

**Town of Knox
Regular Meeting
August 9, 2016**

PRESENT: Supervisor Lefkaditis
Councilman Barber
Councilman Barcomb
Councilwoman Pokorny
Councilman Kuck

ALSO: Town Attorney Dorfman
Town Clerk Murphy
Highway Superintendent Salisbury

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a moment of silence to honor Dan Driscoll.

RESOLUTION #153-2016 – APPROVE MINUTES OF 7/12/16.

On motion of Councilman Barcomb, seconded by Councilman Kuck, the following resolution was ADOPTED unanimously.

RESOLVED approve minutes of 7/12/16.

RESOLUTION #154-2016 – APPROVE MINUTES OF 7/26/16 SPECIAL MEETING.

On motion of Councilman Barcomb, seconded by Councilman Kuck, the following resolution was ADOPTED unanimously.

RESOLVED approve minutes of 7/26/16 Special Meeting.

Board decided to table minutes from 8.3.16 special meeting until they are circulated and can be reviewed.

Presentations:

- a. Board Liaison Reports:
 1. ZBA – nothing to report
 2. Youth Council – Councilman Barber stated that there are 65 kids registered for the Knox Summer Camp and an extensive presentation was given to the board at the 8.3.16 special meeting to discuss the playground project proposal.
 3. CAC – Councilman Kuck reported that the CAC did not have a regular meeting last month; members instead attended a workshop.
 4. Planning Board – Councilman Barcomb stated that the board is staying current with the issues they are discussing and more will be discussed later in the meeting.

- b. Robyn Reynolds presented the board with a clean energy communities grant opportunity. There is list of 10 criteria of which the Town must complete 4 to gain access to up to \$100,000 in grant funds. Knox is the first hilltown and could possibly be the first town in area to be a clean energy town with grant access.

Supervisor Lefkaditis asked what was needed to complete the required tasks.

Ms. Reynolds gave examples of programs that the Town is currently working on that could qualify such as: Policy actions such as unified solar permits; changing over to LED lighting; report energy use for town; and host free training (provided by DEC) to Zoning Administrators.

Councilwoman Pokorny added that the Town is already working on many of these projects and could easily complete others.

1. Tuesday, August 30th a meeting will be held at the Town Hall to support the local solarize campaign and provide information to residents about alternative solar energy options. Hosting this event would complete one requirement
2. LED street lighting – working on this now and may meet requirements.
3. Host Energy Code Enforcement Training – someone will come to provide the training free of charge, and can be opened up to other communities as well, hosting the event will complete the task.
4. Bench Marking – adopting a policy to track energy use by the town. A volunteer has offered to put the data together in a format that can be posted to the website.
5. \$2,500 incentive available for unified solar permit which the planning board will be reviewing.
6. Clean Fleets: This includes defining charging stations in our zoning ordinance as well as add language for installing them (residential or commercial) and another \$2,500 is available.

Ms. Reynolds stated that the funding is available on a sliding scale, so the quicker the response the bigger the funding.

Councilwoman Pokorny stated that she has been working with Hwy Superintendent Gary Salisbury on projects that will need to happen and this kind of funding could help.

The board appointed Councilwoman Pokorny to act as the point person to work with Ms. Reynolds on creating policy for review at next meeting.

Supervisor Lefkaditis announced that the \$1,000 youth grant was received again this year and that a new public Wi-Fi was installed in the town and available to the public. The signal should work from the parking lot even.

County Legislators Chris Smith and Travis Stevens put together a grant to offer a senior bus for August 17th the Altamont Fair for Senior Day. Admission is free on this day for

seniors and transportation is available from Berne and Knox.

5a. Highway Superintendents Report: Superintendent Salisbury informed the board that a check sent last month to H.L. Gage should have been sent directly to Town of Guilderland for shared services with H.L. Gage. Supervisor Lefkaditis stated that we can void the check and write a new one.

RESOLUTION #155-2016 – AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO VOID CHECK #8858 TO H.L. GAGE AND WRITE A CORRECT CHECK TO THE TOWN OF GUILDERLAND.

On motion of Supervisor Lefkaditis, seconded by Councilman Barcomb, the following resolution was ADOPTED unanimously.

RESOLVED authorize Supervisor to void check #8858 to H. L. Gage and write a correct check to the Town of Guilderland.

Hwy Superintendent Salisbury stated that security cameras are needed for the highway garage to deal with people stealing stone and damaging the building. Salisbury estimates about \$1,000 in theft and damage a year. Councilman Kuck responded that he would look into security system pricing and discuss set up with Mr. Salisbury. Councilman Kuck will do a walk through and see what would be best.

Salisbury continued that there is an E-waste issue with current contractor JGS. They can't seem to keep up with the supply and are not returning phone calls. There will be a mess if this is not dealt with quickly. The tire bay is also full and Bob's Tires have not returned calls for over a month so other options will need to be looked at.

Councilman Kuck and Councilwoman Pokorny will look to see what other options are available for vendors.

FEMA UPDATE: funds have come quickly so the town is being reimbursed for borrowed funds right away.

Councilwoman Pokorny asked if sequential numbering on Transfer Station permit stickers was necessary, if not there is a significant savings in cost. Salisbury stated it was not necessary.

6a. Residents have requested that a proclamation be created to honor Daniel Driscoll. Supervisor Lefkaditis and the board agreed that a dedicated tree and plaque would be appropriate as well. Councilman Barcomb will reach out to the family about proclamation for next meeting. Councilman Barcomb suggested again that a master plan or guidance could be created for the park for location of memorial trees. This would be a good project for the CAC. Supervisor Lefkaditis asked present CAC member Dee Weossner to bring the idea to the next CAC meeting.

6b. Resident, Eric Chamberlin sent a letter to the board addressing the ongoing flooding of his property from run off rain from Street Road and Highway Garage driveway. This location is an unfortunate area where town, county and state roads all meet. Hwy Superintendent Salisbury stated that the County and State repaired the ditch and designed it to move water west which is not working, instead all of the water is being shipping to the highway garage driveway which was not designed to handle that amount of runoff water.

RESOLUTION #156-2016 – AUTHORIZE ATTORNEY DORFMAN TO SEND LETTER, WITH DOCUMENTATION, TO NYS AND ALBANY COUNTY TO ADDRESS FLOODING ON Rt. 146, STREET ROAD, AND MIDDLE ROAD, ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF KNOX.

On motion of Supervisor Lefkaditis, seconded by Councilman Barcomb, the following resolution was ADOPTED unanimously.

RESOLVED authorize Attorney Dorfman to send letter, with documentation, to NYS and Albany County to address flooding on Rt. 146, Street Road, and Middle Road, on behalf of the Town of Knox.

6c. Supervisor Lefkaditis mentioned a previous discussion about expenditure on training and an idea of Councilman Barber to create a policy that drives the decisions of budget and timeline of training requirements. A motion was made to create a small board with representatives from each board (ZBA, CAC, PB) to advise the board on training policy for the future of the town.

RESOLUTION #157-2016 – COUNCILMAN BARBER TO ESTABLISH AND CHAIR A SMALL COMMITTEE TO ADVISE BOARD ON TRAINING POLICY FOR FUTURE OF THE TOWN.

On motion of Supervisor Lefkaditis, seconded by Councilwoman Pokorny, the following resolution was ADOPTED unanimously.

RESOLVED Councilman Barber to establish and chair a small committee to advise board on training policy for the future of the town.

6d. General Liability Insurance: Supervisor Lefkaditis presented the current schedule of town assets and believes there is a discrepancy in replacement values set to them and some should be increased and/or decreased respectively. Supervisor Lefkaditis stated that we have to better understand the relationship between policies - \$2.6 million umbrella policy and blanket building limits. Vehicles list needs to be updated, sold items removed and new items added including the new John Deere 2016 tractor.

6e. Supervisor Lefkaditis asked Attorney Dorfman if the Planning Board members could receive required credits for a presentation given by a member of another board. Attorney Dorfman stated that he doesn't believe it would fit the requirement and individuals have to attend. CAC member Dee Woessner rescinded her training request stating that she was informed that the workshop may be offered locally in the next year and she will look to attend it then.

7a. Household Hazardous Waste Day Update: Councilwoman Pokorny stated that MXI (the

company organizing the event) have said they will need a roll-off container as well as a forklift to move barrels into truck after event. Hwy Superintendent Salisbury suggested contacting Berne for equipment because Knox will need extra equipment for the transfer station that day. Councilwoman Pokonry also asked for volunteers to work 2 hour shifts (8am-10am/10am-12pm/12pm-2pm).

7b. Tax abatement letter was sent out but discussion will be tabled for later date.

7c. No news on the speed limit update. Councilman Barcomb suggested that we appeal to our legislatures that it is inherently unfair that because of our town size we have no control over the speed limit of our own town.

7d. Property Amnesty Program: Attorney Dorfman stated that any properties with a mortgage the town can go after the mortgage company. Beyond this, under certain circumstances the town can make a local law but not much available beyond enforcing zoning, amending zoning or creating a memorandum of law. The newly passed NYS "Ghost Property" law may give the town something to work with. Attorney Dorfman advised the board to have zoning administrator review the new NYS law to see if there are any violations.

7e. Dog permitting and survey to be moved to future agenda when Lou Saddlemire can attend.

Supervisor Lefkaditis announced that the Knox Fire Department is willing to split the cost of a bench in the town park to honor past firemen.

7f. Supervisor Lefkaditis stated that the BZA has not been able to research the commercial solar permitting costs and so it is advised that the new fee schedule be approved without the commercial solar permit price for now.

The following changes were discussed for Section 2: Miscellaneous Permits

1. Pole Barns, Garages, Accessory Buildings - \$100.00 fee
2. Additions to accessory buildings, decks, pools, new chimneys, woodstoves, residential solar installations - \$50.00 fee.

RESOLUTION #158-2016 – ACCEPT NEW BUILDING FEE SCHEDULE AS PRESENTED TO THE BOARD WITH ABOVE CHANGES TO SECTION 2 – MISCELLANEOUS PERMITS.

On motion of Supervisor Lefkaditis, seconded by Councilman Barcomb, the following resolution was ADOPTED unanimously.

RESOLVED accept new building fee schedule as presented to the board with above changes to Section 2 – Miscellaneous Permits.

Attorney Dorfman reviewed the Zoning Ordinance and advised the Board to insert under "scope" that the Town of Knox will also enforce NYS building/zoning codes and add the

enforcement language as well. Attorney Dorfman will send language to the board to review. Supervisor Lefkaditis and Attorney Dorfman will meet with the BZA to discuss properties and ideas to begin a process to address abandoned properties.

7g. FAQ update: councilwoman Pokorny has FAQ's from the Town Clerk and Planning Board. More can be posted as we go from the CAC and ZBA. Supervisor Lefkaditis suggested added more information about the special use permitting process and variances. Attorney Dorfman would review the language for that.

7h. Business District 156/157 – Supervisor Lefkaditis stated that the Planning Board needs more time to review this topic. The zoning ordinance allows the Planning Board 45 days to respond to the Town Board request, however with the current site plan review they are working on they need more time. Supervisor Lefkaditis proposed extending this requirement to give an additional 90 days.

RESOLUTION #159-2016 – AUTHORIZE EXTENSION OF ZONING ORDINANCE SEC 70(B) - 45 DAY REQUIREMNT FOR PLANNING BOARD TO RESPOND TO TOWN BOARD TO 90 DAYS FROM 8.9.16.

On motion of Supervisor Lefkaditis, seconded by Councilman Kuck, the following resolution was ADOPTED unanimously.

RESOLVED authorize extension of Zoning Ordinance Sec. 70(b) – 45 day requirement for Planning Board to respond to Town Board to 90 days from 8.9.16.

Councilman Pokorny announced that quotes have been received form Potentia for lights for the Highway Garage. It would take 4yrs 4mo to pay for retrofitting lighting in the garage. Supervisor Lefkaditis responded that the usage in the garage is not lights but more equipment use. He believes the quote is flawed and will continue conversation with National Grid.

Councilwoman Pokorny and Superintendent Salisbury are working on the Hazard Mitigation Plan and are in pretty good shape. They will meet one more time and get paperwork sent in.

RESOLUTION # 160-2016 - APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS

On motion of Councilman Barber, seconded by Councilman Barcomb, the following resolution was ADOPTED unanimously.

RESOLVED that the Reports of the Town Clerk and Town Supervisor for the Month of July 2016 be approved.

RESOLUTION # 161-2016 - PAYMENT OF BILLS

On motion of Councilwoman Barcomb, seconded by Supervisor Lefkaditis, the following resolution was ADOPTED unanimously.

RESOLVED that the Bills be paid on General Abstract #08 of the General Fund, covering

claims #207-226 in the amount of: \$8,602.73 and of the Highway Fund, covering claims #227-232 in the amount of: \$5,809.82 for the year 2016.

Councilwoman Pokorny asked if the town has received an LED proposal yet from Cookie Palmer

With no further business, on a motion of Councilman Barcomb, seconded by Councilman Kuck, the meeting was adjourned to executive session to discuss personnel matters not to reconvene to public session at 9:25 p.m. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
August 23, 2016

Tara L. Murphy