

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

**DECEMBER 17, 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: Town Counselor Mark Schachner, Teri Schuerlein, Rob Hill, Bob Smith, Kayla Carlozzi, and Jake Sauer-Jones.

Public Hearing – 2021 Contracts...

Supervisor Simpson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and opened the Public Hearing for the 2021 Contracts.

Jake Sauer-Jones, NWEMS, updated the Board on what has been happening at the Squad and what is included in their 2021 budget.

There being no further comments, Motion was made by Councilperson Olson, seconded by Councilperson Smith, to close the Public Hearing. Public Hearing was closed at 7:08 PM.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of November 19, 2020 were approved by Motion of Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Smith.

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

Approval of December 2020 Vouchers and Abstracts:

RESOLUTION #115-2020

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

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF DECEMBER 2020 ABSTRACTS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the payment of the December 17, 2020 Vouchers and Abstracts as follows:

General Abstracts	12	\$ 52,778.07
Highway Abstracts	12	\$ 36,140.21

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

Correspondence to the Board:

-Sally Graham, SBA	RE: Low interest disaster loans from the SBA
-GF Animal Hospital	RE: No longer providing services to handle stray animals
-Matthew Simpson	RE: Letter of resignation as Horicon Supervisor effective Dec. 31st
-Rob Hill	RE: Letter of interest in vacancy on Town Board

Resolutions:

RESOLUTION #116-2020

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 116 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE 2021 CONTRACTS AND AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN

WHEREAS, the Horicon Town Board held a public hearing on December 17th at 7:00 PM regarding the proposed 2021 Contracts, AND

WHEREAS, the public had the opportunity to speak for or against said contracts at this hearing, NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby approve the following 2021 Contracts and authorizes the Supervisor to sign in the following amounts:

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Emergency Service Provider	\$ 125,850.00
Horicon Historical Society	\$ 500.00
Senior Mini-Bus	\$ 5,120.00
North Warren Chamber of Commerce	\$ 12,664.00
Horicon Free Library	\$ 2,000.00
Horicon Senior Citizens	\$ 1,200.00
Chester-Horicon Health Center	\$ 6,000.00
Snowmobile Club	\$ 3,500.00
Horicon Volunteer Fire Company	\$ 225,000.00
Brant Lake Association (BL milfoil)	\$ 27,480.00
Warren County (SL milfoil)	\$ 12,838.17

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

RESOLUTION #117-2020

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

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PETTY CASH FUND FOR TAX COLLECTION

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the Office of Tax Collector to set up a petty cash fund in the amount of \$200.00 for the 2021 tax collection period.

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

RESOLUTION #118-2020

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

RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH SECOND NOTICE FEE FOR THE 2021 TAX COLLECTION PERIOD

WHEREAS the Town is required by Sec. 987 of the Real Property Tax Law to mail a Notice of Delinquency to landowners who are delinquent in making real property tax payments and charge the landowner a second notice fee of \$1.00, AND

WHEREAS, the mailing of said notices costs the Town postage along with the cost of preparing and handling said notices, NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Second Notice fee be established at \$2.00 for each delinquent notice that is sent, and BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize the Tax Collector of the Town of Horicon to impose the \$2.00 second notice fee on each delinquent notice sent for 2021 to cover the cost of preparing and mailing the delinquent notice.

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

RESOLUTION #119-2020

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

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORE 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:

<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
A1990.4 – Conting.	A1110.4 – Justice Contr.	\$ 1,047.23
A1990.4 – Conting.	A1910.4 – Unemp. Insur.	\$ 20.92
A1990.4 – Conting.	A5182.4 – St. Lights	\$ 900.00
A1990.4 – Conting.	A8160.4 – Landfill Contr.	\$ 4,858.87
A1990.4 – Conting.	A1410.4 – Town Clerk Contr.	\$ 604.86
A1990.4 – Conting.	A8010.4 – Zoning Contr.	\$ 33.17
A1990.4 – Conting.	A9050.8 – Unemp	\$.47
A7310.4 – Youth Contr.	A7310.1 – Youth Pers.	\$ 53.29

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A7310.4 – Youth Contr.	A8010.1 – Zoning Pers.	\$ 1,702.26
A9060.8 – Health Ins.	A1220.102 – Superv. Sec’y	\$10,886.60

Highway:

<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
DA9060.8 – Med Ins	DA9050.8 – Unemp	\$ 6,458.00
DA9060.8 – Med Ins	DA5130.4 – Mach Contr.	\$ 9,173.04
DA9060.8 – Med Ins	DA5142.4 – Snow Contr.	\$ 7,083.21
DA5148.1 – Oth Gov’t	DA5110.4 – GenRpr Contr.	\$ 30,467.00

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

RESOLUTION #120-2020

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

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT TOWN ASSESSOR IN UPDATING OF 2022 ASSESSMENT ROLL

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Horicon supports the efforts of its Town Assessor, Christine Hayes, in updating of the Town’s 2022 Assessment Roll and maintenance of such Assessment Roll at full-market value, and, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby express its support of its Town Assessor, Christine Hayes, in updating of the Town’s 2022 Assessment Roll and maintenance of such Assessment Roll at full market value, and authorizes the allocation of sufficient resources of Town staff and services to complete such project, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board requests that the NYS Office of Real Property Tax Services and the Warren County Office of Real Property Services provide assistance that is typically afforded during such projects to the Horicon Town Assessor, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board authorizes and directs the Town Assessor to send a certified copy of this Resolution to the NYS Office of Real Property Tax Services and the Warren County Office of Real Property Services, and authorizes and directs the Town Supervisor, Town Assessor, and/or Town Clerk to take such other and further actions as may be necessary to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

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

RESOLUTION #121-2020

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

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN CONTRACT WITH MAXWELL APPRAISAL SERVICE

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize Supervisor Simpson to sign the contract with Maxwell Appraisal Service, pending approval by Town Counsel, to complete a Revaluation of all properties in the Town of Horicon by May 1, 2022 at a fee of \$75,000.00. All work performed as per the rules and regulations set forth by NYS ORPTS.

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

RESOLUTION #122-20

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

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR BOOKKEEPER

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the Supervisor to sign a Shared Services Agreement with the Town of Warrensburg to share Bookkeeper services at a cost of \$15,143.25 for the 2021 calendar year.

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

Committee Reports:

Councilperson Smith reported on the following:

-She attended the Warren County Board of Supervisors meeting with Supervisor Simpson on November 20th, and she will be attending again tomorrow December 18th.

-She received a call from Steve Smith at the Landfill who said things are going well. He asked if the Board wanted to drop to one person on Tuesdays and Thursdays now that things have slowed down.

-The windows for the Museum attic have come in and will be installed after Christmas. There is also going to be a drop box installed in the entryway of the Community Center for in-person tax payments.

Councilperson Hill reported on the following:

-Someone sprayed graffiti on the watering tub. He contacted Cliff Gates who had his son remove the graffiti at no charge. The Town should send Mr. Gates a thank you note.

Councilperson Olson reported on the following:

-He met with Rich Blum and Scott Hayes to see what could be done to improve communication between the Fire Department and the Town Board. They told Councilperson Olson to put together a list of questions and information the Board would like, and they will get the information together. He asked Councilperson Smith to meet with him to make a list for the Fire Department.

-He spoke with SLPD alternate Commissioner Neil Brandmaier who expressed concerns over how the SLPD is being handled. He said Mr. Brandmaier feels he is not of much value because his thoughts are not taken seriously. Councilperson Olson said he feels Mr. Brandmaier has some valid points and he will meet with him to review some of the issues.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Waste management rates: Supervisor Simpson said the new rates are in for waste hauling in 2021 and there are significant increases in the rates. He explained that the town budgets are already set by the time the County gets these rates, and when there are significant increases like this it makes it difficult for the towns to cover the costs. Supervisor Simpson said the County has been asked to align their bid process with the towns budget calendar so the towns can budget correctly. The County will review this and try and schedule the bid process so they have the rates sooner.

Highway loader: Supervisor Simpson said HS Granger would like to purchase a new loader for the Highway. HS Granger explained the cab on the 624 loader is rotted out and the differential is bad, both of which are very costly to repair. He said he feels, even though the timing is not the best, it would be better to trade for a new one rather than spend a lot of money repairing it. He noted it is a 2006 loader with over 10,000 miles on it. Councilperson Hill added the dealer is offering the Town a good trade, and the price of the new one will increase 3% after January 1st. Councilperson Olson asked HS Granger how he anticipates paying for the new loader. HS Granger said he believes there is enough in the Highway fund balance to cover the purchase. Councilperson Smith asked if there is any other equipment that would need to be replaced next year (2021). HS Granger said this should be it for 2021. Councilperson Olson asked HS Granger if he feels the Town would need to do a BAN to purchase the loader; HS Granger said that would be up to the Town Board, but again, there is enough in the Highway fund balance to cover the purchase.

RESOLUTION #123-20

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

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF NEW HIGHWAY LOADER

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the purchase of a new Highway Loader at a cost of \$109,970.00 after trade-in to be paid for in 2021 out of the unexpended fund balance.

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

Housing stray animals: Councilperson Olson asked Darian Granger what the plan is for housing stray dogs he picks up. Darian said he has checked with all of the area animal hospitals, as well as some in Washington County, and none of them are contracting with the towns. He said he has left several messages with

Chestertown's Dog Control officer to see if he can make arrangements to use their kennel. He will let the Board know as soon as he finds anything out.

Privilege of the Floor...

-Supervisor Simpson told the Board that he is looking forward to his new opportunity as Assemblyman, however, he is still sad to leave because he has really enjoyed working with everyone at the town. He said he has enjoyed his involvement with the town very much, and he appreciates the support he has received. Supervisor Simpson said he is grateful for his time representing the Town of Horicon.

-Mark Schachner said that he has been Town Counsel for the past nineteen years and he is very proud to have done this, but he noted the last seven or eight years have been particularly gratifying. He wished Supervisor Simpson well.

-Councilperson Smith also wished Supervisor Simpson well. She said she feels he will do a great job.

-Supervisor Simpson also took the opportunity to recognize Dawn Higgins who is retiring on December 31st after twenty-six years with the town. He said she has so much knowledge about the town and how things run and noted it has been invaluable over the years; he expressed his appreciation for all she has done. She will be missed.

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

Respectfully Submitted:

Town Clerk