

Organizational Meeting
January 6, 2016

The annual organizational meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Homer held on Wednesday, January 6, 2016, in the board room of the Town Hall building was called to order by Supervisor Frederick J. Forbes, Sr., at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Frederick J. Forbes, Sr., Supervisor
Larry R. Jones, Councilman
Michael R. Park, Councilman
Barry E. Warren, Councilman
Kevin M. Williams, Councilman
Patrick M. Snyder, Attorney for the Town
John R. Phelps, Highway Superintendent
Anita W. Jebbett, Town Clerk

OTHERS PRESENT

William Foley, Town Justice
Linda Jones, County Legislator
John Kaminski, Supervisor, Town of Virgil
Donald Ferris, reporter, The Homer News

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Supervisor Forbes welcomed new Town Board members Larry Jones and Michael Park.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Presented for audit by the Board were:

1. The Town Clerk's monthly report of all receipts & disbursements for December.
2. The Supervisor's report of all cash receipts & disbursements for December.
3. The Dog Control Officer's report of all activities for December.

ANNUAL REPORTS

Presented for audit by the Board were:

1. The Town Clerk's annual report of all receipts & disbursements for the year 2015.
2. The report of accessible parking permits issued in 2015 (78).

BILLS TO BE PAID

General bills were approved as audited on motion by Councilman Park, seconded by Councilman Warren and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that General vouchers #334 through #339 for 2015 totaling \$1,025.15, and General vouchers #1 through #5 for 2016 totaling \$1,742.00 be approved for payment.**

Highway bills were approved as audited on motion by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilman Park and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that Highway vouchers #225 through #231 for 2015 totaling \$3,637.57, and Highway voucher #1 for 2016 totaling \$150.00 be approved for payment.**

ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS AND RESOLUTIONS

On motion by Supervisor Forbes, seconded by Councilman Warren and carried unanimously: RESOLVED: that the following appointments and resolutions for the year 2016 are hereby approved:

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| 1. Deputy Supervisor | Michael Park |
| 2. Town Meeting Dates | Monthly; 1 st Wednesday after the 1 st Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. |
| 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 | Anita W. Jebbett |
| 9. Deputy Town Clerk/Collector | Karen J. Livingston |
| 10. Registrar of Vital Statistics | Anita W. Jebbett |
| 11. Deputy Registrar | Karen J. Livingston |
| 12. Dog Control Officer | Lindsay Andersen |
| 13. Code Enforcement Officer | John R. Daniels |
| 14. Deputy Code Enforcement Officer | Kevin J. McMahan |
| 15. Fire Inspector | John R. Daniels |
| 16. Deputy Fire Inspector | Kevin J. McMahan |
| 17. Board of Appeals member | Daniel Gustafson |
| Appointments | Zachary Young |
| | John Miller |
| 18. Planning Board member Appointments | Chad Butts |
| | Michael May |
| 19. PB/AB/ZRB chairman rate per meeting | \$50/meeting |
| 20. PB/AB/ZRB member rate per meeting | \$30/meeting |
| 21. Mileage allowance for Town Officials | per Fed govt. allowance |
| 22. Approval to invest surplus funds | Frederick J. Forbes |
| 23. Hourly rate for Highway employees | as per budget adopted |
| 24. Bid price for abrasive/salt | NYS bid price |
| 25. Bid price for fuel | Cortland County |
| 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 |

Supervisor Forbes appointed the Councilmembers to be on committees for various departments as follows:

- Williams & Jones – Justice Court audit
- Williams & Park – Highway Department
- Williams & Park – Liability insurance (Highway)
- Williams & Park – Town bridges
- Warren – Buildings & grounds
- Warren – Liability insurance (Buildings)
- Warren & Park – Health insurance
- Williams – Information technology
- Williams & Jones – Shared Assessor committee
- Williams & Jones – Assessor office and Assessment Review Board

NEW BUSINESS

Housing grant application – Supervisor Forbes reported that Thoma Development Consultants said that once again the Town was not awarded a grant for housing rehabilitation. They said we would be getting official notification soon and invited Town officials to participate in a telephone conference

with the State in which they would explain why the Town was turned down. There was some discussion about whether or not the Town could apply again in the future at a reduced rate from Thoma.

Fingerlakes Technologies –Supervisor Forbes said that he will bring a progress report from the high-speed fiber optic company to the February meeting.

Homer Fire Department dinner – Forbes encouraged Board members to take turns attending the annual dinner of the Homer Fire Department. He said the Town needs to show its support for all that the Department does for the Town.

Town Justice Court – Forbes also encouraged Board members to attend a session of Town Justice Court to observe.

Postage meter refill – On motion by Supervisor Forbes, seconded by Councilman Park and carried unanimously, **the Town Clerk was authorized to add \$1,000 to the postage meter.**

Highway employee raises – Highway Superintendent Phelps said that he was very pleased with all of the current employees who do a good job for the Town with fewer of them than in the past. On motion by Councilman Warren, seconded by Councilman Jones and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that all Town Highway Department employees will receive a \$.50 raise, or about a 3% increase, in pay for 2016.**

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Highway Superintendent Phelps reported that the construction of the new addition to the Town Garage should be starting within the next couple of days. They should upon its completion be able to have all their equipment under cover.

Due to the lack of snow the crew has been continuing to cut brush along the roadsides. Phelps attended a meeting with representatives of the State DOT about sharing services in the event of an emergency, and he will be attending a meeting with State Senator Seward to discuss increasing State funding for local highways.

TOWN JUSTICE

Justice Foley addressed the Town Board to report on the current status of the Court. He said that fees were up, but the number of cases was down. They are working to keep up on the suspension of licenses for non-payment of tickets, something which has increased their revenues. Out of 1567 cases last year, 200 were criminal cases. Foley reminded Board members that he cannot handle cases in which they are involved, even if something takes place in their businesses, because it would be a conflict of interest.

COUNTY LEGISLATOR

Linda Jones, County Legislator, reported on activities of the Legislature over the past month. There was discussion about recycling and the County landfill.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion by Supervisor Forbes, seconded by Councilman Park, and carried unanimously, it was resolved to enter into an executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular person at 6:45 p.m.

On motion by Councilman Warren, seconded by Councilman Jones, and carried unanimously, the executive session was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Anita W Jebbett
Town Clerk