

Regular Meeting
July 6, 2011

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Homer held in the board room of the Town Hall Building on Wednesday, July 6th, 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

Paul C. Burhans, Dog Control Officer
Ed Finkbeiner, reporter, The Homer News

Supervisor Forbes led those present in the pledge of allegiance.

MINUTES

The minutes of the June 8th board meeting were approved as presented, on motion by Councilman Weddle, seconded by Councilman Young 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 June.
2. The Supervisor's report of all cash receipts and disbursements for May.
3. The Dog Control Officer's report of all activities for June.
4. The Code Enforcement Officer's report of all building permits issued for June.

BILLS TO BE PAID

General bills were approved as audited on motion by Councilman Williams, seconded by Councilman Weddle and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that General vouchers #159 through #184 totaling \$23,815.88 be approved for payment.**

Highway bills were approved as audited on motion by Councilman Young, seconded by Councilman Williams and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that Highway vouchers #102 through #119 totaling \$25,306.73 be approved for payment.**

OLD BUSINESS

Village complaint re Town Hall air quality – Supervisor Forbes reported that the last hearing on the Worker's Compensation claim filed by Village Clerk LouAnne Randall was held on June 30th. It may take two or three works before the Judge makes a decision in the matter.

As to the matter of the Notices of Claim that were filed, Randall and former Mayor Michael McDermott will give depositions on Thursday, July 7th, in the Community Building.

Proposed Crown City Wind Farm – Supervisor Forbes distributed a detailed description of setbacks proposed by TCI Renewables, the company proposing the wind farm. He asked Board members to review the setbacks and be prepared to discuss them at the August meeting.

Assessment lawsuits - Forbes reported that the Town had agreed to a settlement in the David Yaman lawsuit involving the First Niagara Bank building and is waiting for the Judge to sign the agreement.

The Henkel assessment lawsuit has not yet been settled and a meeting will be scheduled when Assessor Briggs returns from vacation.

A new lawsuit has been filed by Barry and Patricia Ryan regarding the new assessment on their home at 16 North Main Street.

Town Hall Exterior Rehab Project - Supervisor Forbes said that he and Councilman Warren would be meeting with Jon Carnes of Crawford & Stearns, Architects, and Scott Crysler of Diamond & Thiel Construction Company, on Tuesday, July 12th, for a final walk-through of the exterior rehabilitation project which involved window repairs/replacement, masonry repairs and the construction of a new portico for the Justice Court and Senior Center.

Forbes reported that he had again contacted State Senator Seward's office regarding the \$100,000 State grant that has been awarded to the Town but not yet received. They assured him that it would be forthcoming.

New equalization rate – Supervisor Forbes reported that the new equalization rate for the Town is 100%. The assessment update is complete and the Final Roll has been issued and is available for review in the Town Clerk's Office.

Draft Farmland Protection Plan - Forbes reported that a joint meeting of the Homer Town Board, Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals will be held on Thursday, July 21st, at 7:00 p.m. in the board room of the Town Hall Building to review the revised draft plan.

Village Recreation contract – Supervisor Forbes said that the 2011 contract has not yet been received.

NEW BUSINESS

On motion by Councilman Williams, seconded by Supervisor Forbes and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that Karen J. Livingston hereby is appointed as the Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector to replace Barbara Crandall who retired as of June 30th.**

Building Code Enforcement Evaluation Report – Supervisor Forbes gave Councilman Warren a copy of the report to review and report on for the August meeting. The report was prepared by an independent agency, ISO, for the insurance industry.

Road Survey – the Southern Tier Regional Planning & Development Board will be conducting a survey of Town roads and will make a presentation of their results at a future Town Board meeting.

Note of appreciation – Supervisor Forbes read a note from Bob Haight of the Cortland County Chamber of Commerce thanking the Town for their Town Hall renovations and congratulating the Town on the receipt of an award from the Preservation Association of Central New York for that work.

Town Board meeting room - Clerk Jebbett reported that the Highway crew is in process of repairing damaged walls and painting the Town Board meeting room which is getting a facelift. Chairs donated by Key Bank were brought in and new pictures will be hung.

R. Osborne's Floor Covering will be installing carpeting to fill in spots opened up since the latest construction project and will be repairing the damage to the new flooring in front of the elevator. The damage repair will be billed to the Village.

ATTORNEY FOR THE TOWN

Attorney Patrick Snyder said that he is preparing resolutions regarding the Town's health insurance policy and the setting of a fee for a floodplain development permit which he will present at the August meeting.

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

Anita W. Jebbett
Town Clerk