

## **Town of Jackson Town Board Meeting**

### **August 5, 2015**

The Town Board of the Town of Jackson met on August 5, 2015 at 8:00 pm at the Town Hall for the monthly meeting.

#### **Members Present:**

- Supervisor Alan Brown
- Councilman Mike Nolan
- Councilman Travis Rea
- Councilman Carol Rich
- Councilman Edward Rouse

#### **Others Present:**

- Highway Supt. Sean Carney
- Budget Officer Donna Nolan
- Town Historian Sharon Dunn
- Planning Board Chair Noel Hanf
- Town Clerk Tammy Skellie-Gilbert

#### **Also Present:**

- Elizabeth “Betsy” Ehrenfreund
- Dick Farrell, The Eagle
- Jay Skellie
- Lewis Steele

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 54-15**

Approval of minutes

Resolution by Councilman Rouse

Seconded by Councilman Nolan

And passed by all board members, 5-0

**RESOLVED**, that the minutes of the July 8, 2015 Town Board meeting be approved as written.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 55-15**

Approval of Town Clerk & Supervisor Reports

Resolution by Councilman Rouse

Seconded by Supervisor Brown

And passed by all board members, 5-0

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Clerk and Supervisor Reports for July 2015 be approved as follows:

Town Clerk Fees to Town	\$256.11
Supervisor Receipts	\$11,368.05
Supervisor Disbursements	\$35,153.51

## **REPORTS**

**Highway** – Supt. Carney looked at the used pay loader that he mentioned at the July meeting and felt, given its condition, it wasn't worth purchasing. He also shared that there are some roads in the Town that were abandoned many years ago and are still on a list of roads managed by the Town. Supt. Carney would like to be sure the paperwork has been completed and filed by the Town Attorney. The Town Clerk will research the archived Town Board minutes to determine when those specific roads were abandoned. Supt. Carney suggested that there might be other roads that could be abandoned and will identify them for the Board's review.

**Planning Board** – The August Planning Board meeting is scheduled for August 11<sup>th</sup>. If there is no application from Lake Lauderdale Campgrounds, Inc., the meeting will then become an informational meeting about the challenges of subdividing along the lake.

**Historian Report** – Sharon Dunn asked the board if she could get a teenager from a neighboring school that might need community service hours to work with her to log some of Jackson's historical material. The Board agreed to her request. She also received from Senator Little's office a copy of the law dated April 18, 1815, separating Jackson from Cambridge.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Jackson's Bi-Centennial/Summer Picnic** – Lewis Steele and Lisa Otey worked together to design, promote and sell a Jackson bi-centennial t-shirt. Order forms will be available at the picnic and on the Town's website (in the coming days). The deadline to order these "made in America", 100% cotton T's will be September 7, 2015. The money for these orders will go through a checkbook established by a private resident titled, Town-wide Picnic Committee. The full responsibility of this account lies with the checkbook owner.

Stewarts will donate ice cream and soda for the picnic. John Pedersen, Sharon Dunn and Supt. Carney finalized the sign located at the Town Hall promoting the picnic and celebrating the bi-centennial. Mr. Pedersen has also produced a sign to thank the donors who contributed to the music entertainment. Mrs. Dunn thanked Supt. Carney for his assistance moving the sign from her residence to the Town Hall.

**2015-16 NYMIR Renewal Proposal** – Supervisor Brown spoke with the Town's insurance agent to discuss possible options for decreasing the annual premium. If the deductibles were increased on equipment from \$250 to \$500, and the dump trucks from \$500 to \$1,000, the premium would be reduced by approximately \$435. However, since the Town averages two claims per year, the Board felt that there would be a financial loss with the increased deductibles. Therefore, the Board will pay the original 2015-16 proposal of \$13,164.14 passed in Resolution #51 last month.

**PrimeLink** – PrimeLink sent a proposal to bundle the Town Hall phone service with the internet service for only \$20 more per month.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 56-15**

Switch telephone service at Town Hall

Resolution by Councilman Rea  
Seconded by Councilman Rich  
And passed by all board members, 5-0

**RESOLVED**, that the telephone service at the Town Hall be switched to PrimeLink for a bundled rate (telephone and internet) of \$69.95 per month for three years.

**Carney-Cassidy Road** – A resident living on Carney-Cassidy Road has sent several emails to the Town Clerk in recent weeks to express his concerns that he feels the road conditions are unsafe on that road. Each message was relayed to both the Town Supervisor and the Highway Superintendent. In addition, the Town Board members have a copy of the email exchanges between the resident and the Town Clerk.

The resident would like the Town to adopt official highway standards. Supt. Carney is not aware of any town in Washington County that has adopted official highway standards. Washington County Public Works Superintendent, Steve Haskins is working on a draft of highway standards that maybe helpful to town highway departments if they would like to adopt them (but it would not be required).

Supt. Carney has been communicating with Supt. Haskins regarding the resident's concerns. Recently, Supt. Haskins drove on the road to evaluate it and felt it was in good condition for the level of use, given its road class.

At this time, the Town Board will not take action on this issue. They would like the resident to come to a meeting and address the Board directly. The Town Clerk had strongly encouraged the resident to attend the August 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Hedges Lake** - Elizabeth "Betsy" Ehrenfreund was present to ask the Town Board for a permit to put two buoys on the southern end of Hedges Lake that say "No Wake". Mrs. Ehrenfreund had spoken with Steve Gonyea at the Department of Environmental Conservation who stated that the decision to put buoys in the lake now lies with the Town Board (law changed in the early-2000s). Since the Town has never issued such a permit, Supervisor Brown will contact Mr. Gonyea for guidance.

**2016 Tour of the Battenkill Bicycle Race** – The Tour of the Battenkill Event Director Dieter Drake sent a letter seeking support for next year's event which will be only one day in late May. The route will remain the same as in 2015.

## **RESOLUTION NO. 57-15**

Support for the 2016 Tour of the Battenkill

Resolution by Supervisor Brown  
Seconded by Councilman Rich  
And passed by all board members,

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board of the Town of Jackson supports the 2016 Tour of the Battenkill and approves its use of Eagleville Road on May 21, 2016.

**County Route 61 Speed Limit** – A resident living on County Route 61 (CR 61) near the Lake Lauderdale Campgrounds would like the speed limit reduced. Since CR 61 is managed by the County, **the Town Board members recommended that the resident might want to trim the trees and brush around his property to improve visual sight turning onto CR 61. [Amended this portion]**

**2016 Budget** – Supervisor Brown wanted to have a discussion about the 2015 and 2016 highway budgets. Due to this past difficult and costly winter, the highway budget is lower than usual. Budget Officer Donna Nolan believes there will be enough money to get through 2015, but doesn't expect there will be much money left to carry into 2016. The 2016 budget process will begin soon.

**Shushan Post Office** – Lewis Steele reported that although there has been no official decision to re-establish a full-service post office in Shushan, officials in Albany are giving it serious consideration.

**County Update** - Chris DeBolt has been selected to be the Deputy County Administrator.

**RESOLUTION NO. 58-15**

Budget Transfer

Resolution by Councilman Rouse  
Seconded by Councilman Rich  
And passed by all board members, 5-0

**RESOLVED**, that the following budget transfer be approved:

- \$300.00 from A1620.4 Fuel Schoolhouse to A1620.4 Miscellaneous Town Building

**RESOLUTION NO. 59-15**

Payment of Bills

Resolution by Councilman Rich  
Seconded by Councilman Rea  
And passed by all board members, 5-0

**RESOLVED**, that the following bills on Abstract #8 be approved and audited, and the Supervisor be authorized to pay said bills from the respective funds:

<b>FUND</b>	<b>BILL #</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
General 8	89-102	\$14,605.94
Highway 8	159-175	\$7,361.24

**RESOLUTION NO. 60-15**

Open Executive Session

Resolution by Councilman Rich  
Seconded by Councilman Rea  
And passed by all board members, 5-0

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board went into executive session at 10:05 pm in order to address a personnel issue associated with health insurance.

**RESOLUTION NO. 61-15**

Close executive session

Resolution by Councilman Rich  
Seconded by Supervisor Brown  
And passed by all board members, 5-0

**RESOLVED**, that the Town Board closed the executive session at 10:20 pm having made no decisions.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Skellie-Gilbert, RMC  
Jackson Town Clerk