

REGULAR MEETING

SEPTEMBER 17, 2012

At the Regular Meeting held on Monday, September 17, 2012 at the Hopkinton Town Hall at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Supervisor Rust, Councilpersons Wood, Sochia, Jock, Potter.

OTHERS PRESENT: Ronald Streeter Hwy Supt., Clerk French, Assessor & Code Officer Allen Fukes, Collette Parmer, Wanda Malette, Richard Schrader, Benny Fairchild Courier-ObsERVER, Brenda Nicholson, Frank Brockway St. Regis Falls Adult Center, Lynda Bage, David Beekman Town Justice.

Supervisor Rust called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Mrs. Wood made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jock to accept minutes of Regular Meeting held on August 20, and Special Meeting held on September 10, 2012 as presented. Adopted unanimously.

Mrs. Wood made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sochia to approve the Financial Report for August 2012 as presented. Adopted unanimously.

Voucher Nos. 253 to 271 General Fund Abstract 9 in the amount of \$4,199.79 were audited and approved by the Board.

Voucher Nos. 178 to 195 Highway Fund Abstract 9 in the amount of \$24147.84 were audited and approved by the Board.

Voucher Nos. 27 to 30 BHLS Health Center Fund Abstract 8 in the amount of \$4,480.75 were audited and approved by the Board.

Mr. Sochia made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jock to pay the bills. Adopted unanimously.

PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR:

Frank Brockway St Regis Falls Adult Center: Mr. Brockway presented to the Board the types of services they are offering to residents of the Town of Hopkinton. They are currently serving approximately 10-15 persons, 6 to whom they deliver meals to daily. They help them complete various forms for different services, and provide recreational activities. They would like a representative from the Town of Hopkinton to serve on the Board.

Quad Town Seniors: Mr. Rust reported that he had talked with Mr. Demo in regards to the services of the Quad Town Seniors and how many participants they have from Hopkinton. Mr. Demo did not have the numbers. Mr. Fukes reported that currently only two persons from the Town of Hopkinton are members of the Quad Town Seniors. They provide recreational activities only.

Justice Beekman: approached the Board in regards to the hiring of a Court Clerk. He is requesting a clerk be hired for six hours per week at an hourly rate of approximately \$10.00/hour. Their duties would be to assist him with paperwork, communications, mailings, filing, and court procedures.

The Board questioned who would train the clerk, can he assure the Board that the hiring of a court clerk will keep the case load up to date, how many cases does he carry compared to other courts, is the current now in his case load. Mr. Rust asked him if he was receiving any assistance currently.

Mr. Beekman responded that he would be able to train the clerk there is no special training required. He does feel that this would help catch up the case load and keep it up to date. He has no accurate figure on the case load. He has had 95 cases this year, 50 are in limbo. He also stated that once he is caught up he may be able to cut back on the amount of hours per week the clerk would work. Mr. Beekman also responded that he is currently receiving assistance from another individual at no compensation.

The Board discussed this and tabled any further decision until they have more answers on the actual cost, and asked Mr. Beekman to look into what other area court clerks are receiving and the amount of hours per week they are working.

Justice Beekman also reported to the Board that he information on JCAP Grants that are available. The Court can receive up to approximately \$30,000.00. The application has to be in by October 1. Discussion on a bench

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was held. Mr. Beekman stated that it has to be permanent fixture. The Board felt there was no place currently for the town to install a permanent bench. The Town Hall is a multi use building and is not used for just court proceedings.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Town of Macomb, Steve Burke Councilman: regarding SLC Budget asking the Boards to speak to their local County Legislator and make them understand that you cannot borrow and tax their way out of debt without severe consequences.

James Dawson, Supv Town of Brasher: SLC Supervisors will meet on September 20. On the agenda will be discussion on the County's plan to change the distribution of Sales Tax to towns and keep a greater share for the County and also the proposal by the county to cut the snow plow contracts with the towns by 25%.

OLD BUSINESS:

Town Office: Supv. Rust updated the Board on the new Town Office. He received a letter from Kimberly Peden, Rural Development State Architect in regards to the Preliminary Architectural Feasibility Report and Schematic Design Review. He presented the Board with his response to the many items in the letter that she was requesting info on.

Mr. Rust also reported to the Board that he is still working with Senator Griffo's Office to get an application so we can apply for member money.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Code: Mr. Fukes presented a written report. Mr. Fukes reported to the Board that he had been asked by Richard Eakins if they would waive the permit fee for his new shaving building due to the fact that he will be employing persons there. The Board felt he should be asking this in person. The Board also felt that currently he is building without a permit and the only fee waived will be the fine for building without a permit.

Assessor: Mr. Fukes presented a written report. He will be attending the Assessors Conference in Lake Placid September 30 to October 3rd. The Conference will be reimbursed by the State wholly with the exception of a 2% fee. He has processed some correction of errors on school tax bills and sent them to the County.

Planning Board: Mr. Schrader reported to the Board that the Planning Board will meet on October 2. He will be attending the Local Government Conference in Potsdam on October 9.

Museum: Mrs. Wood reported that they did not hold any activities in October. Holly Berry Craft Sale will be held in November. They are getting ready to close the Museum for the winter.

Library: Mrs. Nicholson reported that there will be no Apple Fest this year.

Highway & Safety: Mr. Streeter presented a written report.

Fire and Rescue: Mr. Streeter reported that one member is finishing FF1. Cleaning equipment and the station preparing for winter.

Town Facilities: Mr. Rust reported that there was a leak in the hot water, bathroom sink at the Town Office. He has it repaired. He also contacted Premium Painting in regards to a price to paint the exterior eaves of the Town Hall next spring and also to see if they could give us the color name they used on the interior of the Town Hall so we can purchase some paint for touch up.

BHLS: Mr. Sochia reported that they installed a new electric hot water heater.

Food Pantry: Mr. Rust read a report submitted by Georgia Macy. They had a site inspection by Comlinks. They need some thermometers for the refrigerators and freezers. Clerk French will pick some up.

Groundskeeper: He had to return the battery he purchased for the lawnmower it would not keep its charge. He also put new mower blades on.

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NEW BUSINESS:

Tentative Budget: Clerk French presented the Tentative 2013 Budget to the Board. The Board decided to wait until October to move forward with the Budget due to the fact that we do not know what is going to happen with the County Sales Tax money and if they are going to cut our County Snow Plow Contract.

The Board also discussed the funds requested from Quad Town Seniors and St. Regis Falls Adult Center. Currently they each receive \$1500.00.

St. Regis Falls Adult Center requested \$2000.00 for 2013 in their Budget Request.

Mr. Jock made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wood to keep them at the current funding of \$1500.00 for 2013.

Adopted unanimously.

Quad Town Seniors requested \$1500.00.

Mr. Jock made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Wood to cut the funding to the Quad Town Seniors to \$1,000.00 for 2013 due to the fact they no longer hold the monthly dances in Hopkinton and provide only recreational activities and no other services. Adopted unanimously.

Mr. Jock made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sochia to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Vickie French

RMC