

Town of Jackson Town Board Meeting

March 4, 2015

The Town Board of the Town of Jackson met on March 4, 2015 at 1:00 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 Clerk Tammy Skellie-Gilbert
- Planning Board Chair Noel Hanf
- Town Historian Sharon Dunn

Also Present:

- Vince Canini, Beth Coates, Kate Mattison – Cambridge Central School
- Kevin Hayes, County Administrator & Albert Nolette, County Treasurer
- Kimberly Revet & Alan Finney, 99 County Route 62
- Ashleigh Morris, The Eagle
- John Pedersen

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Kimberly Revet and Alan Finney recently purchased the property at 99 County Route 62 (formerly known as the Buffalo Farm). They are renovating the property (house and barns) with plans to have a “Wedding Barn” with full handicap accessibility. In addition, they own Saratoga Horse and Carriage which has provided rides in Saratoga Springs. They hope to offer that service as well as sleigh rides in Jackson.
2. Vince Canini, Beth Coates and Kate Mattison were present from Cambridge Central School to share information about the 2015 Proposed Building Project that will be voted on March 31st. Mr. Canini described the extensive project and the reasons for it. If the vote passes, he explained that in addition to the health, safety and security improvements, there will be access to a media center for students as well as the community on evenings when the village library is closed. It’s an attempt to provide more internet and technology resources beyond school hours.
3. County Administrator, Kevin Hayes and County Treasurer Albert Nolette offered a presentation about the Local Government Efficiency Plan that was established by the State of New York in 2014. The plan encourages local governments (County, Town, Villages) to work together to implement a plan to save 1% of their tax levy each year beginning in 2017 through 2019. Jackson is welcome to initiate a plan on its own or partner with the County who plans to serve as lead agent for all municipalities who join. Mr. Hayes hoped that brainstorming ideas might result

from the dialogue. The Board members and Highway Supt. shared examples where our Town has already been working with other municipalities as a cost-saving measure. Mr. Nolette mentioned the benefit of the discussion and hoped it would continue with Jackson as well as other local governments. The Town Board decided to think about the program before making a decision.

They also discussed the changes to the Workers' Compensation coverage whereby starting in 2012, *municipalities will be responsible for actual claims but only up to the first \$20,000 for the lifetime of the claim. Payments for claims occurring prior to 2012 will be pooled and allocated to all municipalities based on 90% payroll and 10% assessed property value. If payments for any single claim go above \$20,000, the amount over will become part of the pool to be allocated. Under this new method, each municipality has more control over their payments. If claims are low going forward, payment will decrease accordingly.* Jackson has been fortunate to have not had a claim for quite a while citing the highway department's continued safety practices.

RESOLUTION NO. 16-15

Approval of minutes

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

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the February 4, 2015 Town Board meeting be approved and accepted as amended.

RESOLUTION NO. 17-15

Approval of Town Clerk & Supervisor Reports

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

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk and Supervisor Report for February 2015 be approved as follows:

Town Clerk Fees to Town	\$161.17
Supervisor Receipts	\$17,266.42
Supervisor Disbursements	\$150,784.22

REPORTS

Highway – Supt. Carney shared that with more snow storms come more repairs to the equipment. He commented that replacing the 1997 truck under state contract (cab and chassie) would cost \$119,000. He estimated the cost to repair the '97's motor and transmission would run approximately \$28,000. The Board asked that he get a specific estimate for the repairs. In addition, they discussed once again the lack of space at the highway garage which causes hazardous conditions. A meeting will be scheduled at the highway department to review the situation.

Kenyon Hill Road resident, Beverly Mason called the Town Clerk in February to express her appreciation to the Highway Department for their ongoing, thorough plowing/sanding/salting efforts this winter. She has several caretakers who have had no difficulty getting to her residence this winter which has been a great relief to her. Supervisor Brown reiterated that message on behalf of the Board.

Planning Board

- The Skellkill Farms' major subdivision was approved at the March 3rd Plan Board meeting.
- The Steve & Melissa Skellie's minor subdivision was also approved on March 3rd.
- A public hearing was held for the Washington County Transfer Station minor subdivision. During the Planning Board meeting, John Pedersen questioned the use of a conditional negative declaration citing that it is appropriate only if there is a specific environmental issue identified in the SEQR process. In addition, the County and Earth Waste Systems STILL do NOT agree on the dimensions of the lot. The Board told Mr. Elnicki that a vote on the project cannot happen until the parties are in agreement.

[Councilman Rea had to leave meeting]

OLD BUSINESS

Jackson's Bi-Centennial – The Town of Jackson Town Picnic will be held on Friday, August 7th at 6 pm at the Lake Lauderdale Pavilion where we will celebrate Jackson's bi-centennial. Historian Sharon Dunn has been researching the cost of a producing banner(s). Mr. Pedersen volunteered to help produce a banner for a lower cost that would be placed at the Town Hall.

NEW BUSINESS

Monthly Bills –

- The Time Warner internet (for Town Hall) agreement expired in December 2014. Time Warner instantly raised the monthly cost from \$69.95 to \$79.95. The Town Clerk contacted Time Warner who offered a new two-year agreement for \$59.95/month. Since FIOS (through Prime Link) now runs along Route 22, the Town will look into the cost of that service.
- In the summer of 2013, the Town switched electric supplies from US Gas and Electric to American Power and Gas. After two winters of excessively high bills, the Town Board has decided to switch suppliers.

RESOLUTION NO. 18-15

Electric Suppliers

Resolution by Councilman Rich

Seconded by Councilman Rouse

And passed by all board members, 4-0

RESOLVED, that the Town of Jackson will change electric suppliers from American Power and Gas to National Grid with the hope of reducing fees.

RESOLUTION NO. 19-15

Audit of the Town Clerk-Tax Collector 2014 books

Resolution by Councilman Rich
Seconded by Councilman Rouse
And passed by all board members, 4-0

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk-Tax Collector's 2014 books were audited and approved on March 4, 2015 by the Audit Committee.

April Town Board meeting – The regular monthly Town Board meeting will be postponed to Wednesday, April 8th at 8:00 pm.

RESOLUTION NO. 20-15

Payment of Bills 3/4/15

Resolution by Councilman Rouse
Seconded by Councilman Nolan
And passed by all board members, 4-0

RESOLVED, that the following bills on Abstract #3 be approved and audited, and the Supervisor be authorized to pay said bills from the respective funds:

FUND	BILL #	AMOUNT
General	23-36	\$1,943.51
Highway	43-62	\$19,714.48

The meeting was adjourned at 3:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Skellie-Gilbert, RMC
Jackson Town Clerk