

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Homer held on Wednesday, August 5, 2015, in the board room of the Town Hall building was called to order by Supervisor Frederick J. Forbes, Sr., at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Frederick J. Forbes, Sr., Supervisor
Barry E. Warren, Councilman
Dan A. Weddle, Councilman
Kevin M. Williams, Councilman
Brian D. Young, Councilman
John R. Phelps, Highway Superintendent
Anita W. Jebbett, Town Clerk

OTHERS PRESENT

Mark Suben, Cortland County District Attorney
Linda Jones, County Legislator
Larry Jones, resident
Tyrone Heppard, reporter, Cortland Standard
Eric Mulvihill, reporter, WXHC

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MINUTES

The minutes of the July 8th regular meeting were approved as presented, on motion by Councilman Young, seconded by Councilman Weddle and carried unanimously.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Presented for audit by the Board were:

1. The Town Clerk's monthly report of all receipts & disbursements for July.
2. The Supervisor's report of all cash receipts & disbursements for June & July.
3. The Code Enforcement Officer's report of all building permits issued for July.
4. The Dog Control Officer's report of all activities for July.

BILLS TO BE PAID

General bills were approved as audited on motion by Councilman Warren, seconded by Councilman Weddle and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that General vouchers #178 through #203 totaling \$20,655.77 be approved for payment.**

Highway bills were approved as audited on motion by Councilman Young, seconded by Councilman Weddle and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that Highway vouchers #120 through #132 totaling \$40,019.21 be approved for payment.**

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

District Attorney Mark Suben gave a brief talk on the activities of the District Attorney's Office over the past year. Although statistically crime is down, the methamphetamine problem has been keeping the police and his office very busy, as well as several murder cases, something unusual for Cortland County. He described the creation of the Child Advocacy Center, a non-profit which helps in the prosecution of child abuse cases. Suben said while they can use more funding for the Office, he is very proud of the staff he has been able to hire. He thanked the Town Board for their time.

NEW BUSINESS

Toughnioga River clean-up – Supervisor Forbes announced that the Cortland County Soil & Water Conservation District is asking for volunteers for the annual river clean-up to be held on Saturday, September 26th.

Records disposition - On motion by Councilman Warren, seconded by Councilman Young and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that in accordance with the *Records Retention and Disposition Schedule MU-1*, issued pursuant to Article 57-A of the Arts & Cultural Affairs Law of the State of New York, the following records have been determined by the Records Management Officer to be eligible for disposition:**

DOG CONTROL

Dog licenses (dogs deceased) – 2010, 2011

FISCAL

Bank statements – Town Clerk account, Tax Collector account – 2007, 2008

Bank statements – General, Highway and Trust & Agency accounts – 2007

Claims for payment (vouchers) – 2007, 2008

General accounting records – General, Highway and Trust & Agency accounts – 2007

Town Clerk’s monthly reports including dog licensing, DECALS, marriage licensing & other revenue – 2007, 2008

PAYROLL

Payroll check stubs – 2006

TAXATION & ASSESSMENT

Tentative assessment rolls – 2008, 2009

Final assessment rolls – 2003

Liability Insurance proposal – Supervisor Forbes said he recently received the proposal for liability insurance from Bailey-Place Agency. He described the changes to the policy from last year which are primarily increased coverages for the Town’s buildings.

On motion by Councilman Williams, seconded by Councilman Warren and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that the Bailey-Place Insurance Agency’s proposal of \$22,634.30 for liability insurance coverage for the Town is accepted for the year 2015- 2016, to be payable quarterly.**

Assessor clerk training – On motion by Councilman Williams, seconded by Councilman Young and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that the Assessor’s clerks, Colleen Brown and Sandy Hartnett, are authorized to attend a day of free training offered by the New York State Office of Real Property Services in Syracuse on Wednesday, September 23rd, with their mileage to be reimbursed by the Town.**

Housing Rehabilitation Grant – On motion by Councilman Williams, seconded by Councilman Weddle and carried unanimously, **a public hearing on a proposed application by the Town of Homer for a Community Development Housing Grant will be held on Wednesday, September 2nd, at 7:00 p.m. in the board room of the Town Hall building, prior to the Town’s regular monthly meeting.**

Town Hall flower urns – Supervisor Forbes made note of the recently painted antique flower urns purchased by the Town with generous donations from Barb Crandall and Fran Armstrong.

On motion by Councilman Williams, seconded by Councilman Young and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk is authorized to purchase two additional smaller antique urns and to have them painted black at a cost not to exceed \$500, for use at other entrances to the Town Hall.**

Agricultural award – Supervisor Forbes noted that E-Z Acres, the farm owned and operated by Planning Board Vice-Chairman Mike McMahon and his brother Peter, has been awarded the 2015 New York Agricultural Environmental Management Award

Cayuga Watershed - Supervisor Forbes presented an invoice for annual dues for the Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization. Forbes said that he has never joined the Organization because only a very small portion of the Town is located in the watershed. No action was taken.

Court audit – Supervisor Forbes asked Councilmen Williams and Young to audit the Justice Court records for 2014 at their earliest convenience.

Sale of old chairs - On motion by Councilman Warren, seconded by Councilman Weddle and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that the sale of 40 blue metal folding chairs, no longer used by the Town, to the East Homer Grange for the amount of \$25 is hereby authorized.**

OLD BUSINESS

Pine Hill Trailer Park – Forbes reported that the assessment lawsuit with the new owners of the Pine Hill Trailer Park has been withdrawn per an agreement on a new assessment.

Manure storage facilities – Local Law #1 of 2015 requiring site plan approval prior to the construction of certain manure storage facilities has been filed with the Secretary of State.

Town Hall testing – Supervisor Forbes said that he has received a quote from Bluepoint Environmental regarding further testing of the Town Hall at a cost ranging from \$1,920 to \$4,260. Bluepoint was asked to provide a quote after Steven Major of Lakeland Environmental was unable to do so. No action was taken.

Former Village Office renovation - Councilman Warren reported that he had consulted with former Assessor Clerk and Town Board member Fran Armstrong as well as current employees of the Assessor's Office regarding renovation of the former Village Offices. He presented a sketch of the proposed changes to the space, primarily removing the counter and opening up the offices to add more light and space. Also, the offices will need to be painted, the carpet replaced and new ceiling tiles installed. Warren said that he would look into getting quotes for the work which he hoped could be completed during the fall. Supervisor Forbes reminded him to also get a quote for cleaning the balcony area.

HIGHWAY GARAGE ADDITION BID

Supervisor Forbes read the legal notice of the request for bids for a garage addition (attached). Highway Superintendent Phelps said that his crew would be doing the site work and pouring the concrete floor. Overhead doors from the old building that was torn down will be re-used for the new one with one additional door to be ordered.

The bids were opened by Supervisor Forbes as follows:

1. Fingerlakes Construction Co., Inc., Homer – for a 52' x 104' pre-engineered post frame building, \$72,703, plus an option for adding insulation and a vapor barrier, etc., for \$23,218.
2. Complete Construction Concepts, LLC, Homer – for a 52' x 104' pre-engineered post frame building, \$68,000, plus an option for adding insulation, etc., for \$21,600.

The Board agreed to have the Town Attorney review the bids and award the bid at a special meeting to be scheduled.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Highway Superintendent John Phelps reported on his department's activities over the past month, including hauling sand for winter use, and helping the Village with their paving projects. They have also repaired the shoulders on Wolf Road and have been mowing roadsides. Phelps said that they will be using grindings to re-surface Brake Hill Road and McDonald Road. The NYS Department of Labor's PESH team inspected the Highway Garage and the Town will be getting a list of items that need to be corrected.

COUNTY LEGISLATOR

County Legislator Linda Jones reported on the various activities of the County Legislature over the past month, including passing the budget for the County's share of support for TC3 and scheduling a day for household hazardous waste to be dropped off at the landfill for proper disposal.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion by Councilman Warren, seconded by Councilman Young and carried unanimously, the Board entered into an executive session for the purpose of discussing the medical/employment history of particular persons at 9:10 p.m.

On motion by Councilman Young, seconded by Councilman Weddle and carried unanimously, the executive session was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.
No action was taken.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Anita W. Jebbett
Town Clerk