

Town Board Meeting
June 11, 2018

The regular meeting of the Town of Cambridge duly called and held 11th day of June at the Town Hall, the following were present:

Supervisor Catherine Fedler

Councilman Douglas Ford

Councilwoman Gretchen Wilmot

Councilman Brian Harrington

Absent: Bruce Bailey

Others present: Heather Greenawalt Town Clerk, Jim Buckley Jr. Highway Superintendent, LaVerne Davis Code Enforcement, Amy Clark town resident

The Supervisor called the meeting to order and immediately led in the Pledge Allegiance to Flag.

Local Law #1, 2018

The Supervisor opened the Public Hearing for Local Law #1 of 2018 at 7:30 pm, the intent is to remove the exemption from county taxation contained in New York Real Property Tax Law (RPTL) §487 for any micro-hydroelectric energy system, or electric generating system, micro-combined heat and power generating equipment system, or electric energy storage equipment or electric energy storage system.

The Supervisor called 3 times for public comment and then closed the public hearing at 7:34 pm.

Local Law #2, 2018

The Supervisor opened the Public Hearing for Local Law #2 of 2018 at 7:35 pm, the intent is to provide for exemption allowable to Cold War Veterans pursuant to Section 458-b of the Real Property Tax Law of the State of New York.

The Supervisor called 3 times for public comment and there being none then closed the public hearing at 7:36 pm.

Reduction of Speed limit on County Rt 59A.

Amy Clark a resident of County Route 59A in South Cambridge was present at the Town Board Meeting. She was requesting a speed limit reduction from 45 mph to 35 mph. She has spoken with many of the neighbors and collected signatures on a petition in support of this effort. On her letter submitted she had 5 reasons listed that warranted a reduction in speed. These included density of houses, number of young children, the odd shape and the poor visibility intersection with County Route 74, heavy truck traffic and current speed is 45 mph and frequently exceeded by many vehicles. This letter is on file at Town Clerk's Office. It was suggested by Councilman Ford that the speed limit should be reduced to 30 mph due to the closeness in proximity of the houses and the amount of children in this hamlet/village.

Resolution #39

Councilman Wilmot motioned, Seconded by Councilman Harrington to proceed with the process to request speed limit reduction on County Route 59A from Gannon Road to County Route 74 intersection

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at the Grange Hall. The Request from Amy Clark was reduction from 45 mph to 35 mph; the Town Board suggested that request be lower to 30 mph.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes - 0

Auditing of the Bills

General	#90 - #112	\$ 2,962.90
Highway	#75 - #83	\$16,529.06

Resolution #40

Approving the Supervisor's Report

Councilman Ford motioned, Seconded by Councilwoman Wilmot to approve the Supervisor's report for May 2018.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes – 0

Resolution #41

Budget Amendment

Councilman Harrington motioned, Seconded by Councilman Ford to move unanticipated revenue of \$130.49 from Misc. Animal Control Fees (A2545) received in May to the Dog Control account (A3510.4).

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes – 0

Resolution #42

Approving the minutes

Councilman Ford motioned, Seconded by Councilwoman Wilmot to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2018 meeting as mailed.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes – 0

Planning Board Report

The Planning Board Clerk Heather Greenawalt reported that Planning Board Meeting was held on June 7, 2018 at 7:30 PM. 5 members were present, Planning Board Clerk and 2 people from the public. Catherine and Paul Baker were present at the meeting to present the updated survey which was similar to the one from the March meeting. This survey showed the portion of Phyllis DeMarco's parcel located at 577 King Road (tax map # 271.-3-7.1) with 117.40 acres. Her daughter Catherine Baker would like to subdivide off 8.7 acres and merge that with their one acre parcel tax map #271.-3.-7.5. The parcel being created surrounding Catherine and Paul Bakers property of 1 acre would be 8.20 acres and .58 acre additional across the way from their current acreage as to not to abandon this small piece. The acreage being subdivided off is mostly wooded area and hills. Their intention is to later merge the piece created with Catherine and Paul Baker's one acre piece to create larger property in the hopes to keep neighbors from building close to them. The public hearing for the minor subdivision of the DeMarco parcel will be at the next meeting Thursday, July 5, 2018 at 7:30 PM.

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Town Clerk Report

Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt reported to the Board that she had a check that can back insufficient funds. This was received from fees of Dog Control, Dog Control said to turn it over to the Court/Town Justice. It was suggested by the town Board to check with the Bank and see how many times it was deposited first and then see what they suggest.

Assessor's Report

Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt reported in Assessor's absence that Grievance day was May 23, 2018: 1 correction (assessment error), 6 applications in front of the Board of Assessment Review (2 N/C), 4 changes), 1 Stipulation made with Assessor. The Assessor's Office will be closed on July 18, 2018 due to Assessor training at Cornell. The training was split with the Town of Waterford and City of Mechanicville. Final Roll will be available on July 1, 2018. May 30, 2018 a webinar was given by New York State Department of Taxation and Finance. NYS Legislation was passed making all seniors who are eligible for Enhanced (Senior) STAR sign up for the Income Verification Program. More Changes to come. The state has taken down the STAR applications pertaining to seniors so they can update them. The Assessor's office will be notified when new applications are available.

Code Enforcement

LaVerne Davis reported that possibly have 3 houses being built in the Town of Cambridge. He also reported that had problem on County Rt. 59 where the house burnt; they put 2 temporary trailers in and only supposed to have one. He also said problems in the house they are not only doing repairs from the fire damage they are gutting the house. He explained to them that they would have to obtain a building permit.

Highway Report

Highway Superintendent Jim Buckley Jr. reported that have continued grading gravel roads. They have graveled Dickens Road with Shoulder Stone and econo-gravel. Roadside mowing is almost completed for the first time around. The cemeteries were mowed before Memorial Day. The culverts they changed this spring have been capped and some patching was done. Jim Buckley Jr. the Highway Superintendent attended Highway School last week and all Highwaymen will go to safety days next week.

Communications

The Supervisor reported that Councilman Bailey requested that the Town Board wait until he is present to discuss Site Plan Review. Letter was received from resident in Coila on State Route 372 in regards to the extreme traffic since the railroad bridge in Greenwich was raised to allow for larger commercial trucks to pass under. She goes on to explain the problems with the heavy traffic and the concerns because of the large number of children that live in this hamlet in Coila. It has been requested by the resident that speed limit be dropped to 30 mph. This letter has been sent to numerous different Highway Superintendents, Supervisor's, Mayor and the Governor Andrew Cuomo. The copy of this request/letter is available at the Town Clerk's Office.

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A letter was received in regards to Village forming a Sustainable Energy Task Force. They were requesting representation from the Town of Cambridge at the meeting that will be on Tuesday, June 19, 2018 at 7PM. Attached to this letter was the mission of the group and F.A.Q's. The supervisor felt that this did not apply to the Town of Cambridge. She did mention to Councilman Harrington that he resides in the Village/Town and this might be of interest to him. The Supervisor did suggest if he were to attend, leave his Cambridge Town Board Hat at home and only go as interested resident.

Town Board

Councilwoman Wilmot mentioned to the Highway Superintendent how nicely the roadsides have been mowed.

Resolution #43

Local Law #1 of 2018

Councilman Ford motioned,

Seconded by Councilman Harrington,

Be It Resolved, that the Cambridge Town Board adopts the Local Law #1 of 2018, the intent is to remove the exemption from county taxation contained in New York Real Property Tax Law (RPTL) §487 for any micro-hydroelectric energy system, or electric generating system, micro-combined heat and power generating equipment system, or electric energy storage equipment or electric energy storage system.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes – 0

Resolution #44

Local Law #2 of 2018

Councilwoman Wilmot motioned,

Seconded by Councilman Ford,

Be It Resolved, that the Cambridge Town Board adopts the Local Law #2 of 2018, the intent is to provide for exemption allowable to Cold War Veterans pursuant to Section 458-b of the Real Property Tax Law of the State of New York.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes – 0

Supervisor Fedler reported that she received information requested on the Enid Kotschnig Property from Town Attorney Alan Wrigley. The Supervisor reported that this property was left to the Town of Cambridge by Enid Kotschnig. After researching this parcel the Kotschnig's have represented that the property is land locked, and Real Property Office of the county indicates the same thing. Mr. Wrigley researched the property back to 1912 and it was found that the parcel originally started as one big parcel and was subdivided by Kotschnig or previous owners. The parcel has been found to be landlocked as per the deeds that have been recorded since 1912. He has found nothing that will change this representation by the Seller that the parcel is landlocked.

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Resolution #45

Councilman Ford motioned, Seconded by Councilwoman Wilmot to pass on the property Kotschnig's are trying to gift to the Town of Cambridge. The Town is not interested due to it being landlocked; money that will need to be paid in taxes, the property sits so far back off the road and is not accessible with a right of way.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes – 0

County Report

The Supervisor reported that County report for the end of year business is the tax cap and the concern of keeping the budget under the tax cap.

The Supervisor went over some questions that Councilman Harrington had in regards to Agenda for meetings, Town Website, Getting Planner from the County for questions on Site Plan Review, possibility of the Town Court mergers and shared services.

Dog Control Agreement

The Dog Control Agreement has signed however the Town Board did not pass a resolution accepting for the year of 2018.

Resolution #46

Councilwoman Wilmot motioned, Seconded by Councilman Harrington to accept the agreement between the Dog Control Officers/Safe Haven and Rehabilitation LLC and the Town of Cambridge for the year of 2018.

Vote: Ayes – 4 Noes – 0

The Town Clerk also mentioned a letter that was received by the Garden Club that they would be interested in donating money for a new stove that they can use when they have meetings at the Town Hall. Highway Superintendent Jim Buckley Jr. and Councilman Ford looked at the current stove to see what was wrong with it. They said looked like it may still work, might just need some replacement parts. They are going to look into this some more before decision is made.

There being no further business before the Town Board, the meeting was moved and carried for adjournment at 9:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Greenawalt
Town Clerk/Town of Cambridge