

**REGULAR MEETING  
TOWN BOARD  
TOWN OF STEPHENTOWN  
MAY 16, 2016**

The Regular meeting of the Town Board, Town of Stephentown was called to order by **Lawrence Eckhardt** at **7:02 PM** at the Town Hall.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

<i>(X) Supervisor Lawrence Eckhardt</i>	<i>(X) High. Superin. Alden Goodermote</i>
<i>( ) Councilman Chris Demick</i>	<i>(X) Assessor Tom MacVeigh</i>
<i>(X) Councilman William Jennings</i>	<i>(X) Clerk to the Assessor Jennifer Van Duesen</i>
<i>(X) Councilman Philip Roder</i>	
<i>(X) Councilman – Gerald Robinson</i>	
<i>(X) Town Clerk Stephanie Wagar</i>	

A quorum  was  wasn't established.

**16** from the Public were present

**AUDIT OF CLAIMS:**

- Claim #**128-16** through #**157-16** in the amount of **\$18,033.24** from the **General Account**
- Claim #**87-16** through #**109-16** in the amount of **\$17,692.67** from the **Highway Account**
- For a **Total of \$35,725.91** were audited and approved by the Town Board.
- Addition by Board Approval Voucher #157-16 in the amount of \$500.00 from account line A1990.4 to the Berlin Central School District has been added by Resolution #41 of 2016 (totals above reflect change)

**MOTION BY: JENNINGS**

**SECONDED BY: ROBINSON**

**VOTES OF: 4 AYE**

**0 NAY**

*Supervisor Eckhardt:* thrilled to announce that our new sign has been installed at the Town Park and it looks wonderful, Kevin has donated the sign to us. Introduces the Berlin inventors – Bert Swerzy was very involved in this project and getting young people involved, the top 14 InvenTeams were selected to show case their inventions at the Lemelson MIT Conference and Berlin's Team has been chosen as one of those teams. Introduces Dawn Westmore a Teacher at Berlin how has been the lead in the project.

*D. Westmore:* introduces the project on what the team of 9 girls have created, all components can be found at a RadioShack, the girls have received a grant to help provide everything but the transportation to the LemelsonMIT conference, they have raised a lot of funds to help them achieve their project, they have another \$500 to raise for transportation. One of the girls has pushed her regents testing back to August to be able to attend and she is very committed to the project. 3 of the girls on the team are Stephentown residents and two are present to explain the invention the team has come up with.

*S. Herbet & E. Wolley:* the reason this invention was chosen is to help those who are wheelchair bound to become more independent and capable of participating in activities. There is a young boy in Berlin who is in a wheelchair and it is hard for him to participate in PE so we thought if we could invent an arm that could throw things and pick things up it would help not only independence but his confidence. The team has created a robot arm that is controlled by a Xbox 360 controller the device can launch objects and then retrieve them, there are a few glitches that are still being worked on but the robot is fully functional. The conference will be on June 16<sup>th</sup> and the team is confident to have the robot fully functioning at that time.

*Supervisor Eckhardt:* suggests putting an article in the Eastwick press for support to get the team to the conference. Thanks Samantha, Emma and Dawn for coming.

Minutes of the **MARCH 21st, 2016 Public Hearing on Proposed Local Law on Mass Gatherings/Quiet Times** were approved by the Town Board as written.

**MOTION BY:** RODER **SECONDED BY:** ROBINSON  
**VOTES OF:** 4 AYE 0 NAY

Minutes of the **MARCH 21st, 2016 Regular Meeting** were approved by the Town Board as written.

**MOTION BY:** JENNINGS **SECONDED BY:** RODER  
**VOTES OF:** 4 AYE 0 NAY

Minutes of the **APRIL 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Public Hearing on Proposed Local Law on Defense and Indemnification for Officers and Employees** were approved by the Town Board as written.

**MOTION BY:** RODER **SECONDED BY:** ROBINSON  
**VOTES OF:** 4 AYE 0 NAY 1 ABSTAINED (*B. JENNINGS*)

Minutes of the **APRIL 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Public Hearing on Proposed Local Law on Quiet Times** were approved by the Town Board as written.

**MOTION BY:** RODER **SECONDED BY:** ROBINSON  
**VOTES OF:** 4 AYE 0 NAY 1 ABSTAINED (*B. JENNINGS*)

Minutes of the **APRIL 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Public Hearing on Proposed Local Law on Opening of Town Streets and Sidewalks** were approved by the Town Board as written.

**MOTION BY:** RODER **SECONDED BY:** JENNINGS  
**VOTES OF:** 4 AYE 0 NAY

Minutes of the **APRIL 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Regular Meeting** were approved by the Town Board as written.

**MOTION BY:** RODER **SECONDED BY:** JENNINGS  
**VOTES OF:** 4 AYE 0 NAY

**TOWN CLERKS REPORT:** The Town Clerk turned over the sum of **\$536.04** to the Supervisor for the month of **APRIL 2016**.

**JUSTICE COURT REPORT:** The distribution from the office of the State Comptroller, Justice Court Fund to the Town of Stephentown for the month of **JANUARY 2016** was **\$7,179.00**, month of **FEBRUARY 2016** was **\$7,731.50**, month of **MARCH 2016** was **\$9,425.75**, and the month of **APRIL 2016** was \$\_\_\_\_\_.

**TRANSFER STATION REPORT:** The Transfer Station deposited a total of **\$6,644.00** for the month of **APRIL 2016**.

Bags: <b>\$4,476.00</b>	C&D: <b>\$1,746.00</b>	Metal: <b>\$17.00</b>	Tires: <b>\$60.00</b>
Stickers: <b>\$200.00</b>	Appl.: <b>\$15.00</b>	Propane Tanks: <b>\$0.00</b>	Electronics: <b>\$130.00</b>

**ACCOUNT TOTALS:**

<b>GENERAL \$301,177.38</b>	<b>HIGHWAY \$926, 521.27</b>
<b>GENERAL RESERVE FUND \$250,423.34</b>	<b>HIGHWAY RESERVE FUND \$236,657.94</b>
<b>BEACON ESCROW \$ 885.19</b>	
<b>BEACON ESCROW FOR PLANT (BOND) \$5,000 &amp; \$70,000.</b>	

**MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC COMMENT:**

*Supervisor Eckhardt:* Asked Tom and Joan MacVeigh to approach the bench and presents them both with a plaque of honor for their dedication to the Town. On behalf of the Town of Stephentown we would all like to thank Thomas MacVeigh for his 40 years of dedication and hard work as our Town's Sole Assessor, and Joan MacVeigh for her 36 years of dedication and hard work as the Clerk to the Assessor.

*"Everyone stood and applaud"*

*J. MacVeigh:* With everything going on in Petersburg and Hoosick regarding the PFOAs has anyone considered looking into the wells on West Road? People who live on that road are getting sick some coming down with cancer, when the Carr Pit was capped by DEC no one considered the effect it would have on those people.

*Supervisor Eckhardt:* will definitely check into this and follow up.

**REPORT FROM THE TOWN BOARD:**

**RESOLUTION #37 – 16**

**APPOINTMENT FOR THE VACANT POSITION ON THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW POSITION**

**WHEREAS:** the Town Board requested letters of interest and resumes for the vacant position on the Board of Assessment Review, and

**WHEREAS:** the Town Board has received letters of interest from 2 applicants for the Board of Assessment Review position,

1. *Yvonne Meekins of Stephentown, NY*
2. *Patricia Flint of Stephentown, NY,*

now therefore be it

**RESOLVED:** that the Town Board would like to appoint *Yvonne Meekins of Stephentown,* to the Board of Assessment to fill out the remainder of the vacant position which is due to expire on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

**MOTION BY:** ECKHARDT

**SECONDED BY:** RODER

**VOTES OF:** 4 AYE

0 NAY

**RESOLUTION #38 – 16**

**APPOINTMENT OF ACTING ASSESSOR**

**WHEREAS:** the Town Board received the letter of retirement for Thomas MacVeigh, Town Assessor and where his last day as Sole Assessor will be June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016, and

**WHEREAS:** the Town Board would like to appoint Jennifer VanDeusen, Clerk to the Assessor, as Acting Sole Assessor for the Town of Stephentown beginning June 2nd, 2016, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED:** that the Town Board appoints Jennifer VanDeusen as Acting Sole Assessor.

**MOTION BY:** RODER

**SECONDED BY:** JENNINGS

**VOTES OF:** 4 AYE

0 NAY

**RESOLUTION #39 – 16**

**LAWN MOWING FOR TOWN HALL AND TOWN PARK – OPENING OF SEALED BIDS**

**WHEREAS:** the Town Board requested bids for lawn mowing at the Town Hall and Town Park, and

**WHEREAS:** the Town Board has received 2 sealed BIDs from,

1. *Robert's Professional Services for the amount of:  
Town Hall: \$40.00 and Town Park: \$40.00*
2. *Burdick Building & Landscaping for the amount of:*

Town Hall: \$45.00 and Town Park: \$60.00

; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED:** that the Town Board accepts *Robert's Professional Services* in the amounts of \$40.00 for the Town Hall and \$40.00 for the Town Park.

**MOTION BY:** ROBINSON

**SECONDED BY:** JENNINGS

**VOTES OF:** 4 AYE

0 NAY

**RESOLUTION #40 – 16**

**TOWN INSURANCE CARRIER CHANGE**

**WHEREAS:** the Town Board would like to change its insurance carrier which is currently with NYMIR with an annual premium of \$26,173.04, and

**WHEREAS:** the Town Board would like to change their insurance carrier to Houston Casualty for an annual premium of \$23,136.04 with comparable coverage; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED:** that the Town Board approves the Supervisor to make the necessary change in the Town's insurance carrier, and further be it,

**RESOLVED:** the Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to increase the Liability Umbrella from \$2 million to \$5 million.

**MOTION BY:** ECKHARDT

**SECONDED BY:** RODER

**VOTES OF:** 4 AYE

0 NAY

*J. Van Deusen:* always pros and cons in changing insurances, Chatham uses them, we would still be saving \$1,000 with the increase to the \$5million umbrella.

*Supervisor Eckhardt:* would like to mention that the Town Board has received an email regarding the Pipeline and publicly Thank all who have helped especially Sandy Nathan and all the time and work she had put in, in 10 days Kinder Morgan/Tennessee Gas will be reporting to FERC on their project and the next step. They will be pulling their application; I don't think they expected the amount of oppositions they received.

Our Park needs some work; Millie Smith is willing to plant some new plants under the new sign. Wondering what the Boards thoughts are on getting someone to maintain the park.

*Councilmen Roder:* should we have an RFP?

*Councilmen Jennings:* reach out to some people locally and see if we can find people interested first.

*Councilmen Roder:* Comprehensive Planning Committee is on track with all the subcommittees, we are looking to have another Public Hearing possibly in August.

*Councilmen Jennings:* Saturday we had a party here and there was no parking.

*Town Clerk Wagar:* we typically don't get parties that large this is hardly ever an issue.

*Supervisor Eckhardt:* should we help support the InvenTeam? What is the Boards thoughts?

*Councilmen Roder:* the team has 3 Stephentown residents, and we saved money on the insurance, we should have the funds to support the full \$500. I agree to support the full amount they need to raise.

*Town Board agrees to support the InvenTeam.*

**RESOLUTION #41 – 16**

**SUPPORT FOR THE BERLIN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT'S  
INVENTEAM TO ATTEND THE LEMELSON MIT CONFERENCE**

**WHEREAS:** the Town Board would like to support the Berlin Central School District's InvenTeam in the amount of \$500.00 for the Team to attend the Lemelson MIT Conference; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED:** that the Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to pay the \$500.00 from the Town's Contingency Line to the Berlin Central School District's InvenTeam; and further be it,

**RESOLVED:** the Town Board authorizes the Town Clerk to make the necessary adjustment to the May 2016 abstract for payment.

**MOTION BY:** ECKHARDT

**SECONDED BY:** RODER

**VOTES OF:** 4 AYE

0 NAY

**MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 8:27 PM**

**MOTION BY:** ECKHARDT

**SECONDED BY:** JENNINGS

**VOTES OF:** 4 AYE

0 NAY

**\*\*A Workshop Meeting** is held every second Monday of every month at **7:00PM** at the Town Hall.

**\*\*The next Regular Meeting** of the Town Board, Town of Stephentown will be held on **Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016** at **7:00 PM** at the Town Hall.

*Stephanie M. Wagar*

**Town Clerk**