

TOWN BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

Minutes of the Regular Board meeting held on the above date beginning at 7:00 pm at the North Elba Town House, 191 River Street, Saranac Lake, New York.

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

Others Present: Larry Straight, Chris Knight, Ted Morgan, Andy Flynn, John Riley, Lee 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 on the minutes of the Board meeting on August 14, 2012.

Councilman Miller 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.

Supervisor Politi amended the Agenda by removing Budget Amendment and adding Craig Wood Bid Opening.

LP AIRPORT LEASE

Supervisor Politi – Last month we talked about the Airport lease. Ron reviewed the lease agreement and made the modifications. You all got a copy. The primary change to the lease was the increase of \$500 per year for the scheduled five year term and the increase in insurance requirements pursuant to our discussion with Chuck Damp to raise those parameters. Steve Short agreed and signed the lease today. I would like your approval to have me sign.

Councilman Miller moved and Councilman Favro seconded the motion to approve the five year lease agreement with the Lake Placid Airways, Inc. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously carried.

Councilman Doty – Does he still want to continue talks on jet fuel.

Supervisor Politi – It didn't come up.

CRAIG WOOD LEASE EXTENSION

Supervisor Politi – We talked about the he Craig Wood lease extension last month. Paragraph 4 of the Agreement shall be amended added as follows: *However, in the event Tenant utilizes the Leased Premises for events such as wedding receptions, banquettes, parties and other such gatherings, it shall pay a venue fee to Landlord equal to \$5.00 per person attending such event. This venue fee shall not apply to events given by non-profit organizations or club membership and league functions subject to the prior approval by the Town Board.* As we discussed before, the reason for that was to assure that club functions such as the Ladies Club League will not be charged. Have you all been given a copy of this? Joe Warren did not come in to sign this because

TOWN BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

of the Bar Fly Open which was held at Craig Wood. He is going to do so. I would like to have your approval for a signature at such time that Joe Warren signs.

Councilman Doty moved and Councilman Favro seconded the motion to approve the Craig Wood Restaurant Lease Agreement subject to the signature of Joe Warren. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT TAHAWUS WAY AS TOWN ROAD

Supervisor Politi – We received a resolution for road dedication for Tahawus Way. It reads, *Pursuant to the inspection, completion, and approval of the Town Highway Superintendent as well as the Town Attorney; A motion to approve acceptance for dedication to the Town of North Elba the roadway known as Tahawus Way.* We have discussed this in the past. I understand the road is now complete. Larry Straight has approved the condition and Ron has done a legal review for acceptance by the town. At this time, if one of you would move this resolution and is seconded then I will give it to Laurie for finalization.

Councilman Miller moved and Councilman Doty seconded the motion to approve a resolution to accept for dedication to the Town of North Elba the roadway known as Tahawus Way.

Councilman Doty – That has taken a few years.

Supervisor Politi – The problem is the road outside of the ROW. We had a couple of owners agree to move the ROW onto their property more to make up for the difference.

Ted Morgan – Was this a new road?

Supervisor Politi – It was a gravel road and for a long time a few people were holding up the final dedication. As a result, a petition received by 2/3rds of the homeowners. There were a couple of homeowners that did not want the road on their property. We moved the ROW to the other side. It does not affect the road, just the 50 ft. ROW.

Councilman Miller – Emergency vehicles could not get up there in the winter. Now they can.

Supervisor Politi – It was going on for a few years. It was in the best interest and public welfare of all who live up there. We had to find a way to get it done.

There being no discussion said motion is unanimously carried by those present.

SKATEBOARD EQUIPMENT

Councilman Miller – As you know, I spoke with Mary Dietrich. She emailed asking if our Town Board had any interest in leasing the property where the Skateboard Park is currently for fair market value. She followed up by saying we are not sure we want to do it but want to know if there was interest. I responded back saying we discussed it and we were not interested. I notified Dan Leff and asked if he had any other options. He responded yes but was not giving up what the

TOWN BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

options were. I spoke with the School Board again about the possibility of leasing the land to a different entity like the Shipman Youth Center or a certain individuals. It appears their attorney has advised them that they cannot lease the land to anyone because they still have a liability issue. I spoke with John Vinograd in Saranac Lake about the equipment and how anxious they were. They said it would be helpful if we could make a decision as soon as possible so they can get the equipment removed, transported and stored. They would spend the winter designing how they would set it up. I went down to the SL site today where it is proposed to be going. There were about 20 kids there. It is an area where it will be of use to kids.

Councilman Favro – The site is behind the police station.

Supervisor Politi – Where it is, it has not been utilized and it's a shame.

Councilman Miller – Everyone I talk to say, I want kids to use the equipment. It has been sitting there for two years unused. Meanwhile there are kids over here that are looking to use it. We need to start breaking down these boundaries and stop worrying about whether the kid is a North Elba kid or a Harriestown kid.

Supervisor Politi – that should not have any bearing on it. We do not discriminate whether you are from Lake Placid or Saranac Lake or Wilmington for the use of our fields and that is the way it should be. This was given to be utilized by kids. We want to find a place where kids are going to continue to utilize it. I understand Dan Leff's passion for this project. He is a substantial donor and I certainly would want that he had his opportunity, along with those who have shown an interest in it, to find a place to relocate it. It is my understanding from you that that has not happened. We have certainly given them adequate time.

Councilman Miller – I think they needed a month. That was back in June. I have been pestering him with his other options and have gotten nowhere.

Councilman Favro – Technically, you are moving it from one side of the Town to the other side of the Town.

Councilman Miller – We were respectful of a guy who had a considerable investment in this project. We cannot allow that to hold up kids from using the equipment. I can't allow that to hold up the volunteers that are involved in this thing that want to help kids. At some point we have to fish or cut bait.

Supervisor Politi – From what I heard you say, Bob, was that the Saranac Lake organization intends to take the equipment and put it inside to protect it.

Councilman miller- They want everything before winter, move it over and store it out of the elements for the winter. They are going to set it up in the spring.

Supervisor Politi – First of all, I don't have a problem allowing anybody time to work something out. I am concerned about the longer it takes. I am concern if this equipment goes through

TOWN BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

another winter with no one attending to it. I think that would be unfortunate. We are going to have to fish or cut bait on this project soon.

Councilman Doty – Certainly, the use of the equipment is all about priority. I have logistical questions; do we in fact own the equipment? What do we have to cover to let some other entity come and work on that equipment to move it? Do we need certificates of insurance? Do we need a GC to be there when that happens?

Councilman Miller – I spoke to them about that today. They are a group that recognizes the challenges ahead of them.

Councilman Doty – It should be noted that in all the solutions that have been looked for in these last two years, Saranac Lake is the only viable one that is fiscally ready to handle this project.

Councilman Miller – I did say we would look into whether we could provide manpower to help them move them. I did not commit us to anything but it would be nice if we could help them.

Supervisor Politi – Larry, have you seen it down there? Is that something that would be really hard to move?

Superintendent Straight – With the right equipment it can be done.

Councilman Doty – Slings and a long arm.

Supervisor Politi – Is it your feeling as the committee chair person that we have exhausted all of our options here in terms of where this could go?

Councilman Miller – You all know what I know. We have been working on this for two years. I really do not want to go through another winter with it sitting there and again trying to figure it out. It would be helpful to the folks in Saranac Lake who have made a decision.

Councilman Favro – It is still North Elba kids.

Supervisor Politi – You feel you have exhausted all opportunities with Mr. Leff's ability to secure something else? What kind of response have you received from him?

Councilman Miller – Dan has not contacted me. All contact is me going to him and his responses have not been answers. I'm afraid is frustrated he thought there was going to be an easy fix and found out it wasn't so easy after all.

Supervisor Politi – It is always a concern when a private citizen puts a substantial amount of money into a project in a community that he lives in and where he has a passion for helping kids. I certainly do not want to destroy that interest in working with kids. My personal opinion, we have certainly gone out of our way to try to resolve a problem.

TOWN BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

Councilman Miller – I feel we have done everything we possibly could. My conscious is clear. Derek and I have worked on this together for a while and we have everything we could to resolve it.

Supervisor Politi – You say that Jon Vinograd has made the commitment use it.

Councilman Miller – Yes. He emailed me and I forwarded it to you. I'm sorry I did not print it to bring it tonight. It basically says they would like to take everything out, store it for the winter and break ground in the spring.

Supervisor Politi – Is it a free amenity for all kids? I would hate to see that they charge kids to utilize our equipment.

Councilman Miller – No. This is going to be wonderful. It will be behind the police station and there were kids there. I really think this is a good solution. I would make a motion to work with the folks in Saranac Lake to see if we can't get that equipment to them.

Councilman Rand – Would the equipment still belong to the Town of North Elba?

Supervisor Politi – No. We would probably have to relinquish all right title and interest to the equipment.

Councilman Doty – Jon Vinograd did allude to the fact that it would be donated to the Village of Saranac Lake so that it is a sound entity that owns it.

Supervisor Politi – I would personally rather it went to the municipality. Have you spoke with Clyde yet? I don't want to make a motion to give the property to an entity who might say they don't want it.

Councilman Miller – I will give Clyde a call tomorrow.

Councilman Doty – That is why your motion said we will start working with the Saranac Lake group to work out the kinks.

Councilman Miller – We can make a motion subject to working out the logistics. But then if you give me the authority to work with the SL entity.

Councilman Doty – we will need Ron to finalize this.

Councilman Miller moved and Councilman Favro seconded the motion to approve the transfer of ownership of the skateboard equipment to the Saranac Lake skateboard group subject to the logistics of the transfer.

Supervisor Politi - The board thanks you, Bob, for sticking by this for so long. I realizing it was not easy. I am going to disappointedly vote yes. It is unfortunate, but I don't think the design was

TOWN BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

ever constructed in such a way that it would guarantee the future of it. We had so many changes, especially at the school level, I understand that.

There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously carried.

BIKE PATH

Councilman Miller – Last month Jim McCulley and Tony Goodwin talk to us about the rail line. It prompted a discussion after they left about whether we should be vocally supporting what it is they are vocally supporting even though we discussed where we are. Since that time, the Governor came to Keene. He basically said this is a local decision.

Supervisor Politi – He said it was a local decision and he wanted to pass it along to the Regional Economic Development Council.

Councilman Miller – Personally, I wish he was also listening to the Town Council as well. I thought this was the right time for us to tell him how our feelings were. I would like to move the following resolution; *WHEREAS the 1996 unit management plan for the Remsen-Lake Placid Travel Corridor includes the option of converting the corridor to a recreational trail, and whereas, there is a high cost to maintain the underused rail line through the Town of North Elba, and whereas, the projected cost of building a recreational path next to the existing rail line in the Town of North Elba is approximately \$4.5 million, and whereas, Governor Cuomo has publicly stated that this issue should be decided at the local level; now therefore*

BE IT RESOLVED that, The North Elba Town Council respectfully requests that the train tracks currently in the travel corridor within the Town of North Elba be removed.

While the North Elba Town Council has supported building a recreational path next to the railroad tracks, because of the aforementioned reasons, it would be preferable that that the tracks be removed. If this cannot be accomplished in a timely manner then we will continue with our primary objective of creating a recreational pathway from Lake Placid to Saranac Lake with the path being located directly next to the existing rail system. This is not, and should not be interpreted as, a rejection of the plan currently in place or a rejection of the grant monies associated therewith. In our opinion, having the tracks removed and the rail corridor converted for recreational purposes is a less costly and more pragmatic approach toward achieving our goals.

Councilman Favro – I will second the motion.

Supervisor Politi – It is now open for discussion.

Councilman Favro – I would like to emphasize what Bob said. We are very grateful for all the grant money and support we got from everybody but whether the tracks are there or not, we are building a bike path. It is a year or year and a half away. We are moving in that direction and are going to continue. We are building a bike path to Saranac Lake.

Councilman Rand – Well said.

Supervisor Politi – I am not necessarily convinced. I understand everybody's feelings. I don't necessarily believe that it will ever happen. I made it clear; if I had my druthers I would support

TOWN BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

the removal of the rails. With that being said, in no way would I ever vote to eliminate the bike path. I think we have made clear in the past that we have gone to the extent that if we can't put it on the rail corridor then we want the bike path to go next to it. We made it very clear. I understand your position on it. In some ways I wish the bike trail could go further than Saranac Lake. That would be pretty neat.

Councilman Miller – That is the ultimate goal. The railroad tracks from Saranac Lake to Old Forge are only used twice a year; once to bring the train here and once to bring it back. If the corridor in the Town of North Elba is no longer used for a train then the bike path can be opened all the way to Old Forge. There are 200,000 people camping every year over in the Saranac Lakes who would now be able to ride their bikes into Tupper Lake, Saranac Lake and Lake Placid.

Supervisor Politi – Given the economic conditions of the State and the need for watching expending, in some ways the operational seasonal railroad is questionable. I am not aware of and have never been shown any income statements which would indicate that here is a tremendous economic gain from the railroad.

Councilman Miller – A study by Rails to Trails Conservancy says, if the bike path to Old Forge would bring 240,000 people and have an economic impact in the \$10's of Millions of dollars.

Councilman Favro – Just our piece is going to be the big start. 10 miles is not that far to ride a bike. It is actually a very comfortable.

Councilman Miller – Personally, I am bothered by the fact that they would spend \$4.5 million dollars to do it. I would rather see the \$4.5 million dollars spent to keeping nursing homes open and have a recreational pathway without having to spend that money. It seems to me to be a foolish choice.

Supervisor Politi – It is a difficult thing. Derek, I know you feel differently.

Councilman Doty – Not so much differently, but at this point I am still a sole proponent of this bike path. In my mind, our bike path along the tracts is going to be a barometer to just what kind of actual traffic there is going to be. Everybody hears 200,000 people. They all don't ride the kind of bikes that go on these trails. Certainly, it could be an economic boost. I won't deny that. I believe we can still have both. For right now, I am not in favor of the timing of this motion. I respectfully will not go along with it tonight in hopes that when this trail is finished, it will show a truer economic indicator. Everything is speculation. Everybody is on one side of the fence or the other. Like Jack said, we need to keep our attention to what we want to get done.

Supervisor Politi – I understand how some of you feel. In my talks with DOT and other, the likelihood of the rails going completely is speculative at best. Especially if the Governor is going to pass that on to a local decision rather than a decision which he makes himself. I too do not want to jeopardize what we have. I don't think anybody else wants to jeopardize that either. In terms of voicing an opinion, I wish the rails were gone. Whether I want to endorse this resolution or not, I do not know at this time.

TOWN BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

Councilman Favro – In a sense, we are all saying the same thing. The problem that one group says take the rails out and another saying leave the rails in.

Supervisor Politi – I've read all those articles. It is certainly an emotional topic for others outside of our area.

Councilman Favro – do we make enough impact in what we said here tonight?

Councilman Miller – It was my thinking that we need to tell the Governor what we want. First off we want a bike path. I would prefer to have it without spending \$4.5 million of tax payer's money. I would rather remove the railway tracks. If I can't have that, then I'll build next to it. My preference would be to take out the tracks and make the entire corridor a pathway.

Supervisor Politi – Do you think this resolution is going to make a difference to the people who would pass this along or endorse this to the Governor or even the Regional economic Council? I believe that the mission of the Board to the Economic Council would be in veil.

Councilman Miller – I don't expect them to change their position. My hope is that the state will receive this and say, yes. Finally somebody stood up and told us what we already know; we are wasting time money here and that it is time to turn it into a recreation corridor. I know we are not the only government entity that is going to be discussing this. My hope is that the other villages and towns will do the same and the state will listen and take out the tracks. I do not want to sit here when the Governor said it was up to local government and I do nothing.

Supervisor Politi – He did not say that.

Councilman Miller – He said it would be a local decision.

Supervisor Politi – He said the decision should be made by the Regional Economic Development Council.

Councilman Favro – Today I looked up to see who was on that and I think there are great people. They are all very supportive of us. I struggle just as everyone; I'm not a fan of the rails and never have been. I want the bike path one way or the other. The bike path has been 10 – 12 years going and the momentum is getting very close to finally happening. People are getting on board talking about it. Do we want the rails? No. Our Board has always said we don't want them. We told them that when they came last time. I am not sure which way we can make more of an impact on our behalf for a decision. I want the bike path. This makes it really hard. If someone came and asks us and none of us is that bashful. They should know where we are at. It may be best to think about it a little more and see how it plays out.

Councilman Miller – I totally understand where you are coming from and I respect it. I respectfully disagree with you. At the last meeting, I went home and said I'm not standing up for what I believe in. As a fiscal conservative I think what we are doing is wasteful. It may cause difficulty for some people and I respect that.

TOWN BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

Supervisor Politi – I think it would be an easy decision to make if we had a chance to review the financial statements of the railroad from the Governor’s office. I haven’t had that opportunity and I don’t think I will ever get it.

Councilman Miller - I respect your discussion.

Supervisor Politi – You have a second on the floor and it has to come to a vote.

Councilman Favro asked Councilman Miller to read the resolution again.

Supervisor Politi – This is a “Would Rather” resolution. Given the choice, we would rather lose the tracks. I really don’t have problem with it. It is more the timing of it given where we are at. We just signed a memorandum of understanding with the DOT and ANKA. That would delay things dramatically. That is my issue.

Councilman Miller – I don’t see it as a delay.

Supervisor Politi – It is a delay between the standpoints that if they were going to consider it would take a long time to get the tracks out.

Councilman Doty – Legislatively, it is up to six years.

Supervisor Politi – That is my issue. I agree with you but if they made the decision to take the rails out today it would take years to get those rails out. That is my opinion. I still want the trail and if someone would say to me that they would be out in a month or even next spring, but I just don’t see that happening. I don’t think any of us disagree with you.

Councilman Derek – I don’t disagree with you. My issue is timing. I don’t believe that we are at a stage where a voice can be heard.

Councilman Favro – Maybe it is a good start for the voice. It will be in the paper and on the radio.

Councilman Derek – It could be.

There was no further discussion. Roll Call Vote; Councilman Miller; Yea, Councilman Rand; Yea, Councilman Doty; Nay, Councilman Favro; Yea, Supervisor Politi; Nay

Ted Morgan interviewed the councilman regarding their decisions and asked for further explanation.

JOINT LAND USE PLAN – EXPENDITURES

Supervisor Politi – I received the Contractual Agreement with Elan Planning. The Village approved it. This was previously discussed with Dean Dietrich. It is for the work that needs to be done to the Joint Land Use Plan. The total compensation is \$21,700. Half is to be paid for by the

TOWN BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

Village and half to be paid by the Town. The Village has already paid \$10,850. The balance will be paid by the Town of North Elba and billed monthly. Payments begin January 2013.

Councilman Doty moved and Councilman Favro seconded the motion to approve the Contractual Agreement with Elan Planning. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously carried.

CRAIG WOOD BID OPENING – PHASE I

Councilman Doty – Phase I of the Craig Wood Golf House renovation involves all outside work; new roof, new windows, siding, addition of an elevator, all new decking, materials to be used will be virtually maintenance free. We worked on the bid package for quite a few months. Originally, nine contractors were interested. We received four bids by 3:00 pm on Monday, September 10th. The bids ranged from \$308,454.70 to \$548,600. Jim Morganson and I reviewed line by line items in the bids. We recommend Jack Irvin as the low bidder. He has all the necessary experience for the jobs included in the renovation including elevator work. It should be noted, we met with all the contractors on a single day so that they all bid from the same set of plans and information.

Supervisor Politi – Does this include plumbing?

Councilman Doty – No plumbing. The only electrical is bringing subpanels for the elevator and alarm systems. That is brought into our panel room at Craig Wood. Our recommendation is to accept Jack Irvin's bid as the low bidder.

Councilman Doty moved and Councilman Miller seconded the motion to approve the bid from Jack Irvin for Phase I of the Craig Wood Gold House renovations.

Councilman Doty – The only other thing that should be discussed, if we keep this building committee intact, we are going to need a GC. Even though Jack is his own GC, we need a town representative to keep track of things. I don't know how much extra time it would take for Jim, being the Building and Code Officer. I don't know if we need to talk about some compensation. We can work at the work load. We can talk about that down the road but to get what we want we should have some eyes and ears on the project.

Supervisor Politi – That is something we can discuss. When do you anticipate the project beginning?

Councilman Doty – It can start as early as next week. Did Jim talk to you about colors? We looked at different buildings with this material. Paul Smiths College has a great one that is brown and green. It's conservative and other colors fade and don't look well.

Supervisor Politi – I am not a color expert but I think brown and green is a very typical Adirondack colors choice. It is consistent with the environment.

TOWN BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

Councilman Doty – I would like the public to know that every aspect of this renovation will not be bid out. The Town is going to do many parts of this project; moving transformer, digging with our own equipment. We have been really responsible in this effort. I think we will have a great finished product.

Councilman Rand – It was good competitive bidding. We were fortunate to get good contractors that were interested.

Supervisor Politi – I have to applaud you Derek. There was a lot of time and a lot of effort. These committees are not easy. You have spent too much of your personal time and Bob having to deal with the Skateboard Park for two years.

Councilman Doty – There will be more time needed because there is so much coordination still to be done. We have to coordinate time between the venues and wrapping up golf the season.

Councilman Miller – Is there a way we can relieve some of this burden on you? You're acting as the General Contractor with no compensation. You need to be out there earning a living.

Supervisor Politi – We all do that. Jack was involved with the organizing and buying the kitchen. Jay and I do what we have to.

Councilman Miller – I just wonder if there is a way we can take some of that burden.

Supervisor Politi – We were going to appoint you down there!

Councilman Miller – That would be because I have nothing else to do.

There was no further discussion. Roll Call Vote; Councilman Miller; Aye, Councilman Rand; Aye, Councilman Doty; Aye, Councilman Favro; Aye, Supervisor Politi; Aye

HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY – ESSEX COUNTY

Supervisor Politi – Essex County did not have a Hazardous Waste Day this year. Tony LaVigne has talked to us about the possibility of piggy packing on the Town of North Elba. There would be no additional cost to North Elba. Residents coming from other areas, as they do now from Keene and Wilmington, would have to pay for that service. I want to get your opinion as to whether anyone has a problem in case it does come to fruition. There are many towns that did not have access to Hazardous Waste Day. I don't believe we turned anyone away.

Superintendent Straight – We had people come from Paul Smiths. Some towns didn't have it in their budget for the year so couldn't contribute. They said they would add it next year. We didn't turn anyone away.

Councilman Miller – How many North Elba residents used it this year?

Superintendent Straight – About two hundred.

TOWN BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

Supervisor Politi – They generated a lot of waste for disposal. If Essex County can't do it, does anybody have an objection?

Councilman Doty – What do people do with it year round?

Superintendent Straight – Everyone saves it for the next hazardous Waste Day.

Councilman Favro – This year the trucks were full. As we do it year after year it gets better and better.

Supervisor Politi – How much did Keene and Wilmington pay?

Superintendent Straight – Keene paid about \$7500 and Wilmington a little less than that. The Town of Jay opted not to do it.

BALSAMS – PUMPING STATION DEDICATION

Supervisor Politi – I have spoken with Ron Briggs and Brad Hathaway about the Balsam's pumping station dedication. Ron has requested that we approve a dedication to the Town of just the pumping station at the Balsams and for the line going out to the main sewer line. Brad Hathaway does not have a problem with it. Ron does not have a problem with it. The road does not have a crusher run top on it. The people at the Balsams are going to provide the crusher run for the road. Brad Hathaway has agreed to finish the road. He said there is no reason why, at this time, we can take it over at this time. The motion will be subject to the Lake Placid Village agreement to taking it over going forward with the understanding that is solely the pump house and solely the sewer line which runs from the pump house to the main. Not the sewer lines within the development, the well lines within the development or the roads within the development.

Councilman Doty – Who plows the snow to that pumping station? Village or Town?

Supervisor Politi – Village.

Councilman Miller moved and Councilman Rand seconded the motion to approve the dedication of the pumping station at the Balsams and the sewer line that runs from the pump house to the main line. There being no further discussion, the motion was unanimously carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: BIODIGESTER

Councilman Miller – I was going to give an update to what Tammy Morgan is doing with the biodigester. I will give her another month because we are meeting with Mike Mascarenas from Essex County who is helping us with grant money. He is coming Tuesday at 3:00pm to meet at the High School and everyone is welcome to come. The meeting is in Tammy's class room which is on the 2nd floor. The Wild Center is also very excited about this project and is asking to be made partner in it. They are teaming up with Mike Mascarenas for the grants. Maybe at the next Town Board meeting I will have more information to report.

TOWN BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

COMMITTEE REPORTS: C&D EXPANSION

Councilman Rand – I didn’t get over there this week. Last time I was there they were building the ramp. Did they get that done, Larry?

Superintendent Straight – Yes, we got our permit from the DEC and we started moving the C&D today.

Supervisor Politi – How is the punch card situation?

Superintendent Straight – I haven’t heard of any problems.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: AIRPORT

Supervisor politi asked Superintendent Straight for an update to the airport runway.

Superintendent Straight – They are doing a good job and will be done on schedule.

Councilman Favro – They start paving tomorrow.

APPROVE AUDITS AS PER AUDIT #'S

Supervisor Politi asked for approval of the audits.

TOWN OF NORTH ELBA			
CLAIMS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT 9/11/12			
	Regular	Prepaid	Totals
A FUND GENERAL FUND	95788.34	30282.87	126071.21
DB FUND TOWN OUTSIDE VILLAGE HIGHWAY	13634.96	10522.73	24157.69
H01 SECURITY/PERIMETER FENCE AIRPORT CAP. PROJECT	0		0
H02 -BLOCK HANGAR REHABILITATION AIRPORT CAP. PROJECT	0		0
H03 - 5 BAY T HANGAR	0		0
H04-C&D WASTE CELL	26410.15	602.8	27012.95
H05- CRAIG WOOD GOLF COURSE CONSTRUCTION	17.4	0	17.4
H06-TERMINAL BLDG	0	0	0
H07 RUN WAY REHAB	0		0
H08-AIRPORT MASTER PLAN	6178.4		6178.4
H09-APRON EXPANSION	0		0
H10-RSA IMPRV & RW 32 HLDNG BAY	0		0
RD03-THIEANOQUEN WAY ROAD DISTRICT	0		0
RD04-TAHAWUS WAY ROAD DISTRICT	27119.32		27119.32
SF1-FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #1	0		0
SF2-FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #2	0		0
SF3-FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #3	0		0
SP PARK DISTRICT	60649.98	19328.59	79978.57

TOWN BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

SS21 CONSOLIDATED SEWER DISTRICT	0		0
SW1 SEWER DISTRICT #1	0		0
SW2 MCKENZIE	0		0
SW3 RAY BROOK	71.8	609.59	681.39
T TRUST & AGENCY		170.4	170.4
TE PRIVATE PURPOSE TRUST			0
Batch 1228-1232	229870.35	61516.98	291387.33
121870; 121894-121961; 121984-122065; 122089-122109			
Batch 999 (Payroll)	0	48000.64	48000.64
121871-121893; 121962-121983			
Batch - HELD	4484.84	0	4484.84
112313, 120355, 121496, 121623, 121836			
DELETED VOUCHERS:			
122066			

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

Press Questions: County Budget

Chris Morris asked about the County Budget.

Supervisor Politi – It is going to be very difficult. The mandates keep coming. NYS tell you the State retirement taxes are increasing 28% then we are way over the 2% and we haven’t even started. It’s a tough time. Unfortunately, you can’t adjust the mandated items and statutory items such as the jail. We are going to have to look at overtime at the jail. It is a big item. Unfortunately, it is going to affect all the non-mandated programs which we offer. That was one of the reasons why the decision was made to sell Horace Nye. It wasn’t an easy decision. It wasn’t a popular decision. When the County is losing \$3 million to \$4 million dollars, it just can’t continue. There is no fund balance left. So, yes, I am worried. I’m worried about the employees. It is not going to be easy. It is always going to continue until the state steps up to the plate and says, we are not going to allow the increases to come from us. Take away the statutory mandates for the jail. It is unfortunate when it affects the number of employees whether or not there is anyone in jail.

Press Questions: Bike Path

Andy Flynn asked about the bike path vote.

TOWN BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

Supervisor Politi – The vote was 3/2 in favor.

Councilman Favro – The timing is wrong because we do not want to make anybody upset because we want the bike path. We want to make things flow. However, in my own heart, I believe the rails are better off gone. My priority is still building the trail; next to, on top or underneath, however it takes, we are going to build a trail. We are not stopping. The people who supported us to get the grant money are good people. They are actually in the same direction we are in.

Supervisor Politi – We all agree with Jack. Everything in life is a matter of timing.

Andy Flynn – You sounded as if you were going to vote no, but you voted yes.

Councilman Favro – Ah, that's why I'm a politician.

Press Questions: Public Transportation

Andy Flynn asked about the bus situation at the county stating that Supervisor Politi has been a strong voice about against the County paying anything for its public transportation.

Supervisor Politi – I have not voiced that at all. It was Tom Scozzafava. My view, George Canon said it best; it is unfortunate when you have to agree to endorse a week component of the system in order to get the entire system to work financially. You have to have so many miles of use and be able to provide the service to a diversity of people which sometimes ends up in a lack of ridership. The majority of ridership is between Saranac Lake, Lake Placid and Whiteface. It is the only way for a lot of people to get to work or going to the grocery store. It is a difficult decision. A lot of the program is guaranteed funding by the State of New York which is part of our problem. You should understand, as a fall back, the Village of Lake Placid has its own transportation authority.

Chris Morris – Doesn't the Village need the County to be an underwriter to get the monies for their transportation.

Supervisor Politi – Yes it does. I don't know that the County would ever not endorse the Village. The County is not talking about eliminating the entire program. The arguments that I have heard from Supervisors are that we had certain routes that lack ridership. We may be wasting money for those areas by having drivers and paying gas & upkeep for the buses. That has never been said about this region. This is where all the ridership is. We cannot jeopardize our partnership with ORDA. So many people ride those busses to and from the mountain. That is the saving grace.

Andy Flynn – There is a sign in the bus that says, if you are worried contact your town supervisor.

Supervisor Politi – That is meant for the southern portion of the county. I don't think it is meant for here. I personally do not feel this area is in jeopardy. We generate a substantial amount of the

TOWN BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

revenue and would hate to see that revenue effected and sales tax dollars are affected by a lack of service.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilman Doty moved and Councilman Favro seconded the motion to adjourn to executive session at 8:15 pm for the purpose of discussing ongoing Union labor contract negotiations.

Councilman Doty moved and Councilman Rand seconded the motion to come out of executive session at 8:21 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no business transacted during Executive Session and no further business to come before the Town or Village Boards, Councilman Doty moved and Councilman Rand seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:21pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laurie Curtis Dudley
Town Clerk