

Minutes
Town of Richford Board Meeting May 12, 2015

The regular Town of Richford Board Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Supervisor Wilcox. Councilwoman Holcomb, Councilman Miller, Councilwoman Herrick, Supervisor Wilcox, and 6 townspeople were present; Councilman Brown and Highway Superintendent Hunt were absent.

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

The minutes of the April 14, 2015 regular town board meeting were presented. The following correction was asked to be made by the board:

- Page 1 Item 14 – change they to the
- Page 2 – Highway Report change CAPS to CHIPS
- Page 2 – Highway Report change \$1800 to \$3600
- Page 3 – Old Business bullet one change to read: Councilman Miller proposed that Town Officials sign the Code of Ethics documents after being elected or appointed.
- Page 3 – Under Utilities – Add words asked if the board.
- Page 4 last paragraph – add after improved service – and higher additional paid
- Page 5 – Paragraph one correct spelling of Rolf Wittich
- Page 5 – Paragraph 3 – correct spelling of Stell
- Page 5 – Garbage attendant paragraph – clarify to say that Doug Wandell is planning on wintering in Florida and would like the Town to hire a winter attendant.

Councilman Miller, seconded by, Councilwoman Holcomb, made the motion to accept the April 14, 2015 regular town board meeting as amended. With 3 ayes and Councilwoman Herrick abstained; minutes are approved as amended

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

The Highway Superintendent report was presented.

Town Planning Board report was presented.

- Newsletters have been sent out
- Comprehensive Plan is coming along well and a draft might be ready for the June Board Meeting
- Members of the Board attended training and it was beneficial

American Power and Gas:

- Third Party Electricity Provider
- Contract Up as of June 1
- Variable Rate
- Supervisor Wilcox spoke to NYSEG and a 3rd party supplier is not required
- Councilwoman Holcomb and Councilman Miller asked that Supervisor Wilcox ensure the all Richford accounts are municipal and ask if the town has any demand meters.

Councilwoman Holcomb made a motion, seconded by Councilman Miller, that the Town Board authorizes Supervisor Wilcox to not renew the service agreement with American Power and Gas and to have NYSEG as the sole provider of electricity for the Town of Richford. With 4 ayes the motion is approved.

Computer Purchase:

Councilwoman Herrick, seconded by Councilman Miller, made the motion to approve the purchase of an HP Computer for \$249.99 from Staples out of account A1220.4. With 4 ayes the motion is approved.

Abstract of Vouchers:

Councilwoman Herrick, seconded by Councilman Miller, made a motion to pay the vouchers on Abstract #5 and that the vouchers on the Abstract are the same ones signed by the Board. With 4 ayes vouchers will be paid.

OLD BUSINESS:

Code of Ethics for the Town elected members and employees was discussed and tabled until the June Meeting. The following items were mentioned at this meeting:

- Charlie Davis wanted the Board to be aware that there are four paragraphs from the State Ethics that must also be in the Towns Code of Ethics
- Charlie Davis provided the Board with a new version of the Draft of the Code of Ethics

Post Office:

No news

Hyde Property:

Hyde Property was discussed. The following items were mentioned:

- Potential for the property to be purchased off the tax roles
- Attorney is working to file papers with the court for the Town to remove the home. At this time the Board does not know that status from the attorney.

NEW BUSINESS:

Highway Agreement 2015 Expenditures:

The Highway Superintendent and Town Board must have a signed agreement on how the Highway budget will be spent and the Capital projects that will be completed the following year.

Supervisor Wilcox provided the Board a copy of the Highway agreement from the previous Highway Superintendent detailing his plan for the use of the Highway budget. The Board would like to speak to the current Highway Superintendent regarding his capital plan before it will be signed and set as a resolution.

Councilwoman Herrick would like this to be done each year.

Highway Budget Resolution:

Be it resolved that the Town Board of Richford approved the Highway Budget estimates for 2105.

With 4 ayes the resolution is passed.

Rawley Park:

The following items were discussed:

- Newark Valley Joint Youth Program has asked to use Rawley Park on July 20, 2015 for a youth program that would benefit NV, Berkshire and Richford children. They have asked not to be charged for the use of the park. This event will be put into the newsletter.
- Councilwoman Herrick, seconded by Councilman Miller, made the motion to authorize the NV Joint Youth Program permission to use Rawley Park free of charge on July 20, 2015. With 4 ayes the motion is approved.
- Highway Employees and Maintenance person have been working on the park. Maintenance person, Bobby Keener will take care of cleaning up the brush and wood left by the railroad as it is a hazard.

Councilwoman Herrick detailed the suggestions made by the Park Committee which include the following:

- Walking and Biking Trails
- Fitness Trail
- Mowing on the other side of the driveway to expand the park and to use this area for other activities
- Small pavilion
- Additional playground equipment for younger and older children
- Additional parking
- Access to the stream

Joe Kral, community member who specializes in designing plans suggested improvements. He has assessed the creek lookout and thinks that it can be opened up

with the help of the community for little or no money. Another option is to pay to have the bank stabilized and this would involve the DEC and significant financial investment.

Mr. Kral suggested that the Town get the property surveyed. This would allow him to design the plan for the park. Mr. Kroll has graciously volunteered to do the plan free of charge.

Councilwoman Herrick found a grant that is available during the month of May. The Hooker Grant is given to projects that will benefit children. Councilwoman Herrick has volunteered to write the grant proposal asking for \$2500.00 to get the land surveyed in order to develop the Park Committee plan. The Grant requires the submitting group be a 501C organization and the Northern Tioga Neighbors Helping Neighbors Organization is willing to help us with this.

Councilwoman Herrick asked that a memorial bench in honor of her late husband be placed at the park.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Town Hall Custodian – Becky Randall resigned from the Town Hall Custodian as of May 31, 2015 due to health reasons.

Councilwoman Herrick, seconded by Councilwoman Holcomb, made a motion to temporarily appoint Barbara Keener as the Town Hall Custodian effective May 31, 2105. With 4 ayes the motion is approved.

Recycling – Residents asked if the Town could assist them in recycling batteries and light bulbs. Victoria Nuzzo volunteered to look into this issue and report back to the Board.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:53 p.m.

Velvet Lyke
Town Clerk