

Town of Amboy
TOWN BOARD MINUTES-January 21, 2015
7:00 pm Amboy Town Hall

Present: Barry Leemann-Supervisor
Kathleen Wilkinson, Bruce Stone, Susan Halbritter, &
Frank Romanowski-Council Members
Mary Ann Clark-Town Clerk

Others Present: John Perkins III-Highway Superintendent
Tim Kelley-Planning Board Chair/Historian
Jim Goldsberry-Assessor
Regina Sampson-Tax Collector
E.A. Dunham-Town Justice
Wayne Hall II-Code Enforcement Officer
Paul Baxter-Tug Hill Circuit Rider

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Leemann called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. He announced that there had been a death in town. Jamie Birmingham, who worked both for the town, and on the West Amboy Fire Dept., had passed away unexpectedly, and Mr. Leemann asked John Perkins to lead the Pledge of Allegiance, in memory of Jamie. After the pledge, Mr. Leemann asked for a moment of silence, in memory of Jamie.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

The first part of the board meeting was dedicated to the Organizational part. We will continue to follow (Newly Revised) Robert's Rules of Order, as our procedure, when they do not conflict with other State or Local laws or rules. Monthly meetings will remain the same: 7:00 pm on the Third Wednesday of the month. Special meetings will be called if necessary. The Town's Administrative Offices are located at the Town Hall, 822 State Route 69, Williamstown, N.Y. 13493. Contact info is as follows: Supervisor's Phone-(315) 964-1100, Town Clerk-(315) 964-1165, Building/Codes/Zoning Inspector-(315) 751-2633, Dog Warden-(315) 632-8255, Town Justice-(315) 964-7799, and the Highway Dept.-(315) 964-2428. A sign will be posted at the pavilion in the town park: Park Pavilion Rental (Same as last year)- Town Residents-Free, Out of town rental-\$45.00 a day, and \$25.00 for a half day.

APPOINTMENTS

The following appointments were made: 1.)Mr. Romanowski made the motion to appoint the Nelson Law Firm in Oswego, NY, as the Legal Representation for the town, Mr. Stone seconded. Carried-Wilkinson-yes, Stone-yes, Halbritter-yes, Romanowski-yes, and Leemann-yes.

2.)Mrs.Halbritter made the motion to appoint the Queen Central News as the official newspaper for the town, Mr. Romanowski seconded.

Carried-Wilkinson-yes, Stone-yes, Halbritter-yes, Romanowski-yes, and Leemann-yes.

3.) Mr. Stone made the motion to appoint Nancy Butler as Accounting Officer. Mr. Leemann seconded.

Carried-Wilkinson-yes, Stone-yes, Halbritter-yes, Romanowski-yes, and Leemann-yes.

4.)Mr. Romanowski made the motion to appoint Wayne Hall II, as Building Inspector, Zoning Officer, and Code Enforcement Officer, Mrs. Halbritter seconded.

Carried-Wilkinson-yes, Stone-yes, Halbritter-yes, Romanowski-yes, and Leemann-yes.

5.)Mrs. Halbritter made the motion to appoint Karen Ashley as Dog Warden, and Enumerator, Mr. Stone seconded.

Carried-Wilkinson-yes, Stone-yes, Halbritter-yes, Romanowski-yes, and Leemann-yes.

6.) Mrs. Wilkinson made the motion to appoint Robert Dalton as Chief Constable, Mr. Romanowski seconded.

Carried-Wilkinson-yes, Stone-yes, Halbritter-yes, Romanowski-yes, and Leemann-yes.

7.)Mrs. Wilkinson made the motion to appoint Edward Whitham as Deputy Constable, Mr. Stone seconded.

Carried-Wilkinson-yes, Stone-yes, Halbritter-yes, Romanowski-yes, and Leemann-yes.

8.) Mrs. Halbritter made the motion to appoint Kathy Benedict as part time cleaner for the Town Hall, Mr. Stone seconded.

Carried-Wilkinson-yes, Stone-yes, Halbritter-yes, Romanowski-yes, and Leemann-yes.

9.) Mary Ann Clark appointed Nancy Heintz as her deputy clerk, and deputy registrar.

10.) Mr. Leemann appointed Mr. Romanowski as his deputy supervisor, and also appointed Tim Kelley as Town Historian.

11.) John Perkins III, Highway Superintendent, appointed Carl Rayder as his deputy superintendent.

Other Decisions:

Mrs. Halbritter made the motion to approve all of the following board decisions, Mr. Stone seconded.

Pathfinder Bank will continue to be the official town bank. (No bank charges in 2014!)

There will be one authorized signature on accounts, and that will be the supervisor's.

The supervisor is given the authority to invest idle monies, and is also given the authority to approve budget transfers of money.

The supervisor is given the authority to pay normal monthly bills, and/or other bills, when failure to pay them when received will result in substantial interest or penalties. However, all payments will be on the monthly abstract as paid, or to be paid.

Computer Accounting Services, 157 E. First Street, Oswego, N.Y. 13126, will be the official payroll service. Bi-weekly and quarterly payroll checks will be provided , as required.

The Highway Superintendent is authorized to spend up to \$1, 500.00, without prior board approval. Items that cost over \$1,500.00, should be approved by the Supervisor (only in an emergency), the town board, or will be bid.

Town mileage is paid at the rate of .45 per mile.

Town may accept State and/or County bids for any and all materials/ parts/supplies, and vehicles, when it is to the town's advantage.

Carried: Wilkinson-yes, Stone -yes, Halbritter-yes, Romanowski-yes, and Leemann-yes.

Open To The Public- At the end of the organizational part of the meeting, the meeting was opened to the public. Richard Bryant of County Route 17A commented that he would like to see the Town Historian and the Historical Society come together more often. Reggie Sampson of Little Pond Rd. commented that she would like to see more of the appointed positions go to people who live in town, rather than to people from out of town. Frank Romanowski responded: “ Anyone can send a letter of interest for any appointed position. I don't believe any resident that submitted a letter of interest for a position has been denied or given to an out of town resident.”

Regular Board Meeting Begins-Reading of the Minutes: Because the board members had received the minutes earlier in the month, Mr. Leemann asked if any board members had any problems with the December, 2014 minutes? No one did, so they stood approved.

Dept. Head Reports:

Fire Dept-The fire dept. will be having a fundraiser on Saturday, February 14th, from noon to five pm. They will be serving a spaghetti luncheon, with entertainment by Hot Rod Ford. A donation is

requested for the luncheon, as the fire dept. is trying to raise funds for truck repairs. The fire dept. has set up an audit committee, which consists of Pauline Birmingham, Tom Cusson, Corey Douglas, and Kathy Wilkinson, who is once again the liaison to the fire dept. The first of the quarterly audits should be completed in time for the April board meeting.

Tug Hill- Paul Baxter reported that there would be a tentative Council of Governments meeting on February 5th, 2015. Paul also said that the Tug Hill would like to meet in Amboy in September, and will be able to give more information about that meeting, as it draws closer. Mr. Baxter also brought in extra Local Government Conference registration forms for the clerk to have in her office in case anyone needs one. Mr. Baxter also discussed the town's website, that Mrs. Halbritter has been helping to update. Mr. Baxter reported that agendas for the meeting don't have to be on the website, unless

they wouldn't be available at the meeting. He also said that resolutions that have been adopted don't have to go on the website, if they are contained in the minutes. Mr. Baxter said he was trying to explain things to help cut down on extra work.

Legislator- County legislator David Holst was absent from the meeting.

Highway Superintendent- John Perkins III gave a written report to the Supervisor, board members, and clerk. He also included a list of equipment he would like to put up for auction. His report is on file in the clerk's office. Mrs. Wilkinson had a couple of questions about purchases made.

Town Justice- Mrs. Dunham reported that she has applied for a grant for roof repair. She isn't sure how much money she will be awarded, but she will let the board know. She also said her work load is down, and that is a good thing. Mrs. Dunham also mentioned that if the board was planning on doing another justice audit, she would rather do it sooner than later, possibly at the February meeting? She said that way a whole year can be audited, instead of half of one year, and half of another.

Tax Collector- Regina Sampson reported that she has already taken in approximately \$242, 000.00., and things were going well.

Assessor-Jim Goldsberry reported that the computer is now repaired, but he had to work on the printer, as it wasn't recognizing the computer anymore, so nothing could be printed out. Mr. Goldsberry also wanted to once again remind people to get their exemption paperwork turned in, especially anyone with enhanced STAR. The deadline is March 1st. Mrs. Wilkinson wanted to know if a press release could be sent to the paper to remind people? It was decided she and Mr. Goldsberry could work on one together.

Code Enforcement-Wayne Hall II, gave his report to the supervisor, board members, and clerk. It contained a list of code violations, as well as completed building permits, and a list of building permits from 01/01/2014-01/01/2015. His report is on file in the clerk's office. Mr. Hall was in the audience, and he asked for people to keep their eyes open, and if they see anything he should know about, to either call him, or send him an email at amboycodofficer@gmail.com.

Dog Control-Mr. Leemann reported that Karen Ashley was sick, and couldn't attend the meeting, so there was no report from her.

Planning Board-Tim Kelley gave a written report to the supervisor, board members, and clerk. He discussed the December, 2014 planning board meeting, and the opportunities for members to participate in on line webinars, and received training credits for participating. His report is on file in the clerk's office.

Historian- Tim Kelley once again gave a written report to the supervisor, board members, and clerk. In the report he mentioned that he wasn't able to attend the January, 2015 Historical Society meeting, but he plans to attend meetings in the future. Mr. Kelley also expressed an interest in attending a state

conference in April, 2015, for Public Historians of New York State. His report is on file in the clerk's office.

Old Business-Mr. Leemann said he didn't have any old business to report.

New Business- Mr. Leemann had a resolution he wanted the board to pass, and this is what it states:

Whereas: The State of New York has authorized a property tax rebate program pertaining to certain property owners under certain circumstances, and

Whereas: participation in this program requires the town board of the town to adopt a resolution authorizing the town supervisor to certify that the 2015 town budget does not exceed the tax levy limit, nor did the town enact a local law to override the levy limit for 2015.

Therefore be it resolved that the town board of the Town of Amboy does hereby authorize the supervisor to make such certifications to the office of the State comptroller as are necessary to verify the aforementioned conditions and actions as herein delineated.

Mrs. Wilkinson made the motion to adopt the resolution, it was seconded by Mr. Stone.

Carried: Wilkinson-yes, Stone-yes, Halbritter-yes, Romanowski-yes, and Leemann-yes.

Resolved this 21st day of January, 2015.

Mr. Leemann then asked for a motion to appoint Beverly Levreault to the Board of Assessment review, to replace Priscilla Boudreau, who had resigned in December. Mrs. Wilkinson made the motion, it was seconded by Mr. Stone.

Carried: Wilkinson-yes, Stone-yes, Halbritter-yes, Romanowski-yes, and Leemann-yes.

Mr. Leemann then congratulated Mrs. Levreault on her new position.

Approval of Bills: Mrs. Wilkinson made the motion to approve the payment of \$735.00 for postage, from 2014. Her motion was seconded by Mr. Romanowski, and carried. Mr. Stone made the motion to approve voucher #1 on abstract#001-15, for \$70,000.00, the first payment to the W. Amboy Fire Dept. for 2015. His motion was seconded by Mrs. Wilkinson, and carried. Mr. Leemann made the motion to approve General Fund vouchers #2-13, on abstract 001-15, for \$4,633.11. His motion was seconded by Mr. Romanowski, and carried. Finally Mrs. Halbritter made the motion to approve Highway Fund vouchers #1-30, on abstract#001-15, for \$50,246.57. Her motion was seconded by Mr. Romanowski, and carried.

Supervisor's Financial Report- Mr. Leemann gave a reconciliation summary of both the general and highway funds to the board members and clerk.

Open to the Public-At this point, the meeting was once again opened to the public. Judge Dunham asked if anyone knew what was going on with the trucks laying cable in parts of the town? She was told it is Frontier Communications laying out fiber optics for their own use, not necessarily for residential use. Tim Kelley mentioned that the governor had announced a \$5 million broadband incentive for the next few years. Reggie Sampson asked if dept. head reports could be read out loud? Supervisor Leemann stated: "All reports are on file in the clerk's office and anyone can read them or request them from the town clerk.

Adjournment: With no other business to attend to, at 8:18 pm, Mr. Romanowski made the motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Mrs. Halbritter, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Clark
Amboy Town Clerk