# REGULAR MEETING, WARRENSBURG TOWN BOARD, OCTOBER 8, 2014

The regular meeting of the Warrensburg Town Board was held on Wednesday, October 8, 2014 at the Albert Emerson Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present:

PRESENT: Supervisor Kevin B. Geraghty
Councilperson John Alexander
Councilperson Joyce Reed
Councilperson Linda Marcella

Councilperson

OTHERS PRESENT: Donna A. Combs, Town Clerk; Robert Hafner, Town Attorney; Edward Pennock, Highway Superintendent; Tom Belden; Sandi Parisi, Historian; Steve Parisi, Museum Director; and numerous town residents.

**Bryan Rounds** 

#### **RESOLUTION #168-14**

**MINUTES** 

On motion of Councilperson Baker-Marcella, seconded by Councilperson Reed, the following resolution was ADOPTED

AYES 5 Geraghty, Alexander, Reed, Baker-Marcella, Rounds NAYS 0

RESOLVED, that the minutes of September 10 2014, and September 24, 2014 be accepted.

#### **RESOLUTION #169-14**

MOVE TO SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARING

On a motion of Councilperson Alexander, seconded by Councilperson Rounds, the following resolution was ADOPTED

AYES 5 Geraghty, Alexander, Reed, Baker-Marcella, Rounds NAYS 0

RESOLVED, that this meeting be interrupted to hold a public hearing advertised and scheduled for this evening at 7:00 p.m.

#### PUBLIC HEARING-2015 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

Supervisor Geraghty declared the public hearing open at 7:00 p.m. Notice of the public hearing was published in the Glens Falls Post Star on October 3, 2014, and posted on the Town Clerk bulletin board on the same date. The Notice of Public Hearing was read into the record.

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Supervisor Geraghty gave a brief overview of the 2015 Budget explaining that the General Fund appropriations are up 1.4 percent over last year, \$15,996.50; the Highway Fund appropriations are up .86 percent over last year which is a total of \$8,697.00. Supervisor Geraghty said the estimated revenues for the General Fund are \$13,750.00 less than last year, a 1.9 percent decrease, there is no change for the estimated revenues for the Highway budget.

Supervisor Geraghty said that the amount to be raised by taxes is \$1,178,500.00, which is a 2.4 percent increase over 2014. Supervisor Geraghty told the Town Board there is no change in the Lighting District, the allowable amount that can be levied to the 2 percent tax cap in 2015 is \$1,275,653.00, the Town of Warrensburg is levying \$1,255,350.00; we are \$20,303.00 under the tax cap. Supervisor Geraghty said the tentative town rate for 2015 would be \$3.52 per thousand, the 2014 tax rate was \$3.44 per thousand, this is an increase of \$.08 per thousand, with a slight decrease in the lighting district.

Supervisor Geraghty told the Town Board that next year the Town will be required to show consolidated services, and cut the budget by one percent, the following year they have to institute a one percent cut in the budget.

Mark Murray-asked what is being planned for consolidation.

Supervisor Geraghty said the steps the Town of Warrensburg have taken to begin to consolidate are that this year the Town started sharing the Town Assessor with the Town of Chester, the Assessor works part time here and part time in the Town of Chester and the Town of Warrensburg has lent the Town Bookkeeper to the Town of Horicon, she works four days in Warrensburg and one day in the Town of Horicon. Supervisor Geraghty said those are the steps the town has taken so far as far as consolidation of services with other communities.

Supervisor Geraghty said the consolidation plan will allow the Town's taxpayers to get a rebate check similar to the School District rebates.

Supervisor Geraghty left the public hearing open.

## HISTORICAL HOME CIRCA PLAQUES PRESENTATION

Teresa Whalen opened discussion explaining how the individual properties who are on the National Registrar received this designation.

Sandi Parisi, Town Historian- told the Town Board the Town of Warrensburg has over 225 properties with over 400 buildings listed on the State and National Register of Historic Places. Mrs. Parisi told the Town Board that on April 7th of 2014 she sent out a letter to 126 property owners, as many people own more than one property or building on the list. Mrs. Parisi told the Town Board the Preservation REGULAR MEETING, WARRENSBURG TOWN BOARD, OCTOBER 8, 2014

Committee of the Warrensburg Historical Society paid for half of the cost of 10 Circa Plaques each year to members of the Historical Society. There was a response of 12 people so two people paid the full amount of \$150.00. Mrs. Parisi had circa plaques for the following persons:

John J. Abbale, 85 Hudson Street, 1880 Ashe's Hotel Greg and Deanne Beckler, 3831 Main St., 1900 F. Smith House Burnham Living Trust, 63 River St., 1890 Burdick House Dennis Coker/Susan Bartholomew, 50 Elm St., 1910 Hastings Street Eileen Frasier, 3822 Main St., 1820 E. Howard House Michaele & Gary Gronert, 8 Woodward Ave., 1890 Hayes House Anna May Kelly, 3886 Main St., 1910 Charette House Harvey Lambeth, 106 River Street, 1824 Farlin Grist Mill Susan J. Miller, 52 River St., 1910 Cunningham House Michael and Grace O'Donnell, 44 Elm Street, Murray House James and Mechelle Roskiewicz, 29 Fourth Ave., 1905 Murray House Donne -Lynn and Carrie Winslow, 18 Library Ave., 1930 Young House

## **DISCUSSION - SENIOR CITIZEN EXEMPTION**

Supervisor Geraghty opened discussion explaining that last year the Town Board increased the Senior Citizen exemptions. Supervisor Geraghty said they did that not knowing what effect it would have on the Assessment in the Town. Supervisor Geraghty said he was a little concerned when the new assessment roll for the Town Proper was received, the general fund and the Town fund went down 1.3 million dollars. Supervisor Geraghty said what that means is our Assessment value of the Town of Warrensburg went down 1.3 million dollars and what that does to the Town is it decreases the amount of sales tax the town receives but it will help anybody who qualifies for the Senior Exemption. Supervisor Geraghty said the Town had a lot more Seniors come forward who are going to qualify for the Senior Exemption. Supervisor Geraghty said this does a shift of that tax value onto people who are not Senior Citizens, although it is a slight shift in the tax rate, he feels it is good for the Seniors, the Town has a lot of them come in and they are struggling, this will give them more of a break on their town taxes. Supervisor Geraghty said the Town will eventually recover from this.

#### **RESOLUTION #170-14**

**CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING ON 2015 BUDGET** 

On motion of Councilperson Alexander, seconded by Councilperson Reed, the following resolution was ADOPTED

AYES 5 Geraghty, Alexander, Reed, Baker-Marcella, Rounds NAYS 0

IT IS RESOLVED, to close this public hearing on the 2015 Budget and to return to the regular meeting. Time 7:22 p.m.

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# REPORTS OF TOWN OFFICIALS

Reports were received and read from the following Town Officials: Town Clerk, Supervisor, Assessor, Justice, Dog Control Officer and Enforcement Officer.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee reports were given from the following: Beautification, Economic Development, Highway, Landfill, Lighting, Historian, Museum, Parks and Rec., Sewer and Water.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

1) A letter of resignation from the Zoning Board of Appeals and as Chairman from the Zoning Board of Appeals from James Cooper effective December 31, 2014.
2) A letter of request for a resolution supporting a No Parking area from Warren County on Hudson Street from Donna Flanagan, Merrill Magee House.

#### DISCUSSION - NO PARKING ON HUDSON STREET

Supervisor Geraghty opened discussion explaining the Town received a request from Donna Flanagan, Merrill Magee House for no parking on Hudson Street. Supervisor Geraghty said the Flanagan's were initially going to do a curb cut closer to the intersection, that is not going to work out so what they have asked is for some help with a no parking near the driveway. Supervisor Geraghty said he had put one hundred feet, but it did not have to be that distance, they need help so they can get

the delivery trucks in and out of there. Supervisor Geraghty asked what the feeling was of the Town Board.

Councilperson Baker-Marcella said her feeling was to table this, to think about it, and, to check it. Councilperson Baker-Marcella said she had recently listed and sold two of the properties that are at #1 and at #3, there is limited parking, the house at #7 will have no parking, and the Flanagan's control the parking in the back. Councilperson Baker-Marcella said 100 feet is more than ten houses.

Supervisor Geraghty said the Town Board could make it any length they want, the Flanagan's are asking for support, he had put down one hundred feet for a number because he did not know how much the Town Board wanted to do.

Councilperson Rounds suggested the Board support a letter keeping the distance at a minimal feet.

Discussion ensued.

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#### **RESOLUTION #171-14**

RESOLUTON OF REQUEST TO WARREN COUNTY DPW FOR NO PARKING ON HUDSON STREET AT A MINIMUM FEET.

On motion of Councilperson Rounds, seconded by Councilperson Alexander, the following resolution was ADOPTED by role call vote:

**AYES:** Supervisor Geraghty, Councilperson Alexander, Councilperson Rounds, Councilperson Reed.

**NAYS:** Councilperson Baker-Marcella

IT IS RESOLVED, to send a letter of request to Warren County Department of Public Works supporting a minimal No Parking on Hudson Street regulation from the entrance of the Merrill Magee House north of the Driveway.

#### **RESOLUTION #172-14**

APPROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OCCUPANCY TAX GRANT REQUEST On motion of Councilperson Alexander, seconded by Councilperson Rounds, the following resolution was ADOPTED

AYES 5 Geraghty, Alexander, Reed, Baker-Marcella, Rounds NAYS 0

RESOLVED, to award \$375.00 to the Warrensburgh Historical Society for advertising expenses for brochure distribution for the 2015 Tourism Season.

#### RESOLUTION #173-14

RESOLUTION TO INSTALL CHRISTMAS LIGHT OUTLETS

On motion of Councilperson Reed, seconded by Councilperson Alexander, the attached resolution was ADOPTED

AYES 5 Geraghty, Alexander, Reed, Baker-Marcella, Rounds NAYS 0

## **RESOLUTION #174-14**

REDUCE SEWER ASSESSMENT

On motion of Councilperson Alexander, seconded by Councilperson Reed, the following resolution was ADOPTED

AYES 5 Geraghty, Alexander, Reed, Baker-Marcella, Rounds NAYS 0

RESOLVED, to amend the Sewer Tax Assessment Role by the following recommendation from the Code Enforcement Officer:

Tax parcel #210.12-2-22 (a vacant lot) has been merged into and adjoining parcel, tax parcel #210.12-2-23, since the parcel no longer exists, the rate is reduced to \$0.00.

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## PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR - CREATING HEALTHY PLACES

Kathy Varney addressed the Town Board regarding the Creating Healthy Places to Live, Work and Play Program. Ms. Varney told the Town Board the grant is ending and asked if the Town wished to continue with the program. Ms. Varney will select 12 people to take the survey to look for the strengths and weaknesses in the Town.

Supervisor Geraghty and the entire Town Board told Ms. Varney the Town of Warrensburg wishes to sign on to continue with this program.

Supervisor Geraghty expressed thanks to Kathy Varney telling her the Town could not thank her enough.

#### **RESOLUTION #175-14**

ESTABLISH CAPITAL PROJECT #H-17 BROWNFIELD PAPER MILL PARK On motion of Councilperson Baker-Marcella, seconded by Councilperson Reed, the following resolution was ADOPTED

AYES 5 Geraghty, Alexander, Reed, Baker-Marcella, Rounds NAYS 0

IT IS RESOLVED, to establish a new Capital Project H-17, Brownfield Paper Mill Park transferring \$5,000.00 from the General Fund to the H-17 account.

## **RESOLUTION #176-14**

**TRANSFER FUNDS TO H-27** 

On motion of Councilperson Rounds, seconded by Councilperson Reed, the following resolution was ADOPTED

AYES 5 Geraghty, Alexander, Reed, Baker-Marcella, Rounds NAYS 0

RESOLVED, to transfer \$30,000.00 from the General Fund to H-27 Floyd Bennett Bandstand Project Account.

## **RESOLUTION #177-14**

**BUDGET TRANSFERS** 

On motion of Councilperson Baker-Marcella, seconded by Councilperson Alexander, the attached resolution was ADOPTED

AYES 5 Geraghty, Alexander, Reed, Baker-Marcella, Rounds

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#### **RESOLUTION #178-14**

PAY BILLS

On motion of Councilperson Baker-Marcella, seconded by Councilperson Reed, the following resolution was ADOPTED

AYES 5 Geraghty, Alexander, Reed, Baker-Marcella, Rounds NAYS 0

IT IS RESOLVED, that the bills contained on Abstract #10 have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts:

General Fund	\$25,327.59
Highway Fund	\$19,994.14
Lighting Fund	\$ 6,109.47
Sewer Fund	\$57,637.84
Water Fund	\$36,886.94
Bandstand Capital	\$31,395.16
Brownfield Paper Mill Park Capital	\$ 2,857.40

# DISCUSSION - WARRENSBURG EMERGENCY SQUAD BUDGET APPROPRIATION

Councilperson Baker-Marcella spoke at length about the financial hardships she feels are being experienced by the Warrensburg Emergency Squad, reading several letters she had received in support of the Warrensburg Emergency Squad and urged the other Town Board members to consider creating a special district tax for the Warrensburg Emergency Squad and increasing the budget appropriation for the 2015 Town Budget by \$57,000.00.

Discussion ensued regarding a financial advisor for the Warrensburg EMS, Warren County taking over the ALS services and if the Town can lend the EMS money.

Attorney Hafner told the Town it is not allowed to lend money, and, the Town has a contract with Warrensburg EMS.

Supervisor Geraghty proposed adding an additional \$10,000.00 to the Emergency Squad appropriation.

Supervisor Geraghty will be the contact for the Town of Warrensburg to help find a financial advisor for the Warrensburg EMS.

RESOLUTION #179-14
ADOPT 2015 BUDGET WITH MODIFICATION
On motion of Councilperson Baker-Marcella, seconded by Councilperson
Alexander, the following resolution was ADOPTED
AYES 5
Geraghty, Alexander, Reed, Baker-Marcella, Rounds
NAYS 0

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to adopt the 2015 Town Budget with the following modification for the 2015 Budget:

Increase Expense Code A4560.400 and Increase Revenues Code DA2302 by \$10,000.00.

On motion of Councilperson Alexander, seconded by Councilperson Rounds, the meeting was adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna A. Combs, Town Clerk