

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Homer held on Wednesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009, in the board room of the Town Hall Building was called to order by Supervisor Frederick J. Forbes at 7:30 p.m.

#### PRESENT

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

Supervisor Forbes led those present in the pledge of allegiance.

#### MINUTES

**The minutes of the May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009, Town Board meeting were approved with one correction (Randy Thomas was changed to Randy Cooper), on motion by Councilman Weddle, seconded by Councilman Williams and carried unanimously.**

#### MONTHLY REPORTS

Presented for audit by the Board were:

1. The Town Clerk's monthly report of all receipts and disbursements for the month of May.
2. The Supervisor's monthly report of all moneys received and disbursed for the month of May.
3. The Code Enforcement Officer's report of building permits issued in May.

#### BILLS TO BE PAID

General bills were approved as audited on motion by Councilman Williams, seconded by Councilman Young and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that General vouchers #131 through #158 totaling \$43,779.69 be approved for payment.**

Highway bills were approved as audited on motion by Councilman Warren, seconded by Councilman Williams and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that Highway vouchers #91 through #110 totaling \$70,661.44 be approved for payment.**

#### NEW BUSINESS

Board of Assessment Review – Supervisor Forbes informed the Town Board that BAR member Hugh Riehlman is planning to resign. Forbes also said that Assessor's Office employee and former Councilmember Fran Armstrong had suggested that an alternate BAR member be named in the event one member is unable to serve. Supervisor Forbes asked the Town Board to consider who they wish to appoint to fill those two positions. Town Clerk Jebbett said that they would need to appoint members of the Board of Assessment Review by the September meeting.

Proposal by Reagan Agency for Liability Insurance – Supervisor Forbes said that the proposal for insurance coverage for 2009-2010 had come in at slightly less than last year's (which cost \$26,767.00) at \$26,193.00.

On motion by Councilman Williams, seconded by Councilman Warren and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that the Town Board hereby accepts the proposal by Reagan Agency of Marcellus for liability insurance coverage from June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009, through June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010, and agrees to pay the premium of \$26,193.00.**

On motion by Councilman Warren, seconded by Councilman Williams and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that the Town Board hereby elects to reject the Terrorism Risk Insurance Coverage offered by Reagan Agency.**

## OLD BUSINESS

Contract with Scott and Preble for a Farmland Protection Grant – Supervisor Forbes discussed the consulting contract to be signed by himself and by the Supervisor of the Town of Preble with the American Farmland Trust. The Town has received a grant in cooperation with the Towns of Scott and Preble to develop a Farmland Protection policy. Supervisor Forbes said that Preble has lost its grant at this point. Councilman Young recommended tabling the signing of the consulting contract until Preble obtains its share of the grant money.

Town Hall Renovations – Supervisor Forbes reported that Architect Randy Crawford had not yet prepared the bid specifications for the repair of the Town Hall windows and purchase of exterior storm windows, as well as repair of the concrete on the building's exterior. He had recommended to Crawford that the specifications for a new entrance to the Senior Center and Court Room be prepared as a separate bid.

Time-Warner Cable - Councilman Williams is to look into the possibility of obtaining internet access and telephone service through Time-Warner Cable.

## HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Highway Superintendent Phelps reported on the Hatfield Hill Road project. They have used grindings to lay a base, have expanded the shoulders of the road, and placed guardrail in one area. He said he is hoping to have it oil-and-stoned soon. The cost of the project will come out of the CHIPS money proposed for 2009.

Phelps said that they also repaired the shoulders of the road on Houghton Hill and the Briar Wood subdivision.

New Town Hall parking lot - Randy Cooper is to put the top coat on the Town Hall's new parking lot this month. Supervisor Forbes said that there has been some confusion about exiting out the entrance to the new parking lot and asked Phelps to place signs that inform drivers that it is not an exit onto North Main Street. There was some discussion about lighting the new parking lot and Councilman Warren agreed to speak with electrician Lew Heath about getting an outdoor light fixture with a clock and a light sensor, after a suggestion by Councilman Williams.

Superintendent Phelps said that he also plans to re-surface Sweeney Road this summer.

## ATTORNEY FOR THE TOWN

Just Dandy assessment case – Attorney Pat Snyder reported on his meeting with Town Assessor Nedra Griswold who said that she feels the current assessment is justified. He said that it is now up to the Just Dandy owners to obtain appraisals by October 1<sup>st</sup>. Depending on what they do, the Town may be going to court over the matter.

There was some discussion about the proposed Local Road Protection Law drafted by Attorney Snyder which would require companies hauling large, heavy equipment over Town roads to obtain a permit.

## CONSOLIDATION COMMITTEE

Supervisor Forbes reported on the first meeting of the committee to consider the pros and cons of consolidating the Towns of Homer and Scott. He said that he felt it was successful and reported on accurately by the news media. The June meeting will address the Towns' budgets and at the July meeting they will discuss the highway departments.

Supervisor Forbes asked the Town Clerk to mail to the Zoning and Planning Boards information about schooling at Onondaga Community College in August sponsored by the Association of Towns.

Highway Superintendent Phelps said that he will be checking with the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation about taking a test in order that he is permitted to spray weeds in the right-of-way.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Anita W. Jebbett  
Town Clerk