

REGULAR MEETING

OCTOBER 21, 2013

At the Regular Meeting held on Monday, October 21, 2013 at the Hopkinton Town Hall at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Supervisor Wood, Councilpersons Lyon, Potter, Sochia arrived at 6:45p.m.

OTHERS PRESENT: James Hollenbeck Hwy Supt., Clerk French, Assessor & Code Officer Alan Fukes, Richard Schrader, Frank Barney, Ernest Wood, Victor Barboas Courier, Deborah Rust, Etta Phelix, Kenneth Phelix, Brenda Nicholson, Ronald Streeter, Loren Shattuck arrived 6:50 p.m.

ABSENT: Councilman Crump.

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

Ms Lyon made a motion, seconded by Ms Potter to accept minutes of Regular Meeting held on September 16, 2013 as presented. Adopted unanimously.

Ms Lyon made a motion, seconded by Ms Potter to approve the Financial Report for September 2013 as presented. Adopted unanimously.

Voucher Nos. 265 to 294 General Fund Abstract 10 in the amount of \$7,063.81 were audited and approved by the Board.

Voucher Nos. 171 to 181 Highway Fund Abstract 10 in the amount of \$27,675.63 were audited and approved by the Board.

Voucher No. 24 BHLS Health Center Fund Abstract 10 in the amount of \$425.00 was audited and approved by the Board.

Ms. Lyon made a motion, seconded by Ms Potter to pay the bills. Adopted unanimously.

Ms Potter made a motion, seconded by Ms Lyon to make the following transfer in the General Fund:

From A8810.4 Cemeteries to DA 5130.4 Highway Machinery Cont \$249.56.

Adopted unanimously.

Correspondence:

Tri-Town Volunteer Rescue Squad: reviewed their budget and they will not be asking for an increase for 2014. Funding will remain at \$12,460.00.

Johnson News Corporation: increase in rates starting November 1 for affidavits, second affidavits and Paper-tear-sheets.

NYS Unified Court System: requesting most recent audit of local courts' records. The Board reviewed the 2012 Annual Report of Justice Beekman and approved it.

Iberdrola Renewables: updating the town on where things are at with the North Ridge Wind Project.

Association of Towns: dates for the 2014 Training School and Annual Meeting and dates for Newly Elected Officials training.

North Country Life Flight: asking the town to renew its support of the North Country Life Flight.

Office of Information Tech Services: webinar on Cyber Security 101 on October 24. Supv. Wood is going to attempt to join the webinar.

Clark Consulting Group: discuss the concept of solar power for the town. Councilman Potter stated she went and looked at the Solar Power that was installed in Town of Russell and it is definitely something we should be looking into.

Old Business:

Water Softener Town Hall: No report as of yet on hardness or calcium/lime. Supv. Wood will contact Benefactor Funding to see what the hold-up is on the test.

Town Hall Steps: Ms Lyon reported that Patrick Tharrett was suppose to submit a proposal for repairs but she has not received it as of yet.

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Approval of Library Page: Ms Lyon made a motion, seconded by Ms Potter to approve the hiring of Shelby Ratcliff as a Library Page. Adopted unanimously.

Update on Proposed Town Office: the engineer sent some preliminary sketches the Supv Wood, Councilman Lyon, Clerk French, Assessor/Code Officer Allen Fukes will meet with him to discuss changes.

Committee Reports:

Supervisors Report: Supv. Wood reported that she has applied for another Justice Court Grant and she is still working on the Mitigation Report.

Code: Mr. Fukes presented a written report. He has issued 36 permits to date. He inspected the property on Converse Road where the garage was partially standing and it has been completely cleaned-up.

Assessor: Mr. Fukes presented a written report. He attended Assessors training in Canton. The new SDG program is now available.

Library: Brenda Nicholson presented the Board with a copy of a letter that was sent to the North Country Now in regards to the library. They were able to use the library computers to complete a work project and the staff was very helpful and computers were up-to-date.

Museum: Mrs. Wood reported that the Holly Berry sale will be held on November 16.

Highway & Safety: Mr. Hollenbeck presented a written report. Supv. Wood reported that she had contacted the County Highway Supt in regards to the snow plow contract. The Legislator will not negotiate the snow plow contract with the towns. The County Supervisors' are going to put a committee together in regards to the contract. Supv. Wood will also contact the County in regards to not having a contract as of yet.

Fire and Rescue: New truck is here and the equipment is being transferred.

Town Facilities: It was reported that one of the lights in the park is out. Ron Streeter volunteered to fix it.

BHLS: Mr. Sochia reported that they are putting in a new natural gas furnace at a cost of \$6500.00. They might get a rebate of \$1400.00.

Food Pantry: Mr. Schrader reported that numbers are still high.

Groundskeeper: Mr. Wood reported that he is cutting trees in Ft. Jackson Park. He is working on the fall clean-up. Mr. Sochia also brought up that there are two trees by the new entrance that need to be taken down. Mr. Sochia made a motion, seconded by Ms Potter to have Sheehan Contracting remove the trees at a cost not to exceed \$1,000.00. Adopted unanimously.

New Business:

Temp Replacement at Highway Garage: Supv. Wood reported to the Board that Mr. Hollenbeck is going on vacation and that there will only be three employees left for snow plowing if it snows. He has asked the board if they would approve him contacting Gary Remington to see if he would fill-in, in case of snow.

Ms Potter made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sochia to allow Mr. Hollenbeck to contact Gary Remington as a part time fill-in employee while he is away on vacation. Adopted unanimously.

EWaste Collection: Supv. Wood informed the Board that she had received correspondence from RCR&R regarding the collection of ewaste at no charge to the town. Effective November 1 they will no longer accept CRT containing devices including CRT TVs and monitors free of charge. Therefore, they have sent a revised eWaste Alliance Network Electronics Recycling Service Agreement. The town has three options: 1. to accept CRTs free of charge, 2. not to accept CRT devices at all; 3. The town can impose our own fee for CRT devices to offset the RCR&R handling fees.

After discussion Supervisor Wood made a motion, seconded by Ms Lyon to discontinue the eWaste program. Adopted unanimously.

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2014 Budget: Budget Officer, Vickie French, went over the changes the Board discussed for the 2014 Budget. The overall budget has a decrease of approximately 11.62%, but the tax rate will increase by approximately 1.67% this is due to the fact of the 480A exemption, which resulted in a loss of 2.3 million in assessed value. Ms Potter introduced the following Resolution, with a second by Mr. Sochia:

RESOLVED WHEREAS, this Town Board has met at the time and place specified in the notice of Public Hearing on the Preliminary Budget and all persons present were heard, for or against the proposed budget now therefore be it,

RESOLVED that the Town Board does hereby adopt such Preliminary Budget for the Annual Budget of 2014.

VOTE: Supv. Wood Aye, Councilpersons Potter Aye, Sochia Aye, Lyon Aye,

ABSENT: Councilman Crump.

North Country Life Flight: Mr. Sochia introduced the following Resolution with a second by Ms. Lyon:

WHEREAS: North Country Life Flight, Inc. is a not-for-profit, tax-exempt corporation which is responsible for all aspects of patient care by providing medical equipment, training medical personnel and administering the medical portion utilizing the New York State Police helicopter based in Saranac Lake and private fixed-wing aviation resources; and

WHEREAS: the New York State Police and private fixed-wing aviation resources do not provide a medically trained team or medical equipment for patient transports; and

WHEREAS: The people of Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton and St. Lawrence Counties receive a vital emergency medical service which is free of charge to critically ill and seriously injured patients and, therefore municipal governments are asked to pledge monies for this worthwhile program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Town Board of the Town of Hopkinton hereby authorizes the Supervisor to enter into a contract with North Country Life Flight, Inc. for the purpose of operating the medical component of the medevac program, which will serve its residents and visitors, and paying the amount of \$500.00 which represents the Town's share for 2014; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the sum of \$500.00 is hereby appropriated to Account No. A4540.4 for payment to North Country Life Flight, Inc.

VOTE: Supv. Wood Aye, Councilpersons Lyon Aye, Potter Aye, Sochia Aye, Crump Absent.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Vickie French