

Organizational Meeting
January 5, 2011

The annual organizational meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Homer held in the board room of the Town Hall Building on Wednesday, January 5th, 2011, 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
Anita W. Jebbett, Town Clerk

OTHERS PRESENT

John Daniels, Code Enforcement Officer
Michael Park, Cortland County legislator
Randy Petruzzi
Ed Finkbeiner, reporter, The Homer News

Supervisor Forbes led those present in the pledge of allegiance.

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 December.
2. The Dog Control Officer's monthly report of all activities for the month of December.
3. The Code Enforcement Officer's monthly report of all building permits issued for the month of December.

ANNUAL REPORTS

Presented for audit by the Board were:

1. The Town Clerk's annual report of total receipts and disbursements for 2010.
2. The Code Enforcement Officer's annual report of all 2010 building permits issued.

MINUTES

The minutes of the December 8th regular meeting and the December 29th year end meeting were approved as presented, on motion by Councilman Young, seconded by Councilman Weddle.

BILLS TO BE PAID

General bills were approved as audited on motion by Councilman Warren, seconded by Councilman Young and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that General vouchers #353 through #365 for 2010 bills totaling \$2,713.32, and #1 through #5 for 2011 bills totaling \$1,185.00 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 #240 through #251 for 2010 bills totaling \$3,722.78, and #1 for 2011 bills totaling \$595.00 be approved for payment.**

NEW BUSINESS

County Communications System Upgrade – Michael Park, Cortland County legislator, was present to explain the costly upgrade mandated by the federal government by 2013. He explained that the upgrade has come about as a result of changes after 9-11. It had been thought that the State would help finance the mandated changes, but recently the State has left it up to the Counties to make the necessary changes. After much research into the system upgrade which at first was thought to cost around \$25 million, the low bid came in at around \$16 million. Park said that he had changed his mind after looking into the issue more thoroughly, and now thinks the \$16 million is preferable to a still costly “band-aid” approach to upgrading all emergency communications within the County.

Lakeside Apartments, Little York – Randy Petruzzi was present to complain about the way Code Enforcement Officer John Daniels had handled a building permit issued to then owner Vincent Bruno. Petruzzi said that he had been buying the apartments on “land contract” from Bruno and that he had problems getting a building permit so that he could rent the apartments. Daniels explained that Petruzzi had never submitted the proper paperwork or allowed the proper inspections of the work he was doing. Daniels said that there is now a new owner who has submitted all the proper paperwork, and has been issued a building permit. After some more discussion, Attorney Snyder said that Petruzzi had made his point and that the Town Board needed to move onto other matters.

Supervisor Forbes said that the Town Board fully supports Code Enforcement Officer Daniels and that they believe that he had made the correct decisions concerning this situation.

ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS

On motion by Councilman Young, seconded by Councilman Warren and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that the following appointments and resolutions for 2011 are hereby adopted:**

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|---|--|
| 1. Deputy Supervisor | Dan A. Weddle |
| 2. Town Meeting Dates | Monthly; 1st Wednesday |
| after | the 1st Tuesday |
| 3. Official Newspaper | Cortland Standard |
| 4. Official Depository for Town Funds | Key Bank |
| 5. Attorney for the Town | Patrick M. Snyder |
| 6. Budget Officer | Frederick J. Forbes |
| 7. Deputy Highway Superintendent | Dale K. Everts |
| 8. Town Clerk/Tax Collector | (no appt for 2011) |
| 9. Deputy Town Clerk/Collector | “ |
| 10. Registrar of Vital Statistics | “ |
| 11. Deputy Registrar | “ |
| 12. Dog Control Officer | Paul C. Burhans |
| 13. Code Enforcement Officer | John R. Daniels |
| 14. Fire Inspector | John R. Daniels |
| 15. Board of Appeals member appointments | Chad Butts |
| | Daniel Gustafson |
|
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| 16. Planning Board member appointments | Robert Perry |
| | Michael Park |
| 17. PB/AB/ZRB chairman rate per meeting | \$50/meeting |
| 18. PB/AB/ZRB member rate per meeting | \$30/meeting |
| 19. Mileage allowance for Town Officials | per Fed govt. allowance |
| 21. Approval to invest surplus funds | Frederick J. Forbes |
| 22. Hourly rate for Highway employees | \$.24/hour increase |
| 23. Bid price for abrasive/salt | Cortland County |
| 24. Bid price for fuel | Village of Homer |
| 25. Appointments to Board of Assessment | |
| Review – Temporary member – 1 year | Hugh Riehlman |

26. Board of Assessment Review rate	\$100/day
27. Appointment of delegate to Association of Towns meeting	none
28. Town Historian appointment	Martin Sweeney
29. Resolution-salaries as stated in budget	yes
30. Town Board members salaries paid monthly	yes
31. Resolution-utility bills to be paid upon receipt	yes

Councilman Williams questioned the designation of Cortland Standard as the Town's official newspaper. He said that The Homer News is more widely read by Homer residents. Attorney Pat Snyder said that he would check into the issue for the Town Board.

ATTORNEY FOR THE TOWN

Attorney Snyder reported that the Town has now received a refund from Time Warner for the errors it had made in the franchise fees in the past. The matter was investigated and pursued by Computel's Mike Caton who has received one-half of the Town's \$11,000+ refund. The check received did include interest which Time Warner is not allowed to charge back to the subscribers.

There was some discussion about another company hoping to come into the Cortland County area to provide cable and internet service in competition with Time Warner which Town Board members agreed would be a good thing.

Attorney Snyder said that he has yet to hear back from the attorneys for Henkel Corp concerning their assessment lawsuit. On behalf of the Town he had offered to accept their requested reduction in assessed value provided that they waive any repayment of back taxes.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Anita W. Jebbett
Town Clerk