

**TOWN BOARD MEETING**  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2015

Minutes of the Regular Board meeting held on the above date beginning at 7:00 pm at 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 Jessica Scriver

**Others Present:** Attorney Ron Briggs, Larry Straight, Matt Turner

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 for the board minutes of December 4, 2014, Public Hearing minutes of December 4, 2014 and 2015 Organizational Meeting.

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

**RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCE- GOVERNOR MARIO CUOMO**

Supervisor Politi read the following resolution.

**Resolution  
of  
Condolence and Appreciation**

The following resolution was offered by Supervisor Politi and seconded by Mayor Randall on the behalf of the Town of North Elba and the Olympic Village of Lake Placid.

**Whereas**, in recognition of the life and contributions of **Mario M. Cuomo**, the 52<sup>nd</sup> Governor of the State of New York.

The Olympic Village of Lake Placid offers Mrs. Cuomo, Governor Andrew Cuomo and the Cuomo family its deepest condolences and sincerest respect for the life of a man who loved this great state and who stood for his beliefs embracing the Olympic spirit inspiring others "to dare to make a difference" and

**Whereas**, Governor Mario Cuomo supported our tourism based economy and outwardly endorsed the construction of a US Olympic Training Center, arguing for the expansion of Whiteface Mountain and the Olympic Ski Jumps, yet also understanding the importance of the need to protect the Adirondacks as a forest preserve... and

**Whereas**, Governor Mario Cuomo stood at the top of New York State in 1985 and re-dedicated the Whiteface Memorial Highway to honor all veterans of all wars.

**Now Therefore**, in appreciation of Governor Mario Cuomo's commitment to the Lake Placid community, the US Olympic Training Facility, the Whiteface Memorial Highway, the Adirondack region and all the people of New York State we do hereby resolve that this resolution of condolence and appreciation be forever recorded in the minutes of the Town of North Elba and the Village of Lake Placid. We honor an eloquent statesman, inspirational leader and friend of the Olympic Village.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert T. Politi, Supervisor  
Town of North Elba

\_\_\_\_\_  
Craig Randall, Mayor  
Village of Lake Placid

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

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Councilman Favro moved and Councilman Doty seconded the Resolution of Condolence for Governor Mario Cuomo. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously carried.

**DISCUSSION CRAIG WOOD SPRAYER**

Supervisor Politi- Derek is going to discuss the issue with regard to the Craig Wood sprayer and vehicle.

Councilman Doty - There was considerable confusion when we ended the budget process this year. A sprayer was omitted from what was submitted to go in the budget. It's has a price tag of \$32,000 to \$34,000 but it will be added on our lease and paid over five years. Along with that sprayer they are asking for a new pickup truck which was approved in the budget. Our current sprayer is from 1995 its 20 years old. The brains have pretty much gone in it, the part is called the raven unit which is a computerized unit that determines how much chemical is sprayed per square foot. We are monitored by DEC on the amounts. Pesticides are pretty serious business. To fix the old sprayer would be in excess of \$6000.00 and it would probably only last a year. I don't feel that it would be smart to put that money into something that is 20 years old when a payment on a new sprayer would be \$7000.00. We are going to have to make this decision down the road anyway. There is no market for a 20 year sprayer. I recommend that we buy the new sprayer and put it on the payment plan at \$7000.00 a year for 5 years and the purchase of the truck.

Councilman Miller- So that \$6000.00 will only buy us a year?

Councilman Doty- Yes, the parts on this sprayer that they have been replacing for the past 5 or 6 years adds up to a lot of money.

Supervisor Politi- You might get two years. What he is saying is that it is always going to be challenging you. We are bonding for the truck so we will not make a payment until 2016. It will not be in the budget until then. So basically what we are looking at this year is \$7000 rather than \$6000.00. Now going forward you are talking about 4 additional payments of \$7000.

Councilman Doty- The sprayer was on our scheduled replacement list right from the beginning only being that next year we were going to initiate it.

Supervisor Politi- Do you think we are at the end of replacement of major equipment?

Councilman Doty- Yes. The only things left are utility vehicles like the Gator.

Councilman Favro- We have one in surplus that is still in really good shape that I am trying to get donated to the town.

Supervisor Politi- Your recommendation is to buy the pickup based on our budgetary list and buy the new sprayer on the lease agreement.

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Councilman Doty- Yes this means we need to find \$7000.00 but we will get 18 to 20 years out of this sprayer.

Supervisor Politi- We are a bit disappointed because we went through a big budget process and had everyone come in and discuss things and this was over sighted.

Councilman Doty- We talked about that and what I am going to recommend for next year is the work sessions need to be bigger.

Councilman Miller- We found some other issues with Craig Wood as well we need better communication an attendance. We need to speak with the folks who work there more.

Supervisor Politi- Typically during the summer we have Lynn or someone come in during the work session. My understanding is that during the budget process this year Lynn met with Cathy and it was forgotten. I wrote a letter to the department heads asking them to be a little more cautious.

Councilman Miller- It's not just them I think it is us to. I recently found out that some of our employees didn't know what there raises were this year or about the longevity. We all need to take a look at how we can be better at communication.

Supervisor Politi- I believe that falls under the department head. I don't think it's our job to run around telling everyone. To me that is micromanaging.

Discussion continued on getting information to personnel.

Councilman Doty moved and Councilman Miller seconded the motion to approve the leasing of a sprayer for Craig Wood Golf Course. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously carried.

### **APPROVE RESOLUTIONS FOR YOUTH BOARD/PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Supervisor Politi asked for approval of two Resolutions for Essex County Youth Board. The first is a resolution of appointment for a person to act as a representative on the County Youth Board. Butch Martin was appointed as representative with Jon Fremante as his second and Bob Miller and Jack Favro to serve as board appointees on the Youth Commission board. The second is for the expenditure to cover the 50/50 match required by New York State to run the North Elba Youth Commission program which is \$27,000.

Councilman Doty moved the motion and Councilman Miller seconded the motion to approve the Resolution for Essex County Youth Board/Planning Committee. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously carried.

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**APPROVE RAGNER RELAY RACE- SEPTEMBER 25<sup>TH</sup> - 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2015**

Supervisor Politi asked for a motion to accept the dates for this coming year Ragner Relay Race of the Adirondacks on September 25<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup>, 2015. They utilize the Horse Show grounds as the finish line and they also use River Road. They will contact the appropriate law enforcement and will also provide us with the proper insurance.

Councilman Rand moved and Councilman Favro seconded the motion to approve the Ragner Relay Race on September 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, 2015. There being no further discussions, the motion was unanimously carried.

**APPROVE AGREEMENT- JEREMY MIHILL DOG CONTROL OFFICER**

Supervisor Politi – We need to approve the agreement with Jeremy Mihill to act and serve as our Animal Control Officer in accordance with Agricultural Market Laws and Local Law #3 of 2011. This agreement is for one year from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015 with the amount being \$10,000 with 26 consecutive payments. He is also appointed as a Town Constable.

Councilman Doty- Does he do a report every Year?

Supervisor Politi- Once a month I believe it all has to be reported to Ags and Market. He does a great job.

Councilman Doty moved and Councilman Rand seconded the motion to approve contract with Jeremy Mihill as Dog Control Officer and Town Constable. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously carried.

**WEDDING OFFICIANT APPROVAL**

Supervisor Politi- I have requests to act as wedding officiates. The first is from Tim Bowen he has been appointed in the past by the state of Virginia and he is requesting to be approved to officiate his niece's wedding on July 17, 2015 at the Lake Placid Club Golf House. The other is for Kathi Apgar she is requesting to conduct a wedding on September 19, 2015 she is a justice of the peace in New Haven, Vermont.

Councilman Favro moved and Councilman Doty seconded the motion to approve Tim Bowen to officiate a wedding on July 17, 2015 and Kathi Apgar to officiate a wedding on September 19, 2015. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously carried.

**IRONMAN RACE APPROVAL**

Supervisor Politi – We have a request from Greg Borzilleri for the towns permission and support for the running of the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Ironman Lake Placid Triathlon scheduled for Sunday, July 26, 2015. They are expecting over 2400 athletes this year. He needs a letter of support for NYS Department of Transportation and intends to work with the state police and provide us with proper insurance.

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Councilman Miller- Didn't we have an issue last year with garbage?

Supervisor Politi- Yes we did we will make this final approval contingent upon our meeting with Jeff and Greg to discuss the issue with onsite waste removal and recycling to the satisfaction of the town board. We will set up a meeting with Shannon, Larry, Jeff and Greg.

Councilman Miller moved and Councilman Rand seconded the motion to approve the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Ironman Triathlon on July 26, 2015 contingent upon discussion about onsite waste removal and recycling to the satisfaction of the town board. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously carried.

**APPROVE PUBLIC HEALTH- PARKING AGREEMENT**

Supervisor Politi- I have a request from Essex County to execute this contract as we have in the past with the Essex County Health Department to allow the Essex County nurse to use the gas at the town garage and which the county reimburses us for. There is no change to the agreement.

Councilman Doty moved and Councilman Favro seconded the motion to approve contract with Essex County for parking agreement with Essex County Department of Health. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously carried.

**BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS**

Supervisor Politi – This is housekeeping for the 2014 budget. The largest one on there is for \$19, 100.94 for highway snow removal and personal services. That is offset by the same amount of money in road repairs. As Cathy told me when there is excess cost in one budget category there is an offsetting surplus cost in the other. There is nothing affecting the fund balance in any of the budget adjustments you were sent.

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**January 2016 Budget Amendments for 2014 Budget**

ACTION	ACCOUNT	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	REFERENCE	ADDITIONAL INFO
INCREASE EXPENDITURE	A.1410.0200	TOWN CLERK.EQUIPMENT	3,071.00	VOUCHER 142299	GENERAL CODE DOWN PAYMENT ON RECORDS MANAGEMENT SCANNING SERVICES
INCREASE EXPENDITURE	A.1410.0200	TOWN CLERK. EQUIPMENT	719.37	vchr 142658	DELL FOR RECORDS MANAGEMENT GRANT
INCREASE REVENUE	A.0000.3060	STATE AID. RECORDS MANAGEMENT	3,790.37		DEFERRED REVENUE \$2,043.63 REMAINING OF FIRST 50% DISBURSEMENT
INCREASE EXPENDITURE	A.1410.0101	TOWN CLERK. PERSONAL SERVICES	1,815.25	12/31/14 PAYROLL	DEP TOWN CLERK HEALTH INSURANCE BUYOUT NOT BUDGETED FOR
INCREASE EXPENDITURE	A.5010.417	HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT EQUIPMENT REPAIRS	182.76	VCHR 150025	CENTRAL GARAGE FUEL PUMP REPLACEMENT
INCREASE EXPENDITURE	A.5182.422	STREET LIGHTING ELECTRICITY	3,104.62	VCHR 150021	VILLAGE OF LAKE PLACID DEC 2014 ELECTRIC
INCREASE EXPENDITURE	A.8020.0101.888	PLANNING AND ZONING PERSONAL SERVICES	499.98	12/31/14 PAYROLL	\$500 ADDITIONAL SALARY FOR ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS ATTORNEY APPROVED DURING 2014 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING NECESSARY TO COVER HEALTH INSURANCE DEDUCTION FOR 2014 INSURANCE COVERAGE (NOT IN ORIGINAL 2014 BUDGET)
DECREASE EXPENDITURE	A.9060.0800	GENERAL FUND HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL INSURANCE	(5,602.61)		EXCESS 2014 BUDGET
INCREASE EXPENDITURE	DB.5142.101	HIGHWAY SNOW REMOVAL PERSONAL SERVICES	19,100.94	12/31/14 PAYROLL	
DECREASE EXPENDITURE	DB.5110.0101	ROAD REPAIRS PERSONAL SERVICES	(19,100.94)		
INCREASE EXPENDITURE	SP.1114.101	PARK GARAGE PERSONAL SERVICES	342.06	12/31/14 PAYROLL	
INCREASE EXPENDITURE	SP.1357.101	AIRPORT PERSONAL SERVICES	1,508.11	12/31/14 PAYROLL	
INCREASE EXPENDITURE	SP.9950.0900	INTERFUND TRANSFERS TO AIRPORT CAP PROJ FUND	1,459.35	JE140287; 140788. 140803	LOCAL SHARE OF TAXIWAY CRACK REPAIR CONST.OVER 2015 BUDGET FOR AIRPORT CAP PROJ.; LOCAL SHARE OF MASTER PLAN
DECREASE EXPENDITURE	SP.9060.0800	HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL INSURANCE	(3,309.54)		EXCESS 2014 BUDGET BALANCE
INCREASE EXPENDITURE	SW3.8320.0414	RAY BROOK OTHER CONSUMABLE SUPPLIES	56.16	VCHR 142597; 142597; 150030	VILLAGE OF LAKE PLACID; HULBERT TRI-LAKES
INCREASE EXPENDITURE	SW3.8320.0422	RAY BROOK ELECTRICITY	761.52	VCHR 142606	NATIONAL GRID DEC ELECTRIC
INCREASE REVENUE	SW3.2140	RAY BROOK METERED SALES	817.88		

**January 2015 Budget Amendments for 2015 Budget**

INCREASE EXPENDITURE	A.1310.0461	BUDGET OFFICE EMPLOYEE TRAVEL	2,000.00		ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS FEB 2015
DECREASE EXPENDITURE	A.1010.0461	TOWN BOARD EMPLOYEE TRAVEL	(2,000.00)		

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

**COMMITTEE REPORTS- DISSOLUTION VILLAGE COURT**

Councilman Rand- I checked with Dean he had a family emergency. I spoke with him and he said the village was meeting on what we discussed and he would call me.

Councilman Doty- News is reporting they are going to sign the resolution on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

Councilman Miller- It's going to save them \$110,000.

Discussion continued on dissolution of Village Court and Parking meter revenue.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS- SARANAC LAKE YOUTH PROGRAM**

Councilman Doty- We are at a critical cross road right now where the director and Paul Leahy retired from the school system. Even though it's sponsored by the Village of Saranac Lake we all sign inter-municipal agreements. The Village has major concerns on the program when it comes to liability which they don't feel they have any control over, one being the hiring of staff. In our inter-municipal agreements it stated that all employees are to be village employees whereas paychecks and insurance come from village. They use the village lifeguards for the swimming program. However the school is just has big of a player where they use grounds and building. In the years past when there is summer school a bus at no charge will bring them to Lake Colby for swimming lessons. Last year was not the case and they had to pay for busing. That can offset a budget.

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Supervisor Politi- I don't know the difference between there program and our program. We have never had any of those issues.

Councilman Doty- We have never had liability issues in Saranac Lake in 17 years. Everything we do in government has a certain liability.

Ron Briggs- That's why we have insurance.

Councilman Doty- The things we have done the last 5 to 6 years is tremendous in making this program work. For 5 weeks it costs \$60.00. We have kept cost down because daycare it out of reach for so many families.

Supervisor Politi- It's a fabulous program.

Councilman Miller- Doesn't this require the people of the Village of Saranac Lake to go to their Village Board and say we want you to support this program.

Councilman Doty- They haven't said they won't support this program it's just they want from us a better direction. The program has been self-sufficient for years. Without Paul Leahy and a director we are shy two positions to run the program and that's where there are some problems.

Attorney Briggs- There is no one at the school who could step into Paul's shoes?

Councilman Doty- We have been appealing to Diane Fox the superintendent and Paul Ellis for about a month now for a meeting. We had a meeting tonight Paul couldn't make it so one of the board members met with him yesterday he left me with a number of conditions they felt needed to be addressed. Diane Fox could not make it either she had a last minute meeting.

Councilman Miller- Who is Paul Ellis?

Councilman Doty- He is the treasurer for the Village of Saranac Lake.

Councilman Miller- Is he a decision maker?

Councilman Doty- He is our Cathy handles the stuff and makes recommendations.

Supervisor Politi- He follows orders. How long have we had our youth commission program 50 years and it's never been a problem.

Councilman Doty- They want us to tighten up out budget process. This year our budget was \$1000 off.

Supervisor Politi- The program isn't necessarily about being cost effective as it is providing a service to the community.

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Councilman Doty- Moving forward I have asked for two things. Writing a letter to the Village board asking for direction is it a yes or no. Second thing is talk to Mike Mascarenas about how County youth programs operate. Maybe the county can become involved.

Supervisor Politi- There are not County program just Town programs that he over sees to make sure they have the right personnel, proper safety and courses and also that state requirements are met.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS- VILLAGE OF SARANAC LAKE CANCELING WATER CONTRACTS**

Supervisor Politi- We received a letter from The Village of Saranac Lake saying they are going to cancel all contracts with the Town of North Elba for anyone getting water on that side.

Councilman Doty- You mean McKenzie Pond Rd area.

Attorney Briggs- I have wrote a letter to the attorney asking for copies of all contracts and no response. They can't just cancel a contract.

Supervisor Politi read the letter from the Village of Saranac Lake



**Village of Saranac Lake**

39 Main Street  
Saranac Lake, NY 12983  
Phone (518) 891-4150  
Fax (518) 891-5928  
[www.saranaclakeny.gov](http://www.saranaclakeny.gov)

*RJ*

December 16, 2014

Town of North Elba  
Supervisor: Robert T. Politi  
2693 Main St, Suite 101  
Lake Placid, NY 12946

**RE: Cancellation of Agreement for Water & Sewer Districts**

Dear Supervisor Politi:

This is to alert you that the Village of Saranac Lake intends to cancel the current Water and Sewer District Agreement for the town of North Elba between our municipalities.

As the Village attorney informed you, new agreements are being drafted to replace the current Water and Sewer Agreements.

The Village appreciates your understanding and cooperation in this regard. Please don't hesitate to contact me if there are questions.

Thank you,

*John Sweeney*  
John Sweeney  
Village Manager

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**COMMITTEE REPORTS- CONTRACT WITH STEVE SHORT**

Supervisor Politi- Ron you are preparing the contract with Steve Short.

Attorney Briggs- I am waiting for a narrative description of the project from Ivan

Supervisor Politi- He is anxious to sign.

**PRESS QUESTIONS**

Matt Turner- Again the ORDA board where are we with that?

Supervisor Politi- We are conducting our final interview Thursday at 3:00.

Matt Turner- Can I get names?

Supervisor Politi- No it's not public yet. I won't even disclose the names after words I don't want people to find out they didn't get it the paper. In executive session we will discuss the interviews then a resolution will be offered to appoint an individual.

Matt Turner- Where is the board on this it is taking a little longer than I expected?

Supervisor Politi- A lot of it was sickness, holidays. We had planned to have interviews earlier but a few were not available. I don't think there is ever a hurry to get the right person.

Matt Turner- What about the ORDA discussion with Betty Little will that happen soon?

Supervisor Politi- I have had discussions with Betty by phone but we have not had a formal discussion with the Governor.

Matt Turner- What are you looking to get from that meeting, less town payment on ORDA?

Supervisor Politi- I think that's one of the things. Lake Placid is in a unique position of having to pay state government when other communities are having the benefit of similar facilities and don't have to pay anything. We all pay income tax but North Elba also pays a fee. It may make sense that we are paying but the issue is how much and at what point does it hurt a community. Stiffen growth in a community.

Matt Turner- What else do you think will be discussed on that topic?

Supervisor Politi- That is all I am going to talk about. The primary thing is the financial relationship, partnerships and collaborations with the Lake Placid Community and ORDA going forward. They need to have a relationship and a say going forward. I don't think they disagree.

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**APPROVE AUDITS AS PER AUDIT #'S**

Supervisor Politi asked for approval of the audits.

TOWN OF NORTH ELBA			
CLAIMS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT 1/13/15			
	<b>Regular</b>	<b>Prepaid</b>	<b>Totals</b>
A FUND GENERAL FUND	173887.35	100180.2	274067.55
B FUND GENERAL OUTSIDE VILLAGE	37.73		37.73
DB FUND TOWN OUTSIDE VILLAGE HIGHWAY	57450.7	91344.84	148795.54
H11-APRON EXPANSION	7844.44		7844.44
SP PARK DISTRICT	146762.95	42327.52	189090.47
SW3 RAY BROOK	56.16	7210.41	7266.57
<b>Batch 1446-1501</b>	<b>386039.33</b>	<b>241062.97</b>	<b>627102.3</b>
142044; 142584-142611; 142634-142649; 142652-142677; 142692-142696			
150001-150040; 150042-150045; 150049-150073			
<b>Batch 999 (Payroll)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>43907</b>	<b>43907</b>
142612-142633; 142678-142691			
<b>Batch - HELD</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>DELETED VOUCHERS:</b>			

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Councilman Rand moved and Councilman Favro seconded the motion to go into executive session at 7:58 pm for the purposes of discussing litigation for Grimditch. The motion was unanimously carried by those present.

Councilman Miller moved and Councilman Favro seconded the motion to come out of executive session at 8:22 pm.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no business transacted during Executive Session and no further business to come before the Town Board, Councilman Miller moved and Councilman Favro seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:22pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jessica Scriver  
Deputy Town Clerk