

The year-end meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Homer held on Wednesday, December 30, 2020, in the Town Hall Senior Center was called to order by Supervisor Frederick J. Forbes, Sr., at 11:30 a.m. Social distancing was observed due to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic.

#### 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  
John R. Phelps, Highway Superintendent  
Anita W. Jebbett, Town Clerk

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### MINUTES

**The minutes of the December 2<sup>nd</sup> regular meeting were approved as presented,** on motion by Councilmember Park, seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried unanimously.

#### MONTHLY REPORTS

Presented for audit by the Board were:

1. The Code Enforcement Officer's report of all building permits issued for December.
2. The Supervisor's report of all cash receipts & disbursements for November.

#### BILLS TO BE PAID

General bills were approved as audited on motion by Councilmember Park, seconded by Councilmember Jones and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that General Fund vouchers #224 through #255 totaling \$16,291.23 are approved for payment.**

Highway bills were approved as audited on motion by Councilmember Warren, seconded by Councilmember Williams and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that Highway Fund vouchers #193 through #207 totaling \$18,759.93 are approved for payment.**

#### HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Supervisor Phelps explained the large invoice from Caskey's Garage to replace the rear end on the 2009 International plow truck which he said will make it safer to drive and to ensure it would last into the future.

Phelps asked the Town Board to look into the number of sick days and number of vacation days allowed for his crew and whether or not they can be accrued each year if they are not used. He noted that he has an excellent crew who are reluctant to take any time off.

Councilmember Park suggested that the Town Board members review the Town's employee leave time along with the entire personnel policy for discussion at a future meeting.

## TOWN HALL BUILDING REPAIR

Supervisor Forbes described a leak in the boiler room discovered by Justice Foley over the long weekend. Since all staff at the former J&B Plumbing were off for the holidays, Councilmember Warren contacted Jim Norton of Advantage Plumbing & Heating.

On motion by Councilmember Warren, seconded by Councilmember Park and carried unanimously:

**RESOLVED: that the Town Board accepts the proposal by Advantage Heating & Plumbing to replace the hot water heater in the Town Hall boiler room for a cost of \$3,290.**

## ATTORNEY FOR THE TOWN

Attorney Snyder reported on a public hearing of the Zoning Board of Appeals held on December 16<sup>th</sup> regarding the proposal by Cipriani Energy to place solar panels on a +/-7 acre parcel on the corner of Wolf Road and Sweeney Road in an area that has been zoned Residential. He said at least 20 residents of the area had objected to the proposal, either in person or on Zoom. He said that the residents cited the character of the neighborhood, the history of the property, and questioned the claim of any financial hardship. Snyder said that the Zoning Board had asked him to send a letter to Cipriani Energy stating that the Town would be going through the coordinated lead agency process for the project, and asking them to correct a few items on the Environmental Assessment Form (EAF) that they had submitted.

Since the December 16<sup>th</sup> meeting was the first time that the Town had attempted a meeting half in-person and half on Zoom, both Attorney Snyder and Supervisor Forbes noted that it was less than satisfactory. Snyder suggested that future public hearings should take place entirely over Zoom for the time being.

Attorney Snyder also reported on the EDF Renewables solar energy project proposed for the intersection of the Towns of Cortlandville, Solon and Homer, which he said is on a faster track under new state regulations for large solar projects. He had attended a meeting with EDF representatives including engineers and a lawyer on December 3<sup>rd</sup> along with representatives from Cortlandville and Solon. The Town has also received a letter regarding the project which he will be responding to after consulting with Kevin McMahon, who will be the Town's new Code Enforcement Officer as of January.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Anita W. Jebbett  
Town Clerk