

Regular Town Board Meeting
September 09, 2103

The Regular Meeting of the Town of Cambridge, duly called and held the 9th day of September, 7:30 PM at the Town Hall, the following were present:

Supervisor William Watkins
Councilwoman Catherine Fedler
Councilman Robin McMurray
Councilman Gerald Skiff
Councilman Douglas Ford

Heather Greenawalt Town Clerk, Jim Prendergast, Nancy Mabeus, LaVerne Davis Code Enforcement, Harry Stien, Rani Bass, Ashleigh Morris from the Eagle, Alan Davis Highway Superintendent, Robbie McIntosh, Sue Herrington

Auditing of the Bills

General	#169 – 183	\$1,166.31
Highway	#100 – 116	\$153,765.17

Supervisor Watkins called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM and immediately led in the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag.

The Town Justice Janet DeCarlo had a presentation in remembrance of 911, however she could not play the presentation the internet was not working. A gentleman that she went to school with had written a song, he is in a band called Hocus Pocus. The video can be viewed on U-Tube. The Town Justice requested that there be a moment of silence in remembrance of the 911 victims.

Supervisor Watkins mentioned that the problems with the internet are in regards to a new internet provider Bounce link. They are taking up the broadband width of Hudson Valley wireless. Hudson Valley Wireless has litigations filed against this company and is hopeful that the problem will be solved soon. Supervisor Watkins also mentioned that the Town Clerk has drafted a letter that will be sent to Senator Owens office. Senator Owen has a liaison that works for the FCC office.

Approving of the Minutes

Supervisor Watkins requested that we do an amendment to resolution #37 from the August 12, 2013 meeting.

Resolution #43

Councilwoman Fedler motioned, Seconded by Councilman Ford to amend the resolution #37 from the August 12, 2013 meeting to read Grace Reynolds Lane instead of just Reynolds Lane.

Vote: Ayes – 5 Noes - 0

Resolution #44

Councilwoman Fedler motioned, Seconded by Councilman Skiff to approve the minutes from the August 12, 2013 meeting with two corrections. The first correction being that in Resolution #33 page 1 it should read Councilman Ford not Councilwoman Ford. The

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second correction is on page 3 the first full paragraph it should say at the end of the second sentence that she would stay later, not say.

Vote: Ayes – 5 Noes – 0

Supervisor Watkins asked the Town Clerk which night would be best for the special meeting to file the budget with the Town Clerk. The Supervisor also mentioned that the Town Board members must receive the budget by October 5th. It was decided to have the special meeting on September 25th at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall.

Supervisor's report

Resolution #45

Councilman McMurray motioned, Seconded by Councilwoman Fedler to approve the August 2013 Supervisor's report.

Vote: Ayes – 5 Noes – 0

Assessor's report

Supervisor Watkins reported that the Town Board interviewed 10 applicants for the Assessor's position on August 27, 2013 at 10:00 AM. The Town Board then narrowed it down to 2 applicants. The Supervisor said the applicant that the Town Board chose was Rachael Holbrook from the Town of Charlton, she is also an Assessor for the Town or Mechanicville, and is on a three person Assessor's Board for the Town of Charlton. She currently has all of her certifications and qualifications. The Supervisor requested a motion to appoint Rachael Holbrook as the Sole Assessor for the Town of Cambridge with a roll call vote.

Resolution #46

Councilman Ford motioned,

Seconded by Councilwoman Fedler,

Be It Resolved, the Town Board appoints Rachael Holbrook as the Sole Assessor of the Town of Cambridge for a six year term starting October 1, 2013 and ending September 30, 2019.

Roll Call Vote: Councilman McMurray – Aye
 Councilman Skiff – Aye
 Councilman Ford – Aye
 Councilwoman Fedler – Aye
 Supervisor Watkins – Aye

The board unanimously appointed Rachael Holbrook as the Sole Assessor for the Town of Cambridge.

The Town Board requested the Town Clerk send a letter to Rachael Holbrook stating that she received the appointment as the Sole Assessor as the Town of Cambridge and a letter to other candidate stating that he was not selected.

The Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt reported that the STAR Exemption paperwork has gone out to residents in our area. The only people that are required to reapply right now are those receiving the Basic Star. The deadline is December 31, 2013. The senior Star

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Exemptions or Enhanced Star are handled by the local assessor and will remain the same as always for the renewal process.

Town Clerk.

Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt mentioned that resident Ted Berndt had stopped by and said that the Town of White Creek and the Town of Jackson were interested in changing the Town Wide tag sale to weekend of Columbus Day which would be October 12th & 13th. Residents had questioned whether this was for the village only or the whole town. Supervisor Watkins mentioned that he believes it was for the entire town. Councilwoman Fedler said that she believes this year it is just a test to see how it runs so next year the fire dept. can collect money towards the new firehouse project. This year's money that is collected is not going towards the fire dept., unless individuals would like to donate.

Town Board

Councilwoman Fedler reported that she and Councilman Skiff went to the Planning Board Meeting. She mentioned that setbacks need to be decided on and guidelines need to be written down. She said that this would include so many feet from the road for safety and driveways. It was questioned at the Planning Board meeting whether or not some of these rules would apply to the farmers. The legality of this would have to be looked into. Councilwoman Fedler did mention that the Planning Board was a good board, they all work well together and Eric Pearson was a great chair for the board.

Councilman Ford reported that the State was working on finishing the paving of State Route 372.

Highway Report

The Highway Department helped White Creek pave. They also installed driveway culvert on Lees crossing, King Road and ditched a section of King Road. They had 3 trucks inspected and replaced wheel seal. They are continuing to mow roadsides and have screened the sand pile from last year. The Highwaymen have helped White Creek haul sand and have hauled 780 yards from gravel pit in Salem with help from White Creek. Highway Superintendent Alan Davis reported also that on Saturday night he received a call about the bridge on Old Coila Road. He checked the Bridge on Sunday and the beams are sagging so he closed the bridge. He mentioned that there would have to be a turn around put in place for the school bus. He has been in contact with Dept. of Public Works at the County and the engineer has written up an estimate for three different options. The options are being looked at and Highway Superintendent Davis is looking into grant money and the possibility of in option #3 using an aluminum culvert. Councilman Ford asked if it was something that the Town had to meet state specs or they could repair themselves. Highway Superintendent Davis said that he had more information to gather and all options would have to be reviewed. Highway Superintendent Davis said that he would like to rent the lift for a month this fall, which would be approximately \$1350. He would like to remove a lot of the overhanging limbs and branches. The Town Board agreed that it was a good idea to rent a lift for safety reasons and gave the superintendent the go ahead.

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Planning Board Report

Town Clerk Heather Greenawalt reported in Sally Eddy's absence.

The Town of Cambridge Planning Board held its regular monthly meeting, Thursday, September 5, 2013, 7:30 PM at the Town Hall with six members present.

Also in attendance, were six people from the public including two Town Board members, Cassie Fedler and Gerry Skiff.

The following business was addressed:

1. Grant preliminary Approval to Jackie Hersey for a 8.225 minor subdivision to be conveyed to adjacent landowner Randy Hamilton. Mrs Hersey's property is located at 418 County Rt. 60 and is identified by tax map #262.-1-10. A public hearing on the application will be held at the October 3 meeting.
2. Michael Murray presented a sketch plan to subdivide a parcel from the 128.0 acres owned by his father, George Murray. George Murray's property runs along County Route 59 and English Road and is identified by tax map #262.-2-12. The proposed subdivision is locate along English Road and consists of approximately 25-30 acres. Wayne Robertson is the interested buyer. The sketch plan was approved and Mr. Murray was directed to proceed with the survey.
3. Jerry Moppert spoke about the video "Brunswick" which he had recently seen on PBS. He felt it would be useful and informative to show it locally and invite the public. He was authorized to go ahead and make the necessary arrangements.
4. Town Board members Cassie Fedler and Gerry Skiff asked planning board members to reaffirm the set back measurements they (planning board) recommended to the Town Board for implementation back in January 2011. The three recommendations are:
 - 1) There shall be a minimum 70 ft set back from the center of the highway for all new permanent structures.
 - 2) There shall be a minimum 50 ft. set back from the boundary line for all new permanent structures.
 - 3) There shall be a minimum 50 ft wide access road for ingress and egress for all new subdivisions.

A question was asked if these rules would apply to farmers as well or they exempt because of their agricultural nature? The Town Board will investigate it.

Code Enforcement

Code enforcement Officer LaVerne Davis reported that there was an issue with a house on Camb-Battenville Road. The home is not being taken care of, the lawn had not been mowed and recently all of the grass was killed and there is junk all over the lawn. The neighbor is very upset with this; he stated in the letter that he tries to keep his property looking nice. The neighbors are requesting that the property be cleaned up.

Unfinished Business

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Supervisor Watkins said that he had received an email from the Mayor of Cambridge about the Ackley building. The building is located next to O'hearns Drug Store and is falling down. The Village is setting money aside to tear the building down. Ashleigh Morris from the Eagle said that the problem with this building is that the building only has three sides and the other side is attached to the Imhof building.

County Report

The County is working on the budget. The Hartford land is on the auctions international and the closing day for bids is the 20th of September.

Privilege of the Floor

Robbie McIntosh said that zoning is the only way the Town of Cambridge will have any teeth to control development. He stated that a zoning ordinance would have to be enacted.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was moved and carried to adjournment at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully yours,

Heather Greenawalt
Town Clerk/Town of Cambridge

<http://www.townofcambridgeny.org>