

PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING

FEBRUARY 12, 2018

PUBLIC HEARING PROPOSED LL 1 to Establish the Residency Requirements for the following appointed offices in the Town of Hopkinton:

Code Enforcement Officer, Assessor, Dog Control Officer and Deputy Dog Control Officer.

At the Public Hearing, and Regular Meeting held on Monday, February 12, 2018 at the Hopkinton Town Hall at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Supervisor Wood, Councilpersons Lyon, Pullano, Sochia, Parker.

OTHERS PRESENT: Clerk French, Cheryll Phippen, Elizabeth Green, Gordon Green, Dolores Rice, Douglas Witherell, Lori Witherell, Jeffrey Tavernia, Richard Peary, Noah Schlabach, Madeline Pennington, Tom Farns, Scott Hilyard, Eli Sochia, Beth Rosenbarker, Jeff Snell, Deb Rust, Mose Schlabach, Dan Schlabach, Kelly Johnson-Eilola, Sharon Trimm, Alfred Weaver, Amber Lindsey, Robert Blum, Sherry Blum, Ellen White, Luke Martin, Rachel Martin, Elmer Randall, Scott Pate, Kristen Chevier, Nathan Derushia, Sandy Maine, Louie Maine, Jim Pullano, Guy Rosenbarker, Brenda Butterfield, Duane Butterfield, Scott McDonald, Dan Murdie, Richard Eakins, Janice Pease, Joseph Peace, Laura Murphy, Kelly Potenzano, Frank Potenzano, Jessie Bonno, Christina Snell, Alicia Walters, Pat Waltzer, Kevin Beary, Debbie Baldwin, Brandon Baldwin, Paula Helfter, Bonnie Helfter, Sam Schlabach, Kathy Mackay, John Mahoney, Mary Jane Toomey, Greg Ermold, Rebecca Ermold, Peter Kraengel, Jocelyn Kraengel, John Trieller, Olga Trieller, Harold Phippen, Peter Parker, Debra Parker, Cindy Niles, Lorena Charleson, David Slater, Ann Slater, Albert Schlabach, Natasha Wolpin, Dave Schlabach, Jessica Burnett, Richard Burnett, James Spear, Reuben Miller, Levi Zook, Bob Emmett, Ronald DeBeer, Belle DeBeer, Eli Miller, Robin Gary, Zack Dufresne of ACE NY, Elizabeth Board of NY for Clean Power, Steve Wilkinson of Fisher Associates, Tim Seck of Avangrid, Robert Panasci of Young/Sommer LLC., Gerald Duffy, Steve Wilkinson, Zack Dufresne.

After the Pledge of Allegiance Supervisor Wood asked for a moment of silence to remember past Supervisor Donald B Wray who passed away in January.

Proof of Notice having been furnished, the Public Hearing on Proposed Local Law 1 of 2018 To Establish the residency requirements for the following appointed offices in the Town of Hopkinton: Code Enforcement Officer, Assessor, Dog Control Officer, Deputy Dog Control Officer was called to order by Supervisor Wood at 6:40 p.m.

No persons spoke in favor or against the Proposed Local Law.

All persons desiring to be heard, having been heard, Mr. Parker made a motion with a second by Mr. Sochia the Hearing was terminated at 6:45 p.m.

Supervisor Wood called the Regular meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

Mr. Sochia made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lyon to accept minutes of Organizational Meeting and Regular Meeting held on January 8, 2018 as presented. Adopted unanimously.

Mr. Parker made a motion, seconded by Ms. Pullano to accept Supervisors Monthly Financial Report for January 2018 as presented. Adopted unanimously.

Voucher Nos. 19 to 50 General Fund Abstract 2 in the amount of \$9,349.21 were audited and approved by the Board.

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Voucher Nos. 7 to 24 Highway Fund Abstract 2 in the amount of \$40,360.64 were audited and approved by the Board.

Voucher Nos. 2 to 4 BHLS Fund Abstract 2 in the amount of \$827.25 were audited and approved by the Board.

Mr. Parker made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sochia to pay the bills. Adopted unanimously.

Ms. Lyon made a motion, seconded by Mr. Parker to make the following transfer in the General Fund:

From A1990.4 Contingent Acct to A1010.4 Town Board Contractual Acct. \$116.00. Adopted unanimously.

**Privilege of the Floor:**

Luke Martin, Lori Witherell, Janice Pease, Amber Lindsey, Robert Blum, Kelly Charleson, Olga Trieller, Jerry Duffy, John Mahoney, Nathan Derushia, Kelly Johnson-Eilola, Pat Waltzer, Sandy Maine, read aloud correspondence to the Board or made comments to the Board in regards to their concerns on the proposed wind project. They are concerned with the health, safety, welfare of the citizens, PILOT payments, cutting of forest lands, we currently have a surplus of power on the market, proximity to Ft. Drum.

Ronald DeBeer, Richard Eakins, Frank Potenzano spoke in favor of the proposed wind project. Their concerns are tax relief, clean power, compare 100% assessment to the PILOT before making a decision, addressed the land South of 72 that some of the property, which is owned by private citizens has already been logged off. We are too far away for Ft. Drum to play a part in this matter. Told the Board that they have heard many pros and cons of this proposed project it is time for them to use their best judgment and put a law forward.

David Slater: asked the Board if an Environmental Wildlife impact study has been done yet, if so are they current. What is the impact in the Chateaguay area?

Supervisor Wood stated she will check into this.

**Correspondence:**

North Country Life Flight: Mr. Sochia introduced the following resolution, with a second by Ms. Lyon:

WHEREAS, North Country Life Flight, Inc. is a not-for-profit, tax-exempt corporation which is responsible for all aspects of patient care by providing medical equipment, training medical personnel and administering the medical portion utilizing the New York State Police helicopter based in Saranac Lake and private fixed-wing aviation resources; and

WHEREAS: The New York State Police aviation resources do not provide a medically trained team or medical equipment for patient transports; and

WHEREAS: The people of Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton and St. Lawrence Counties receive a vital emergency medical service for critically ill and seriously injured patients, and, therefore municipal governments are asked to pledge monies for this worthwhile program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Town Board of the Town of Hopkinton hereby authorizes the Supervisor to enter into a contract with North Country LIFE FLIGHT, Inc.

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for the purpose of operating the medical component of the medevac program, which will serve its residents and visitors, and paying the amount of \$500.00 which represents the Town's share for 2018; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the sum of \$500.00 is hereby appropriated to Account No. A4540.4 for payment to North Country LIFE FLIGHT, Inc.

VOTE: Supervisor Wood Aye, Councilmen Sochia Aye, Lyon Aye, Pullano Aye, Parker Aye.

Department of Transportation: regarding funding for the BRIDGE NY program. Supv. Wood will follow up with the Highway Supt. on this matter.

County of Dutchess: regarding the "ThinkDIFFERENTLY" initiative. It creates a welcoming and supportive environment for residents with special needs. They would like the Board to pass a resolution supporting this initiative. The Board tabled this matter.

NYS DEC/Urban Forestry Council: regarding available funding for projects to have an Arbor Day event and begin a community forestry program. The Board agreed to pursue this.

Tri-Town Winter Carnival: inviting the Board to participate in the parade.

NY Courts: stating they need an audit report for the court. An Annual Audit Checklist has to be completed by the Board and Supervisor and returned to the Division of Internal Audit Services.

Service Education, Inc.: informing the Board that the New York State Unified Court System has purchased all rights and ownership of "The Court Room Program" from SEI. There will be no further license fees for the software and customer support. This change took effect on January 3, 2018.

National Grid: regarding field audit of National Grid's street lighting assets in the Town of Hopkinton to ensure accuracy of National Grid's internal asset data records. This should be completed by the end of spring 2018.

Letters received: Supv. Wood stated that letters from Janice Pease and Lori Witherell were received in regards to the proposed wind project and all Board Members received copies.

Emails: Supv Wood reported to the Board that she had received 20 emails opposing the wind project and PILOT agreement, and 3 in support of the project.

Post Cards: Supv. Wood reported that she had received 139 post cards asking for set-backs to remain at 2500 feet, no expansion of the Wind Overlay Zone to south of 72 and no PILOT agreement.

Jody Wenzel: member of the Wind Advisory Board, Supv Wood read his letter aloud. He is asking the Board to pass the wind law as it was proposed to them by the Wind Advisory Board. He feels if there are reasonable, fact-based arguments why aspects of the law should be changed, then they should be openly stated with supporting facts.

#### **Old Business:**

Tax Exemption for Cold War Veterans: Tabled

Board of Ethics: Supv. Wood reported that she has two names to put forth but is still waiting on one, therefore she would like to table this until next month. The Board agreed.

Wind Advisory Board: Supv Wood reported that she currently has four names and would like to

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pursue it further.

Wind Law recommendations: Supv. Wood asked the Board to set a date for a work session to work on the proposed wind law and to have no public comment during this meeting.

The Board was in agreement to hold it on February 27, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at the Hopkinton Town Hall with no public comment.

Proposed Local Law 1 of 2018: Mr. Parker made a motion, seconded by Ms. Lyon to adopt proposed Local Law 1 to establish the residency requirements for the following appointed offices in the Town of Hopkinton: Code Enforcement Officer, Assessor, Dog Control Officer, Deputy Dog Control Officer. A full text of this Local Law is filed in the Local Law Book of the Town of Hopkinton.

VOTE: Supervisor Wood, Aye, Councilman Parker Aye, Lyon Aye, Sochia Aye, Pullano Aye.

#### **Committee Reports:**

Supervisors Report: Supv. Wood reported that she has been busy reading material in regards to the proposed wind project. She had a conference call along with Councilman Pullano, Parishville-Hopkinton School, County Attorney and Roger Linden Town Attorney regarding the appraisal agreement. The agreement is being updated and then will be signed. A letter will go to Avangrid regarding this.

Code Enforcement: A written report for December and January was presented.

Library: A written report was presented. Battle of the Books will be held this spring. Work has begun on the Summer Reading Program.

Museum: They are pursuing getting some of the signs on the Historical Registry.

Highway & Safety: The Board was given a written report.

BHLS: Mr. Sochia reported that they met and paid the bills. Minutes of the February meeting were presented.

Town Facilities: Ms. Lyon reported that there was a problem with the furnace at the Town Hall. The reset switch had been tripped. Food Pantry was held and one event.

Rescue: Supv. Wood reported that they had 93 calls, 10 were in Hopkinton. They held election of officers, Eric LaBrake was elected as chief.

Groundskeeper: Mr. Wood reported that he has been busy with snow removal. He also advised the Board that there will be a meeting on February 20<sup>th</sup> at the Warrensburg DEC office to discuss diseased trees.

Newly Elected Officials Conference: Mrs. Pullano reported on the conference that she attended. She reported that the town can have an energy audit done. They will come and assess what the best source of electricity is for the town. It could save the town 10-35%.

There are also programs where they assess the town to see different ways town could make money.

Agreement to Spend Town Highway Funds: Ms. Lyon made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sochia to approve the Agreement to Spend Town Highway Funds with the County as presented.

Adopted unanimously.

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Holding Harmless Agreement with the County: Mr. Parker introduced the following resolution with a second by Mr. Sochia

WHEREAS, the Town of Hopkinton is desirous of St. Lawrence County Department of Highways providing shared services such as paving, shoulder widening, signage, road stripping, blasting and other routine maintenance activities to the Town, and

WHEREAS, both the Town of Hopkinton and the County of St. Lawrence are desirous of promoting partnering efforts for the safety of the traveling public in St. Lawrence County, and

WHEREAS, in this joint cooperative endeavor, the Town of Hopkinton and the County of St. Lawrence desires to be reimbursed for their expenditures, and

WHEREAS, the Town is aware that the County may incur liability in the providing of the services and wishes to indemnify the County in this regard,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that to the fullest extent permitted by law, the Town of Hopkinton will indemnify and hold harmless the County, their officers, directors, partners, representatives, agents and employees from and against any and all claims, suits, liens, judgments, damages, losses and expenses, including legal fees and all court costs and liability (including statutory liability) arising in whole or in part and in any manner from injury and/or death of person or damage to or loss of any property relating to or arising out of any negligent or intentional acts and/or omissions of the Town of Hopkinton or any of its directors, officers, employees, contractors, representatives, or agents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following request for General Liability (GL) coverage is as follows:

General Liability Insurance

On an "Occurrence" basis, with the following limits:

\$1,000,000 Each Occurrence

\$1,000,000 Personal Injury

\$ 50,000 Fire Damage Legal Liability

\$ 5,000 Medical Payment Expense

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that St. Lawrence County shall be an additional insured on the GL Policy, via ISO endorsement CG 2026.

VOTE: Supv. Wood Aye, Councilperson Lyon Aye, Pullano Aye, Parker Aye, Sochia Aye.

Junkyard: Supv. Wood reported that there has been a code complaint regarding a property on SH 11B. Junk is encroaching on neighboring property. The town currently has no local law in regards to junkyards. She has asked the Board to consider developing a local law to address junkyards.

The Board tabled this matter until April.

Ms. Lyon made a motion, seconded by Mr. Parker to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. Adopted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Vickie French

RMC