

Minutes
Town of Richford Board Meeting August 11, 2015

The regular Town of Richford Board Meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Supervisor Wilcox. Councilman Miller, Councilwoman Herrick, Supervisor Wilcox, Highway Superintendent Hunt and 9 townspeople were present. Councilman Brown and Councilwoman Holcomb were absent.

We began the meeting with the pledge of allegiance led by Councilman Miller.

The minutes of the July 14, 2015 regular town board meeting, the special town board meetings held on July 21 and July 27, 2015 were presented. The following corrections were asked to be made by the board:

July 14, 2015 Minutes:

- Page 5 – Move Privilege of the Floor to before Graded School

July 21, 2015 Minutes:

- Page 1 – Change time meeting adjourned to 9:50pm

July 27, 2015 Minutes:

- Page 1 – Add: The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:48pm. Meeting adjourned.

Councilwoman Herrick made the motion, seconded by, Councilman Miller, to accept the July 14, 2015 regular town board meeting and the July 21 and July 27, 2015 special board meeting minutes as amended. With 3 ayes, minutes are approved as amended

The Town Clerk's, Town Supervisor's, Highway Superintendents, Building Code Enforcement and Court reports for July 2015 were presented.

Highway Superintendents report:

- Town has been working on Barden Road for the past several weeks. So far they have hauled approximately 600 loads of gravel with the help of the Towns of Harford and Dryden. Depending on the weather Barden Road should be finished in the next week or so.
- Mike Hunt spoke to Frankie Payne regarding the chassis for the garbage truck. It appears to be a good deal but currently the garbage truck hydraulics is an issue. This needs to be addressed.

Justice Report:

Check for \$3,004 was presented to the Board

Dog Control Report:

- Dog License verifications performed
- Followed up on dogs barking and dogs at large
- Addressed a dog harassing another dog

Code Enforcement Report:

- 6 building permits, one certification of occupancy, 2 complaints of lack of building permit, and 21 inspections

Town Planning Board report was presented.

- Charlie Davis will be sending a letter to the Town Board members asking them to express any concerns or comments on the Comprehensive Plan before the next Planning Board meeting.
- Councilwoman Herrick asked Charlie about a Sign Ordinance. Councilwoman Herrick is concerned about large billboards with illumination in the town. Charlie is doing research and looking into state laws.
- Sidewalks – Due to the recent state construction of sidewalks in town the Comprehensive Plan may be modified. State is constructing new sidewalks because they did not meet state requirements. Supervisor Wilcox will contact DOT to see who is responsible for maintaining the new sidewalks.
- County Planning Board – Supervisor Wilcox stated he was not aware until the last meeting that Richford did not have a representative.

Abstract of Vouchers:

Councilwoman Herrick, seconded by Councilman Miller, made a motion to pay the vouchers on Abstract #8 and that the vouchers on the Abstract are the same ones signed by the Board. With 3 ayes, vouchers will be paid.

OLD BUSINESS:

Hyde Property:

The paperwork to transfer ownership of the Hyde Property over to the Richford Fire District has been completed and signed. Thus, the Fire District has the title and will have Mr. Thurston perform a survey and then an abatement company will demolish and remove the house.

Graded Schoolhouse:

It has been brought to the attention of the Board that the ownership of the Graded Schoolhouse may still be in the hands of the Fire District. The tax property system states the Town owns the property but the deed doesn't agree. Supervisor Wilcox will speak to April Andersen, Fire District Secretary, to see if this can be settled. In addition, Velvet Lyke will review the Town Board Minutes from 1984-1987 to see what the agreement was between the Town and FD.

Comprehensive Plan:

Due to the additional comments by the Board at the Special Meeting on July 21, 2015, the new sidewalk construction and county additions regarding flood plains the Planning Board would like to meet with the Board to go over the changes and make the final version.

Councilman Miller asked if the Planning Board had reviewed and worked on incorporating the suggestion from the July 21, 2015 meeting. Vicki Nuzzo indicated they have not due to the other items that have come up. They would like to meet with the Board one more time to settle all areas.

Councilwoman Herrick, seconded by Councilman Miller, made the motion to hold a Special Board Meeting on Monday, September 14, 2015. At the meeting the Comprehensive Plan will be discussed.

Vicki Nuzzo stressed how important it is to have all members of the Town Board present at the meeting so everyone knows what they would be voting on when the Comprehensive Plan comes before the Board.

Code of Ethics:

Councilwoman Herrick asked that the Board take a vote to pass the Code of Ethics.

Councilman Miller stated that he was not able to read the final version due to personal workload and did not feel comfortable voting on something he did not review.

Supervisor Wilcox supports Councilman Miller's comments on time constraints of local government officials who work full time and try to keep up with the many issues that the Town faces.

Charlie Davis will send the Code of Ethics to the Board again due to changes in spacing and type issues. He does not believe that any changes were made from the first version he provided to the Board. Councilwoman Holcomb had removed required paragraphs but Mr. Davis added them back in.

This topic will be tabled until the September meeting and added to the agenda.

Town Positions:

The town positions were advertised and the following applicants applied:

Barbara Keener – Town Hall and Park Custodian position

John Harbst – Town Hall and Park Custodian and Substitute Garbage Attendant

Supervisor Wilcox spoke to Vickie Davis regarding the condition of the Town Hall.

Vickie indicated she sees an improvement at the town hall. Supervisor Wilcox commented that he thinks Barbara Keener has done a good job during her temporary appointment.

Supervisor Wilcox asked Mrs. Keener what other maintenance duties she would be willing to do at the Town Hall. She is willing to change light bulbs, shovel snow and other needed maintenance.

Councilwoman Herrick, seconded by Councilman Miller, made a motion to appoint Barbara Keener as Permanent Town Hall and Rawley Park Custodian, and John Harbst as Substitute Garbage Attendant. With 3 ayes motion was passed and appointments made.

Highway Employees Contract:

On July 27, 2015 the Town Board met with the Teamster Representative and the Highway Employees to negotiate a contract.

A contract was agreed to and the following motions pertain to the contract:

Councilman Miller, seconded by Councilwoman Herrick, made the motion to grant the Highway Employees pay raises as follows:

- a. Increase of \$.70/hour from 1/1/2015 – 12/31/2015 (retroactive to January 1, 2015)
- b. Increase of \$.45/hour from 1/1/2016-12/31/2106
- c. Increase of \$.45/ hour from 1/1/2017-12/31/2107
- d. Increase of \$.50/hour from 1/1/2018-12/31/218

With 3 ayes the motion was passed

Councilwoman Herrick, seconded by Councilman Miller, made the motion to change the Health Insurance coverage for the Highway Employees from Excellus to Teamsters HRA Plan effective 1/1/2016. With 3 ayes the motion was passed

Councilman Miller, seconded by Councilwoman Herrick, made the motion to begin deducting union dues from the Highway Employees paychecks effective with the next payroll. With 3 ayes the motion was passed

Councilman Miller questioned the wording in section 10.5 regarding comp time.

Councilman Miller believed that the agreement between the two parties was that comp time was up to the employer at the time incurred.

Supervisor Wilcox acknowledged Councilman Miller's concern. Supervisor Wilcox would like to see the Town settle with the men. Supervisor Wilcox and Councilwoman Herrick asked Mike Hunt if he could work with the contract as written. Per the contract, Mike Hunt does have the ability to disapprove the use of Comp Time if he sees fit. Mike indicated that he could work with the contract as written.

It was stated that during negotiations the Town Board and Union Rep reviewed each section of the contract and initialed the changes.

Supervisor Wilcox made an appeal with Councilman Miller to agree with the contract as written since Mike Hunt assured the Town Board he can work with it. Councilman Miller agreed to the contract.

RESOLUTION: Councilwoman Herrick, seconded by Supervisor Wilcox made the following resolution:

Be it resolved that the agreement between the Town of Richford and Teamsters Local 317 be approved and further resolve to allow the Town Supervisor to sign the agreement on behalf of the Town Board. 3 votes in favor

New Business:

Graded Schoolhouse

Supervisor Wilcox will go to the County to review the deed to determine who has clear title.

Bill Sherwood, Historian notified Supervisor Wilcox that during the winter someone broke a window at the schoolhouse. The window frame needs to be rebuilt and the window replaced. Supervisor Wilcox will take the window to get an estimate.

Tax Cap:

Supervisor Wilcox stated that in the past the Board has passed a tax cap override. The Board tries to keep the increase in taxes down. Councilwoman Herrick and Councilman Miller both feel it's best to put the Tax Cap override into place as a precaution. Supervisor Wilcox will contact attorney to get the local law drafted and discuss in September when a public hearing will be held.

Grants:

Councilwoman Herrick mentioned that a Town Grant Gateway Administrator must be appointed before state grants can be applied for.

Councilwoman Herrick, seconded by Councilman Miller, made the motion to appoint Velvet Lyke as the NYS Grants Gateway Administrator. 3 ayes motion passed

Rawley Park Committee:

- Committee is meeting every two weeks. Meetings are very active and vibrant.
- **NEXT WORK PARTY:** August 13, 2015 from 6-8:30
- Many people have helped with brush removal, etc. The Diner owner will donate seed to replant grass behind the diner. Joe Krul has offered to donate materials to erect a sign for the entrance of the park.
- August 21, 2015 Movie night and Bonfire!!! Charlie will add to website.
- The Hooker Foundation Grant money has been received and Mr. Thurston can be paid for the survey.
- Grant Research – Councilwoman Herrick found a grant from the Art Council of the Southern Finger Lakes which would pay for a mural on the pavilion. One of the committee members knows a muralist who attended the last committee meeting and is very interested in helping write the grant and erect the mural. She likes to work with the community and get their help with the design and the

building of the mural. Thus, the committee is doing a survey at the Bonfire and Potato Fest for design ideas. Councilwoman Herrick would like to get the Boards support on the mural. Board is supportive. Only concern is vandalism. Councilwoman Herrick indicated that by getting the town involved they will become vested in the park and help control vandalism. They committee has cut down brush that makes the park more visible and the committee has asked the County Sheriff to patrol the park more often. Councilwoman Herrick is looking into grants that would assist with security.

- Light at Park – One of the security lights is broken. The Board was asked to approve the replacement of the broken bulb with a vandal resistant one. Councilwoman Herrick, seconded by Councilman Miller, made the motion to authorize the purchase of the outside light not to exceed \$200. With 3 ayes the motion was passed.
- The Committee is working with Haefele TV to provide free WIFI at the park. A box located in the pavilion is an option.
- Committee is looking at Park Ordinance
- April and Glen Andersen looking into using the park fields for soccer.
- Drainage Problem – John Keener spoke about the ditch and pipe by the diner needing to be cleaned out and a possible ditch for drainage from diner to tracks. Mike Hunt will see what needs to be done.
- Community Garden is an idea that the committee is looking into.
- Lori Moore has provided the committee with a list of grants that may be of interest for the park.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Town Hall – Barbara Keener told the Board that three fire detectors at the Hall are not working even after she replaced the batteries. Board asked Barb to contact Code Enforcer to see how many alarms are required for the main room and look into replacing the detectors.

Gateway Grants – Charlie Davis indicated that some grants have fees included to pay for the administration of the grants. Thus, Velvet Lyke may receive payment for being the Grant Gateway Administrator.

Councilwomen Herrick, seconded by Councilman Miller, made a motion to adjourn.
Motion approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Velvet Lyke
Town Clerk