

**HORICON TOWN BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 20, 2014
7:00 PM**

Present at meeting: Matthew Simpson Supervisor
Frank Hill Councilman
Robert Olson Councilman
Kenneth Higgins Councilman
Sylvia Smith Councilwoman
Krista Wood Town Clerk
Mark Schachner Town Counsel

Also: Harry Balz, Bill McGhie, Jane Smith, Paul Holmes, Bob Smith, and Matt Wood.

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

PUBLIC HEARING...

Supervisor Simpson opened the Public Hearing regarding the proposal to amend the Local Law to change the day that Grievance Day is held from the Thursday after the fourth Tuesday in May to the fourth Tuesday in May.

Counselor Schachner explained why the Town does not currently hold Grievance Day on the fourth Tuesday in May as is set forth in Real Property Law. He explained that when the Town entered into Joint Assessor Program with Chester the date of Grievance Day had to be changed because the Assessor could not be in two places at once. He noted that since the Town of Horicon is no longer in a Joint Assessor Program with Chester the day that Grievance Day is held can be changed back to the fourth Tuesday in May.

There were no comments from the public.

Motion made by Councilman Olson, seconded by Councilwoman Smith, to close the Public Hearing. Supervisor Simpson closed the Public Hearing at 7:02pm.

REGULAR MEETING...

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of January 16, 2014 and January 31, 2014 were approved by Motion of Messrs. Hill and Olson, all Ayes.

Approval of February 20, 2014 Vouchers and Abstracts:
RESOLUTION #43-2014

Messrs. Hill and Olson introduced Res. No. 43 and moved its adoption, all Ayes:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF FEBRUARY ABSTRACTS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize payment of the February 20, 2014 Vouchers and Abstracts as follows:

| | | |
|-------------------|---------|---------------|
| General Vouchers | # 38-68 | \$ 28,396.36 |
| Highway Vouchers | # 16-36 | \$ 42,489.08 |
| General Abstracts | 3 & 4 | \$ 108,225.57 |
| Highway Abstracts | 3 & 4 | \$ 97,318.10 |

Correspondence to the Board:

-Adk Lodges HOA RE: Permission given to harvest milfoil on Adk Lodges HOA property
-Adk Lodges HOA RE: Organizational report and list of Directors and Officers for Adk Lodges HOA
-APA Local Gov't RE: Request for entries for 2014 Adirondack Park Best Community Event
-APA Local Gov't RE: Registration form and Agenda for APA Local Gov't Day conference

Resolutions:

RESOLUTION #44-2014

Messrs. Olson and Hill introduced Res. No. 44 and moved its adoption, all Ayes:

RESOLUTION TO AMEND LOCAL LAW PROVIDING FOR THE DATE ON WHICH THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW HEARS COMPLAINTS

WHEREAS, the Town Board held a public hearing regarding the proposal to amend the Local Law to change the day that Grievance Day is held from the first Thursday after the fourth Tuesday in May to the fourth Tuesday in May, AND

WHEREAS, the Town Board has reviewed the proposed change and heard all interested parties who attended the public hearing, NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby adopt Local Law #1 of 2014 to change the date on which the Town Board of Assessment Review meets to hear complaints (Grievance Day) in relation to real property assessments. The Board further authorizes the Clerk to file Local Law #1 of 2014 with the Secretary of State.

RESOLUTION #45-2014

Messrs. Olson and Hill introduced Res. No. 45 and moved its adoption, all Ayes:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE POSTING OF ROADS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the Highway Superintendent to advertise and post the Town Roads for spring conditions when warranted.

RESOLUTION #46-2014

Messrs. Hill and Olson introduced Res. No. 46 and moved its adoption, all Ayes:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SOLICITATION OF SAND BIDS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the Town Clerk to solicit, by legal advertisement, bids for processed highway sand. Bids are to be opened at 11:00 AM on March 18, 2014.

Old Business:

Warren County Snow & Ice contract: Supervisor Simpson noted that the Board had passed a Resolution authorizing him to sign the Snow and Ice contract with Warren County for 2014 at the last meeting of the Board.

Highway truck bids: The Clerk advertised for bids for the Highway truck and no bids were received. The Board agreed to put the truck up for bid again in the spring.

Procurement Policy update: Councilman Olson said he reviewed the proposed Procurement Policy and noted it would require the Town to establish a Purchase Order system. Councilman Higgins said that it is essential to have a Purchase Order system. Supervisor Simpson said the purchase order process would not change other than involving the Budget Officer. This way the Budget Officer could review the Budget prior to a purchase of \$1500.00 or more. The Board agreed that they would like to move forward with the new policy and the Purchase Order system. Supervisor Simpson said he will work on the Purchase Order and have a packet ready for the Board at the March meeting.

Zoning & Planning Board vacancies:

RESOLUTION #47-2014

Messrs. Higgins and Hill introduced Res. No. 47 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO APPOINT ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS ALTERNATE MEMBER

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby appoint Scott Olson as Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate to complete a term which will expire on December 31, 2015.

Ayes-4 (Higgins, Hill, Smith, Simpson) Nays-0 Abstain-1 (Olson)

RESOLUTION #48-2014

Messrs. Olson and Hill introduced Res. No. 48 and moved its adoption, all Ayes:

RESOLUTION TO APPOINT PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby appoint current alternate Bill Siegle to the open Planning Board seat to complete a term that will expire on December 31, 2016, and BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby appoint Dan Freebern to the Planning Board Alternate seat vacated by Bill Siegle to complete that term which will expire on December 31, 2015.

Councilman Olson noted that both Dan Freebern and Scott Olson will need training.

New Business:

Adirondack Park Local Gov't Day Conference: Supervisor Simpson and Councilman Olson would like to attend the training being held April 9th and 10th. The Zoning Board and Planning Board will need to let the Town Board know how many of their members would like to attend. The Town Board will vote on this at the March meeting once they receive a final count of attendees.

Request by Dorothy Johnson to attend educational seminar in Saratoga:

RESOLUTION #49-2014

Messrs. Olson and Smith introduced Res. No. 49 and moved its adoption, all Ayes:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ZONING CLERK TO ATTEND TRAINING

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize Dorothy Johnson to attend the seminar being held in Saratoga March 31st and April 1st. The cost of the seminar is \$169.00 plus reimbursement for mileage.

New Town flag: Councilman Olson gave a breakdown of the quotes received for a Town flag and for a new American flag.

RESOLUTION #50-2014

Messrs. Olson and Smith introduced Res. No. 50 and moved its adoption, all Ayes:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF FLAGS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the purchase of a Town flag and a new American flag from Saratoga Flag Co. at a cost not to exceed \$800.00.

New computer for Highway Mechanic: Councilman Olson explained that a new laptop is needed for the Highway Mechanic because the laptop he has will no longer run the necessary software updates.

Councilman Olson has obtained quotes for a laptop and two routers.

RESOLUTION #51-2014

Messrs. Higgins and Olson introduced Res. No. 51 and moved its adoption, all Ayes:

RESOLUTION TO PURCHASE OF LAPTOP FOR HIGHWAY MECHANIC

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the purchase of a new laptop and two routers for the Highway Mechanic at a cost of \$1,668.17.

Town insurance policy renewal: Supervisor Simpson went over the Town's insurance policy renewal options. He explained that NYMIR will cover the Town at a premium of \$4,800.00 less than Selective; however, NYMIR will not cover any damage from the Dam downstream in the event the dam fails. Selective Insurance will cover the Town with no exclusions. Additionally, he said the Town can save \$1,004.00 with Selective if they go from a \$500.00 deductible to a \$1,000.00 deductible. After a brief discussion the Board passed the following Resolution.

RESOLUTION #52-2014

Messrs. Olson and Hill introduced Res. No. 52 and moved its adoption, all Ayes:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN POLICY WITH SELECTIVE

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize Supervisor Simpson to sign the policy with Selective Insurance with a \$1,000.00 deductible for a total premium of \$47,314.84.

Change April Meeting Date:

RESOLUTION #53-2014

Messrs. Higgins and Olson introduced Res. No. 53 and moved its adoption, all Ayes:

RESOLUTION TO CHANGE DATE OF APRIL 2014 MEETING

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby change the date of the April 2014 meeting from April 17th to April 24th at 7:00 pm.

Contract with Glens Falls Animal Hospital for 2014:

RESOLUTION #54-2014

Messrs. Olson and Higgins introduced Res. No. 54 and moved its adoption, all Ayes:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE CONTRACT WITH GLENS FALLS ANIMAL HOSPITAL

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize Supervisor Simpson to sign the contract with Glens Falls Animal Hospital for the handling of unidentified dogs. This agreement will be in effect for the 2014 calendar year.

Dam Update: Supervisor Simpson said he has received a packet from Laberge on the dam and he is getting positive feedback on the progress. He noted that hopefully within the next month the Town should have an answer as to whether the Dam will be changed from a Class C dam to a Class B dam.

Landfill Monitoring Reduction proposal: Supervisor Simpson said he met with Cedarwood Engineering regarding a Landfill monitoring reduction proposal. The Town would be able to test yearly rather than quarterly which would save the Town thousands of dollars over time. The cost to implement the program with Cedarwood is \$2,500.00 and Supervisor Simpson noted that DEC may require some work to be done on the wells, but over time this will be a cost savings.

RESOLUTION #55-2014

Messrs. Olson and Smith introduced Res. No. 55 and moved its adoption, all Ayes:

RESOLUTION TO MOVE FORWARD WITH CEDARWOOD ENGINEERING

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the Supervisor to move forward with Cedarwood Engineering on the Landfill monitoring reduction program.

Water Test Results: Supervisor Simpson said the water test results from the Landfill and Highway Garage came back. He said the Highway Garage results were fine, but the Landfill results showed high levels of several different elements and the water should not be consumed. The Board agreed that a notice to this effect must be posted at the Landfill.

Committee Reports:

-Councilwoman Smith reported that they have submitted the 2013 North Warren County Celebration, in conjunction with the Town of Chester, for the Adirondack Park Excellence contest for Best Event. She said they are also working on some ideas for the Community Center including converting the old Tax Office into an office and storage space for the Food Pantry and cleaning supplies. They are also looking into the fee that is charged to rent the meeting room. Councilwoman Smith said they are going to be working on the Cemetery maps as well as making some improvements to the Cemetery.

-Councilwoman Smith and Supervisor Simpson noted that they had attended the training in New York and found it very informative.

-Councilman Olson reported that the Brant Lake Winter Carnival was a huge success. He also said that they had held their first Horicon Day meeting and Alonzo Fireworks has agreed to do the fireworks display again.

-Supervisor Simpson noted that Karen Burka, Court Clerk, has secured a grant for the Justice Office of \$1052.00, and she is working on additional grants.

Privilege of the Floor...

-Jane Smith noted that it was good to hear Committee reports from the Board members.

-Paul Holmes said he had looked over the health insurance practices and asked if there were options available in terms of sharing costs with other Towns. Supervisor Simpson said it is something the Town can look at and he will research it. Harry Balz noted that the town could look into whether converging with the schools on health insurance might be an option.

Executive Session

Councilman Olson made a motion, seconded by Councilman Higgins, to move to Executive Session to discuss possible litigation. The Board moved to Executive Session at 8:25 PM.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:45 PM and Councilman Olson made a motion to return to Regular Session, seconded by Councilman Hill, all in favor. The Board discussed possible litigation, no action was taken.

Adjourn... There being no further business to attend to the meeting was adjourned at 8:46 by MOTION of Messrs. Olson and Smith, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

Town Clerk