

REGULAR MEETING, TOWN OF MOUNT HOPE, JULY 11, 2011
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The **regular meeting** of the Town Board of the Town of Mount Hope was held at Town Hall on **July 11, 2011** at 7:30pm with the following present: Supervisor William Novak Jr., Councilman Michael Bell, Councilman Greg Stiles and Town Clerk Kathleen Myers.

NOT PRESENT: Councilman Ed Fairweather, Councilwoman Kathy Russo.

PUBLIC: W. Rebman, L. Fairweather, T. Gilmore, I. Stiles, Highway Supt. D. Hassenmayer, Z. Kelson / Attorney, Chief Rickard, L. Dodd, E. Myslinski, J. Litow, D. Loeven, G. Ketcham, W. Dul, M. Horzepa, D. Marshall, S. Marshall, B. Wheeling, S. Stiles, T. Cauchard, A. Coppola.

At this time, Supervisor Novak stated that he was going to stray for a moment from the agenda. Councilman Bell has a presentation to make from the Minisink Valley Kiwanis Club for a scholarship donation to be used toward the Village of Otisville/Town of Mount Hope Summer Recreation program for families that may need assistance to send their kids to camp. Councilman Bell stated that he would like to present Sue Marshall a check for \$1,200.00. He had hoped to get enough for just one family but he got more than enough. He would like for the money to go towards those who need it. Supervisor Novak asked Mrs. Marshall how the first day went. She stated very well and thanked Councilman Bell.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Supervisor Novak called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

ACCEPTANCE OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:

MOTION by Mr. Bell seconded by Mr. Stiles that the minutes of the 06-13-2011 meeting as submitted are approved with the amendment as follows: page 59 (first line) delete the word "petitions" and insert "budget reports". All in favor – Bell, Stiles, Novak. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Report from Assessor re: Board of Assessment Review hearings
2. Letter from Judge Goldsmith re: requesting town court audit
3. Patrol Rifle policy written comment from Councilman Fairweather
4. Cemetery information re: Howells Cemetery
5. Police Dept. monthly report 06-11
6. 2011 Summer Recreation contract
7. Tax collector settlement report
8. Two Insurance certificates re: July 9 fireworks
9. Insurance certificate re: police/BOCES
10. T/O Deerpark Planning Board public hearing 7-13-11 re: Dragon Springs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

Supt. Hassenmayer reported that the guys completed surface treatments today. They've done 7 ½ miles on 12 roads. He would like to re-pave this end of Shoddy Hollow Road probably this fall. He gave specs on a new street sweeper. The best price was from Pine Bush Equipment. He received quotes from J&J Equipment and Hoffman Equipment as well. He is waiting to see about the Howells Cemetery.

RESOLUTION FOR PURCHASE OF STREET SWEEPER FROM PINE BUSH EQUIPMENT:

MOTION by Mr. Stiles seconded by Mr. Bell to approve the purchase of a street sweeper from Pine Bush Equipment for \$22,500.00. Money would come from capital reserve account. All in favor – Bell, Stiles, Novak. Carried.

POLICE:

Chief Rickard reported on the insurance cert. for the ride-a-long program which was actually in June. He was able to get a grant for \$1,000.00 from Orange County STOP DWI for a RADAR unit. The unit price is \$1471.25 –the Town's portion is \$471.25. The computer in 155 is dead. He purchased a new one a while ago for \$1800.00. He will look into this further. The new program is in place for the officers to check in with the local businesses. Chief will check in with them also.

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POLICE continued:

He is looking to sponsor a candidate to the police academy. A background check is being done; she is a village resident. Academy starts Sept.12. There is no expense to the town. He is requesting permission to send someone to a records management seminar in Saratoga Springs in Sept. from the 14th to 16th. Cost is \$290.00. He would like for Matt Byrne to go but if he cannot attend then Chief would go. The Stop-DWI contract resolution needs a re-do. The word contract should be in the plural form "contracts". Chief also asked the board to approve the signing of the affidavit to add 384-D to the police retirement plan. He would also like to have a resolution for the patrol rifle policy. Supervisor Novak added that due to the Chief's presence at the Chiefs conference, we received the \$1,000.00 grant for the radar unit. Chief Rickard added that Anna Briceno saved a dog from a structure fire on Mount Hope Road.

VILLAGE OF OTISVILLE:

Mrs. Cauchard reported that their meeting was this past week. They have not received a report from the fire steering committee. Summer recreation went well as reported by Sue. Supervisor Novak reported that Rob Ketcham came in to clarify the issue at the park. He will sit with the village to work things out. Supervisor Novak stated that the town would waive the building fees and the shed removed and the fence fixed.

SUMMER RECREATION:

Ms. Loeven reported that she thinks they made a good choice with the nurse this year. This week is Wild West week and she came all dressed up. It's going to be a great year.

HIDDEN VALLEY:

Mr. Stiles reported that he spoke with Jim DeWinter and the design work is 90% complete with the modifications to the plant. Discussion ensued re: Newburgh coming with a manhole camera.

PLANNING BOARD:

Mr. Gilmore reported that the meeting is next week with 3 on agenda which includes Falanga.

RESOLUTION FOR POLICE CHIEF TO SIGN STOP DWI CONTRACTS:

MOTION by Mr. Bell seconded by Mr. Stiles to amend the Feb. 28, 2011 resolution to read 'plural' as follows:

To authorize the Police Chief to sign the 2011 STOP DWI contracts with the County of Orange. All in favor – Bell, Stiles, Novak. Carried.

PATROL RIFLE POLICY RESOLUTION:

MOTION by Mr. Stiles seconded by Mr. Bell that the Patrol Rifle policy be adopted as proposed by the Chief. All in favor – Bell, Stiles, Novak. Carried.

PATROL RIFLE ACQUISITION AND IMPLEMENTATION RESOLUTION:

MOTION by Mr. Stiles seconded by Mr. Bell to authorize the police Chief to acquire and implement the patrol rifle in accordance with the patrol rifle policy. All in favor – Bell, Stiles, Novak. Carried.

CODE RED:

Per Supervisor Novak, this discussion will be tabled until next meeting.

RESOLUTION TO APPOINT THOMAS YONSKIE AS ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER:

MOTION by Mr. Bell seconded by Mr. Stiles to appoint Thomas Yonskie as animal control officer for the Town of Mount Hope to fill the vacancy created by Frederick Baker's resignation. All in favor – Bell, Stiles, Novak. Carried.

HOWELLS CEMETERY:

Supervisor Novak reported to the board that as you are aware the Howells Cemetery Association is dissolving. He's been speaking with Chuck Kroglund. Mr. Kelson stated that the town is required to maintain the lawn/basic lawn care 2-3 times per year. He needs to speak to Chuck Kroglund. He also stated that any funds received must be kept in a separate account.

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HOWELLS CEMETERY CONTINUED:

Supervisor Novak has been speaking with Dean regarding solutions for immediate care options – possibly get inmates from federal prison, bid it out, or get volunteers. Councilman Stiles stated that currently there has been someone mowing 2-3 times per month for \$500.00 per month. He asked if the board was going to vote on this. Supervisor Novak stated that we don't have everything yet. Mr. Kelson stated that the Supervisor could work things out with Dean for the time being.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE 2011 SUMMER RECREATION CONTRACT:

MOTION by Mr. Bell seconded by Mr. Stiles to approve the 2011 Summer Recreation contract as presented – see end of minutes. All in favor – Bell, Stiles, Novak. Carried.

RESOLUTION FOR PERSONNEL MANUAL AMENDMENT:

MOTION by Mr. Stiles seconded by Mr. Bell to add to the personnel manual entry level salary for the court clerk to be \$13.50 per hour. All in favor – Bell, Stiles, Novak. Carried.

JUSTICE COURT AUDIT:

Supervisor Novak stated that Justice Goldsmith contacted him regarding an audit. Mr. Kelson stated he should get 3 quotes and it should be someone who has done court audits.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE COURT AUDIT:

MOTION by Mr. Stiles seconded by Mr. Bell to get prices and go with the lowest quote for an outside audit for the court office. All in favor – Bell, Stiles, Novak. Carried.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE POLICE ATTENDANCE AT RECORDS MANAGEMENT SEMINAR IN SARATOGA SPRINGS:

MOTION by Mr. Bell seconded by Mr. Stiles to authorize police representatives to attend the records management seminar in Saratoga Springs Sept. 14 through Sept. 16. All in favor – Bell, Stiles, Novak. Carried.

RETIREMENT REPORTING:

Supervisor Novak spoke regarding the retirement reporting. Previously we added the section 384D because otherwise we would have to work 40 years to retire and we currently report under 375C.

RESOLUTION TO SIGN RETIREMENT REPORTING AFFIDAVIT:

MOTION by Mr. Bell seconded by Mr. Stiles to authorize the Town Supervisor to sign the 384D affidavit and add it to the accounts. All in favor – Bell, Stiles, Novak. Carried.

AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

MOTION by Mr. Bell seconded by Mr. Stiles to approve the following bills:

GENERAL A:	#379-443	\$ 98,019.31
GENERAL B:	#82-91	\$ 8,630.05
HIGHWAY:	#105-120	\$ 80,174.21
SEWER:	#69-79	\$ 10,878.85.

All in favor – Bell, Stiles, Novak. Carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

**Ms. Loeven spoke re: Community Yard Sale; the old school will be used for parking.

**Mr. Rebman spoke re: 4H; did they move in yet? Supervisor Novak stated that Ed is not here but they have had 2 meetings. Mike Bell is still working with a buyer who is trying to get financing.

**Mrs. Stiles spoke re: house on Bilinski property. Supervisor Novak stated that the fire department is holding drills there. Mr. Myslinski added - thank you for that.

**Mr. Hassenmayer stated that they are making headway in securing the barn and they are waiting for quotes on windows.

**Mr. Kelson suggested for Dean to contact Green Demolitions in Honesdale – they may have some deals.

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PUBLIC PARTICIPATION CONTINUED:

**Mr. Hassenmayer stated there are still a couple wagons there – has anyone heard from him. Supervisor Novak stated no.

**Mr. Litow stated he brought plans for board members for the proposed subdivision on Baker Street.

**Mr. Myslinski stated they met with the village and they want a budget and a straw pole. They need some form of commitment from someone. They are still looking to proceed. Supervisor Novak stated that the majority of the board is in support of this. Mr. Myslinski would like one board member from the village board and one from the town board to be on the steering committee. Supervisor Novak stated that Mike Bell has already been the liaison so if he wants to do it – he can. Mr. Bell agreed. Mr. Myslinski stated there are 10 members currently on the steering committee. The last time it took approx. 9 months to do the budget. Supervisor Novak spoke re: being fiscally responsible. Ms. Loeven added that the village board is still waiting for the steering committee report and they want the residents to vote in order to proceed. Ms. Cauchard wants to sit with the steering committee and the fire dept. Supervisor Novak stated that he thought it was said that there would not need to be a straw pole. Mr. Gilmore stated that the town and village and the fire company need to meet and get a fair and reasonable cost and they need to discuss debt and properties involved. Ms. Loeven spoke re: requiring the village to dissolve the department by referendum vote. (Several side discussions among public.) Mr. Stiles added - what village resident is going to vote to dissolve the fire dept? He stated to put numbers together with a plan and we will consider it. Mr. Myslinski stated they need either board resolution to go to a fire district. Mr. Dodd stated that Mr. Simeone said a straw pole is illegal. Mr. Myslinski stated the information from last time is not current. Ms. Loeven stated that the district boundaries have not changed. Mr. Kelson stated that the Sullivan County border has changed and Supervisor Novak added the Ketcham annexation has changed the boundary. Ms. Loeven suggested setting up a joint meeting between both boards since Tammy's version and hers are vastly different that way we are all in the same room. She added that the boards meeting would just be to discuss and not to take any action. Supervisor Novak stated they need to move quickly as they have a March deadline. Mr. Dodd stated they need to know how much the fire company is in debt. And, he would like to clarify a rumor that they are turning their backs on anyone; the fire company would like to see a fire district formed. Ms. Cauchard would like to meet within the next 2 weeks. She will call Bob Bennett because he is the village liaison. She will email the village board tonight. Supervisor Novak stated the liaisons and the steering committee should meet first. He stated that he thinks we all want the best fire protection. After group discussion – either the 19th or 20th at 7PM at the firehouse. Tammy will check with Bob.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Councilman Bell reported that the Youth football league would like to buy a scoreboard for the field at the park. Supt. Hassenmayer asked for them to consider the ground cover for mowing purposes and he would like to see it in the far corner.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE FOOTBALL SCOREBOARD:

MOTION by Mr. Stiles seconded by Mr. Novak to allow the youth football league to erect a scoreboard subject to coordinating with the parks director. All in favor – Bell, Stiles, Novak. Carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION by Mr. Bell seconded by Mr. Stiles to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm. All in favor – Bell, Stiles, Novak. Carried.

Next meeting is scheduled for August 8, 2011 at 7:30pm in the Town Hall in the meeting room.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Myers, Town Clerk