

The Annual Organizational Meeting of the Homer Town Board held on Wednesday, January 8, 2020 in the meeting room of the Town Hall was called to order by Supervisor Frederick J. Forbes, Sr., at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Frederick J. Forbes, Sr., Supervisor
Larry R. Jones, Councilmember
Michael R. Park, Councilmember
Barry E. Warren, Councilmember
Kevin M. Williams, Councilmember
Patrick M. Snyder, Attorney for the Town
Anita W. Jebbett, Town Clerk

OTHERS PRESENT

Kevin Fitch, newly-elected County Legislator
Kelly Preston, County Legislator
Liz Haskins, Director, Cortland County Office for Aging
Donald Ferris, reporter, The Homer News

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MINUTES

The minutes of the December 30th year-end meeting were approved as presented, on motion by Councilmember Jones, seconded by Councilmember Park and carried unanimously.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Presented for audit by the Board:

1. The Supervisor's report of all receipts & disbursements for December.
2. The Town Clerk's report of all receipts & disbursements for December.

ANNUAL REPORTS

Presented for audit by the Board:

1. The Town Clerk's annual report of all receipts & disbursements for the year 2019.

BILLS TO BE PAID

General fund bills were approved as audited on motion by Councilmember Warren, seconded by Williams and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that General Fund vouchers #335 through #341 for 2019 totaling \$4,044.85, and vouchers #1 through #7 for 2020 totaling \$4,780.10 are approved for payment.**

Highway fund bills were approved as audited on motion by Councilmember Park, seconded by Jones and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that Highway Fund vouchers #237 through #243 for 2019 totaling \$183,135.90, and vouchers #1 through #2 for 2020 totaling \$24,209.00 are approved for payment.**

HOMER SENIOR CENTER

County Office for Aging Director Liz Haskins explained the reasoning behind changes to the Homer Senior Center schedule for 2020. Due to a County budget deficit, programs and the number of Center managers were cut. Although all Senior Centers will remain open, the number of days of operation will be reduced. After working out an agreement with the Scott Senior Center, the Homer Center will be open Monday evenings, and Wednesdays and Thursdays for lunch, but closed on Tuesdays and Fridays. Supervisor Forbes thanked Haskins for her presentation and stated that he wanted the Town Board to be aware of the challenges involved in funding and operating the Senior Centers.

ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS & RESOLUTIONS

On motion by Councilmember Williams, seconded by Councilmember Warren and carried unanimously:
RESOLVED: **that the annual appointments and resolutions for the year 2020 are approved as follows:**

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| 1. Deputy Supervisor | Michael Park |
| 2. Town Meeting Dates | Monthly; 1 st Wed after
1 st Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. |
| 3. Official Newspaper | Cortland Standard |
| 4. Official Depository for Town Funds | FNB of Dryden |
| 5. Attorney for the Town | Patrick M. Snyder |
| 6. Budget Officer | Frederick J. Forbes, Sr. |
| 7. Deputy Highway Superintendent | Dale K. Everts |
| 8. Town Clerk/Collector | Anita W. Jebbett |
| 9. Registrar of Vital Statistics | Anita W. Jebbett |
| 10. Deputy Town Clerk/Collector | Karen J. Livingston |
| 11. Deputy Registrar | Karen J. Livingston |
| 12. Dog Control Officer | Lindsay Andersen |
| 13. Code Enforcement Officer | John R. Daniels |
| 14. Deputy Code Enforcement Officer | Kevin J. McMahon |
| 15. Fire Inspector | John R. Daniels |
| 16. Deputy Fire Inspector | Kevin J. McMahon |
| 17. Zoning Board member appointments | Joseph Gilbert |
| 18. Planning Board member appointments | Stuart Young |
| 19. PB/ZBA chairman rate per meeting | Michael McMahon, Chair |
| 20. PB/ZBA member rate per meeting | Jon Miller |
| 21. Mileage allowance for Town Officials | \$50/meeting |
| 22. Approval to invest surplus funds | \$30/meeting |
| 23. Hourly rate for Highway employees | per Fed govt. allowance |
| 24. Bid price for abrasive/salt | Frederick J. Forbes, Sr. |
| 25. Bid price for fuel | as per budget adopted |
| 26. Board of Assessment Review rate | NYS bid price |
| 27. Appointment of delegate to Association
of Towns meeting | Cortland County
\$100/day |
| 28. Town Historian appointment | none |
| 29. Resolution-salaries as stated in budget | Martin Sweeney |
| 30. Town Board members' salaries paid monthly | yes |
| 31. Resolution-utility bills to be paid upon receipt | yes |

NEW BUSINESS

Farm truck route – Councilmember Warren had received a complaint from a neighbor regarding manure trucks using Foster Road to access a manure pit off of Foster-Moore Road. It was agreed that if the trucks were to use Harrison Road instead, they would be traveling by many fewer houses. Attorney Snyder said that the Board has no legal basis to mandate which road the vehicles should travel. It was suggested that the complainant contact the farm involved. The Board was hopeful that the matter could be resolved.

Town Hall renovation grant – Supervisor Forbes reported that the State grant awarded in the fall has not yet been received.

PERMA Safety Committee – On motion by Councilmember Williams, seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried unanimously: RESOLVED: **that at the request of the Town's new workers' compensation carrier, PERMA, a Town of Homer Safety Committee is hereby established with Councilmember Park as Safety Coordinator, and Councilmember Warren, Highway Superintendent John Phelps, and Deputy Highway Superintendent Dale Everts as members.**

Proposed solar farm – Forbes reported that he will be meeting with Jack Honor of EDF Renewables to discuss the solar farm proposed for the Towns of Homer, Solon and Cortlandville. He has also scheduled a meeting for the morning of January 12th with representatives from Solon and Cortlandville, assessors from the various towns, the County and the IDA to discuss the proposal and the importance of working together to understand all of the different agencies' concerns and achieve the best results possible.

Homer Business Association - Councilmember Williams offered to attend the annual dinner of the Homer Business Association on behalf of the Town. The Board agreed to reimburse him the cost of the dinner.

Purchase of Village truck – Since Highway Superintendent Phelps was unable to attend the meeting, Councilmember Park reported that the Highway Department is interested in purchasing a 6-wheeler dump truck currently owned by the Village Street Department for \$10,000. Phelps had offered to share the use of the truck with the Village should it be needed by them on occasion. Park also reported that Phelps will be getting quotes on new pickup trucks to replace the Chevy pickup now owned.

Deferred Compensation Plan – On motion by Councilmember Park, seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that the Town agrees to offer the New York Deferred Compensation Plan to any and all interested employees.**

ATTORNEY FOR THE TOWN

Attorney Snyder said that to comply with the Town's local law allowing breweries, wineries, etc. in residential districts, Homer Hops LLC will need to apply for a conditional or special permit. Due to various factors this was not done prior to their beginning construction on the project. A public hearing of the Town Planning Board on this matter will be held on Wednesday, January 29th, at 7:00 p.m. to correct this oversight.

COUNTY LEGISLATOR

County Legislator Kelly Preston introduced recently-elected Legislator Kevin Fitch whose district covers Scott, Preble and a portion of the Town of Homer. She noted that he brings much knowledge and experience to the job. She also informed the Board that Rob Corpora, a long-time County employee, was appointed as the new County Administrator, and Paul Heider was unanimously appointed as Chair of the Legislature. She is hopeful that the County is now on the right track.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Anita W. Jebbett
Town Clerk