

Town Board Meeting  
March 12, 2018

The regular meeting of the Town of Cambridge duly called and held the 12<sup>th</sup> day of March at the Town Hall, the following were present:

Supervisor Catherine Fedler  
Councilman Douglas Ford  
Councilman Brian Harrington  
Councilman Bruce Bailey  
Councilwoman Gretchen Wilmot

Others present: Heather Greenawalt Town Clerk, Jim Buckley Jr. Highway Superintendent, Rachael Holbrook Assessor, Dan Schmidt

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

Auditing of the Bills

General	#28 – 46	\$18,230.13
Highway	#21 -37	\$23,269.10

Approving the minutes

Resolution #17

Councilman Ford motioned, Seconded by Councilman Bailey to approve the minutes from the February 12, 2018 Town Board Meeting as mailed.

Vote:                      Ayes – 5                      Noes – 0

Supervisor's Report

Resolution #18

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

Vote:                      Ayes – 5                      Noes – 0

Assessor Report

Rachael Holbrook was present at the Town Board meeting to explain some exemptions that could possibly be adopted by the Town Board or opted out of. These would include the Energy Systems Chapter 336 (A.260) RPTL §487 Chapter 336 expands the pre-existing exemption for solar, wind, and farm waste energy systems. The exemption now extends to micro-hydroelectric energy systems, fuel cell electric generating systems, micro combined heat and power generation systems, and electric energy storage systems. A county, city, town, or village may, by local law, or a school district may, by resolution, opt-out of the exemption in relation to these newly added energy systems. Note that a previously-adopted local law or resolution that opted out of the original exemption as to solar, wind, and farm waste energy systems would not render the exemption inapplicable to these newly added energy systems, unless it is amended to specifically apply to such systems as well. The Town has opted out of the Solar however there are 4 additional types of energy storage facilities and systems. They are;

1. Micro-hydroelectric energy systems

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2. Fuel cell electric generating systems
3. Micro-combined heat and power generating systems
4. Electric energy storage systems

So the Town has to opt-out of these in order not to offer the exemptions.

New Cold War exemption was recently passed by New York State Legislation. A Veteran who served in the active military, naval, or air service of the United States between September 2, 1945 and December 26, 1991.

In 2007 the NYS Legislation passed an exemption for the Cold War vets but with an expiration limit of 10 years. In 2017 the NYS Legislation recently passed that the exemption expiration limit was removed. So any taxing jurisdiction that passed the exemption expiration limit was removed. So any taxing jurisdiction that passed the exemption has to opt in to the change if they currently offer the exemption. Currently the Town of Cambridge does not offer the Cold War exemption on the property taxes. The County offers it and has opted in to extend the expiration limit too. The Cambridge School district has only adopted the Alternative Vets exemption and still has to adopt the other exemptions if they want to. There are currently 7 people receiving the exemption from the County that if the Town passes the Cold War exemption would qualify for the exemption. The Town can still adopt the exemption if they choose to. Currently those 7 people are receiving an exemption of 10% up to \$8000 max which equals to about \$56.72 off of County bill (based on last 2018 tax rates). If the Town adopts the same rate it would be about \$33.52 off Town bill (based on 2018 rates). A Town tax total of \$234.64. It is too late for 2018 but can get it for 2019.

March 1<sup>st</sup> deadline has passed. In regards to the exemptions 13 seniors did not reapply and 2 Ag did not reapply. Anyone who asked for a confirmation about Ag renewal was notified about their renewal. There were 15 – 25 new Ag forms that have been handed in for 2018. The Assessor attended meeting with NYS Comptroller Auditing Department. The assessor's offices across NYS are being audited. Checking to make sure the necessary paperwork for Exemptions is in office. The office will be closed on April 4, 2018.

The Supervisor reported that Alan Wrigley the Town Attorney would be at the April meeting he was out of Town this month. He will be discussing the Enid Kotschnig property which has been devised to the Town of Cambridge. Laura Oswald will also be at the April 9<sup>th</sup> Town Board meeting to present findings and maps on Broadband. This presentation will start at 7:30 PM.

### Town Clerk report

The Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt reported that the taxes are still coming in and will be in the office until April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### Planning Board report

Planning Board meeting was held on March 1, 2018. Catherine and Paul Baker were present at the meeting presenting a survey of their 1 acre lot with their house. They would like to subdivide 8.7 acres off of Phyllis DeMarco's property (Catherine's mother) of 117.40 acres Tax Map #271.-3-7.1. They would like to do this in hopes that no one will build around them.

<http://www.townofcambridgeny.org>

Highway Report

Jim Buckley Jr. reported that they plowed snow!! They have cut up some trees and did some limbing on Dickens Rd. They have also cleared out ditches, culverts and cold patched potholes. Done shop work, maintenance and repairs. The 2012 Ford Pick-up was placed on Auctions International, and brought \$15,000.

There was discussion to accept the bid for the 2012 Ford Pick-up. The Supervisor explained that they could bring the money in from the truck as unclassified revenue or put into the Equipment Reserve.

Resolution #19

Councilman Ford motioned, Seconded by Councilman Harrington to accept the sale of the 2012 Ford Pick-up for the amount of \$15,000.

Vote:                      Ayes – 5                      Noes – 0

Resolution #20

Councilman Bailey motioned, Seconded by Councilwoman Wilmot to put the money from the sale of the 2012 Ford Pick-up in the Equipment Reserve for the amount of \$15,000.

Vote:                      Ayes – 5                      Noes – 0

Longevity Plan amended

Supervisor Fedler brought before the board the Longevity Plan/Policy that was approved by resolution in February 10, 2014. At this time it was not specified that this was for Highwaymen only, the Supervisor would like the resolution amended so that it reads that way.

Resolution #21

Councilman Ford motioned, Seconded by Councilwoman Wilmot to amend resolution #14 from February 10, 2014 the Longevity Plan so that it reads that it is designed for the Highwaymen those that are Long term Highway Employees.

Vote:                      Ayes – 5                      Noes – 0

Town of Cambridge Audit of the Court Records for year 2017

Supervisor Fedler mentioned that she had conversation about the audit of the 2017 Town Justice books with Matt Chivers from the State Unified Court System. The recommendation that was made by Mr. Chivers was to work with Judge Molea to find the paperwork needed to complete the audit. Councilwoman Wilmot will be working with the Town Justice to complete this audit for the Town Court.

Supervisor Fedler also mentioned the Bridge NY – State Program. It was the Town's hopes to get grant to work on the bridge that needs to be replaced on Stump Church Rd. Jim Buckley Jr. has been in touch with lead engineer Scott Tracy at the county. It is the hopes to receive grant however this grant works off most needed basis.

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### Employee Handbook

Jim Buckley Jr. brought up the change of hours that needed to occur in the Employee handbook. It was mentioned that now the handbook reads that the second week in April till end of October the Highwaymen will work 5 – 8 hour days. This winter the highwaymen have stayed on 4 – 10 hour days with the agreement that they would work on Fridays if storm occurred. They then would switch hour for hour and day for day. The Highway Superintendent reported that in doing this they have only had 25-26 hours of overtime per employee. The Highway Superintendent feels that he gets more work from the highwaymen with the 4-10 hour days. It was suggested that this be changed in the handbook if they are going to keep doing 4 – 10 hour days, with agreement that if it is not working they will have to go back to 5-8 hour days. Jim Buckley the Highway Superintendent mentioned that he would work on making these changes.

### Town Board

Councilwoman Wilmot mentioned that she went to the school proposal on the new project. She mentioned that this proposal included repair to the roof, health safety and infrastructure. This would be put to a vote Tuesday, March 27, 2018 from 12:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the auditorium.

Supervisor Fedler mentioned that it was felt that the Town Board should start pursuing Site Plan Review for the Town of Cambridge. It was mentioned that Site Plan Review was all Town of Jackson had to protect them against a group home that was moving into their town for troubled children. Councilman Ford mentioned that he had a problem with the last site Plan Review because it was miserable to the businesses coming into the Town. We need businesses coming into the town. This Site Plan would need to be short and sweet, not restrictive. It was suggested that look at some other ones first. It would need to stop what we don't want in the town and keep what we do want in our town. This Site Plan review topic would be discussed further at future meetings.

### Privilege of the Floor

Resident was present at the meeting asking if there are any restrictions on fancy camping sites. Supervisor Fedler mentioned that there were Septic and Trailer Park rules and ordinances. The resident mentioned that it was only tent sites and would include self-contained port potty. Supervisor Fedler suggested that resident talk with LaVerne Davis Code Enforcement to see what rules and regulations are. Resident mentioned that the company would provide the insurance.

Dan Schmidt resident of the Town was present at the meeting and was asking about definition of Broadband? He also was wondering if any update on the PFOA's, if there was formulated plan. The Supervisor mentioned that there was no update on the PFOA's, she mentioned that they had found PFOA's in Kingsbury near the airport.

There being no further business before the Town Board, the meeting was moved and carried for adjournment at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Heather Greenawalt  
Town Clerk/Town of Cambridge