

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

**DECEMBER 18, 2014  
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: Tom Johansen, Jane Smith, Bill McGhie, Gary Frenz, Dan Freebern, Christine Hayes, Mark Wilson, HS Paul Smith, Tracy Clothier, John Donovan, Zack Monroe, Bret Winchip, and ZA Jim Steen.

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

A Motion was made by Councilperson Hill, seconded by Councilperson Olson, 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 then opened the Public Hearing for the septic variance request at 7837 State Route 8 in Brant Lake.

Zack Monroe, of Winchip Engineering, noted that they had responded to the minor questions Cedarwood Engineering had.

There being no further comments, Motion was made by Councilperson Olson, seconded by Councilperson Hill, to close the Public Hearing. Public Hearing was closed at 7:04 PM.

**RESOLUTION #158-2014**

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 158 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO GRANT VARIANCE FOR AN ALTERNATIVE SEPTIC SYSTEM**

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board, based on the receipt of a set of stamped plans from Bret Winchip Engineering (Project No. 14-082, revised December 15, 2014, and reviewed by Cedarwood Engineering) and the \$100.00 variance fee, does hereby grant a variance for an alternative septic system at 7837 State Route 8 in Brant Lake NY (Tax Map #39.17-1-16). The variance is being granted because the strict application of the minimum setback requirements of Article III, Section D would result in a specified practical difficulty to the applicant because of the small lot size and no other feasible alternatives. 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 variation which would alleviate the specified practical difficulty as found by the Board to affect the applicant.

Ayes: 5 (Olson, Hill, Higgins, Smith, 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 7:07 PM.

**Regular Session...**

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**PUBLIC HEARING: Contracts for 2015**

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Supervisor Simpson opened the Public Hearing for the 2015 Contracts and opened the floor for comments. It was noted that the contract for East Shore Schroon Lake Association should be changed to Warren County Soil and Water.

There being no further comments Motion was made by Councilperson Higgins, seconded by Councilperson Hill, to close the Public Hearing. Public Hearing was closed at 7:10 PM.

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**REGULAR MEETING:**

**Approval of Minutes...** Minutes of November 20, 2014 were approved by Motion of Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Smith. Ayes: 5 (Olson, Smith, Hill, Higgins, Simpson) Nays: 0

**Approval of Vouchers and Abstracts...**

**RESOLUTION #159-2014**

Councilperson Higgins and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 159 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF DECEMBER 18, 2014 ABSTRACTS**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the payment of the December 18, 2014 Vouchers and Abstracts as follows:

General Vouchers	#356-395	\$ 24,589.81
Highway Vouchers	#185-204	\$ 18,749.72
General Abstracts	34 & 36	\$ 21,755.17
Highway Abstracts	34 & 36	\$ 16,013.87

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

**Correspondence to the Board...**

- NYS DEC RE: WQIP Grant denied
- APA Local Gov't. RE: Notification of Smart Grown Grant Program through DEC
- Elaine Balz & Family RE: Note of appreciation to the Horicon Town Board, Planning Board, and ZBA

**Resolutions...**

**RESOLUTION #160-2014**

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Higgins introduced Res. No. 160 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE CONTRACTS FOR 2015 AND AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN**

WHEREAS, the Horicon Town Board held a public hearing on December 18th at 7:00 PM regarding the proposed 2015 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 2015 Contracts and authorizes the Supervisor to sign in the following amounts:

Emergency Service Provider	\$ 59,000.00
Horicon Historical Society	\$ 500.00
Senior Mini-Bus	\$ 4,680.00
North Warren Chamber of Commerce	\$ 6,000.00
Horicon Free Library	\$ 1,000.00
Horicon Senior Citizens	\$ 1,000.00
Chester-Horicon Health Center	\$ 5,000.00
Snowmobile Club	\$ 3,500.00

Brant Lake Foundation	\$ 20,000.00
ESSLA/Warren County Soil & Water	\$ 12,744.00
Horicon Volunteer Fire Company	\$189,000.00

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

**RESOLUTION #161-2014**

Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Smith introduced Res. No. 161 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 2015 tax collection period.

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

**RESOLUTION #162-2014**

Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Olson introduced Res. No. 162 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH SECOND NOTICE FEE FOR THE 2015 TAX COLLECTION PERIOD**

WHEREAS the Town is required by Sec. 987 of the Real Property Tax Law to mail a Notice of Delinquency to land owners 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 to cover the cost of preparing and mailing the delinquent notice.

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

**RESOLUTION #163-2014**

Councilperson Higgins and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 163 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER FUNDS**

RESOLVED, that the Horicon Town Board does hereby authorize the Bookkeeper to make the following fund transfers:

<b><u>From:</u></b>	<b><u>To:</u></b>	<b><u>Amount:</u></b>
<i>General:</i>		
1420.4 (Atty-Contr)	1620.1 (Bldgs-Pers Svc)	\$ 1,500.00
1420.4 (Atty-Contr)	1620.4 (Bldgs-Contr)	\$ 2,000.00
1420.4 (Atty-Contr)	5132.4 (Garage-Contr)	\$ 3,000.00
1420.4 (Atty-Contr)	5182.4 (Street Lights)	\$ 700.00
7132.2 (Youth-Equip)	7132.4 (Youth-Contr)	\$ 500.00
9060.8 (Health)	9030.8 (Soc Sec)	\$ 2,067.08
<i>Highway:</i>		
9060.8 (Med Insur)	5142.1 (Snow Rem-Pers)	\$ 10,493.73

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 164 OF 2014**

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 164 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO SET END OF YEAR MEETING**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby set Monday, December 29, 2014 at 3:00 PM for the end of the year meeting.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 165 OF 2014**

Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Olson introduced Res. No. 165 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO SET ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby set the Organizational Meeting of the Town of Horicon for Tuesday, January 6, 2015 at 3:00 pm.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 166 OF 2014**

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Higgins introduced Res. No. 166 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO SET UP CAPITAL FUND ACCOUNT HA FOR CFA FUNDING FOR EAST SHORE**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the Bookkeeper to set up a Capital Fund account HA for the CFA Funding for East Shore.

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

**RESOLUTION NO. 167 OF 2014**

Councilperson Higgins and Councilperson Smith introduced Res. No. 167 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ATTENDANCE AT SARATOGA COUNTY PLANNING AND ZONING CONFERENCE**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the interested members of the Planning Board and Zoning Board to attend the Saratoga County Planning and Zoning Conference. The Conference is being held in Saratoga Springs on Wednesday, January 28, 2015. The cost is \$70 per person plus reimbursement of mileage.

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

**Committee Reports...**

-Councilperson Smith told the Board that the Adirondack 102 event had a very good turnout.

-Councilperson Olson told the Board that he and ZA Jim Steen had reviewed the new fee schedule and it was working out very well. He also told the Board that there had been discussion on changing the date for Horicon day, but he ultimately decided it would remain the first Saturday in August.

-Supervisor Simpson told the Board that he and John Donovan had met with Ed Bartholomew, WC Economic Development Executive Director, at the Union Church in an effort to move forward with the revitalization. Supervisor Simpson also told the Board that the Town is the recipient of a \$255,000 Local Waterfront Revitalization grant. This was the one the Town did with Beth Gilles from the Lake George/Lake Champlain Regional Planning Board. He explained that there are seven soil and water districts in the watershed that will benefit from this grant. The Town will be the Lead Agency and the monies will be spread out over the entire watershed.

-Councilperson Hill suggested the Board send a Resolution of Appreciation to Elaine Balz and her family for the work that Harry has done for the Town.

**RESOLUTION NO. 168 OF 2014**

The Entire Board introduced Res. No. 168 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCE TO ELAINE BALZ AND FAMILY**

WHEREAS, Harry Balz served the Town of Horicon for many years. He served as Clerk of the Works on the Highway Garage, was involved with the building of the Community Center, served on various Committees, and most recently served as Planning Board Chair, and

WHEREAS, Harry was very knowledgeable and dedicated and worked tirelessly for the Town, and

WHEREAS, those who knew him were saddened by his passing, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board wishes to honor his memory and pay their respects to his wife Elaine and to their family, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board, on behalf of the people of the Town of Horicon, wish to convey to the Balz family their appreciation for Harry's many contributions to the Town and their sincere sympathy and condolences regarding Harry's passing, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Balz family.

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

**Old Business...**

*Scrap Metal bid:* The Board advertised for bids for scrap metal removal and two bids were received. One bid was received from James Barber for \$25.51 per ton, and one bid was received from North Atlantic Trading Corp. for \$215.00 per net ton.

**RESOLUTION NO. 169 OF 2014**

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 169 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO AWARD SCRAP METAL BID**

WHEREAS, the Town Board advertised for bids for the removal of the scrap metal pile at the Landfill and two bids were received.

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby award the bid for the removal of scrap metal to North Atlantic Trading Corp. for the price of \$215.00 per net ton.

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

**New Business...**

*Tracy Clothier – LA Group / Adirondack Smart Growth Grant:* Tracy Clothier, of the LA Group in Saratoga, spoke briefly on the benefits of applying for the Smart Growth Grant through DEC.

*Use of Community Center:* There was discussion on the damage and mess being left by individuals after events and parties at the Community Center. The Board will look into ways to address this issue and will be modifying the Community Center Use policy.

*MOU/Intent to Create Program for Prevention of Introduction of Invasive Species:*

**RESOLUTION NO. 170 OF 2014**

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Higgins introduced Res. No. 170 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN MOU FOR PREVENTION OF INVASIVE SPECIES**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize Supervisor Simpson to sign the Memorandum of Understanding stating the intent of the parties involved to work together to create an effective program for preventing the introduction of aquatic invasive species in the Adirondack region.

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

**Executive Session...**

Councilman Olson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Hill, to move to Executive Session to discuss matters leading to the hiring of a temporary Highway employee and appointments on the Planning Board and Board of Assessment Review, all in favor. The Board moved to Executive Session at 8:15 PM.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:32 PM and Councilman Olson made a motion to return to Regular Session, seconded by Councilman Hill, all in favor. No decisions were made.

*Temporary Highway Employee:*

**RESOLUTION NO. 171 OF 2014**

Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Higgins introduced Res. No. 171 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO HIRE TEMPORARY MEO FOR HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby hire William Warner as a non-union temporary MEO for the Highway Department for the period December 15, 2014 up to March 1, 2015 at a pay rate of \$18.33 per hour with no benefits.

Ayes: 3 (Hill, Higgins, Simpson) Nays: 2 (Olson, Smith)

*Board of Assessment Review Member:*

**RESOLUTION NO. 172 OF 2014**

Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Higgins introduced Res. No. 172 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO APPOINT BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW MEMBER**

WHEREAS, Harold Katsch has tendered his resignation from the Board of Assessment Review, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby appoint Ralph Bentley to the open seat on the Board of Assessment Review to complete a term that will expire on September 30, 2016.

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

*Planning Board Alternate:*

**RESOLUTION NO. 173 OF 2014**

Councilperson Higgins and Councilperson Olson introduced Res. No. 173 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO APPOINT PLANNING BOARD ALTERNATE**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby appoint Joe Turcotte to the open Planning Board Alternate seat to complete a term that will expire on December 31, 2015.

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

**Privilege of the Floor...**

-John Donovan provided the Board with an update on the 1881 Union Church.

**ADJOURN...** There being no further business to attend to the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM by MOTION of Messrs. Olson and Higgins, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Town Clerk