

TOWN BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2016

Minutes of the Regular Board meeting held on the above date beginning at 7:00 in the Meeting Room of the North Elba Town Hall, 2693 Main Street, Lake Placid, New York.

Members Present: Supervisor Politi, Councilman Favro, Councilman Miller, Councilman Doty, Councilman Rand, and Laurie Dudley

Others Present: Attorney Ron Briggs, Larry Straight, Antonio Olivera, Mary Dietrich, Patricia Stanton

Supervisor Politi opened the Regular Town Board meeting at 7:00 pm by asking everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor Politi asked for a motion approving the minutes for the November 1, 2016 Board meeting.

Councilman Rand moved and Councilman Favro seconded the motion to approve the minutes as written and presented. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously carried.

MARY DIETRICH AND PATRICIA STANTON – LAKE PLACID CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD

Supervisor Politi invited Mary Dietrich and Patricia Stanton to the table to address the Board

Marry Dietrich – We are here representing the School Board to convey two points; Community Outreach and involvement. We are trying to convince to people that running for the School Board or serving on one of our committees would be a great. In the packet I handed out there is a description of board duties, the election process including a scope of activities. We included a list of the committees with their roles and duties. Our hope is to enlist your help in that. In your travels with community members, direct those who express an interest in getting involved in community affairs to us.

Supervisor Politi – The School Board is a tough one. People have a tendency to shy away from more than the other boards. I always thought it was the one board I would be nervous to be on.

Marry Dietrich – There is a perception that it is a thankless job and all you hear are the complaints. I have not found that. It is very rewarding.

Supervisor Politi – Not many people have a solid education background.

Marry Dietrich - I don't think that is necessary. If you have an interest in students and have good commonsense, then I think you can certainly learn the other.

Supervisor Politi – Lake Placid High School has a Facebook page and I am sure this information is on that. Facebook is like the newspaper. If you want to get attention then that is the place you're going to get it.

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Marry Dietrich - We do have a Facebook presence and a website. The information I handed out is all on there. I attended a conference on how to reach the public and they said still in all this age of technology the most effective way of getting your message across is through snail mail. A letter in an envelope and send it out.

Supervisor Politi - I am very surprised at that. In my business has changed and it is related to internet and Facebook.

Councilman Doty – Saranac Lake School District is going through the same thing that Lake Placid is with multi-million dollar renovation. I just got a big brochure in the mail. It outlines everything and is clear as a bell. The tax payer can understand how affordable a multi-million dollars project is a over 17 years.

Supervisor Politi – ROOST is developing a new link on their website about communities in Lake Placid and Saranac Lake. When people come into the area they can read about the communities and school districts. This may be a good place to add your link.

Patricia Stanton – Are they thinking of potential people who are moving here?

Supervisor Politi – A lot of people who come into real estate offices want to know about the community and the local school districts. They want to hear from community members. The ROOST link is not only about what is going on in the school districts as well as community members talking about what it is like to live in the community and have gone to school there. That is another tool for reaching out.

Patricia Stanton – There are committees that would not be as involved as the School Board. To be a member of a committee does not meet as often as the Board..

The Town Board expressed that they were not aware that there are committees.

Marry Dietrich – There are newsletters that go out and the committees are communicated.

Supervisor Politi – Those newsletters are really for those who have kids in school.

Marry Dietrich – Communication is our number one issue. How do we reach people like you? We have an article in the newspaper every week, we have our website, a Facebook page and we stream our meetings.

Supervisor Politi - If you can get the Mayor to agree, add a flier in the electric bills which will go out to everybody who gets an electric bill. They have done it for us in the past on different things.

Marry Dietrich - It is a good idea. We don't have included all the information we gave you in. I will talk to Craig and see if he will agree to do it. The second reason we have come here; communicate the process and decisions that the school board has taken. We encourage people to ask any one of the Board members questions. We take those questions back to the

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superintendent. We take questions very seriously. We research the information and get right back to that person in the way they contacted us. If it is a broader issue and we think the whole community can benefit from, we write an article for the school newspaper. The point I want to make is that we take these seriously. We are here to represent the community just as you are. I know people ask you what is going on at the school and with this information you can direct them to one of the school board members or directly to the Superintendent. Their concern will be addressed.

Councilman Miller – I call the school often. I have been negotiating the union contract for the Town and I have called the school to see what they do for things such as health insurance. Your administration has been very responsive. It hasn't always been like that. I get information from Roger fairly quickly.

Marry Dietrich – We value the transparency and have really been working on that.

Councilman Miller - I called Roger today to see if we could get a kid to repaint the mural above the door here at the Town Hall. He found someone who will do it as their senior project.

Patricia Stanton – The school taxes is such a large part of their taxes. I am surprised people aren't questioning what is going on at the school.

Supervisor Politi – I am sure there is in Ausable Valley but when your tax rate is \$20 per thousand you might get a few more calls.

Marry Dietrich – The third reason we are here; we are proposing a capital project just like Saranac Lake. Ours is not finalized. We are looking for public input before we finalize it. We have scheduled four forum dates which are at different times and different locations. We will use the forum as an opportunity to explain what the project is. The basis is a building and grounds audit which we are required to conduct by the State. The audit comes up with deficiencies and we have to address those deficiencies. We have divided it into three projects; infrastructure, safety and security which means more now than before 911, and handful of different programs. That is how we are presenting the information to the public. We will give the public an opportunity to give us their feedback. I invite you to come to a forum. If you cannot attend the proposal will be on our website and there is place to respond and ask questions.

Patricia Stanton – If you could please pass those dates along about the capital project.

Supervisor Politi – We could put the information on our website as a link. Laurie will put the dates on our website too.

Marry Dietrich – Our strategic plan has a community outreach aspect as a key goal. If there is anything on the Town Board's agenda that includes are students, we are more than willing to attend a meeting.

Supervisor Politi – That is great. This has certainly never happened before.

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Marry Dietrich and Patricia Stanton thanked the Board for working them into the meeting

REVIEW BOARD APPOINTMENT - JOHN ROSENTHAL (5 YEAR: 2017-2021)

Supervisor Politi stated the Review Board is recommending we reappoint John Rosenthal for the Review Board which is a 5 year term (2017-2021).

Councilman Favro moved and Councilman Miller seconded the motion to approve the Review Board appointment of John Rosenthal for five years. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously carried.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS APPOINTMENT - LINDA FRIEDLANDER (5 YEAR: 2017-2021)

Supervisor Politi stated the Zoning Board is recommending we reappoint Linda Friedlander which is a 5 year term (2017-2021).

Councilman Favro moved and Councilman Doty seconded the motion to approve the Zoning Board of Appeals appointment of Linda Friedlander for five years. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously carried.

TREE BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Supervisor Politi asked for approval the Tree Board appointments of Jamie Rogers for 3 years, Bob Hannah for 1 year and Denise Bujold for 3 Years.

Supervisor Politi - The Tree Board makes sure the volunteer of the year is recognized and trees are planted in different parks..

Councilman Rand – Tim Chick is moving to Manichean. He was a DEC man and we were lucky to have had him.

Councilman Favro moved and Councilman Doty seconded the motion to approve the Tree Board appointments. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously carried.

APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY BUILDING INSPECTOR

Supervisor Politi – The Temporary Building Inspector present to our joint Village/Town meeting we appointed James Morganson through December 31, 2016 at \$30.13/ hour. I will make the temporary appointment at the Organizational meeting going forward. Later on the agenda is the RFQ for applying for a full-time Code Enforcement Officer. In the mean tome we need someone to cover the position.

Councilman Favro moved and Councilman Rand seconded the motion to appoint James Morganson as temporary Building Inspector expiring December 31, 2016. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously carried.

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BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Supervisor Politi noted the repair of the Transfer Station door and roof and “No Parking” signs which were offset by excess in the General Retirement Fund. We have an expense of park garage personnel for services an hospital and Medicare insurance that is contributable to Andrew St. Louis’ overtime which is offset by excess in retirement fund for the Park District. Equipment repairs replacing the fire hydrant at the Family Dollar store which is offset by budgeted revenues in metered sales.

DEC 2016 BUDGET AMENDMENTS 12/13/2016

ACTION	ACCOUNT	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	REFERENCE	ADDITIONAL INFO
INCREASE EXPENDITURE	A.1910.0431	LIABILITY INSURANCE	8.80	VCHR 162511	ADDITION OF GREENS ROLLER TO INSURANCE
INCREASE EXPENDITURE	A.3310.0417	TRAFFIC CONTROL EQUIPMENT REPAIRS	197.74	VCHR 162521	CONNERY POND, PRIVATE ROAD NO PARKING, PALACE THEATRE HILL PARKING PERMIT ONLY, PALACE THEATRE NO PARKING--OUTSTANDING RECEIVABLE TO CLARK AND SMITH
INCREASE EXPENDITURE	A.8160.0415	TRANSFER STATION BUILDING REPAIRS	5,515.00	VCHR 162523	REPAIR OF TRANSFER STATION DOOR AND ROOF
DECREASE EXPENDITURE	A.9010.0800	GENERAL FUND RETIREMENT	(5,721.54)		EXCESS OVER ACTUAL EXPENSE
			-		
INCREASE EXPENDITURE	SP.1114.101	PARK GARAGE PERSONAL SERVICES	3,201.25	PAYROLL 11/17/16; 12/1/2016	
INCREASE EXPENDITURE	SP.9060.0900	PARK DISTRICT HOSPITAL & MEDICAL INSURANCE	835.01	PAYROLL 12/1/16	HEALTH INS BUYOUT EXCESS
DECREASE EXPENDITURE	SP.9010.0800	PARK DISTRICT RETIREMENT	(4,036.28)		EXCESS OVER ACTUAL EXPENSE
			-		
INCREASE EXPENDITURE	SW3.8320.0417	EQUIPMENT REPAIRS	3,340.69	VCHR 162567	REPLACE FIRE HYDRANT
INCREASE REVENUE	SW3.0000.2140	METERED SALES	(3,340.69)		EXCESS OVER BUDGETED REVENUES
			-		

Councilman Favro moved and Councilman Doty seconded the motion to approve the budget adjustments as written and presented. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously carried.

APPROVE RFQ FOR FULL TIME CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Supervisor Politi – You have all seen the RFQ for the new Code Enforcement Officer. We need to approve it to be able to advertise it.

The Board discussed where the position will be advertised and for how long It was determined that the job will be listed in the Adirondack Enterprise, Press Republican and Monster.

Supervisor Politi – I have received phone calls regarding this position. This RFQ was devised by Cathy Edman and Paul Ellis after conversations with Dan Palmer. It is a Civil Services Code Enforcement Officer.

Councilman Doty - We have not discussed interviews yet. Who will be on a committee?

Councilman Miller – Have we decided who is in authority to hire?

Supervisor Politi – I already have in mind who I want to have interviewed. The people that would probably apply are the people who have already contacted each of us expressing interest. I am inclined to say that Jack and Jay do the interviews because they are completely neutral. The Village would pick a couple of their trustees and that is the way we would do it. Nobody would have stake in the game.

Councilman Miller – Who decides to do the hiring?

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Supervisor Politi - We would have a recommendation by the Town and Village committee as to whom they feel are the top two candidates. We would decide who the best candidate is and if they are not interested, we would move to the next.

Councilman Miller – Are you saying the idea of the Village changing the way they do the Fire Department is null and void?

Supervisor Politi - I didn't say that at all.

Councilman Miller – Are you saying that the Village only has a recommendation and not the authority to hire or fire? Are we still deciding on how we are going to do it based on how the Village wants to do this and the Fire Department?

Supervisor Politi – My guess is the Village wants to have a say but the department is going to be a Town Department. The Town wants to have a say in the Fire Department but infact the Fire Department is a Village Department.

Councilman Miller – That is fine with me then having taken a recommendation from the Village the Town ultimately makes the decisions.

Supervisor Politi – I would hope the committee of 4 people would sit down and make a recommendation of someone that they all agreed to and the Town would hire them

Councilman Miller – Do we need to sort out what percent of the department's budget is the Village's responsibility?

Supervisor Politi – Yes we do but we are not doing it at this meeting.

Councilman Miller - It should be done before we sit at the table for interviews.

Supervisor Politi – Cathy and Paul will have an opportunity to do that. They just got together to write the RFQ today. We have to agree on that and we have to agree on who us going to hire but we are not there yet.

Councilman Miller – This is our meeting and our opportunity to make decisions without the two boards together.

Supervisor Politi – At our last meeting we said Cathy and Paul would get together to come up with a cost formula. That hasn't changed. The RFQ is the first step. The next steps are for the two of them to determine what the cost scenario should be, discuss a salary, appoint a committee, start interviews and go from there. We will probably have a joint meeting to discuss the cost sharing as well as a discussion on our position of decisions make at the Fire Department.

Attorney Briggs – Before Cathy sits down with Paul to talk about cost share, does she have an idea where this board is leaning in that regard?

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Supervisor Politi – We had a meeting. You were here Ron.

Attorney Briggs – That was not what I mean. If Cathy goes into a meeting without knowing your expectations, would be a disadvantage to her. Roby should talk to her.

Supervisor Politi – We discussed at the Joint meeting we wanted to come up with a cost scenario that took into consideration that the majority of the commercial business was being handles inside the Village. The two would come up with a formula that would make sense. With that being said, we certainly have a say in the final outcome. Jack and Bob sat down with the Village to come up with a formula for the Fire Department based upon assessments. Doing the Code Enforcement the same way doesn't make sense. Aall the Assessments are outside the Village but all the building is inside the Village.

Councilman Miller – Don't we want to make sure we iron that out before we know what their participation in the process will be? What if they come back and say they are only willing to pay "x" and it is unsatisfactory for us? If they are going to sit down with us at the table, we need to identify what our relationship is first.

Supervisor Politi – Nobody disagrees with that but the point is, if the Village does not agree to pay, what are we going to do? Truthfully, we don't have to provide a service to the Village. Although, that is not the intension.

The Board discussed that the Village would pay because they made it clear that they were dissatisfied with the service. The Village had no accountability and they want to have some say with the department as does the Town with the Fire Department cost due to the town paying 70% of that cost.

Councilman Doty – You cannot forget along with the word "accountability" goes participation. There are planning board meetings each week for construction in the Village. They could have a representative attend those meetings to be involved with the Village construction. They have been absent from it for years. They also have ZBA meetings.

Supervisor Politi – They are not absent because the Village appoints, as we do, members of those boards. I do not go to the meetings.

Councilman Doty – I am saying there was a way for the Village to be more accountable through participation.

Supervisor Politi – It is not the place of any member of this Board or member of the Village Board to be participating in and any Zoning Board meetings. We appoint those members to make decisions. I stay away from meetings because I could potentially influence a decision.

Councilman Favro – The Village is looking for the opportunity to improve the Department. We are going to start with one person and may have to hire another for enforcement.

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Supervisor Politi – The potential stumbling block is whether the Village is going to pay 50%, 60% or what percent. That is the potential area that Bob is concerned about. I am too but we have to get to some kind of common ground. Cathy will look out for our interest and Paul will look out for the Village. They will look at the numbers and see that the department loses money but needs to be funded and the question is, who is going to pay what?

The Board agreed that it will all come into place. There are people interested who are qualified and may not need training.

AWARD OF GRANT MONIES – ECO POND OUTLET – WATER QUALITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Supervisor Politi – We received a \$420,000 for our Water Quality Development project at Eco Pond. We did not anticipated it, but we got it. I gave the paperwork to Cathy Edmond. It will not happen this Spring. We won't see this until 2018.

Superintendent Straight– I talked to Ivan. Did he talk to Mike Mascarenas about the cost of the project?

Supervisor Politi – The estimate was \$560,000. The grant is \$420,000 and we have a 20% responsibility which can be in-kind services. Hopefully it will solve that problem.

Councilman Doty – Who gives us the okay on that design? DEC?

Supervisor Politi – The DEC Reviewed it.

Councilman Favro – They gave away a lot of money. Saranac Lake received a lot. Next year we may receive money for Ray Brook which is water Quality.

Councilman Doty – We have been working with the State now, by then our chances might be real good.

GRANT APPLICATION IDEAS – SENATOR LITTLE

Supervisor Politi – Any ideas for the \$100,000 the Senator found for us? It has to be used for future projects and not already started project.

Councilman Doty - The Lacrosse fields could have irrigation which would save a lot of man hours.

Supervisor Politi – That Qualifies, Bob talked about a sidewalk to Newman Park and the park qualifies.

Councilman Doty – We could split it and help with our annual strain of 2% on our budget.

Supervisor Politi – We have to come up with something quick.

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Councilman Miller – I would like to see a sidewalk on Newman

Superintendent Straight – That is going to be difficult because of the right-of-away. You will be taking hedges and front yards. We tried to do it before and we dropped it. There are electric poles that need to be moved.

Councilman Miller - The concern I have heard about improving Newman Park is access to the park. You have to walk in the road to get there. If we are improving the park, we are going to have to improve access to the park. Rotary won't participate without safety.

Councilman Favro – By taking out some trees at the park we could put in a few parking spaces.

Supervisor Politi – I grew up with that park all my life and never needed a sidewalk. I guess things have changed. There is no sidewalk to Hillcrest Park

Councilman Doty – It sounds like the Park is a priority

Councilman Favro – We have put money away for it and then we take it for something else.

Councilman Doty – Let's allocate half of it.

The equipment in Lake Clear is not available because the building is still for sale. If they pull it out, the locals will have no place to go and is therefore unavailable.

Supervisor Politi – What Direction would you like to propose?

Councilman Doty – I propose we allocate \$50,000 for Newman Park and \$50,000 be allocated irrigation at for irrigation at Craig Wood. The Lacrosse Fields was a great idea too.

Supervisor Politi – Next year we could continue with the Lacrosse Field and Horse Show.

HOST LEASE DISCUSSION – LACROSSE FIELDS

Supervisor Politi – I sent you the Host Lease for the Lacrosse Fields.

Councilman Favro – I like that they adjusted the payments if they add more programs which is what I was concerned about.

Supervisor Politi – What was not spelled out was increasing the number of per day rate. Jay raised the issue about an event in June with rain damages. The fields then have to recover before August. It may require Jim Gerard to re-sod it. There will be an additional cost which should be noted as an unforeseen cost as a result of an event which requires attention be at his expense?

Attorney Briggs – Unusual damage deposit or something like that.

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Supervisor Politi gave the contract to Attorney Briggs to make the appropriate changes.

Supervisor Politi - Do you want to give conceptual approval subject to rewriting the language with regard to additional events and at the rates of Attorney Briggs?

Councilman Doty – What about the electrical? The cost is \$4,500. He is paying \$2,500 and we are paying \$2,000. We budgeted for that. The Village is going to do the work. I will ask Cathy about that.

Councilman Favro moved and Councilman Doty seconded the motion to conceptually approve the Host Agreement with Lacrosse subject to approved language by Attorney Briggs. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - TOBOGGAN SLIDE

Councilman Doty- Due to a couple factors, we are three weeks behind. We waited for the Village to put in their storm drain so we knew exactly where it was to go. If we hadn't torn down the old chute it would be coming down for that storm drain. There is only one route it can take to get to the manhole out behind the post office. Brad helped mark each side of the storm drains because the caissons had to go in either side of the storm drain. The surveyors came and did the elevations'. Unfortunately when they went in they were touching the drain. They had to pull them up and pour sheets of concrete. The steel needed a week for the pins to set in the concrete. Steel came Monday. It should be complete by the end of January.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - BIODIGESTER

Councilman Miller – We are getting close with the Biodigester. We should have contracts by the end of the week.

Councilman Doty – I spoke with Peter and sent the info to Christine.

Councilman Miller – Two guys from Clarkson came in and wants to do a startup company. They want to run Biodigesters throughout the region. Ours will be the first one. They are going to do it for \$20,000 plus the difference between the tipping fees and what Casella charges. They will provide 20 hours of labor. They will monitor it, problem solve and do repairs.

Councilman Doty – With a potential Ags and Markets grant to subsidize their work.

Supervisor Politi – Do we have the man-hours at the landfill to cover that?

Councilman Miller – We can discuss that at a later date.

APPROVE AUDITS AS PER AUDIT #'S

Supervisor Politi asked for approval of the audits.

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TOWN OF NORTH ELBA			
CLAIMS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT 12/1316			
	Regular	Prepaid	Totals
A FUND GENERAL FUND	107205.33	147341.62	254546.95
B FUND GENERAL OUTSIDE VILLAGE	4.99	90.66	95.65
DB FUND TOWN OUTSIDE VILLAGE HIGHWAY	8139.71	58414.55	66554.26
H14-TAXIWAY LIGHTING	16800		16800
H17-TOBOGGAN SLIDE	126962		126962
RD03-THEIANOQUEN WAY	0	4586.4	4586.4
SP PARK DISTRICT	15386.19	82540.7	97926.89
SS21-CONSOLIDATED SEWER	0	5521.61	5521.61
SW3 RAY BROOK	4603.39	230.85	4834.24
Batch 1644-1649	\$279,101.61	\$298,726.39	\$577,828.00
162455162513; 162515-162525; 162552-162569; 162572-162574; 162624-			
162634; 162636-162705; 162708-162713; 162715-162721			
Batch 999 (Payroll & Health Reimbursement Arrangement)	\$0.00	\$45,624.84	\$45,624.84
162395; 162397-162401; 162403; 162405; 162407; 162409; 162411- 162414;			
162416-162417; 162419; 162421-162422; 162424; 162426-162427; 162429-			
162430; 162432; 162434; 162514; 162526-162534; 162537-162551; 162571			
Batch - HELD			
Rejected Vouchers:			
DELETED VOUCHERS:			
162334; 162347; 162364; 162371; 162396; 162402; 162404; 162406; 162408;	-\$703.55	\$0.00	-\$703.55
162410; 162415; 162418; 162420; 162423; 162425; 162428; 162431; 162433;			
162535-162536; 162570; 162575-162585; 162714; 162722-162733			

Councilman Favro moved and Councilman Doty seconded the motion to approve the audits as written and presented. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Miller moved and Councilman Favro seconded the motion to go into Executive session for the purpose of discussing a personnel action at 7:58 PM

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Councilman Favro moved and Councilman Rand seconded the motion to come out of executive session at 7:35 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no business transacted during Executive Session and no further business to come before the Town Boards, Councilman Doty moved and Councilman Rand seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie Curtis Dudley
Town Clerk