

Town of Johnsbury
Regular Meeting of the Town Board
Zoom Meeting
February 16, 2021 7:00 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2172603617>

Meeting ID: 217 260 3617
888 788 0099 US Toll-free
877 853 5247 US Toll-free

PRESENT: Andrea Hogan – Supervisor
Eugene Arsenault – Councilman
Arnold Stevens – Councilman
Laurie Arnheiter – Councilwoman
Justin Gonyo – Councilman
Kate Lorah - Town Clerk

Supervisor Hogan called the Meeting to order at 7:00 and the pledge to the flag was led by Justin Gonyo.

Approval of Minutes February 2, 2021 meeting

RESOLUTION #35-21

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Gonyo to approve the minutes from the February 2, 2021 meeting. With 5 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter, Gonyo) Nays – 0

Correspondence:

- Letter of interest for Summer Rec Program Director

Old Business:

- Sprung Structure in Ski Bowl Park

Mike Pratt and Bone Bayse were present to discuss the sprung structure deal which has fallen through. Mr. Gonyo asked what is Plan B? Mr. Pratt responded that the

sprung structure was Plan B. He added that whatever happens, the Town Board will have to approve.

Ms. Arnheiter asked about Summer programs and Mr. Pratt said ORDA is anxious to help the Ski Bowl. Ms. Hogan asked if ORDA will focus on marketing hiking trails – Mr. Pratt said ORDA can market the Ski Bowl.

Ms. Hogan referred to the \$1 million allocated for the structure and asked where that money would go. Mr. Pratt said ORDA didn't promise the money. Ms. Hogan said she hopes that money will be spent on the Town of Johnsbury property.

Ms. Arnheiter suggested the Parks Committee sit down with ORDA to see what can be done.

- **Glen Creek Bridge**

This item was pushed later in the meeting to wait for Mr. Comstock and the engineer to join the meeting.

- **Financing options for Highway Equipment**

Community Bank and Greene County Commercial Bank submitted quotes for financing the purchase of Highway equipment. A third quote was requested from Glens Falls National. The 5-year rates are 2.25% from Community and 1.49% from Greene.

In addition to Mr. Comstock's ask of two tandems, a mini excavator and a trailer, there was discussion of adding equipment for sidewalk snow removal.

Mr. Stevens said that Mr. Comstock should make sure he won't be in need of other equipment so that this transaction will be all-inclusive.

Ms. Arnheiter suggested going with a high figure for the loan, because it doesn't have to be spent.

Ms. Hogan will pass this information to attorneys to come up with a bond resolution which she will present at the first March meeting.

- **Employee Handbook**

The Board agreed the Employee Handbook has been reviewed and is ready to be sent to attorneys.

- Sewer update

One hoped-for source of funding is no longer a possibility because the \$300,000 grant discussed in the past required an income survey which the Town has been unable to accomplish.

- Update on Senior Transportation

Senior Transport made 12 trips in October, November and December including one doctor's appointment.

New Business:

- **EDA Disaster Supplemental Funding Opportunity for Ski Bowl**

The Town is applying for a disaster resiliency grant with the help of Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning Board. The purpose is the 'design and construction of drainage improvements to eliminate erosion caused by future storms'.

RESOLUTION #36-21

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Arsenault to commit the 20% match of \$64,000 for EDA Disaster Supplemental Funding Opportunity for Ski Bowl. With 5 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter, Gonyo) Nays – 0

- **Glassblower sign on town property**

The Glassblower has inquired about a sign near the Senior Center on Route 28 directing travelers toward North Creek. Ms. Hogan said this would have to be passed by the Zoning Board. The Board agreed that this brings up the point of Town signage more effectively directing people to attractions, and agreed to look into this further.

- **Hire Summer Rec Program Director / Lifeguard data**

RESOLUTION #37-21

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Arsenault to hire Ann Dingman as Summer Rec Program Director. With 5 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter, Gonyo) Nays – 0

Ms. Hogan said that the lifeguard logs from last year show the number of people visiting the beach but not the times of the visits. Ms. Arnheiter suggests keeping track of visitor times in an effort to more accurately schedule open beach times and lifeguards.

- Occupancy tax committee recommendations

RESOLUTION #38-21

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Arsenault to approve the Occ Tax Committee recommendations for 2021 as follows:

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Requested</i>	<i>Total Project</i>	<i>Advertising/marketing</i>	<i>Award</i>
	<i>Grant Amount</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>amount from event budget</i>	
TPC - concerts	5100	17890.25	1440	2500
NC Alliance Music by the River	1500	5500	500	1500
NC Alliance Shuttle	4500	23700		2500
NC Railway Save the Milk Car	15000	26000	na - exhibits	2500
Johnsburg Mosaic Project	2520	6120	160	2500
Johnsburg Historical Society-Museum	10000	19350	2200	2500
NC Farmers Market	2100	2110	1360	1500
NC Bus Alliance cruise nights	1500	4330	2000	1500
Rock The Dacks	4000	20500	1000	2500
	<u>46220</u>		<u>8650</u>	<u>19500</u>

With 5 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter, Gonyo) Nays – 0

- Trail Town

Dave Skibinski explained that there is a North Country Scenic Trail that runs from North Dakota to Vermont, and suggests the Town become a “Trail Town”. What is involved is the Board issuing a proclamation of support. He added that if accepted, the Town would be the first in the Adirondacks. Ms. Hogan said that at the next meeting, the Board can review the resolution that Mr. Skibinski will draft.

Committee Reports:

- Highway

Mr. Stevens and Mr. Gonyo met with the Highway department and the 2021 contract has been agreed to, with the Board’s approval. The one-year contract will be the same as 2020. The only change would be an increase to Mike Dunkley's salary to \$53,602 for an increase of \$2547 in the highway salary line.

RESOLUTION #39-21

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Gonyo to approve the 2021 contract with the Highway Department. With 5 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter, Gonyo) Nays – 0

Back to Old Business

- Glen Creek Bridge

With no input from Mr. Comstock or the engineer, the Board decided to proceed with the Glen Creek project as estimated by Mr. Comstock and JMT Engineering.

RESOLUTION #40-21

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Gonyo to approve the Glen Creek Bridge project, working with

JMT Engineering, at a cost not to exceed \$131,000. With 5 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter, Gonyo) Nays – 0

Back to New Business

- Barton Mines Road Parcel

Warren County has asked the Town to ‘take’ a parcel on Barton Mines Road with the potential of merging it with the highway. Mr. Stevens said he is in favor of looking into this and the Board agreed.

- Bridge New York Grant

Ms. Hogan said that Mr. Comstock has several projects that would qualify for Bridge New York grant funding. Mr. Comstock is working to identify which have the best chance to be funded.

RESOLUTION #41-21

Mr. Gonyo presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Ms. Arnheiter to further research Bridge New York grant funding. With 5 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter, Gonyo) Nays – 0

Animal Control, ZEO and Assessor Reports

In Board packets.

Supervisor’s Monthly Report

RESOLUTION #42-21

Mr. Arsenault presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Stevens to approve the Supervisor’s Monthly Report. With 5

members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter, Gonyo) Nays – 0

Approval of Warrants

General Fund (Total \$66,209.10)
Highway Fund (Total \$11,367.42)
Library Fund (Total \$855.55)
Fire Protection District (\$187,640.19)
EMS (\$146,940.00)
Water District (\$33,219.56)
Trust and Agency (\$37.28)
Total all warrants \$446,269.10

RESOLUTION #43-21

Mr. Arsenault presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Gonyo to approve the warrants. With 4 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 4 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Gonyo) Nays – 0 Abstain – 1 (Arnheiter)

Ms. Arnheiter stated she had not had time to review the warrants.

Privilege of the Floor

Deana Wood thanked the Board for the Occ Tax award to the Historical Society.

Jim Jones voiced concern about overnight parking in North Creek and the difficulty it creates for plowing.

Ms. Hogan thanked volunteers helping to maintain the skating area and sledding hill. She also thanked Katie Nightingale for the work she has done with FEMA paperwork.

Ms. Hogan said the Board of Elections calendar is out and she said that, while remaining closed to the public, employees will be staffing Town Hall Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm.

Motion to adjourn

RESOLUTION #44-21

Mr. Gonyo presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Arsenault to adjourn. With 5 members voting in favor, the resolution is declared carried. Ayes - 5 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter, Gonyo) Nays- 0

Next meeting Tuesday, March 2, 2021 7 pm
Online Zoom Meeting

Prepared by:

Kathleen C. Lorah