

## **SPECIAL MEETING, TOWN OF MOUNT HOPE, SEPTEMBER 20, 2013**

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The **special meeting** of the Town Board of the Town of Mount Hope was held at Town Hall on **September 20, 2013** at 4:00pm with the following present: Supervisor William Novak, Councilman Gary Ketcham, Councilman Mike Bell, Councilwoman Janet Sutherland, Councilman Ed Fairweather and Town Clerk Kathleen Myers.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Highway Supt. Hassenmayer, C. Volpe, D. Cambareri, D. Roeder, J. Cook, L. Runnalls, J. Zoll, I. Palmer, M. Howell.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Supervisor Novak called the meeting to order at 4:00PM.

The Notice of Special Meeting was read by Town Clerk K. Myers.

Supervisor Novak stated the reason for this meeting is to schedule a public hearing for 9-30-13 for parkland alienation and the Assessor's re-appointment.

At this time, Supervisor Novak opened the meeting for public comment.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Mr. Runnalls asked how many acres on the Bilinski farm. Supervisor Novak stated 86 +/- acres were purchased for open space preservation. Mr. Runnalls asked if there was wetlands on the property and asked about the property that is adjacent to the 6.41 acres. Supervisor Novak stated that Stewarts Shops are interested in the property also. Mr. Runnalls asked about the master plan and the census and feels the choice in property across from the county barn on Mount Hope Road. Supervisor Novak stated that the Master Plan needs to be amended/upgraded. It is still the intent of the board to keep it rural/agricultural. He added that someone is looking to convert the old bio-farm as well.

Mr. Cook asked why the meeting is today – it is inconvenient. Supervisor Novak stated that the reason for this meeting is to schedule a public hearing. Councilman Fairweather added that there is a lot of information that needs to be addressed.

Mr. Volpe added that the fire company is their own entity so why can't they buy their own property. Then if they fail it is theirs and not the towns. Supervisor Novak stated the purpose of the land is for emergency services purposes.

Mr. Cambareri spoke of the fire house being in the middle of the parkland and across from the school.

Mr. Palmer stated that no municipal funds are being used for this correct? Supervisor Novak stated no. They would be relocating all services. Mr. Palmer read something off the EAF form that states they would be using town funds. Supervisor Novak stated that's just the budgetary money.

Mr. Cambareri asked if it would be a lease or an option to buy. Supervisor Novak stated neither as of yet.

Mr. Cook stated that the town will lose 6.2 acres of parkland space – will the fire house pay taxes? Supervisor Novak stated they are a not-for-profit.

Dr. Roeder asked if there is room for expansion. She has a problem with a private corporation using public land. Supervisor Novak added that any not-for-profit would be welcome to come to the board. He added that now would be the time to come forward and square up her property. Dr. Roeder stated she is not asking for parkland and she would give road frontage for the property she needs.

Mr. Cook spoke re: meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Supervisor stated that public hearing will be only for the alienation.

### **RESOLUTION TO SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING ON PARKLAND ALIENATION:**

**MOTION** offered by Councilwoman Sutherland seconded by Councilman Fairweather to schedule a public hearing on Sept. 30, 2013 at 7:00pm to move forward with alienation of a piece of parkland of 6.41 acres and to contact the Senator and Assembly to request Home Rule legislation. All in favor – Bell, Ketcham, Novak, Sutherland, Fairweather. Carried.

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**RESOLUTION TO RE-APPOINT DENNIS KECTHAM AS SOLE APPOINTED ASSESSOR:**

**MOTION** offered by Councilman Fairweather seconded by Councilman Bell to re-appoint Dennis Ketcham as the sole assessor from 10-1-13 through 9-30-19. All in favor – Bell, Ketcham, Novak, Sutherland, Fairweather. Carried.

**RESOLUTION FOR ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION** offered by Councilwoman Sutherland seconded by Councilman Fairweather to adjourn the meeting at 4:30pm. All in favor –Bell, Ketcham, Novak, Sutherland, Fairweather. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Myers, Town Clerk