

Regular Meeting
September 4, 2013

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Homer held on Wednesday, September 4, 2013, 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
Patrick M. Snyder, Attorney for the Town
John R. Phelps, Highway Superintendent
Anita W. Jebbett, Town Clerk

ABSENT

Brian D. Young, Councilman

OTHERS PRESENT

Michael Park, Chairman, Cortland County Legislature
Don Ferris, reporter, The Homer News

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MINUTES

The minutes of the July 31st special meeting and the August 7th regular meeting were approved as presented, on motion by Councilman Warren, seconded by Councilman Weddle and carried unanimously.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Presented for audit by the Board were:

1. The Town Clerk's report of all receipts & disbursements for August.
2. The Code Enforcement Officer's report of building permits issued for August.
3. The Dog Control Officer's report of all activities for July and August.

BILLS TO BE PAID

General bills were approved as audited on motion by Councilman Warren, seconded by Councilman Weddle and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that General vouchers #180 through #194 totaling \$5,380.52 be approved for payment.**

Highway bills were approved as audited on motion by Councilman Williams, seconded by Councilman Weddle and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that Highway vouchers #122 through #133 totaling \$51,750.96 be approved for payment.**

OLD BUSINESS

Town Hall painting – Councilman Warren presented three bids for the painting of the front pillars and dome of the Town Hall.

1. Chuck's Painting - \$1,943 for the pillars, and \$4,090 for the dome plus the cost of a lift.
2. Wade Sprouse - \$3,360 for the pillars, and \$2,710 for the dome including the cost of the lift.
3. Halliwell Painting - \$1,850 for the pillars, and \$2,600 for the dome including the cost of the lift.

On motion by Councilman Williams, seconded by Councilman Warren and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that the bid of Halliwell Painting be accepted for the painting of the Town Hall dome and pillars for up to \$4450.**

Highway Superintendent Phelps said that he had received three quotes for the use of a lift if the Town needed to supply a lift, with Duke Rental as the lowest at \$700 per week for a 60-foot lift. The other bids were from Drumm Construction for \$1050 per week and Admar Supply for \$800.

NEW BUSINESS

Homer School District renovation – On motion by Councilman Warren, seconded by Councilman Weddle and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that the Town of Homer hereby agrees that the Homer School District be the lead agency in the SEQRA process for their proposed renovations.**

Assessor appointment – On motion by Supervisor Forbes, seconded by Councilman Weddle and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that Assessor David Briggs be re-appointed to serve a 6-year term as Assessor for the Town of Homer.**

Chairs for board room – On motion by Councilman Williams, seconded by Councilman Warren and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that 10 new chairs be purchased for use in the board room at a cost not to exceed \$300.**

Complaint from Slade Drive – A complaint was received from Bill Dunning of Slade Drive regarding an unregistered, uninspected van on the corner of Slade Drive and Route 13 that he alleges is sitting in the Town right-of-way. He said that it presents a hazard because it blocks the view of someone attempting to turn onto Route 13 and he asked the Town to do something about it.

Highway Superintendent Phelps said that he would check to see if it is in the right-of-way of the Town or state roadway. Supervisor Forbes said that the current Town Zoning Law allows a property owner to have one unlicensed or unregistered vehicle. He said that a letter has been written to the property owners by the Code Enforcement Officer regarding the vehicle.

Budget workshop – Supervisor Forbes scheduled a budget workshop for Wednesday, October 16th, at 7:00 p.m.

Farmland Protection Grant – Supervisor Forbes reported that the final payment on the Farmland Protection Grant has been received.

On motion by Supervisor Forbes, seconded by Councilman Williams and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that Branden Brown, Bill Anderson and Councilman Brian Young be appointed to serve as the Town of Homer's Agricultural Advisory Committee.**

Reagan Agency – Supervisor Forbes said that the Town would be receiving a refund from the former liability insurance carrier, Selective Insurance, following an audit which found that the Town was overcharged by \$465.00.

Records disposition – On motion by Councilman Williams, seconded by Councilman Weddle and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that in accordance with the *Records Retention and Disposition Schedule MU-1*, issued pursuant to Article 57-A of the Arts & Cultural Affairs Law of the State of New York, the following records have been determined by the Records Management Officer to be eligible for disposition (see attached list) and that ProShred Security be utilized for that purpose at a cost not to exceed \$60.**

Town Clerk seminar – On motion by Councilman Warren, seconded by Councilman Williams and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk be authorized to attend a seminar presented by the New York State Town Clerk's Association in Corning on Monday, September 23rd.**

Proposed changes to Comprehensive Plan – Supervisor Forbes said that the Town will be holding a public hearing regarding the changes to the Town’s Comprehensive Plan as proposed by the Zoning Advisory Committee on hydro-fracking, following review by the County Planning Board. The public hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, October 2nd, at 7:00 p.m.

Forbes asked Town Board members to write down any questions they may have for the Zoning Advisory Committee regarding their recommendations for changes to the zoning law and to bring them to a special meeting of the Board which will be scheduled for a later date.

COUNTY LEGISLATURE

Mike Park, Homer legislator & chairman of the County Legislature, was present to report on recent items being discussed by the Legislature, and in particular, a proposed agreement between Cortland County and Onondaga County in regard to the County landfill. He invited Board members to attend a special meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 10th, at 6 p.m. at the County Office Building to discuss plans for the County to transfer its trash to the Onondaga County trash incinerator in exchange for depositing the ash from the incinerator in the Cortland County landfill. Park outlined the proposed arrangement which he described as a “win-win” situation for both counties. He said that he plans to keep all Town boards well informed about the proposed agreement.

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Highway Superintendent John Phelps reported on the department’s activities over the past month. They assisted both the Village of Homer and Town of Preble with their projects, and will be helping Cortlandville next. The Town has chip-sealed 3.5 miles of roadway and is planning to do 4 more miles. They will also be trimming trees and Stub’s Tree Service will be removing a few trees. By the end of the month Phelps said he plans to get all the salt and sand mixed for the upcoming winter season. Also, Phelps is working with the NYSDEC to obtain a permit for the removal of gravel from Haight’s Gulf after a large quantity of gravel washed down the creek after recent heavy rains.

On motion by Supervisor Forbes, seconded by Councilman Williams, and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that Randolph Cooper Paving be hired to top up the parking lot at the rear of the Town Hall, weather permitting, with the Town supplying the materials and trucking, at a total cost not to exceed \$10,000.**

ATTORNEY FOR THE TOWN

Attorney Patrick Snyder reported that the Barber Funeral Home assessment lawsuit appears to be close to being settled.

He said that he had been asked by the Village of Homer to advise them regarding the housing project proposed by Ken DeMunn.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Anita W. Jebbett
Town Clerk