

REGULAR MEETING, WARRENSBURG TOWN BOARD, JULY 11, 2012

The regular meeting of the Warrensburg Town Board was held on Wednesday, July 11, 2012 at the Albert Emerson Town Hall at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present:

PRESENT:	Supervisor	Kevin Geraghty
	Councilman	John Alexander
	Councilman	Bryan Rounds
	Councilwoman	Joyce Reed
	Councilwoman	Linda Marcella

OTHERS PRESENT: Donna A. Combs, Town Clerk; Ed Pennock, Highway Superintendent; Thomas Belden; Sandi Parisi, Town Historian; Steve Parisi, Museum Director, Tom Suozzo, Engineer for the Town and numerous Town residents.

INFORMATIONAL HEARING – WATER CROSS CONNECTION REGULATIONS

Supervisor Geraghty opened the informational hearing.

Tom Suozzo, Engineer for the Town gave a presentation on how the cross connection will work and the certification process.

Councilman Alexander asked about who controls the regulators, if it is the Town Water Department. Mr. Suozzo told Councilman Alexander once the regulations are passed the Water Department would be the authority, the regulators of this program.

RESOLUTION #127-12

RESOLUTION PROMULGATING RULES AND REGULATIONS TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY FROM CONTAMINATION DUE TO CROSS CONNECTIONS.

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

**AYES 5 Alexander, Rounds, Geraghty, Reed, Marcella
NAYS 0**

RESOLUTION #128-12

MINUTES

On motion of Councilwoman Marcella, seconded by Councilman Alexander, the following resolution was ADOPTED

**AYES 5 Alexander, Rounds, Geraghty, Reed, Marcella
NAYS 0**

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RESOLVED, that the minutes of May 23, 2012 and, June 13, 2012 be approved.

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: Highway, Historian, Museum, Sewer and Water.

DISCUSSION - TRUCK BIDS

Truck bids were received and opened on June 21st, 2012 for the purchase of a new F350 Ford pickup truck provided for in this year's budget. Three bids were received from the following for the Ford F350:

West Herr Ford	\$27,204.00
Vision Ford	\$27,170.00
Warren Ford	\$26,053.00

RESOLUTION #129-12

AWARD FORD F350 PICKUP TRUCK BID

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

**AYES 5 Alexander, Rounds, Geraghty, Reed, Marcella
NAYS 0**

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to award the contract for the Ford F350 pickup truck to Warren Ford whose bid met all of the specifications.

DISCUSSION - TRUCK BIDS

Truck bids were received and opened on June 21st, 2012 for the purchase of a new F250 Ford pickup truck provided for in this year's budget. Three bids were received from the following for the Ford F250:

West Herr Ford	\$29,012.00
Vision Ford	\$29,117.00
Warren Ford	\$28,129.00

RESOLUTION #130-12

AWARD F250 PICKUP TRUCK BID

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

**AYES 5 Alexander, Rounds, Geraghty, Reed, Marcella
NAYS 0**

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IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to award the contract for the Ford F250 pickup truck to Warren Ford whose bid met all of the specifications.

RESOLUTION #131-12

2012 WATER BILL AMENDMENTS

On motion of Councilman Alexander and Councilwoman Reed, seconded by Councilwoman Marcella and Councilwoman Reed, the following resolution was ADOPTED

AYES 5 Alexander, Rounds, Geraghty, Reed, Marcella

NAYS 0

IT IS RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Code Enforcement Officer, to make the following amendments to the Warrensburg Water Roll:

211.9-2-17 Shirley French, 35 King Street From \$195.00 to \$48.75

210.12-3-22 Elizabeth J. McLaughlin, 52 Hudson From \$390.00 to \$243.75

223.7-1-16 Barbara Baker, 441 State Rte 418 From \$390.00 to \$243.75

DISCUSSION – HICKORY FOREST INCORPORATED EASEMENT REQUEST

Supervisor Geraghty opened discussion telling the Town Board Hickory Forest Incorporated, Hickory Hill Ski Center, is asking for an easement to run a 10" water pipe through Katts Corner Road, the pipe will go out into the Hudson River to get water for snow making at the ski center. Supervisor Geraghty said Highway Superintendent Edward Pennock will grant that easement because that is a road by use, under advisement of the Attorney for the Town.

RESOLUTION #132-12

AWARD OCCUPANCY TAX TO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

On motion of Councilwoman Reed, seconded by Councilwoman Marcella, the following resolution was ADOPTED

AYES 5 Alexander, Rounds, Geraghty, Reed, Marcella

NAYS 0

RESOLVED, to award the Warrensburg Chamber of Commerce occupancy tax money of \$304.96 for rack card advertising.

RESOLUTION #133-12

AWARD OCCUPANCY TAX TO WARRENSBURGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

AYES 5 Alexander, Rounds, Geraghty, Reed, Marcella

NAYS 0

RESOLVED, to award the Warrensburg Historical Society \$50.00 for the Stickey Wicket.

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DISCUSSION –PARKING ON HERRICK AVENUE

Supervisor Geraghty opened discussion saying the Town has had complaints emailed in to them about the parking issues on Herrick Avenue and said the Code Enforcement Officer, the Highway Superintendent, most of the Town Board and he had been down to Herrick Avenue to look at the current situation, it is a concern of theirs, it is a street that should not have on street parking. Supervisor Geraghty said emergency vehicles will find it very, very difficult to get up that street because people really don't think about where they are parking the vehicles. Supervisor Geraghty said they also have a problem with one person who has a garage across from where these people park, she cannot even get her car out of her garage or out of her driveway because of the way these people park. Supervisor Geraghty said his opinion was they should make the entire street one way parking from Main Street to Water Street and then no parking on the right hand side looking up at least to the garage where there is room for people to pull off. Supervisor Geraghty said some of the people on the street emailed and asked the town not to take these steps after it was proposed to them. Supervisor Geraghty told the Town Board that unless they take action, there is going to be a tragedy, then people will say I told you so.

Councilman Alexander – asked the Highway Superintendent Ed Pennock if making Herrick one way off from Main Street would help anything? Councilman Alexander asked if no parking signs would still have to be put up.

Superintendent Pennock said you could get it to be one way but it would involve a lot of procedure.

Councilwoman Reed said the fire trucks and ambulance cannot get up the street coming up from Water Street so they would just need to make it from Main Street.

Supervisor Geraghty asked Superintendent Pennock if the Town has the right to do this, or if they would have to go through DOT, which would take months to do.

Superintendent Pennock said yes, through DOT. Supervisor Geraghty said his idea was for no parking from Main Street to the garage where people park now that cause the problem and then to post the left hand side of the street no parking all of the way, that allows the people on the right hand side of the street some place to park. Supervisor Geraghty said he really did not have an opinion, certainly that would stop most of the parking issues we are having now.

Councilwoman Reed asked who would enforce the parking. Supervisor Geraghty said the police.

Discussion ensued on the parking issues on Herrick Avenue.

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Discussion ensued on the parking on Herrick Avenue.

Debbie Swan, Willows Bistro – Asked if the Town Board could make Herrick Avenue one way for the winter and no parking for the summer.

Discussion ensued on the parking situation on Herrick Avenue, and possible issues for Main Street.

RESOLUTION #134-12

POST HERRICK AVENUE NO PARKING ONE SIDE

On motion of Councilwoman Reed, seconded by Councilwoman Marcella, the following resolution was ADOPTED

AYES 5 Alexander, Rounds, Geraghty, Reed, Marcella

NAYS 0

RESOLVED, to post Herrick Avenue no parking from Main Street to Water Street on the left hand side of the street and no parking from Water Street to the garage.

FURTHER DISCUSSION – HERRICK AVENUE

Councilwoman Marcella opened discussion on a motion to make Herrick Avenue one way.

Consensus of the Board was to authorize the Highway Superintendent to write a letter to DOT to do a study on Herrick Avenue to see if it would be feasible to make Herrick Avenue a one way street. Superintendent Pennock told the Board they might not have to go to DOT.

DISCUSSION – LONG RANGE WATER PLANS

Supervisor Geraghty opened discussion explaining the proposed resolution to borrow \$75,000.00 to complete the new well on Horicon Avenue needed to be changed to \$125,000.00 so there is money for a well house and running electricity to the site. Supervisor Geraghty told the Town Board part of this well will be paid for from revenue from a future project the town hopes to have happen in the town in the near future, with a good portion coming in every year as guaranteed revenue.

RESOLUTION #135-12

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF UP TO \$125,000 SERIAL BONDS OF THE TOWN OF WARRENSBURG TO PAY THE COST OF ACQUISITION AND INSTALLATION OF A NEW WELL; AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF UP TO \$125,000.00 BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES OF THE TOWN OF WARRENSBURG FOR THE SAME PURPOSE.

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

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

DISCUSSION – WASTE WATER FROM GREAT ESCAPE CAMPGROUND
Tom Suozzo, Engineer for the Town explained a letter from Great Escape Campground was received asking to be able to dispose of wastewater at the Town's lagoon. Mr. Suozzo said they feel that the lagoons are more than capable of taking the additional flow because the design flow for the lagoons is 250 gallons per day. Mr. Suozzo said the fee that would be charged would more than cover any upgrades that would need to be done, they have been told they need to go directly to the wastewater treatment plant, they do not want dumping in any manholes. Mr. Suozzo said there will be additional revenue generated which can go against more improvements to the waste water treatment plant.

Supervisor Geraghty said he wished to add that Lake George Great Escape Campground paid for the complete installation of what he calls the landing zone for the Town, the Town has the \$4800.00 to pay for the modifications down there, the projected revenue will be at least \$10,000.00 a month revenue to the Town.

Mr. Suozzo said this will be a two year program, the Camp Ground is looking to have a permanent solution.

RESOLUTION #136-12

AUTHORIZE AGREEMENT WITH LAKE GEORGE GREAT ESCAPE CAMPGROUND TO ACCEPT WASTE BY TRUCK AT WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT.

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

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

RESOLVED, to authorize the Supervisor to enter into a two year agreement with Lake George Great Escape Campground to accept waste by truck at the wastewater treatment plant.

DISCUSSION – HIGHWAY GARAGE IMPROVEMENTS

Supervisor Geraghty opened discussion explaining the Board has recommendations for the Highway Garage for ground improvements in their packets and that they are just going to be moving ahead with those, looking at drainage improvements at the Highway Garage.

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DISCUSSION – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Councilwoman Linda Marcella opened discussion on the Economic Development Committee saying she had put out a call for residents who might be interested in participating in the Economic Development Committee and said she had received letters of interest from Sandi Parisi, Michael Mender, Marcella Towers, and Anna Eric. Councilwoman Marcella said Supervisor Geraghty will also be on the committee and Councilwoman Reed. Councilwoman Marcella asked the Town Clerk to put the meeting notice in FYI in the Post Star for July 19th at 4:00 p.m. explaining they will be working on goals and missions.

DISCUSSION – PLANNING BOARD APPLICANTS

Supervisor Geraghty told the Town Board they needed to set a date and a time to interview for Planning Board applicants.

It was determined to set Wednesday, July 18th at 4:00 p.m. to interview the applicants.

DISCUSSION – PROPOSED PROPERTY MAINTENANCE LAW

Supervisor Geraghty told the Town Board a date and time for a public hearing for a proposed property maintenance law for the Town of Warrensburg needed to be set. Supervisor Geraghty said there was a property maintenance law in their packets the Code Enforcement Officer got from another community, the town has been receiving complaints about properties around town and the town board is trying to be proactive. Supervisor Geraghty said he wished to discuss this at a public hearing at the next town board meeting. Supervisor Geraghty said it would give the Board time to read it over, and, digest it, that basically the law is just as it says, Property Maintenance. Supervisor Geraghty said they were receiving a lot of calls about vacant property in the community, ones that are being let go, ones that maybe in receivership and that having a property maintenance code would allow them to go on those properties, the town could hire a contractor for someone to clean those properties and then put it on their taxes. Supervisor Geraghty explained the town would always be made whole for the work, this would also improve the community.

Councilman Alexander said it also talks about having property next door that might be unsightly or needs improvement that is de-valuing your property, this is a win-win all the way around once we get used to the idea.

RESOLUTION #137-12

AUTHORIZE FIREWOOD SALE

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

AYES 5 Alexander, Rounds, Geraghty, Reed, Marcella

NAYS 0

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RESOLVED, to allow the town highway department to sell 5 cords of firewood at the fire company auction.

RESOLUTION #138-12

DECLARE 1999 FORD PICK UP TRUCK SURPLUS

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

AYES 5 Alexander, Rounds, Geraghty, Reed, Marcella

NAYS 0

IT IS RESOLVED, to declare the 1999 Ford Pickup Truck as surplus equipment and to authorize it to be sold at the fire company auction to be held on July 27th, 2012.

RESOLUTION #139-12

PERMISSION FOR PEP RALLY AT RECREATION FIELD

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

AYES 5 Alexander, Rounds, Geraghty, Reed, Marcella

NAYS 0

IT IS RESOLVED, to allow a Pep Rally to be held on the Recreation Field on August 31, 2012.

PUBLIC CONCERNS

Supervisor Geraghty announced the following notes of interest: the first band concert is being held tonight at the Recreation Field, the Warrensburg Chamber of Commerce will hold the first Summer Festival on July 14th and July 15th, the Warrensburg Volunteer Fire Company will have the 50th annual Smoke Eaters Jamboree on July 27th and July 28th, 2012.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Justin Hull, Fire Chief, Warrensburg Fire Company commended two employees of the Town of Warrensburg, Thomas Belden and Robbie Hall, for their quick and decisive action at a structure fire at the Old Brown's Shoe Store on June 27, 2012.

RESOLUTION #140-12

IN RECOGNITION OF THE WARRENSBURG VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY'S 50TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE SMOKE EATERS JAMBOREE

On motion of Councilman Alexander, seconded by Councilwoman Marcella, the attached resolution was ADOPTED

AYES 5 Alexander, Rounds, Geraghty, Reed, Marcella

NAYS 0

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RESOLUTION #141-12

2012 BUDGET MODIFICATIONS

On motion of Councilwoman Reed, seconded by Councilman Rounds, the attached resolution was ADOPTED

AYES 5 Alexander, Rounds, Geraghty, Reed, Marcella

NAYS 0

RESOLUTION #142-12

2012 BUDGET TRANSFERS

On motion of Councilman Rounds, seconded by Councilwoman Reed, the attached resolution was ADOPTED

AYES 5 Alexander, Rounds, Geraghty, Reed, Marcella

NAYS 0

RESOLUTION #143-12

PAY WARRANTS

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

AYES 5 Alexander, Rounds, Geraghty, Reed, Marcella

NAYS 0

RESOLVED, that the bills be paid on Abstract #7 in the following amounts:

General Fund	\$27,871.64
Highway Fund	\$40,077.35
Sewer Fund	\$ 7,073.48
Water Fund	\$ 5,061.94
Water Meters	\$29,871.05
Brownfield Car	\$ 4,240.24
Lighting District	\$ 5,090.58

FURTHER RESOLVED, to add one bill to Abstract #7 for payment

Vermont Tennis Courts in the amount of \$10,250.00 from A7110.400.

PRIVELAGE OF THE FLOOR

Lynn Smith, Chamber of Commerce President – spoke about the Summer Festival.

Martha Strodel – spoke about the upcoming Heritage Day.

Sandi Parisi – inquired about the Price Chopper project.

Tom Drane – spoke about consolidation between the Town Highway and the School, requested a raise for the Town Police officer and spoke about the Town of Thurman's high speed internet proposal.

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PUBLIC THANKS

Councilman Alexander said he wished to publicly thank Dick Oulette, one of our local craft men who built three of the kiosk for the Hackensack Trails and for all of the people involved in the trail markers and the maps.

DISCUSSION – PUBLIC BEACH

Councilwoman Marcella asked for discussion about the Beach saying she did not know if there had been a recent incident or something. Councilwoman Marcella said her concern was they are trying to tell people about the assets Warrensburg has and trying to get them to come and stay here, and then it is her understanding it is only residents or someone staying in Warrensburg who can use the Beach, and, she is has concern about that. Councilman Alexander said the town board had passed a resolution a few years ago saying that. Councilwoman Marcella asked how the Board would like it if they loaded up their grandkids and headed to Lake George Beach and they said sorry, you don't live here, you can't use our beach.

Councilman Alexander told Councilwoman Marcella Lake George does allow people to use their beach if they pay \$10.00 for parking.

Discussion ensued on Echo Lake Beach.

Councilman Alexander explained the Lifeguards have been having problems with some groups of people who have been asked to leave other beaches who are now at Warrensburg Echo Lake Beach and using the Lifeguards for babysitters.

Supervisor Geraghty said the Town Board adopted that policy in 2010, they took care of a problem and did not have any issues on the Beach in 2010, prior to 2010 there were a lot of issues on the Beach, the Town had to take drastic actions. Supervisor Geraghty explained there were no instances on the Beach last year, this year a phone call was received from a Warrensburg resident who was very upset about what was going on at the public beach, there was a very large group of people there who were not Warrensburg residents and the lifeguards had trouble trying to control them. Supervisor Geraghty said he turned it over to John (Councilman Alexander) and said it needed to be investigated to see if it is the same group that was there two years ago. Supervisor Geraghty said the Town tries to address the problems the best that they can, they are not going to have the Lifeguards checking drivers licenses, if people behave.

Councilman Alexander said he called down this morning and asked questions about the little Diamond Point Beach where they do not charge for parking, both Bolton and Lake George Beach charge for parking, but the Beach is free. Councilman Alexander said for the Diamond Point Beach they had the residents come in for residence identification cards, that was their solution for a sticky problem.

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Councilwoman Marcella said she supported town employees 100 percent but she did not want to govern based on a handful of troublemakers.

Supervisor Geraghty said the Town has a policy that the Board adopted and if the Board wishes to change the policy the Board can change the policy. Supervisor Geraghty asked the Board if anyone wished to change the policy. Councilwoman Marcella said she did, Councilman Alexander said he did not, Councilman Rounds said he did not.

Councilwoman Marcella asked what the instructions are to the lifeguards, the signs say residents only. Councilwoman Marcella asked if someone from Thurman shows up do they let Thurman in. Councilman Alexander explained the Town has not had an issue since the policy was adopted. Supervisor Geraghty said this at least gives them the chance to approach them and then remove them from the Beach. Councilwoman Marcella said she felt it was discriminatory and unfair.

DISCUSSION – ATTORNEY

Councilwoman Marcella asked the Town Board if they had noticed that on the budget status that as of the end of June 30th, before the \$3,000.00 transfer tonight they were at 11.8 percent. Councilwoman Marcella said she had a couple of questions, one what are they going to do about that, two is it unusually high this year for specific reasons and three have we considered approaching them or whomever for a retainer.

Supervisor Geraghty said that we are approaching them for a retainer, they are going to get back to him. Supervisor Geraghty said our Attorney fees are very low, we were handcuffed with the tax cap so he was unable to put in the amount of money for attorney fees, one of the biggest costs of attorney fees was the duplication of effort on the Planning, when we duplicated the effort instead of using attorneys attached to the Planning grant, we hired Miller Mannix to come in and that was about \$2000.00 extra. Supervisor Geraghty said some of the fees will be returned to us from the Brownfield projects, we try to avoid using the Attorney. Supervisor Geraghty said we have a lot going on in the community that you need an attorney for, \$10,000.00 for attorney fees is pretty small. Councilwoman Marcella said no, \$17,500.00. Supervisor Geraghty said the Town had budgeted \$10,000.00 and he was not going to do things without using the town attorney, the costs are going to continue to grow, the Town has the sewer projects and the exit 23 project, we will get paid for his time back, there are billable hours he is being paid for and right now he gave him five different things for him to work on. Supervisor Geraghty said Attorney fees are going to continue to go up.

DISCUSSION – CONSOLIDATION

**Supervisor Geraghty opened discussion explaining that the town has reached out to the town of Thurman asking them if they wished to combine Assessor's position,
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we would do that, the Town has reached out to the School on numerous occasions saying we would work with the School but we do not get a lot back in return from the school. Supervisor Geraghty said there is cement work at the School the town has to do for elections, for the handicap ramps that we need to complete as part of the deal the Town made with the school to keep the voting there. We have tried to reach out, the Town is watching the Broadband in Thurman and the Town of Thurman has to put up around \$30,000.00 up front for the dishes.

On motion of Councilman Alexander, seconded by Councilwoman Marcella, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna A. Combs, Town Clerk

