The Board moved to Executive Session at 8:32 PM.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:55 PM and Councilperson Hill made a motion, seconded by Councilperson Smith, to return to Regular Session. Highway contract negotiations were discussed, and no decisions were made.

Adjourn... There being no further business to attend to the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM by MOTION of Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Olson, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

Town Clerk