

**HORICON TOWN BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

**MAY 21, 2015
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
Mark Schachner Town Counsel

Also: Skip Ostrander, Jane Smith, Bill McGhie, Harvey Leidy, Don Butler, Joe Turcotte, Matt Wood, Pete Palmer, Bernie Hill, Teri Schuerlein, Rob Ostrander, Wayne Butler, Dennis Doyle, Richard Blum, Stu Meade Jr., John Donovan, Dan Freebern, Georgia McMeekin, Tom Wynne, Assessor Christine Hayes, HS Paul Smith, and others.

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

Presentations:

-Don Butler – Brant Lake water level: Don Butler addressed the Board regarding the fluctuation of the water level in Brant Lake. He, along with several others, offered to volunteer their time to help establish an optimum target lake level and to help in monitoring the lake level so that quicker action can be taken when adjustments need to be made. The Board is open to working with the group and would appreciate their feedback.

-A.E. Knapp & Associates – Brant Lake Flood Plain: Mr. Knapp explained how the current Flood Plain affects flood insurance policies. He said there are likely people on the lake that have flood insurance that should not. He said there is an appeal process the homeowner can go through to be removed from the Flood Plain. Mr. Knapp said the answer for Brant Lake is to have a good hydraulic analysis and a new base flood elevation that is acceptable to FEMA.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of April 16, 2015 were approved by Motion of Councilperson Higgins and Councilperson Hill.

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

Approval of May 2015 Vouchers and Abstracts:

RESOLUTION #83-2015

Councilperson Smith and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 83 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF MAY ABSTRACTS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the payment of the May 21, 2015 Vouchers and Abstracts as follows:

General Vouchers	#117-155	\$ 44,243.46
Highway Vouchers	# 76-97	\$ 55,118.90
General Abstracts	12 & 13	\$ 37,591.08
Highway Abstracts	12 & 13	\$ 16,930.09

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

Correspondence to the Board...

- Laberge Group RE: Consolidated Funding applications are opening shortly
- Assemblyman Dan Stec RE: Notice of 2015 CHIPS and Winter Recovery funding

Resolutions:

RESOLUTION #84-2015

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Higgins introduced Res. No. 84 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO SET STANDARD WORKDAY

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Horicon hereby establishes the following as standard work days for elected and appointed officials and will report the following days worked to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System based on the record of activities maintained and submitted by these officials to the clerk of this body:

Standard Name & Title	Work Day	Term Begin/Ends	Participates in Employer's Time Keeping System	Days/Mo.
Matthew Simpson (Supervisor)	8	1/1/14-12/31/15	No	20.07
Krista Wood (Town Clerk)	8	1/1/14-12/31/17	No	21.89
Paul Smith (Highway Supt.)	8	1/1/12-12/31/15	No	21.75
Christine Hayes (Assessor)	8	10/1/13-9/30/19	No	10.77
Darian Granger (Dog Control Ofcr/Hwy Emp)	6	1/1/15-12/31/15	Yes	20.00
Dawn Higgins (Superv. Sec'y/Dep Town Clerk)	8	1/1/15-12/31/15	Yes	20.00
Kenneth Higgins (Town Councilman)	6	1/1/12-12/31/15	No	1.72
Robert Olson (Town Councilman)	6	1/1/14-12/31/17	No	2.47
Ayes: 5 (Olson, Higgins, Hill, Smith, Simpson)		Nays: 0		

RESOLUTION #85-2015

Councilperson Smith and Councilperson Higgins introduced Res. No. 85 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO CHANGE DATE OF JULY 2015 TOWN BOARD MEETING

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby wish to change the date of the regularly scheduled July 2015 Town Board meeting from July 16th to **Thursday, July 23, 2015 at 7:00 pm.**

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

RESOLUTION #86-2015

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 86 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT AMONG THE TOWNS OF CHESTER, HORICON AND SCHROON FOR SCHROON LAKE AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES CONTROL

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize Supervisor Simpson to sign the Intermunicipal Agreement among the Towns of Chester, Horicon and Schroon to expend funds in order to prevent introduction of and control aquatic invasive species in the waters of Schroon Lake.

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

RESOLUTION #87-2015

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Higgins introduced Res. No. 87 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE HORICON TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WARREN COUNTY GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY PLAN AND SPECIFICALLY IN THE COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PLAN AND ADDING THERETO ANY EFFICIENCY PROJECT(S), SHARED SERVICE(S) OR COOPERATION AGREEMENT(S) SET FORTH IN THIS RESOLUTION AND AUTHORIZING SUPERVISOR SIMPSON TO TAKE CERTAIN ACTIONS AND MAKE CERTAIN REPRESENTATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS

WHEREAS, local governments in New York State and specifically in Warren County either singularly, jointly or as part of a County initiative must submit and use best efforts to fully implement a Government Efficiency Plan to be submitted by June 1, 2015 as required by the State Property Tax Freeze Credit to qualify homeowners to receive a property tax credit and

WHEREAS, Warren County has proposed to submit a Government Efficiency Plan on its own behalf as well as on behalf of interested local governments in Warren County and demonstrate required savings on a plan wide basis for all participating local governments beginning in 2017,2018 and 2019 when fully implemented as allowed under the State Property Tax Freeze Plan and

WHEREAS, Warren County's Government Efficiency Plan would include 1) a cooperative purchasing plan as part of a Warren County countywide Government Efficiency Plan which would bid certain commodities on behalf of all participating Warren county local governments with the objective of achieving better pricing and administrative efficiencies; 2) an efficiency initiative by Warren County and 3) efficiency initiatives, shared services and/or cooperation agreements of other local governments participating in the County plan and

WHEREAS, the Town of Horicon desires to participate in the Warren County Government Efficiency Plan and specifically in the cooperative purchasing plan in lieu of submitting its own efficiency plan as allowed under the State Tax Freeze Credit,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED , that the Town of Horicon shall participate in the Warren County Government Efficiency Plan and specifically in the cooperative purchasing plan and be it further

RESOLVED that the Town of Horicon shall also request that Warren County include in its Government Efficiency Plan the following efficiency project(s), shared service(s) or cooperation agreement(s) (in addition to the cooperative purchasing plan:

Cooperative Assessing Agreement between the Town of Horicon and the Town of Bolton

Shared Services Agreement for Bookkeeper with Town of Warrensburg

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

RESOLUTION #88-2015

Councilperson Smith and Councilperson Olson introduced Res. No. 88 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE CLERK TO ADVERTISE FOR ASSESSOR CLERK

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the Town Clerk to advertise for a Clerk for the Assessor's Office for 12 hours per week at a pay rate of \$12.00 per hour. Applications must be in by June 15th.

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

RESOLUTION #89-2015

Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Higgins introduced Res. No. 89 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:

From:	To:	Amount:
<i>Highway:</i>		
5148.4 (Svcs Other Gov't-Cont)	5142.4 (Snow Rem-Contr)	\$ 6,622.23

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

RESOLUTION #90-2015

Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Olson introduced Res. No. 90 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT TO ADIRONDACK ATV

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize Supervisor Simpson to attend the Adirondack Association of Towns & Villages membership meeting May 31 to June 1 at a cost of \$57.00.

Ayes: 5 (Hill, Olson, Higgins, Smith) Nays: 0 Abstain: 1 (Simpson)

RESOLUTION #91-2015

Councilperson Higgins and Councilperson Smith introduced Res. No. 91 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE CLERK TO ADVERTISE FOR LIFEGUARD

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize the Clerk to advertise for a Lifeguard for the Brant Lake Beach. Applications must be in by June 15th.

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

RESOLUTION #92-2015

Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Olson introduced Res. No. 92 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 additional 2015 Agreement to Expend Highway Monies submitted by the Highway Superintendent.

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

Committee Reports...

-Councilperson Smith said she and Councilperson Hill feel it would be a good idea, when selling lots in the South Horicon Cemetery, to sell lots in one section at a time due to the layout. Once a section is sold out then the next section can be opened up. The Board agreed this would be a good idea. She also noted that they need the Highway to put some gravel down on the roadway through the old section to delineate it so people do not drive over lots. Councilperson Smith said the Beautification crew is making headway; she and Councilperson Hill are still researching what to do on the playground; and the Librarian and the Board of Trustees are very happy with the new Library Clerk. She also said the Adirondack 102 club will hold their dinner on September 3rd at Jimbo's. Lastly, she noted that the Horicon Alumni Committee will be holding their last gathering on August 22nd.

Councilperson Olson said he was asked by Fred Holman, North Warren Chamber of Commerce, if the monies previously set aside for the Pug Parade could be held for a Sportsman's Weekend they are planning. Supervisor Simpson noted the money would come out of the Bed Tax funds so once there is more information the Board can make a decision. Councilperson Olson also said that Horicon Day is coming together nicely.

(Draft Boat Launch Lease) Councilperson Higgins said the Town has received the Draft Lease Agreement from DEC for the Brant Lake Boat Launch. He noted that a Public Hearing is not required for this, but that is up to the Board to decide if they feel it is necessary. Councilperson Higgins stated the Draft is a fifteen year agreement instead of a twenty-five year agreement, as the Town had in the past, and he added that DEC will pave the parking lot. Supervisor Simpson said that DEC is going to provide the materials for a shelter for the Stewards as well as a Boat Wash station. Several lake residents questioned the Board as to whether a lease with DEC is the best way to guarantee the lake is protected, and that it is in the best interest of the Town. They further urged the Board not to renew the lease and to make this a more private launch. Councilperson Higgins and Supervisor Simpson both pointed out that the Stewards work hard to stop invasives at the Boat Launch, and there will now be a Boat Wash Station. Supervisor Simpson added that there are other detrimental things to the health of the lake such as the septic on the shoreline. He also noted that all Town residents pay taxes, therefore, everyone should be able to benefit from and enjoy the lake. He stated the DEC policy is for all boats to be clean, dry and drained; therefore a DEC launch has stricter regulations than a public launch. Supervisor Simpson said there is no guarantee but the Town will do their best to protect the lake. Councilperson Higgins pointed out that a big part of the problem is the bass tournaments and the un-monitored private launching of boats on the lake. There continued to be lengthy discussion back and forth on the issue. Several Board members felt a vote could be taken tonight, but ultimately the Board agreed to hold a Special Meeting on June 18th, one hour prior to the

regularly scheduled Town Board meeting, regarding the Boat Launch Lease. The Board advised the public that any comments on the matter must be submitted to the Board by June 12th.

RESOLUTION #93-2015

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 93 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO SET SPECIAL MEETING

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby set a Special Meeting for Thursday, June 18th at 6pm to discuss the Draft Lease Agreement for the Brant Lake Boat Launch. Comments on the Boat Launch agreement must be in to the Board by June 12th. The regularly scheduled Town Board meeting will follow.

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

Old Business:

Fuel and Propane Bids: The Town Board advertised for bids for heating oil and kerosene for Town buildings and also for propane for the Highway Garage, and one bid was received and opened on May 21st at 8:50 pm. Supervisor Simpson read the bid which was received from Mountain Petroleum. Supervisor Simpson noted that the new State contract is not out yet. The Board will wait and see what the State contract is before making a final decision.

ZBA Alternate: The Board advertised for the open seat of ZBA Alternate and one application was received.

RESOLUTION #94-2015

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Higgins introduced Res. No. 94 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO APPOINT ZBA ALTERNATE MEMBER

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby appoint James Dewar to the vacant ZBA Alternate seat for a term which will expire on December 31, 2019.

Ayes: 5 (Olson, Higgins, Hill, Simpson) Nays: 0 Abstain: 1 (Smith)

New Business:

Cable for Museum: Tom Johansen, HHS, has asked if he can get DSL service through Frontier at the Horicon Museum to enable the Historical Society to complete their digitization project. The cost of the service is \$20.00 per month and will come out of the Museum's Contractual code.

Privilege of the Floor...

-Jane Smith noted there will be a Memorial Day service at the Veteran's Park in Adirondack at 2pm.

-John Donovan gave an update on the 1881 Union Church and noted the bids for the foundation repair had come in higher than anticipated.

RESOLUTION #95-2015

Councilperson Olson and Councilperson Hill introduced Res. No. 95 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE EXTERNAL FUNDING REQUESTS FOR FORMER 1881 UNION CHURCH
REHABILITATION FOR HISTORICAL MUSEUM USE**

WHEREAS, use of the historically significant former 1881 Union Church in the Town of Horicon Hamlet of Adirondack, now owned by the Town of Horicon, as a historical Museum facility would serve a beneficial public purpose, preserve local and regional history, enhance local and regional economic activity including tourism and provide unique educational opportunities, all for current and future generations locally, regionally and beyond,
AND

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Horicon by Resolutions strongly supports creation of said Museum facility under the Charter of the Horicon Historical Society, AND

WHEREAS, the Horicon Historical Society, in cooperation with the Town of Horicon, has obtained professional assessments of the physical condition of the former Adirondack Union Church and the work required to rehabilitate it for local and regional economy enhancing historical Museum use and has been working diligently

to raise funds to achieve this rehabilitation, AND

WHEREAS, strong local and regional support for this Museum facility by the Town of Horicon and hundreds of residents, visitors and businesses already has raised \$40,000 funding and private sector fundraising continues toward the \$160,000 overall cost of rehabilitating the church structure for said public purpose Museum use; AND

WHEREAS, obtaining the \$160,000 overall funds for this public purpose Museum facility use will require public sector financial assistance including New York State financial assistance, AND

WHEREAS, in cooperation with the Town of Horicon and with encouragement, assistance and support of the Warren County Economic Development Corporation, the Historical Society filed a January 2015 urgent request for New York State funding assistance of \$50,000 for initial phases of the church structure's rehabilitation during the 2015 construction season and, by February 17, 2015 letter to New York State Senator, Hon. Elizabeth O'C Little, Warren County Economic Development Corporation President requested \$100,000 in New York State funding for all phases of the church structure's rehabilitation for public purpose Museum use; AND

WHEREAS, it appears necessary to submit a new request for New York State funding assistance under the Year 2015 Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) process for all phases of the church structure's rehabilitation for public purpose Museum facility use, AND

WHEREAS, \$26,000 of the overall project funding is urgently needed to award a \$66,000 publicly bid construction contract to immediately replace the church structure's failing stone foundation, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby authorize, encourage and support Town of Horicon Historical Society applications for external funding including Year 2015 CFA application for \$100,000 New York State funding for all phases of the former 1881 Union Church rehabilitation for public purpose Historical Museum use and inform the Hon. Elizabeth O'C Little of both this CFA action and the urgent need for \$26,000 of said funding to award the \$66,000 publicly bid construction contract to immediately replace the church structure's failing stone foundation.

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

Privilege of the Floor continued...

-Jane Smith said an ESSLA collection box had to be removed from a Brant Lake business because of complaints.

-Teri Schuerlein noted that they have completed their first year in business and the Lazy Moose has won the Post-Star's Best of the Region in two categories. She said they have also been nominated by the Adirondack Chamber of Commerce for the Best Rookie store. She said it is really a community effort and thanked everyone for all of their support.

Adjourn... There being no further business to attend to the meeting was adjourned at 9:07PM by MOTION of Councilperson Hill and Councilperson Higgins, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

Town Clerk