

REORGANIZATION MEETING, TOWN OF MOUNT HOPE, JANUARY 14, 2013
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The **reorganization meeting** of the Town Board of the Town of Mount Hope was held at Town Hall on **January 14, 2013** at 7:30pm with the following present: Supervisor William Novak, Councilman Michael Bell, Councilman Gary Ketcham, Councilwoman Janet Sutherland, Councilman Ed Fairweather and Town Clerk Kathleen Myers.

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Highway Supt. D. Hassenmayer, Police Chief P. Rickard, Planning Board Chairman T. Gilmore, Town Attorney Zachary Kelson, Village Trustee W. Melton, Village Trustee K. Coppola.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Novak following the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:30pm.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. 2013 Appointment List
2. 2013 Procurement Policy
3. 2013 Investment Policy
4. Police Dept. monthly report Dec. 2012
5. Supervisor's report 11/12 and 12/12
6. Building Inspectors report 11/12 and 12/12
7. Insurance Certificate from Time Warner Cable
8. Assoc. of Towns delegate designation form

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

POLICE DEPARTMENT by Chief Rickard:

Chief Rickard reported that he went to a district-wide school safety meeting last week. Four school superintendents and 4 police chiefs were selected to be on a committee. They all want the same thing – protection at our schools. He did some calculations to have an officer posted at Otisville Elementary school it would cost approx. \$38,611. The next meeting is on Jan. 18th. He reported that the officers will go to reality based training and active shooter training. He would like to possibly hire a new officer at the next board meeting. Councilwoman Sutherland asked Chief Rickard if Mr. Latini is involved with the committee. Chief stated no – it was a random selection. It will be approached on a district by district basis. The key is access control and he spoke about possibly modifying the alarm system ie: having a very distinct alarm sound from the fire alarm sound. The school has a list of security plans. Supervisor Novak stated to Chief Rickard that he heard good things about him as far as his input towards the security committee. It was nice to hear.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT by Supt. Hassenmayer:

Supt. Hassenmayer reported that he was visited by Mr. Weinert that he is closing his campground and he would like the road signs taken down. He informed the board that the ice rink was moved to over by the school. It is a better lit area. He asked permission to go to bid on a new excavator. The current one is very old. A new one is approx. \$135,000.00. He has over \$300,000.00 in capital reserve. He added that there was a coding error on one of his bills. He already showed the Town Clerk. Corrections were made.

VILLAGE OF OTISVILLE by Trustee Melton:

Trustee Melton asked the board if they were still interested in continuing the partnership for the Summer Recreation program. Councilman Fairweather stated that it's a great program and it would make sense to continue it. Councilwoman Sutherland asked if there was a director. Trustee Coppola answered no – last year's director quit and this position will be advertised.

HIDDEN VALLEY by Supervisor Novak:

Supervisor Novak reported that the new mixer is in.

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PLANNING BOARD by Chairman Gilmore:

Chairman Gilmore reported there will be a meeting this month but on Tuesday night as the holiday falls on Monday evening. There are 3 on the agenda.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE SUPERVISOR'S REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2012:

MOTION made by Councilman Fairweather seconded by Councilman Bell to approve the Supervisor's report for Dec. 2012 as presented. All in favor – Bell, Ketcham, Novak, Sutherland, Fairweather. Carried.

At this time, Mr. Novak read the 2013 Appointment List into the minutes.

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE 2013 APPOINTMENT LIST:

MOTION made by Councilman Fairweather seconded by Councilwoman Sutherland to approve the 2013 Appointment List as read by the Supervisor (see attached). All in favor – Bell, Ketcham, Novak, Sutherland, Fairweather. Carried.

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE 2013 PROCUREMENT POLICY:

MOTION made by Councilman Bell seconded by Councilwoman Sutherland to approve the 2013 Procurement Policy as presented (see attached). All in favor – Bell, Ketcham, Novak, Sutherland, Fairweather. Carried.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE 2013 INVESTMENT POLICY:

MOTION made by Councilman Bell seconded by Councilman Fairweather to approve the 2013 Investment Policy as presented (see attached). All in favor – Bell, Ketcham, Novak, Sutherland, Fairweather. Carried.

RESOLUTION TO AUDIT THE CLAIMS:

MOTION made by Councilman Bell seconded by Councilman Ketcham to approve the following bills:

GENERAL A	#1-36	\$60,033.46
GENERAL B	#1-6	\$ 4,346.15
HIGHWAY	#1-11	\$30,954.03
SEWER	#1-4	\$ 2,822.23

All in favor – Bell, Ketcham, Novak, Sutherland, Fairweather. Carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

**J. Zoll asked about the future plans for the volley ball court since now it is a skate rink. Her son did this as an Eagle Scout project. Supt. Hassenmayer stated that during the last 3 storms it was flooded out and FEMA won't reimburse the town anymore. Discussion ensued.

**F. Ketcham asked the status of the old school. Supervisor Novak stated there are 2 offers and they are prepared to go to contract. F. Ketcham asked who the buyers were. Councilman Fairweather stated that one was Charlie Chang and he didn't have the name of the other buyer. F. Ketcham thinks it's a bad idea.

**C. Bell agrees with F. Ketcham. When her husband was alive he was a part of this. She thinks it's a big mistake. F. Ketcham spoke re: not for profit with this group. J. Zoll asked if they would pay their share of taxes. Attorney Kelson spoke re: right of diversion. The present buyers are not taking the Dragon Springs name. B. Rebman spoke re: telling the buyer – no. Attorney Kelson stated there is no way to make them stay on the tax roll until the state changes the law. C. Bell feels the building stands as an asset to the town. Discussion ensued. Supervisor Novak stated that it is cheaper to build a new building than to renovate the school in the condition it is in now. When it does sell, we are obligated to repay the parkland fund. Councilwoman Sutherland asked Mr. Ketcham if he has been in the building lately. There is so much damage inside – it is atrocious. F. Ketcham stated that selling to other groups is not in our best interest.

**R. Zoll added that he drove past the entrance to the Falun Dong and they have a killer dog and an armed guard at the gate. D. Loeven added that during summer recreation they were handing out DVD's to the kids which were very graphic.

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PUBLIC PARTICIPATION CONTINUED:

**D. Loeven asked about the Planning Board agenda and if there was a public hearing scheduled. Chairman Gilmore stated yes. She stated that she would be leaving literature with Kathleen from the Office of the Aging – to be put in the window. She also spoke about calling 211 to get your taxes done at a reduced rate. There are guidelines.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Councilman Bell asked Attorney if the board has to accept the contract once they get it back. Attorney Kelson stated it has to be reviewed. R. Zoll asked about putting contingencies in the contract. Attorney Kelson spoke re: taxable status date. Councilman Bell wanted to go on record that he is totally against this when we get the contract back. He asked Councilman Fairweather if he will meet with the committee when we get the contract back. Discussion ensued.

RESOLUTION FOR ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION made by Councilman Bell seconded by Councilman Ketcham to adjourn the meeting at 8:37pm. All in favor – Bell, Ketcham, Novak, Sutherland, Fairweather. Carried.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2013 at 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Myers
Town Clerk