

**Town of Knox
Regular Meeting
April 7, 2015**

PRESENT: Supervisor Hammond
Councilwoman Pokorny
Councilman Barber
Councilman Viscio
Councilman Decker

ALSO: Town Clerk Murphy
Highway Superintendent Salisbury
Town Attorney Dorfman

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Supervisor Hammond opened the floor for public comment.

Joan Bentley addressed the Board on behalf of “Kenneth’s Army,” a local non-profit group that has been established in memory of Kenneth White to help raise awareness about child abuse and prevention as well as to raise funds to help Kenneth’s two sisters. The group is looking to establish a memorial for Kenneth White and would like to find a location in the Knox Town Park to set this up. They are interested in putting a bench and possibly a tree or flowers. Local businesses are donating supplies and funding for this project. The group would like to walk the Town Park with a representative from the Board to find a good location for the memorial.

The Board was in favor of this project but suggested that Lou Saddlemire, Superintendent of Parks, be kept in the discussion. Several board members suggested the use of flowers trees or bushes that would require less maintenance and water. Councilman Decker offered to donate a large boulder for the memorial as well.

Mike Venuti of Bozenkill Road spoke to the board about the ongoing efforts to clean up the abandoned property at 518 Bozenkill Road. He thanked Town Attorney John Dorfman for his work in contacting the surviving members of the family to have two junk cars removed however there are still about 90 used tires left all around the property.

Attorney Dorfman explained that under the Town's waste management program the town has the right to clean up the mess after notice has been given and put a lien against the property for the cost of clean-up. The property being discussed is in foreclosure currently so a lien is worthless to the town. Albany County Health Department has not officially classified the structure in order for it to be demolished. Attorney Dorfman will get letters out to the owners about the tires and building and will speak with Albany County about the structure.

Supervisor Hammond asked Councilman Viscio to discuss the Local Law pertaining to protection of wells potentially affected by the pipeline project going through the area.

Councilman Viscio explained that the Local Law would protect residents within a 1 mile radius of any blast areas along the Pipeline. The land owners have the right to have their well tested at that expense of the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company vendor to provide a baseline, "before" rating of their well. This information could be useful for residents if damage occurs to a well after blasting and "cause" needs to be proven. This law does not require or force landowners to participate, it simply provides them the opportunity if they are concerned or interested and want a little bit of insurance. Councilman Viscio recommended that the board resolve to support the County law.

Councilman Decker asked if everyone in the corridor would be notified of this. Councilman Viscio responded that it would be the Pipeline vendor's responsibility to do this.

Councilman Viscio read the following resolution into record:

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT FOR PROPOSED ALBANY COUNTY LAW
FOR PROTECTION OF DRINKING WATER**

WHEREAS, members of the Albany County Legislature have introduced a proposed Albany County Local Law, entitled the "Drinking Water Protection Law" (the "Local Law") to address concerns regarding blasting in the County of Albany and its potential impact on private wells and drinking water;

WHEREAS, the current draft of the proposed Local Law will be presented to Committee for recommendation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Knox hereby expresses its support for the proposed Local Law and the concepts embodied in the proposed Drinking Water Protection Law, including protocols for pre-blast surveys, blasting notification, and other measures and regulations designed to protect private water wells in the County of Albany.

RESOLUTION #40-2015 - TO SUPPORT PROPOSED ALBANY COUNTY LAW FOR PROTECTION OF DRINKING WATER

On motion of Councilman Viscio, seconded by Councilman Decker, the following resolution was ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

RESOLVED to support proposed Albany County Law for protection of drinking water.

RESOLUTION #41-2015 – APPROVE EXPENDITURE OF \$150.00 TO OFFSET COST FOR MEMORIAL DAY PARADE ORGANIZED BY THE HELDERBERG KIWANIS

On motion of Councilman Barber, seconded by Councilman Decker, the following resolution was ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

RESOLVED to approve expenditure of \$150.00 to offset cost for Memorial Day Parade, organized by the Helderberg Kiwanis.

Supervisor Hammond reported that NYMIR did a site visit recently and suggested that a safety cap be put on the fence around the town park ball field. Supervisor Hammond suggested that this be purchased and installed before Little League begins in May.

Other things noted by NYMIR were the “S” hooks to be replaced on the swings, boardwalk repairs and a recommendation for a fire alarm system in the Highway Garage. The swings and boardwalk repairs have been completed by Lou Saddlemire. Supervisor Hammond and Superintendent Salisbury are looking into options for the Highway Garage.

Councilman Barber suggested installing fire alarms for now instead of a whole alarm monitoring system. Councilman Decker suggested looking into monitoring options and pricing through Time Warner since we already have a contract with them.

RESOLUTION #42-2015 – AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF BASEBALL SAFETY CAP NOT TO EXCEED \$750.00

On motion of Councilman Viscio, seconded by Councilman Barber, the following resolution was ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

RESOLVED to authorize purchase of baseball safety cap not to exceed \$750.00.

Supervisor Hammond announced that Ralph Miller has offered to purchase and donate 20 Kiwanis bird houses to the Knox Town Park (a \$200 value). Posts will need to be purchased for them to be attached to.

Supervisor Hammond announced that a date needs to be set to meet with the Knox Volunteer Fire Company to update the disaster response contact information.

Supervisor Hammond reviewed the Albany County Collaborative Project and read a proposed

resolution of support. Supervisor Hammond explained that the Town is in agreement with participating as long as it does not adversely affect the Town of Knox.

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AND APPROVING THE TOWN OF KNOX'S PARTICIPATION IN THE "ALBANY COUNTY LOCAL GOVERNMENT COLLABORATION FOR EFFICIENCY PROJECT" TO INCREASE THE OVERALL EFFICEINCY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN ALBANY COUNTY

RESOLVED, that the Town of Knox herby supports and approves participation in the "Albany County Local Government Collaboration for Efficiency Project"; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

RESOLUTION #43-2015 – SUPPORTING AND APPROVING THE TOWN OF KNOX'S PARTICIPATION IN THE "ALBANY COUNTY LOCAL GOVERNMENT COLLABORATION FOR EFFICIENCY PROJECT" TO INCREASE THE OVERALL EFFICEINCY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN ALBANY COUNTY

On motion of Councilman Barber, seconded by Councilwoman Pokorny, the following resolution was ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

RESOLVED that the Town of Knox herby supports and approves participation in the "Albany County Local Government Collaboration for Efficiency Project"

Planning Board Chairman Robert Price announced that the American Red Cross blood drive in Knox was a success with 20 pints of blood donated.

Revisions to the Knox Zoning Ordinance will begin shortly. Planning Board Secretary Jennifer Geckler will be working on the update.

RESOLUTION #44-2015 – ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:30PM

On motion of Councilwoman Pokorny, seconded by Councilman Viscio, the following resolution was ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

RESOLVED to enter into executive session.

Return to general session at 8:45PM.

RESOLUTION #45-2015 – RETURN INTO GENERAL SESSION AT 8:45PM

On motion of Councilman Viscio, seconded by Councilwoman Pokorny, the following resolution was ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

RESOLVED to return to general session.

Supervisor Hammond discussed with the Board the new Broadband Coverage plan passed with the NYS Budget this year. Councilman Viscio spoke with Assemblyman Santabarbara's office to get clarification on this process. They are currently working on putting something together and will come out to present more information about technology options and guidance in the near future.

Councilman Decker suggestion getting a town map to Time Warner to have it reevaluated for coverage. Councilwoman Pokorny created a map and presented it to the Board showing which areas in town currently have broadband coverage and who is without coverage.

The Board agreed that there are several areas that are densely populated and without coverage that should be looking into for coverage options.

Councilwoman Pokorny announced that this years "Go Green Day" will be part of the Albany Tulip Fest with tables set up for printed materials about the Town of Knox. Councilwoman Pokorny will attend the event and bring materials to put out.

Supervisor Hammond stated that he has been working with Councilwoman Pokorny to come up with options for the plastic recyclables at the Transfer Station. Currently we use a compactor which was purchased in 1991 and is not performing well. Supervisor Hammond visited the Berne Transfer Station to see what system they use and they are currently co-mingling all recyclables. Councilwoman Pokorny asked if this would lead to more trucking. Councilman Viscio commented that the compactor only give us less volume why not co-mingle instead of purchasing another expensive piece of equipment that will have to be maintained. The Board agreed that the discussion should be continued with Superintendent Salisbury over at the Transfer Station where they can evaluate how much comes in and how often it is trucked before making a final decision.

RESOLUTION # 46-2015 - APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Councilman Decker, seconded by Councilman Viscio, the following resolution was ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

RESOLVED that the minutes of the March 10, 2015 meeting be approved.

RESOLUTION # 47-2015 - APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS

On motion of Councilman Barber, seconded by Councilwoman Pokorny, the following resolution was ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

RESOLVED that the Reports of the Town Clerk and the Town Supervisor for the Month of March 2015 be approved.

RESOLUTION # 48-2015 - PAYMENT OF BILLS

On motion of Councilman Viscio, seconded by Councilwoman Pokorny, the following resolution was ADOPTED AYES 5 NAYS 0

RESOLVED that the Bills be paid on General Abstract #004 of the General Fund, covering claims #61-77 & 90-94 in the amount of \$10,002.24 and of the Highway Fund, covering claims #78-89 in the amount of \$21,584.31 for the year 2015.

Supervisor Hammond mentioned that KeyBank has been charging the Town several fees and through many calls they have agreed to and are committed to returning all monies. They have recovered \$1,100.00 fees so far.

With no further business, on a motion of Councilman Barber, seconded by Councilwoman Pokorny, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
April 22, 2015

Tara L. Murphy