

WORKSHOP MEETING, TOWN OF MOUNT HOPE, DECEMBER 30, 2013
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The **WORKSHOP MEETING** of the Town Board of the Town of Mount Hope was held at the Town Hall on 1706 Route 211 West, Otisville, NY, **December 30, 2013** at 7:30pm with the following present: Supervisor William Novak Jr., Councilman Mike Bell, Councilman Ed Fairweather and Town Clerk Kathleen Myers. **NOT PRESENT:** Councilman Ketcham

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Chief Rickard, C. Volpe, D. Cambareri, Highway Supt. Hassenmayer, M. Howell, Village Trustee Cash, Village Trustee Coppola.

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

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:

MOTION offered by Councilman Fairweather seconded by Councilwoman Sutherland to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2013 as presented. All in favor – Bell, Novak, Sutherland, Fairweather. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Year-end Budget Modifications - Highway
2. Budget modifications - Highway
3. 2014 Tow List for acceptance
4. Police Dept. year end - 2013 petty cash balance
5. Police dept. surplus funds request
6. Police Dept. budget modification re: FEMA
7. MHFC monthly report
8. Budget modification – Police Dept.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

POLICE DEPT. by Chief Rickard:

Chief Rickard requested that the tow list for 2014 be accepted. He spoke of the budget modifications being just to roll over the surplus funds and the FEMA money received as well as budget modifications for the car purchased earlier this year.

HIGHWAY DEPT.:

No report.

VILLAGE OF OTISVILLE:

No report.

HIDDEN VALLEY by Supervisor Novak:

Supervisor Novak stated that the line repairs will begin Wed. or Thurs. this week per Jim DeWinter.

PLANNING BOARD:

No report.

MOUNT HOPE FIRE:

Monthly report read into record by Town Clerk. Report will be on file in Town Clerk's office.

OLD SCHOOL:

Per Attorney Kelson, the Friday before Christmas signed contracts were received in for the sale of the old Otisville School for a total of \$325,000.00 with a down payment (10%) which he is holding in his escrow account. The contract is subject to permissive referendum and Town Board approval. The latter has been approved but the permissive referendum issue is still up in the air. Those contracts are available for FOIL purposes. They were received late Friday afternoon. Nothing will happen on that transaction until something is determined with respect to the permissive referendum.

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OLD SCHOOL – CONTINUED:

Attorney Kelson was advised that a number of petitions were filed with over 500 signatures which seek a permissive referendum on that. It appears that in order to file a petition and it be satisfactory people have to be electors of the town and there needs to be 5% of the voters which voted in the last gubernatorial election which was 1647 voters in 2010 so you would need about 83 or 84 signatures. Section 91 provides for permissive referendum and sets for all the details. After petitions are filed, there are 5 business days under the law for any objections filed against the petitions. And within 20 days after that – a 25 day period someone has to bring the application to the Supreme Court to have a Supreme Court judge decide whether the petitions are valid or not. That time hasn't elapsed yet. The five days won't elapse until tomorrow if you count Christmas. Presuming someone does file an objection, the specifications would have to be brought and an application made and to the court within 20 days after tomorrow. Presuming none were filed by close of business tomorrow then the referendum must be conducted within the restrictions of a general election but...no more than 75 days not less than 60 days prior to a Town election. But since we're not close to a town election is it will be not less than 60 days but not more than 75 days after the filing of the petition. The new Town Board will have to fix the date for the period of the referendum. Again it will be no less than 60 days from the 23rd and no more than 75 from the 23rd.

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE 2014 TOW LIST:

MOTION offered by Councilman Bell seconded by Councilwoman Sutherland to approve the 2014 Tow List as resented for the Police Department. All in favor – Bell, Novak, Sutherland, Fairweather; carried.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE HIGHWAY BUDGET MODIFICATION:

MOTION offered by Councilwoman Sutherland seconded by Councilman Fairweather to approve the following budget modification:

Decrease Snow Removal P/S D5142.1 by \$10,798.70 and Increase Snow Removal Contr. D5142.4 by \$10,798.70; and the end of year list (see end of minutes). All in favor – Bell, Novak, Sutherland, Fairweather; carried.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE POLICE BUDGET MODIFICATION:

MOTION offered by Councilwoman Sutherland seconded by Councilman Bell to approve the following budget modifications:

Any surplus funds from A3120.1, A3120.2 & A3120.4 be transferred to Pol. Cap. Equip. Reserves; AND Increase Revenue A2655 by \$7,044.41 and Increase Police Contr. A3120.4 by \$7,044.41; AND Increase Police Eq. A3120.2 from Capital Reserve (Police) \$35,000.00. All in favor – Bell, Novak, Sutherland, Fairweather; carried.

RESOLUTION TO ENCUMBER ALL BALANCES AND MOVE TO CAPITAL RESERVE:

MOTION offered by Councilwoman Sutherland seconded by Councilman Fairweather to encumber all accounts and transfer unappropriated funds in the list of accounts at end of these minutes to Capital Reserve Accounts. All in favor – Bell, Novak, Sutherland, Fairweather; carried.

RESOLUTION FOR ALL TOWN TRUCKS AND POLICE VEHICLES TO BE LETTERED:

MOTION offered by Councilwoman Sutherland seconded by Councilman Bell that all town trucks are to be legal before they are put into service with a minimum sized lettering going along with the current federal DOT recommended minimums and the exemption would be police undercover cars. All in favor – Bell, Novak, Sutherland, Fairweather; carried.

HEALTH INSURANCE:

Per Attorney Kelson, the Supervisor under the employees' rules of the employee handbook for the Town is entitled to have health insurance. For an excess of 20 years, the Town Supervisor has opted not to take that health insurance, as the Town Clerk has also opted not to do that. Supervisor Novak has no intention to do this.

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RESOLUTION TO RE-AFFIRM HEALTH INSURANCE FOR SUPERVISOR:

MOTION offered by Councilwoman Sutherland seconded by Councilman Fairweather to re-affirm and acknowledge that the Supervisor has not taken the health insurance option but that he is entitled to it. All in favor – Bell, Novak, Sutherland, Fairweather; carried.

RESOLUTION FOR AUDIT OF CLAIMS:

MOTION by Councilman Bell seconded by Councilman Fairweather to approve the following bills:

GENERAL A:	#767-805	\$ 81,609.65
GENERAL B:	#136-143	\$ 7,451.32
HIGHWAY:	#230-234	\$ 47,274.13
SEWER:	#134-140	\$ 4,308.14
MHFC:	#4	\$ 22,003.00

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

RESOLUTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

MOTION offered by Councilman Fairweather seconded by Councilwoman Sutherland to enter into executive session at 7:52pm to discuss a particular Personnel issue and litigation. All in favor – Bell, Novak, Sutherland, Fairweather. Carried.

RESOLUTION TO RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING:

MOTION offered by Councilman Bell seconded by Councilwoman Sutherland to reconvene the regular meeting from executive session at 8:35pm. All in favor – Bell, Novak, Sutherland, Fairweather. Carried.

RESOLUTION TO CLARIFY PREVIOUS HIGHWAY BUDGET MODIFICATION:

MOTION offered by Councilman Fairweather seconded by Councilman Bell to clarify & modify the previous motion for year-end budget modifications in Highway to exclude end of year modifications to Capital Reserves and leave them in Highway General D.

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

Per Supervisor Novak, the Highway employees asked for certain things at budget time. Some were granted. The eyeglass coverage will be increased \$25.00 and increase the boot allowance to \$300.00.

RESOLUTION FOR HIGHWAY EMPLOYEES GLASSES AND BOOTS INCREASE:

MOTION offered by Councilman Bell seconded by Councilman Fairweather to increase the eyeglasses allowance by \$25.00 and increase the boot allowance to \$300.00. All in favor – Bell, Novak, Sutherland, Fairweather. Carried.

RESOLUTION TO ELIMINATE PARK SUPERVISOR POSITION:

MOTION offered by Supervisor Novak seconded by Councilman Fairweather to eliminate the working park supervisor position. All in favor – Bell, Novak, Sutherland, Fairweather. Carried.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Councilman Fairweather stated that he wanted to give special recognition to the highway employees. They have been loyal and productive for the Town Board and the residents of the town. We'd like to show our appreciation for their good work and encouragement for their limited salary increases by making sure that their health insurance is maintained at their current levels. He hopes the new board recognizes this and continues this practice to maintain what they have now. He added that it has been his pleasure to serve the Town of Mount Hope for the last 6 years. I hope my constituents put the time and effort that I have into the position.

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BOARD COMMENTS CONTINUED:

Supervisor Novak added that it has been his pleasure for the last 22 years. The town has come a long way. He hopes that it continues to move forward. Thank you.

RESOLUTION FOR ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION offered by **Councilwoman Sutherland** seconded by **Councilman Bell** to adjourn the meeting at 8:40pm. All in favor – **Bell, Novak, Sutherland, Fairweather**. Carried.

The next meeting is January 6, 2014 at 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Myers
Town Clerk