

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Homer held in the board room of the Town Hall building on Wednesday, February 5, 2014, was called to order by Supervisor Frederick J. Forbes at 6:30 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

Gordon Wheelock, Cortland County legislator
Victor Siegle, Wind Power Committee
Michael Barylski, resident, Town of Cortlandville
Bob Beard, resident, Town of Cortlandville
Tyrone Heppard, reporter, Cortland Standard

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MINUTES

The minutes of the January 8th public hearing and organizational meeting were approved as presented, on motion by Councilman Williams, seconded by Councilman Young and carried unanimously.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Presented for audit by the Board were:

1. The Town Clerk's report of all receipts and disbursements for January.
2. The Code Enforcement Officer's report of all building permits issued in January and a listing of open permits.

BILLS TO BE PAID

General bills were approved as audited on motion by Councilman Young, seconded by Councilman Williams and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that General vouchers #7 through #33 totaling \$19,308.92 be approved for payment.**

Highway bills were approved as audited on motion by Councilman Warren, seconded by Councilman Weddle and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that Highway vouchers #3 through #18 totaling \$28,927.28 be approved for payment.**

NEW BUSINESS

Extension of tax collection - On motion by Councilman Young, seconded by Councilman Williams and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that the Town of Homer hereby requests that the County grant them an extension of time through May 31st, 2014, for the Town of Homer Tax Collector to collect taxes.**

Winterfest fireworks permit – On motion by Councilman Warren, seconded by Councilman Weddle and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that the Town of Homer hereby waives the \$50 fee for the Fireworks Permit issued by the Town’s Deputy Code Enforcement Officer for the Homer Winterfest fireworks display.**

In response to a question by Supervisor Forbes, Attorney Snyder advised the Town to continue to address the issue of a waiver of the Fireworks Permit fee each year.

Wind Energy Local Law – Wind Power Committee member Victor Siegle discussed the minor changes to the Town’s proposed Wind Energy Law that were made following a hearing by the Cortland County Planning Board and a meeting of the Committee. There was discussion regarding those changes and whether or not to hold another public hearing.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion by Supervisor Forbes, seconded by Councilman Warren and carried unanimously, the Town entered into an executive session at 6:45 p.m. in order to obtain legal counsel from the Attorney for the Town. Attorney Snyder stated that he would give legal advice to the Board about adopting local laws in general, but nothing specific to the Wind Energy Law.

On motion by Supervisor Forbes, seconded by Councilman Young and carried unanimously, the executive session was closed at 6:50 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION, CONTINUED

Wind Energy Local Law, continued – On motion by Supervisor Forbes, seconded by Councilman Weddle and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that the proposed local law on Wind Energy Facilities be sent back to the Cortland Planning Department with the proposed changes; that the Town schedule a public hearing on the revised local law on Wednesday, March 5th, at 6:00 p.m.; and that the Wind Power Committee be asked to provide the Board with a completed environmental assessment form.** It was understood that a SEQR determination must be adopted prior to the adoption of any Wind Energy Law.

Michael Barylski asked whether the Town would accept written comments prior to the public hearing. Attorney Snyder said that the Town would accept written comments any time prior to or at the public hearing.

Postage meter refill – On motion by Supervisor Forbes, seconded by Councilman Williams and carried unanimously, **the Town Clerk was authorized to add \$300 to the Town’s postage meter.**

Agriculture Committee - Councilman Young agreed to schedule a meeting of the Town’s Agriculture Committee, consisting of Larry Jones, Branden Brown, Bill Anderson and himself, at their earliest convenience.

Pride Partnership Agreement – On motion by Supervisor Forbes, seconded by Councilman Williams and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that the Town Board hereby authorizes Supervisor Forbes to sign the “Pride Partnership Agreement” with the Homer Central School District on behalf of the Town, and that Councilman Williams is appointed as the Town’s representative to the “Signing” celebration on February 12th at 5:00 p.m. at the High School Library.**

The purpose of the agreement is to consistently stress the character traits of Partnership, Respect, Integrity, Diversity and Excellence in all dealing with youth.

Town Hall renovation – Supervisor Forbes asked Board members to consider interior renovation of the Town Hall, something which has been put on hold since the Village moved their offices elsewhere three years ago. Board members agreed to consider all their options and the issue will be discussed at a future meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Anita W. Jebbett
Town Clerk