

**Town of Knox
Regular Meeting
June 9, 2015**

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

ALSO: Town Attorney Dorfman
Town Clerk Murphy
Highway Superintendent Salisbury

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Supervisor Hammond reviewed the schedule for the evening and opened the floor for public comment. With no public comment the board continued with regular business.

The Board had a chance to review the final draft of the Employee Handbook and all agreed that it looked good and that a lot of work has gone into creating the document which will continue to change and be added to as needed.

RESOLUTION #57-2015 – APPROVE FINAL DRAFT OF THE EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK, EFFECTIVE JUNE 9, 2015.

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

RESOLVED to approve the final draft of the Employee Handbook, effective June 9, 2015.

Supervisor Hammond explained that New York State is requiring all towns to pass a resolution to confirm the town's road system in order to facilitate appropriate CHIPS funding. The following resolution was read into record:

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING CERTAIN ROADWAYS IN THE TOWN OF KNOX AS A TOWN ROAD PURSUANT TO SECTION 189 OF THE HIGHWAY LAW OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

WHEREAS, there are certain roadways, set forth hereinafter, in the Town of Knox that have been used by the public as a highway for a period of ten years and thus qualify as a Highway by use as defined in Section 189 of the Highway Law of the State of New York;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following roadways in the Town of Knox have been used by the public as a highway for a period of ten years and thus

qualify as a Highway by use as defined in Section 189 of the Highway Law of the State of New York. (See Attached list of roadways.)

Roadways List

Ashman Drive
Busch Lane
Cell Tower Lane (Street Road to dead end)
Curtis Road
Drumm Road (CR 252 to Quay Road)
Francis Road
Helderberg Road (from Whipple to dead end)
Malachi Court (from Whipple to dead end)
Michienzi Road
Mountain View Road
Stevens Road (from Crouse Road to dead end)
Ryan Road (from CR 256 to dead end)
Whipple Road (from Old Stage Road to dead end)
White Road (CR 253 to dead end)

*Cell Tower
*Carrick Road (gate will be removed)

**RESOLUTION #58-2015 – RESOLVE TO DESIGNATE CERTAIN ROADWAYS
IN THE TOWN OF KNOX AS A TOWN ROAD PURSUANT TO SECTION 189
OF THE HIGHWAY LAW OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK**

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

RESOLVED to designate certain roadways in the Town of Knox as a town road pursuant to section 189 of the highway law of the state of New York.

Town Clerk Tara Murphy will prepare an official resolution with town seal for Superintendent Salisbury to submit to New York State DOT.

Supervisor Hammond discussed the adoption of setting a town-wide speed limit of 35 miles per hour, unless otherwise posted, subject to a public hearing. Several other neighboring communities have done the same. The notice of Public of Hearing was read into the record.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that the Town of Knox will hold a Public Hearing pursuant to Sections 130 of the Town Law of the State of New York to set a Knox Town road speed limit of 35 miles per hour on all town roads, unless otherwise posted.

Said hearing will be held on July 14, 2015 at 7:30pm at the Town Hall, at which time all persons interested shall be given an opportunity to be heard.

By order of the Town Board, Town of Knox.

RESOLUTION #59-2015 – AUTHORIZE TOWN TO PUBLISH A NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING RELATIVE TO THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE SETTING A KNOX TOWN SPEED LIMIT OF 35 MILES PER HOUR ON ALL TOWN ROADS, UNLESS OTHERWISE POSTED, PURSUANT TO SECTION 130 OF THE TOWN LAW OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

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

RESOLVED to authorize the Town Clerk to publish a notice of public hearing relative to the proposed ordinance setting a Knox Town speed limit of 35 miles per hour on all town roads, unless otherwise posted, pursuant to Section 130 of the town law of the state of New York.

Supervisor Hammond discussed the approval of the Standard Work Day Retirement reporting required by NYS Retirement System.

RESOLUTION #60-2015 – ADOPT THE STANDARD WORK DAY REPORT AS REQUIRED BY NYS RETIREMENT SYSTEM

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

RESOLVED to adopt the Standard Work Day Report as required by the NYS Retirement System.

Charlotte Fuss, Knox Senior Services Coordinator, discussed the SALT (Seniors and Law Enforcement Together) meeting being held on Thursday, June 11th at the Town Hall to provide a community forum designed to provide education on the criminal justice system, the types of abuses commonly committed against seniors, methods of identifying abusive behaviors and patterns, and ways to safeguard against them.

Councilwoman Pokorny provided an update on the Comprehensive Plan. The meeting with Ingrid from the DEC was rescheduled due to storms. This meeting is in cooperation with the Conservation Advisory Council to review a Habitat Report prepared by Ingrid Haeckel to be used in the Comprehensive Plan at no cost to the Town. Maps are also currently being worked on by Betty Ketcham. The property tax map information from the one cut rule and the historic progression over time was received from Town Assessor Russ Pokorny and is being reviewed. In addition, a special meeting with community planning and policy analysis expert Ellen Pemrick, to discuss rural economic development strategies that might be appropriate for the town and comprehensive plan update, will be set for June 23rd at 7pm. A notice will be sent to *The Enterprise*. All recommendations from Nan Stolzenburg have been completed and the town will be looking to her for help with reviewing and evaluate the zoning laws to determine if any

inconsistencies exist as well as the development of a future zoning map.

Councilman Decker agreed that it was worth the expense to have a review and evaluation of the zoning laws completed to make sure it is consistent.

Supervisor Hammond discussed that the Town of Berne is hosting a Summer Program from July 20-24 and is looking to have Knox participate as a shared service. To pay for half of the program would be \$350 which would permit Knox residents to participate in the Summer Program. The board agreed that this is something that should be done so that Knox residents can participate in this summer program.

RESOLUTION #61-2015 – AUTHORIZE THE PAYMENT OF \$350.00 TO THE TOWN OF BERNE TO ALLOW KNOX RESIDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 2015 SUMMER PROGRAM.

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

RESOLVED to authorize the payment of \$350.00 to the Town of Berne to allow Knox Residents to participate in the 2015 Summer Program held in Berne July 20-24, 2015

Robert Price spoke on behalf of Helderberg Community Energy LLC about a recent meeting held to discuss a Community Solar Array. Currently this group is working to collect support for their project to help encourage potential investors. At this point HCE is asking the Town of Knox to issue a letter of support with no future commitment or obligation by the Town of Knox.

Councilman Viscio stated that he would like to support this project with a letter for the purposes of supporting the concept and moving the process forward for community net metering. There are many obstacles still to overcome for this to happen but he would like to augment the process with absolutely no obligation by the Town of Knox.

RESOLUTION #62-2015 – AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR HAMMOND TO WRITE LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE HELDERBERG COMMUNITY ENERGY LLC COMMUNITY SOLAR ARRAY PROJECT WITH NO FUTURE OBLIGATION BY THE TOWN OF KNOX.

On motion of Councilman Viscio, seconded by Councilman Decker, the following resolution was ADOPTED AYES 4 NAYS 0 ABSTAIN 1 (*Councilwoman Pokorny abstained her vote because she is a member of the Helderberg Community Energy LLC*)

RESOLVED authorize Supervisor Hammond to write letter of support for the Helderberg Community Energy LLC Community Solar Array Project with no future obligation by the Town of Knox.

Highway Superintendent Salisbury mentioned that he looked in the weight limit issue for a town road and believes that a temporary weight limit can be put in place by town approval.

Supervisor Hammond mentioned that there is damage to Seabury road currently due to heavy truck traffic.

Town Attorney John Dorfman read the following resolution into record:

By recommendation by the Highway Superintendent, pursuant to Section 1660 of the NYS Vehicle and Traffic Law, the Highway Superintendent is authorized to erect temporary signs excluding vehicles weighing in excess of 10 tons from Seabury Road by reason that said road will be materially damaged by the operation of any such vehicle.

RESOLUTION #63-2015 – AUTHORIZE TOWN CLERK TO PRINT NOTICE IN COUNTY-WIDE PAPER AUTHORIZING HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT TO ERECT TEMPORARY SIGNS EXCLUDING VEHICLES WEIGHING IN EXCESS OF 10 TONS FROM SEABURY ROAD BY REASON THAT SAID ROAD WILL BE MATERIALLY DAMAGED BY THE OPERATION OF ANY SUCH VEHICLE, PURSUANT TO SECTION 1660 OF THE NYS V&T LAW.

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

RESOLVED to authorize Town Clerk to print notice in County-wide paper authorizing Highway Superintendent to erect temporary signs excluding vehicles weighing in excess of 10 tons from Seabury Road by reason that said road will be materially damaged by the operation of any such vehicle, pursuant to section 1660 of the NYS V&T Law.

Councilwoman Pokorny took a moment to recognize the achievement of a young woman from Knox, Michelle Tomasik, Betty Ketcham's daughter, who received her PhD in physics from MIT in May.

RESOLUTION # 64-2015 - APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS

On motion of Councilman Decker, seconded by Councilman Barber, 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 May 2015 be approved.

RESOLUTION # 65-2015 - APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

RESOLVED that the minutes of the May 2015 meeting be approved.

RESOLUTION # 66-2015 - PAYMENT OF BILLS

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

RESOLVED that the Bills be paid on General Abstract #006 of the General Fund,

covering claims #138-152 in the amount of \$31,613.58 and of the Highway Fund, covering claims #153-172 in the amount of \$20,862.17 for the year 2015.

Councilman Barber noted that on June 20th there will be a special event hosted by the Knox Historical Society to celebrate the new historical Palatine Road Marker starting at the museum at 11:30. There will be several other historical events around the area and state on Saturday and Sunday as well.

Highway Superintendent Salisbury mentioned to the board that the hydraulic tank at the Transfer Station is starting to leak. It is over 30 years old and is not an easy fix. They do not make this part anymore and to get one built would be about \$8-10,000. Everything is working now but it is getting old and will need to be replaced someday.

Supervisor Hammond stated that this is very important, can't let it go down so he would like Superintendent Salisbury to look into it right away and see what options we have.

With no further business, on a motion of Councilwoman Pokorny, seconded by Councilman Viscio, the meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
June 23, 2015

Tara Murphy