

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Homer held on Wednesday, August 2, 2017, in the board room of the Town Hall building was called to order by Frederick J. Forbes, Sr., at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Frederick J. Forbes, Sr., Supervisor
Larry R. Jones, Councilman
Michael R. Park, Councilman
Barry E. Warren, Councilman
Kevin M. Williams, Councilman
Anita W. Jebbett, Town Clerk

ABSENT

Patrick M. Snyder, Attorney for the Town

OTHERS PRESENT

Linda Jones, County Legislator
Nick Graziano, reporter, Cortland Standard

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MINUTES

The minutes of the July 5th regular meeting were approved as presented, on motion by Councilman Park, seconded by Councilman Jones and carried unanimously.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Presented for audit by the Board:

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

BILLS TO BE PAID

General bills were approved as audited on motion by Councilman Warren, seconded by Councilman Williams and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that General vouchers #145 through #168 totaling \$19,505.03 be approved for payment. (Correction made)**

Highway bills were approved as audited on motion by Councilman Jones, seconded by Councilman Warren and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that Highway vouchers #124 through #144 totaling \$78,188.22 be approved for payment.**

Capital Projects Fund bills for the Community Block Grant were approved as audited on motion by Councilman Warren, seconded by Councilman Park and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that Community Development vouchers #2 & #3 totaling \$4,042.01 be approved for payment.**

OLD BUSINESS

Worker's Compensation – Supervisor Forbes reported on several meetings he has attended at the County to discuss how to improve the County-run Workers Compensation Self-Insurance Fund. The County is now willing to set up a 9-person committee to oversee workers' compensation, with three representatives from the County and six from the City, Towns and Villages.

On motion by Supervisor Forbes, seconded by Councilman Park and carried unanimously:
RESOLVED: that the Town Board agrees that Patrick Quinn, current member of the Scott Town Board, be nominated as a member of the new County Workers' Compensation committee.

Forbes said that Quinn's work experience in insurance specializing in risk management should make him a valuable member of the committee.

Councilman Williams said that he and Supervisor Forbes recommend that the Town stay at least one more year in the County-run plan. The Town will save money by doing so and can hopefully continue to work with other municipalities in the County to better manage the plan and to build up a reserve.

Bridge update – Forbes said that Attorney Snyder continues to check for the State release of the grant application for the Bridge NY program.

Liability Insurance – On motion by Supervisor Forbes, seconded by Councilman Williams and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that the Town's liability and public officials' insurance be renewed with Bailey-Place Agency for \$28,200.13 from August 19th, 2017 to August 19th, 2018.**

Supervisor Forbes suggested that next year the Town go out to bid for liability insurance coverage, which would be every three years.

Department of Motor Vehicles drop box – Homer Iron Works has now moved the DMV drop box from the side of the building to a free-standing post near the south-west corner of the Town Hall, in response to a request by the County Clerk's Office.

Court audit – Councilman Williams said that he and Councilman Jones would be conducting their annual audit of the Court in September.

NEW BUSINESS

Cayuga Lake watershed – Supervisor Forbes presented an invoice from the Cayuga Lake Watershed Network for its annual dues of \$300, and said that only a very small corner of the Town is in the Cayuga Lake watershed.

On motion by Councilman Warren, seconded by Councilman Jones and carried unanimously:
RESOLVED: that the Town not contribute to Cayuga Lake Watershed Network.

Village lease – Attorney Snyder has prepared a form for the lease by the Village of office space in the Town Hall and it has been sent to the Village Attorney for his review. The Board suggested that wording be added in the event the Village chooses to move into the two front offices prior to the renovations being done, for leasing the smaller space.

Forbes said that a renovation cost estimator hired through Architect Randy Crawford should be reporting back to the Town in the near future.

Dog census – Town Clerk Jebbett reported that while they were pleased with the results of the summer 2017 Village dog census so far, licensing 62 new dogs, she said that there are still many unlicensed dogs in the Village. In September or October Dog Control Lindsay Andersen has agreed to make some random door-to-door visits to problem areas of the Village.

Bank information – Supervisor Forbes reported that he and Councilman Park have met with representatives from both Key Bank and the First National Bank of Dryden regarding the Town's accounts and bank fees. Forbes said that he will research further and report to the Board at a future date.

Health insurance – Councilman Williams said that he has attended a meeting of the Greater Tompkins County Health Consortium. He is impressed with the regional consortium and said that both the Village of Homer and the City of Cortland currently have their health insurance through this group. He will be getting more information together for the September meeting.

COUNTY LEGISLATOR

County Legislator Linda Jones reported that because it is budget time for the County, she and a small group of legislators have been gathering information on counties similar in size and contiguous to Cortland to see if they could determine where savings might be made in Cortland County which has a higher tax rate. She handed out charts of just some of the information that they have compiled so far. Legislator Jones commended the Town Board for their business acumen and problem solving abilities.

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

Anita W. Jebbett
Town Clerk