

Regular Meeting  
June 8, 2022

The regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Homer held on Wednesday, June 8, 2022, in the Town Hall Senior Center was called to order by Supervisor Frederick J. Forbes Sr. at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Frederick J. Forbes, Sr., Supervisor  
Michael R. Park, Deputy Supervisor  
Barry E. Warren, Councilmember  
Kevin M. Williams, Councilmember  
Patrick M. Snyder, Attorney for the Town  
Heather M. Hill, Town Clerk  
Brooke L. Poli, Deputy Clerk

OTHERS PRESENT

Tim Malchak, Town of Homer Resident  
Mary Dafoe, Town of Homer Resident  
Gary Lawrence, Town of Homer Resident  
Cathy Lawrence, Town of Homer Resident  
Emmanuel Pothos, Cortland Resident  
Kevin Smith, Cortland Voice  
George & Eileen Griffith, Little York Resident  
Paul & Barb Stepien, Little York Resident  
Linda Underwood, Little York Resident  
Lori Haas, Little York Resident  
Jon Kozlowski, Cortlandville Resident  
Melissa Dugan, Town of Homer Resident  
Steve Major, Preble Resident  
Brenda Contento, Preble Resident  
Sarah Head, Town of Homer Resident  
Jeremy Barber, Town of Homer Resident  
Chris Young, Town of Homer Resident  
Andy Young, Town of Homer Resident  
Roland Lascari, Town of Homer Resident  
Bob Haight, Chamber of Commerce, Town of Cortlandville Resident  
Paul Norris, Town of Homer Resident  
Melanie Vilardi, Fabius Resident  
Mani Pacheco, Little York Resident  
Christine Pacheco, Little York Resident

ABSENT

Larry Jones, Councilmember

PLEDGE

MINUTES

On motion by Deputy Supervisor Park, seconded by Councilmember Williams and carried unanimously:  
**RESOLVED: The minutes of the May 4th, 2022 meeting, were approved as presented.**

MONTHLY REPORTS

Presented for audit by the Town Board were:

1. The Town Clerk's report of all receipts and disbursements for May 2022.
2. The Code Enforcement Officer's report of all building permits issued for May 2022.
3. The Dog Control Officer's report of all activities for May.

BILLS TO BE PAID

General bills were approved as audited by Councilmember Warren, motioned by Councilmember Warren, seconded by Councilmember Williams, and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that General Fund vouchers #92 through #118 totaling \$14,240.73 are approved for payment.**

Highway bills were approved as audited by Deputy Supervisor Park, motioned by Deputy Supervisor Park, seconded by Councilmember Warren, and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: that Highway Fund vouchers #75 through #91 totaling \$266,600.10 are approved for payment.**

#### APPROVAL FOR POINT BROAD BAND TO OPERATE ON TAMARACK LANE

Supervisor Forbes asked the Town Board's approval for Point Broad Band to install internet service on Tamarack Lane. Highway Superintendent John Phelps suggested to Forbes that the Town Board may want to consider making a mandatory depth for underground cable to avoid culvert pipe complications. Forbes asked Snyder if this should be added to the road laws. Snyder stated it would have to be a separate law dealing with road specifications.

On motion by Councilmember Warren, seconded by Deputy Supervisor Park and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: To approve Point Broad Band's installation of internet cable on Tamarack Lane.**

#### RECEIVE AND FILE RESIDENT LETTER – EDF

Supervisor Forbes stated that the Homer Town Board's goal is to negotiate with EDF a fair tax rate that would be good for the residents, county, and schools.

On motion by Deputy Supervisor Park, seconded by Councilmember Williams and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: To receive and file Terry Beard's letter of support for EDF.**

#### TOWN CLERKS CLEARANCE FOR SAFE DEPOSIT BOX AT FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF DRYDEN

On motion by Councilmember Warren, seconded by Deputy Supervisor Park and carried unanimously: **RESOLVED: to approve the Town Clerks to have access to the safe deposit box at the First National Bank of Dryden.**

#### INSTALLTION OF TOWN HALL - HIGH WINDOWS CLIMATE SAVERS

Mr. Forbes informed the Town Board of the eight high windows in the Town Hall that go up 120 inches into the ceiling. All eight windows have a heater located below. Due to the height of the windows and the Society of Historic Preservation Law not allowing for insulated windows, he would like to consider researching options for coverings for each window to help lower the cost of heating and cooling the Town Hall. The Board agreed to have Mr. Forbes bring back a price.

#### FUTURE OF SENIOR CENTER UPDATE (VAULTS)

Mr. Forbes asked the Town Board, as they move forward with evaluating future plans of the Senior Center, if they have any objection to possibly relocating the Town and Village vaults. This would save having the contractor change his plans numerous times. He suggested the Board's approval to relocate the vaults to utilize efficient space. Mr. Forbes suggested the vaults could potentially be moved next to each other at their current location or moved to the balcony. The Town Board agreed that these plans from the contractor were suitable and should move forward with further ideas in making the Senior Center space more efficient and getting the most value.

#### DEC HUNTING LICENSE EVENT

Mr. Forbes talked with the Town Clerks and Village Mayor Hal McCabe about a DEC Hunting License Event to include being open on August 6<sup>th</sup> for six to eight hours, with three issuing

agents available. Ideas are having vendors in the parking lot with hunting apparel, food, and games.

On motion by Deputy Supervisor Park, seconded by Councilmember Williams and carried unanimously:  
**RESOLVED: To move forward with the plans to host the DEC Hunting Event tentatively on August 6<sup>th</sup>, times, and specifics with be available at the next Town Board meeting.**

#### HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Not present.

#### LEGISLATOR

Not present.

#### ATTORNEY FOR THE TOWN

Mr. Snyder informed the Town Board that the state office of Renewable Energy Sighting has issued their eighty-three-page draft permit with numerous conditions and recommended posting it on the Town of Homer's website. There are several sections of the Town of Homer Zoning Laws that have been overruled. The draft permit would be out for public comment early August. During that period, the state would be looking for comments from the public. There is also a process in place for people who are objecting to the draft permit to seek and apply for a party status. They would also go through a process of eventually participating in adjudicatory hearing, if the state feels that the comments are significant. The Town of Homer Road Use Law was not superseded by the State Sighting Board. The Town of Homer Road Use Law requires a permit before anyone alters a road and makes a significant disturbance along the right of way. We received from the attorneys of EDF a proposed memorandum of agreement whereby we would allow them to carry out the plans. At this point we do not have any plans or specs as to what roads or how any Town roads will be affected. Town roads may be affected with the bringing in and hauling out of materials. This is an incredibly significant construction project that will take place over many acres. Mr. Snyder has asked the EDF attorneys to provide plans so we can see exactly what they are proposing before the Town of Homer Board agrees to anything. EDF will need an agreement with the county as well.

#### SIGNS ALONG INTERSTATE 81 UPDATE

Mr. Forbes stated that the Town Board had requested a street view presentation from Emmanuel Pothos at the previous Town Board meeting concerning what the billboards would look like during the day/night, and how it would affect the residents, specifically the ones in Little York. Bob Haight's from the Chamber of Commerce stated that he had multiple conversations concerning the potential project. One of the concerns presented was what the business interest would be. He appreciated the willingness of the developers to prioritize local businesses and he believed the business interest would be tremendous. There are five exits in the county off Interstate 81 and he has high hopes that the billboards would benefit the local community.

Emmanuel Pathos presented his street view visual presentation to the Town Board and handed out visuals taken from Google Earth and produced through Daktronics. The visual handouts displayed the following: light analysis, daytime brightness, calculations from a billboard height of 44 feet, any rise or fall in elevation or physical blockage is not shown in calculations (See Attached). His presentation consisted of street views in the daytime and night views of the suggested billboards. All locations that are being considered for the construction of the billboards are zoned business/industrial, which is one of the requirements.

Multiple concerns and questions on the construction and placement of the billboards were brought to Mr. Pathos and the Town Board's attention from the Little York residents. The Little York residents commented and voiced their concerns. Some of the concerns raised were the placement of the signs, if it would affect their views of the lake, and their opposition to the

construction of the billboard at the proposed Little York Lake sight. Mr. Forbes stated that the Town Board was not ready to vote or make any decisions on the construction of the billboards at this meeting. He stated this was to see, visually, Mr. Emmanuel Pathos's presentation on the placement of the billboards and how they would physically appear during different periods of the day.

As there were no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Heather M. Hill  
Town Clerk