



Knox Town Board Minutes

January 9, 2024

P.O. Box 116 • Knox, New York • 12107 • Phone 518-872-2551 • www.knoxny.org

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Pokorny, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present on this date:

- Supervisor Pokorny
- Councilman Cyr
- Councilwoman Springer
- Councilman Pritchard
- Councilman Saddlemire
- Town Clerk Schanz

Absent on this day:

- Highway Superintendent Schanz

Supervisor Pokorny stated he spoke with Glen Polito regarding the Winterfest he is planning. The Clerk stated he had left her a message regarding the event but has been sick and unable to respond. The event will be held on January 20th from 11-3pm. Glen is working on organizing the event. All events will be held outside or on the lower level of the Town Hall, nothing should be upstairs in the meeting room.

Comments from the Public:

Ed Ackroyd – Asked the Board if he can have an assistant as Planning Board Chair, he would like to have a “Vice Chair”. There was a discussion as to how this person would be chosen. It was decided that the Planning Board would democratically select a Vice Chair. An ad will also be placed for a Planning Board Secretary. Mr. Ackroyd also voiced his concerns regarding solar battery storage facilities that large companies may look to build in Knox. Many things would factor into something like this happening, but Ed would like to raise awareness about the possibility of something like this in our area. Mr. Ackroyd also asked what the Town’s liability protection amount is. Supervisor Pokorny will look it up and get back to Mr. Ackroyd.

RESOLUTION 029-2024 - A motion was made by Supervisor Pokorny seconded by Councilman Saddlemire for the Planning Board, democratically, amongst themselves, selects the Vice Chair of the Planning Board. This motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: the Planning Board, democratically, amongst themselves, selects the Vice Chair of the Planning Board

RESOLUTION 030-2024 - A motion was made by Councilwoman Springer seconded by Councilman Pritchard to approve an ad to be placed in the paper for a Planning Board Secretary. This motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to approve an ad to be placed in the paper for a Planning Board Secretary.

RESOLUTION 031-2024 - A motion was made by Councilman Cyr seconded by Councilman Pritchard to approve the minutes from the December 2023 meeting as presented. This motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to approve the minutes from the December 2023 meeting

The Supervisor will be talking with the Building Inspector regarding the electrical plans and what is required for the plans to move forward for the Transfer Station plans.

The Bookkeeper continues to work on the AUD's.

There was a discussion regarding the possibility of the Town selling a parcel to resident Jessica Blank, to gain access to her property on Street Road. The Board could sell it, give her the right of way or chose not to sell. At this time, the Board is not interested in selling Town property.

There was a discussion regarding the possible repairs to the Historical Building/ Museum. Councilman Saddle mire has taken the lead on this project, meeting with contactors to get estimates. He would like to meet with the Historical Society and discuss what needs to be done, create a punch list, prioritize the list, and create a project plan to move forward.

RESOLUTION 032-2024 - A motion was made by Councilman Cyr seconded by Councilman Pritchard to hire Matthew Walker as the CDL Transfer Station driver/employee. This motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to hire Matthew Walker as the CDL Transfer Station driver/employee.

There was a brief discussion regarding the proper disposal of different types of batteries. Councilman Cyr will look into this and get back to the Board and residents. Also, the old hopper needs to be recycled and Councilman Cyr will look into this as well. The two old brown boxes, need to remain, as they will be needed in the future when the transfer station rebuild is done. The highway department will be asked to help with the removal of the old/no longer needed boxes and/or hopper.

RESOLUTION 033-2024 - A motion was made by Councilman Pritchard seconded by Councilwoman Springer to approve a credit card for Deb Liddle, Court Clerk. This motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to approve a credit card for Deb Liddle, Court Clerk.

Although the Highway Superintendent was not present, he spoke with the Supervisor prior to the meeting and asked him to present the Board, a proposal about keeping a truck that was supposed to be traded in/sent to auction, that he would like to keep as a back-up while waiting for another truck that has been on order. The Board had questions regarding how many trucks had previously been

purchased, why was there still another truck on order, and exactly what were the Superintendents wishes for this. There was not enough information to continue the conversation without the Superintendent present. The discussion will be continued at the next meeting.

There was a question raised about the role of employee Mattice as he was seen riding in a Town plow truck without a wing. If he was not needed as a wing-man, the Board would like to know why he was in the truck.

The Supervisor reports that Lou Saddlemire, newly appointed Town Historian, will be working on the history of graveyards and cemeteries and would like to be able to store historical papers/information in the storage room. This conversation lead to a discussion regarding the moisture that still causes problems in the storage room with mold, etc. Ray will look into it to see if anything can be done.

There was a discussion regarding the repair/resurfacing of the basketball courts in the park. The cost of resurfacing, new hoops etc. will be looked into to see how the courts can be approved.

The Supervisor reports he has received an invoice for \$36,000.00 from the County public works department for the erosion repair work they did on Street Road. The project was to be covered by a grant received from County Soil and Water for \$39,000.00 for the Walkway in the Park as well as Street Road. Street Road was thought to be able to be completed for \$34,000.00, but the actual cost was \$36,400.00. The Supervisor believes the difference in cost could be covered by the ARF (COVID) monies received. Other factors include a possible incorrect charge for stone for the Boardwalk. This will be looked into, but in the meantime, the Supervisor would like to pay the bill from the County.

RESOLUTION 034-2024 - A motion was made by Councilman Pritchard seconded by Councilman Saddlemire to pay the bill to the county for Street Road erosion repairs in the amount of \$36,427.99. This motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to pay the bill to the county for Street Road erosion repairs in the amount of \$36,427.99.

The Supervisor has been contacted by Samantha Adams, regarding her on-going dispute with her neighbor John Grennan, including, but not limited to, Samantha's concern that Mr. Grennan's property is not properly assessed. This is a dispute between neighbors and the Town does not wish to be involved.

The NYS Ag and Markets sent a report saying the kennels have passed.

RESOLUTION 035-2024 - A motion was made by Councilman Pritchard seconded by Councilman Cyr to approve the Clerk's report as presented. This motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to approve the Clerk's report as presented.

There was not a Supervisor's report to present.

The Clerk reports that she received a donation from Harris Beach in the amount of \$260.00 from Javid Afzali for the Hometown Hero program. The Clerk also reports she has received the first nomination for the Hero program for 2024.

The plaque from the Eagle Scout project need corrections to names. It has been taken down to perform the corrections.

RESOLUTION 036-2024 - A motion was made by Councilman Pritchard seconded by Councilman Saddlemire to approve Abstract #13, voucher #'s 363-378 totaling \$10,397.51 in the General Fund only. This motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to approve Abstract #13, voucher #'s 363-378 totaling \$10,397.51 in the General Fund only

RESOLUTION 037-2024 - A motion was made by Councilwoman Springer seconded by Councilman Saddlemire to approve Abstract #001, voucher #'s 1-3 totaling \$1,154.77 in the General Fund only. This motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to approve Abstract #001, voucher #'s 1-3 totaling \$1,154.77 in the General Fund only.

RESOLUTION 038-2024 - A motion was made by Councilman Pritchard seconded by Councilman Saddlemire to approve Abstract #001, voucher #'s 4-5 totaling \$1,144.06 in the Highway Fund only. This motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to approve Abstract #001, voucher #'s 4-5 totaling \$1,144.06 in the Highway Fund only.

There was a discussion with questions regarding the vouchers in the Highway Fund. There was a voucher submitted (#390, in the amount of \$4590.00) for Lee Boy from June 2023 for diesel fuel with a serial # stated for 7 days. The Board was wondering if this was an equipment rental for paving with fuel costs and why. The Board thought the Superintendent recently purchased a paver and a roller, but were unsure. They also questioned why this voucher was submitted 6 months after the bill was submitted. There were questions about a voucher submitted for clothing purchased for the boot allowance given to highway employees. Upon looking into the handbook, it was determined that boots and appropriate clothing were allowable, but only up to a cost of \$100.00. In this case bib overalls would be approved, but not a pair of jeans. The Board decided that both vouchers would be approved to be paid and discussed further at the next meeting if necessary.

RESOLUTION 039-2024 - A motion was made by Councilwoman Springer seconded by Councilman Saddlemire to approve Abstract #13, voucher #'s 379-395 totaling \$166,297.05 in the Highway Fund only. This motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to approve Abstract #13, voucher #'s 379-395 totaling \$166,297.05 in the Highway Fund only.

RESOLUTION 040-2023 - A motion was made by Councilman Saddlemire seconded by Councilwoman Springer to adjourn the meeting. This motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to adjourn the meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Traci Schanz

Traci Schanz
Knox Town Clerk