

HOPEWELL TOWN BOARD MEETING JANUARY 15, 2020 7:00 P.M.

The regular scheduled Town Board Meeting for the Town of Hopewell was held at the Hopewell Town Hall on Wednesday evening, January 15, 2020 at 7:00 P.M., with Supervisor Ted Bateman presiding.

Present:	Supervisor	Ted Bateman
	Council Member	Erin Everson
	Council Member	Adam Sanford
	Council Member	Jeff Trickey
	Council Member	Matt Goodman

Others Present: Lori Barry, Rich Cardinale, Highway Superintendent Matt Curran, Code Enforcement Officer Norm Teed, and Town Clerk Denise Hood

A motion was made by Council Member Trickey, seconded by Council Member Goodman to approve the Minutes of the regular Town Board Meeting of December 18, 2019 and the Organizational Meeting of January 8, 2020.

Adopted: Vote: Ayes 5 Nays 0

**Privilege of the Floor-Lori Barry** expressed a concern of how the letter for Districts 4 and 6 were handled. Barry felt the two week window for response was too short. Barry suggested that the Town of Hopewell should count only the letters that were returned since, in District 6 the counts were 32-NO, 26-YES and 20-No Response (which was an automatic YES, stated in the letter). Between Council Member Trickey and Supervisor Bateman, they explained the financial situations as far as getting further grants for the Water Districts, to assist the residents and the challenges involved. Supervisor Bateman suggested to those who would like to have a voice in the decision, should attend the Town board Meeting on Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Communications and Reports**

The following communications and reports were received since the last meeting.

- Cornell Cooperative Extension-2019 Annual Report
- Eye on the Courts-Dec. 2019-Indicated the acoustics in the court room were a problem because people had a difficulty hearing what the Judge was saying in the back of the room.
- Election Commissioners Association-Dec. 2019

**Old Business**

**Town Officials Monthly Report**

A motion was made by Council Member Trickey, seconded by Council Member Sanford to approve the monthly reports from Town Clerk, Code Enforcement, Water Superintendent and Supervisor.

Adopted: Adopted: Vote: Ayes 5 Nays 0

**Audited Vouchers-Abstract # 13-2019**

A motion was made by Council Member Trickey, seconded by Council Member Sanford to block the pay the following Audited Vouchers for Abstract # 13-2019 and Abstract #1(2020):

Vouchers #382-408	\$16,933.60	General
Vouchers #1230-1245	\$14,283.09	Highway
Vouchers #2267-2285	\$51,247.60	Water
Vouchers #39-41	\$14,714.43	Hopewell Ext # 3

**HOPEWELL TOWN BOARD MEETING JANUARY 15, 2020 II.**

**Audited Vouchers-Abstract # 1-2020**

Vouchers #1-20	\$ 29,257.22	General
Vouchers #1001-1005	\$ 22,295.79	Highway
Vouchers #2001-2006	\$ 15,759.73	Water
Adopted: Vote Ayes 5 Nays 0		

**New Business**

**Updates by Town Officials**

**Town Clerk**

Town Clerk Denise Hood reported a very busy tax time. Denise thanked the Board for allowing her to train last week at the RIT Inn where she learned an extensive amount of information. She also, thanked Deputy Town Clerk, Mary Ann Trickey for her patience in training her in her new position of Town Clerk. The Town has been paid \$100,000 toward the 2020 Town and County Taxes, the balance will be paid to them by January 31<sup>st</sup>. Keeping within the rules of the New York State retention schedule, we will be destroying most of the documents from 2013 that would fall into that area. It has been suggested that we will be keeping our Capital Account vouchers, should we need the information.

We have a received notification from the Club of Clifton, LLC, formally known as the Clifton Springs Country Club indicating they are applying for a liquor license.

**Highway Superintendent**

Highway Superintendent Matt Curran stated there was a new trailer purchased to enable the Highway employees to transport equipment from one location to another and will be attaching the 500 gallon tank on to it to spread herbicide during the summer. Superintendent Curran indicated the weather has been pretty mild this year, so far, but winter is coming soon and they are prepared. The Highway Department will be filling in an area and cover it with crusher run for an entrance to a field on Archer Road.

Superintendent Curran expressed a concern for leave time regarding his new employee. Supervisor Bateman supplied a copy of the page of the Handbook which explains that employees have a probation period of 6 months, before they are able to use their leave time and/or 5 days of their vacation time. Also, the new employee didn't receive his cost of living increase in his paycheck beginning 2020. The members of the Town Board decided to approve giving the cost of living percentage to the new employee.

**Code Enforcement Officer**

Code Enforcement Officer Teed updated the Board on activity pertaining to the Code Enforcement Office. Recent activity included a response to the structure fire located at 1916 County Road 19 (the structure appears repairable, but not habitable at this time), as well as progress on renovations ordered by the Town board to the dwelling located at 2697 County Road 10. Planning and Zoning updates on proposed development activity for 2020 included upcoming projects. These projects include The Finger Lakes Agriculture Museum and The NYS Steam Association. He also thanked the board for the additional clerical staff working at the Town Hall. The extra help is appreciated.

Lastly, Mr. Teed provided an update of the 2019 code enforcement activity which included revenue intake, permits issued, complaints received, violation notices issued and inspections completed. A formal report for 2019 will be filed with the NYS DOS Building Standards and Code Division and copied to the Town Board by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**HOPEWELL TOWN BOARD MEETING JANUARY 15, 2020 III.**

**Supervisor**

Supervisor Bateman discussed the interest of the Reappointment of Grace Perry to the ZBA.

**Reappointment of Grace Perry-Zoning Board of Appeals**

A motion was made by Council Member Sanford, seconded by Council Member Trickey to reappoint Grace Perry to the ZBA with a term to expire on December 31, 2024.

Adopted: Vote: Ayes 5 Nays 0

**Resolution #1-2020 Town of Hopewell-Central Water District Extension #3-Budget Modification-Exhibit A**

A motion was made by Council Member Goodman, seconded by Council Member Sanford to approve Resolution #1-2020 for the Town of Hopewell-Central Water District Extension #3.

Adopted: Vote : Ayes 5 Nays 0

**Audit of 2019 Books-Exhibit B**

Prior to the Town Board Meeting an Audit of the 2019 books was done by Supervisor Bateman, Council Members Everson, Sanford, Goodman and Trickey. The books of the Bookkeeper, Chief Fiscal Officer, Justice/Court Clerk, Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer and the Town Clerk/Tax Collector were audited. Exhibit A

A motion was made by Council Member Goodman, seconded by Council Member Trickey verifying that the 2019 Audit for the Bookkeeper, Chief Fiscal Officer, Code Enforcement Officer and Town Clerk/Tax Collector were reviewed and no deficiencies were noted.

Adopted: Vote: Ayes 5 Nays 0

A motion was made by Council Member Goodman, seconded by Council Member Trickey to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 PM.

Adopted: Vote: Ayes 5 Nays 0

Respectfully submitted, *Denise L. Hood - Town Clerk, January 27, 2020*

Next meeting- February 5, 2020 at 7:00 PM