



# Knox Town Board Minutes

*December 10, 2019*

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The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by Supervisor Lefkaditis followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present on this date:

- Supervisor Lefkaditis
- Councilman Barber
- Councilman Barcomb
- Councilman Pritchard
- Councilman Saddlemire
- Town Clerk Traci Schanz
- Deputy Highway Superintendent Matthew Schanz

Absent on this date:

- Attorney Javid Afzali

**RESOLUTION 175-2019** - A motion was made by Councilman Barcomb seconded by Supervisor Lefkaditis to suspend the public meeting of December 10, 2019 and open the Public Hearing on the proposed local law 4 regarding Hog Farming within the Town of Knox. The motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** to suspend the public meeting of December 10, 2019 and open the Public Hearing on the proposed local law 4 regarding Hog Farming within the Town of Knox.

No public comments were made.

**RESOLUTION 176-2019** - A motion was made by Councilman Barcomb seconded by Councilman Pritchard to suspend the public hearing on proposed local law 4 and reconvene the public meeting of December 10, 2019. The motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** to suspend the public hearing on proposed local law 4 and reconvene the public meeting of December 10, 2019.

**RESOLUTION 177-2019** - A motion was made by Councilman Barber seconded by Councilman Barcomb to suspend the public meeting of December 10, 2019 and open the Public Hearing on the Town of Knox Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher. The motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** to suspend the public meeting of December 10, 2019 and open the Public Hearing on the Town of Knox Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher.

Supervisor Lefkaditis read the mission statement of the Section 8 Housing Program and stated the contract is renewed every 5 years. Councilman Barber asked how many people were enrolled and Supervisor Lefkaditis stated he believed the number of people enrolled was between 13-15 people.

No Public comments were made.

**RESOLUTION 178-2019** - A motion was made by Councilman Barber seconded by Councilman Barcomb to close the Public Hearing on Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher and reconvene the public meeting of December 10, 2019. The motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** to close the Public Hearing on Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher and reconvene the public meeting of December 10, 2019.

**Public Comment:** Brigid McAulliffe stated after reading Supervisor Lefkaditis' comments in the Enterprise prior to the election, regarding having no interest in anything at the intersection of 156 & 157 at this time, that she feels the need to get an affirmation every time they are in a public meeting regarding his interests in this area. She asked Supervisor Lefkaditis, for the record, if he had any business interests or other real estate interests in the 156/157 area? Supervisor Lefkaditis stated no. Councilman Saddlemire asked if she were going to ask anyone else on the Board that same question and she stated she will eventually, but tonight she wasn't worried about it. She went on to thank Councilman Barber and Councilman Barcomb for their service and stated she does not believe that the job performance of the supervisor will improve as it is highly unlikely that anyone who ran with the supervisor will hold him accountable and this will be left up to the residents.

**RESOLUTION 179-2019** - A motion was made by Councilman Pritchard seconded by Supervisor Lefkaditis to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously 3:0, with Councilman Barber and Councilman Barcomb ABSTAINING because they were not present at the November meeting.

**RESOLVED:** to approve the consent agenda as presented.

**Highway / Transfer Station:**

Supervisor Lefkaditis complemented Highway Superintendent Matthew Schanz for a job well done during the recent storm.

Highway Superintendent Schanz asked the Board to approve a cell phone purchase/plan for the highway department. After a brief discussion, the supervisor stated he will check into options for phones and phone plans.

**RESOLUTION 180-2019** - A motion was made by Councilman Barber, seconded by Supervisor Lefkaditis to purchase a town cell phone NTE \$500.00 with a monthly service fee of no more than \$60.00. The motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** to purchase a town cell phone NTE \$500.00 with a monthly service fee of no more than \$60.00.

### **Presentations:**

The Supervisor thanked Earl Barcomb, Dennis Barber, Diane Champion and Judge Jim Corigliano. He stated it is not an easy job to be under the spotlight all of the time; it is a selfless position. He believes all four of these people conducted themselves extremely well, and thanks them very, very much for their service.

Councilman Barcomb thanked the Town of Knox for giving him the opportunity to serve on the Town Board, the Planning Board and the CAC before that. He stated he has learned a lot.

Councilman Barber thanked the residents for supporting him for the last eight years.

### **Old Business:**

CCA Agreement - A public hearing needs to be advertised and Supervisor Lefkaditis is looking into whether a SEQR has to be completed as part of the CCA process. The public hearing will be held on January 14, 2020

Councilman Barcomb asked if someone on the Board or maybe a new member would continue to work with the speed limit reductions he has been working on with Mr. Santabarbara and Mr. Amedore's offices. If someone is interested, they can reach out to him via email and he will pass along the contact information.

**RESOLUTION 181-2019** - A motion was made by Councilman Pritchard seconded by Councilman Barcomb to properly advertise the public hearing for the CCA to be held on January 14, 2020 at 7:00pm at the Knox Town Hall. The motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** to properly advertise the public hearing for the CCA to be held on January 14, 2020 at 7:00pm at the Knox Town Hall.

The Workplace Violence and Sexual Harassment training has been scheduled for January 7, 2020 at 7:00 pm at the Knox Town Hall.

### **New Business:**

**RESOLUTION 182-2019** - A motion was made by Supervisor Lefkaditis seconded by Councilman Barcomb to adopt the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program PHA Plan for 2020;

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Knox operates a Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Knox is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to prepare and adopt a written PHA Plan that establishes local policies for administration of the Section 8 Housing Choice Boucher Program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Board of the Town of Knox has caused a written PHA Plan to be prepared establishing local policies for administration of the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and has reviewed such written plan,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Board of the Town of Knox hereby adopts the Five Year PHA Plan starting in 2020 for operation of the Town of Knox Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program.

The motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** to adopt the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program PHA Plan for 2020.

A discussion was held regarding a commercial dumpster at the Transfer Station. A while back, Bill Pasquini suggested reaching out to local vendors regarding the possibility of having a commercial dumpster at the Transfer Station. Supervisor Lefkaditis would like to check into this idea. Matt Schanz suggested the Town could do it if we could hire a full-time person to due to the timing of the runs and then have this person complete other jobs as a full-time town employee. Councilman Saddlemire voiced his concerns over items being placed in the dumpster that don't belong or items containing asbestos. Other suggestions were made to take it on a specific day or several times a year.

The re-organizational meeting is scheduled for January 1, 2020 at noon, with an executive session scheduled at 11:30am.

The SEQR for the proposed Hog Farming was reviewed and discussed without objections. This will now be passed on to the Albany County Planning Board and be revisited on the February Board Meeting agenda.

**RESOLUTION 183-2019** - A motion was made by Councilman Barcomb seconded by Supervisor Lefkaditis to approve unpaid leave of absence for Charles Crary beginning on and including 9/24/2019 and ending on and including 12/01/2019. The motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED**: to approve unpaid leave of absence for Charles Crary beginning on and including 9/24/2019 and ending on and including 12/01/2019.

**RESOLUTION 184-2019** - A motion was made by Councilman Barcomb seconded by Supervisor Lefkaditis to authorize the Supervisor to make a NYS Retirement payment in the amount of \$41,883.00. (\$9,934.64 Gen, \$31,948.36 Hwy) The motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED**: to authorize the Supervisor to make a NYS Retirement payment in the amount of \$41,883.00.

**RESOLUTION 185-2019** - A motion was made by Councilman Saddlemire seconded by Councilman Barber to authorize the Supervisor to pay the bills from Abstract 12 including voucher #'s 315-329 and #'s 343-354 in the General Account in the amount of \$27,495.98 and in the Highway Account, voucher #'s 330-342 in the amount of \$140,304.75. The motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED**: to authorize the Supervisor to pay the bills from Abstract 12 including voucher #'s 315-329 and #'s 343-354 in the General Account in the amount of \$27,495.98 and in the Highway Account, voucher #'s 330-342 in the amount of \$140,304.75.

**RESOLUTION 186-2019** - A motion was made by Councilman Pritchard seconded by Councilman Barcomb to accept the Supervisor and Clerk reports as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED**: to accept the Supervisor and Clerk reports as presented.

#### **Public Discussion**

Amy Pokorny asked about the status of the Clean Energies Communities Grant. Councilman Saddlemire stated he received the survey back and has gone over it with the engineers with the

suggestions they made. He spoke with Jessica regarding some leeway within the Grant as far as putting it to use, using solar panels, etc. It will be placed on the January agenda and discussed further.

Brigid McAuliffe asked if everyone takes an Oath at the reorganizational meeting. Supervisor Lefkaditis stated yes and it is the same oath that NYS uses for public office positions.

Johnathan Lane stated he met with the clerk a while back regarding some suggested changes to the website and inquired why they were not made. Supervisor Lefkaditis stated he spoke with the clerk regarding the issues and although the town website is not perfect, it is not bad either. Supervisor Lefkaditis stated if the Board would like to pursue spending money to make upgrades he would listen.

Councilman Saddlemire reminded everyone on January 8<sup>th</sup> there will be a Farmer's Discussion Group put on by Cooperative Extension, being held at the Town Hall from 12-5pm. He also reminded everyone on February 8<sup>th</sup> there will be a Transition Seminar, also being held at the Town Hall. He also asked that anyone who knows of people who are shut-in to pass along the information and he will update the data base.

Councilman Barber would like to ask the Board to finish the rule board for expected behavior at the Transfer Station. He would like someone to follow up on AED's at the Transfer Station, as well as the estimates for paving/sealcoating at the Town Hall. He would like to see solar, senior housing and sidewalks come to town, a possible community center and gazebo, and recognized Lou Saddlemire for 35 years of service to the town and Bob Price for 48 years of service to the town. He thanked everyone for their support over the years.

**RESOLUTION 187-2019** - A motion was made by Councilman Barcomb seconded by Supervisor Lefkaditis to adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel, not to reconvene into public session. The motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED**: to adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel, not to reconvene into public.

Respectfully submitted,

Traci Schanz

Knox Town Clerk