



Knox Town Board Minutes

December 11, 2018

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The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by Councilman Saddlemire, (as Supervisor Lefkadits was running a few minutes late) followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Supervisor Lefkadits arrived shortly thereafter.

Present on this date:

- Supervisor Lefkadits
- Councilman Barber
- Councilman Barcomb
- Councilman Pritchard
- Councilman Saddlemire
- Town Attorney Javid Afzali
- Town Clerk Traci Schanz

Absent on this date:

- Superintendent of Highways Gary Salisbury

A representative from Kenneth's Army spoke briefly to announce a candlelight vigil being held on December 18th at 7:00 pm.

Councilman Barber and Ed Ackroyd spoke for the Hometown Heroes Committee and unveiled a sample banner with Mr. Ackroyd's picture from when he served in Viet Nam. The banners will be 30"x60" and will hang on the poles throughout the center of town. The Knox Fire Company and Auxiliary have both donated monies to purchase the brackets, as well as the Sons of the American Legion and The American Legion. Mr. Ackroyd will be speaking with the VFW soon. Donations have also been accepted for several banners. Bill Pasquini offered to donate one banner. The Town of Guilderland has donated their bucket truck and several people to help install the brackets and banners.

Liaison reports: Supervisor Lefkadits reports that the Planning Board continues to work on the definition of home occupation and is awaiting the Zoning Board's interpretation of the definition of home occupation. No other Board members attended other meetings.

RESOLUTION 194-2018 – A motion was made by Councilman Barcomb, seconded by Councilman Pritchard to approve the minutes from the November 7, 2018 meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to approve the minutes from the November 7, 2018 meeting.

There was a discussion held regarding the cameras at the Transfer Station. The cameras are up and running. Someone has already been caught destroying a camera and disposing of garbage after hours. Mrs. Adriance asked questions regarding who has access to the video and asked if signs have been posted to make public aware of cameras. Supervisor Lefkaditis and Councilman Barber explained that signs will be purchased in the near future, information will be provided to residents when flyer is complete, video footage is only held for approximately 45 days, Gary Salisbury and Supervisor Lefkaditis are currently the only people who have access to the footage.

The Transfer Station survey is complete, and it appears that there is enough room to complete the turn around. Once Supervisor Lefkaditis has the survey, he will forward the survey to Board members via email.

The flyer for the Transfer Station is almost complete, with a few quick changes that need to be made. It will be referenced in the newsletter as well as handed out to residents while at the Transfer Station and will most likely be mailed to residents. Mrs. Adriance asked if transfer station information could be included in the tax bills, and was informed by Diane Champion, Tax Collector, that this was illegal, and nothing can be included in the tax bill mailing.

A resident asked a few questions regarding the flyer and flexibility of policies, opening a further discussion regarding illegal dumping, number of trips per resident, household garbage, furniture and permits within families.

RESOLUTION 195-2018 – A motion was made by Supervisor Lefkaditis, seconded by Councilman Barber, to submit the completed SEQR application to the Town Planning Board and Albany County Planning Board for the proposed redistricting of the intersection at routes 156 & 157 from residential and agricultural to MRD. The motion carried 4:1, with Councilman Barcomb voting opposed.

RESOLVED: to submit the completed SEQR application to the Town Planning Board and Albany County Planning Board for the proposed redistricting of the intersection at routes 156 & 157 from residential and agricultural to MRD.

A brief discussion was held regarding the Borrego PILOT program. Tom Wolfe, chairman of the Planning Board had sent in a red-lined version of the PILOT but has not heard back. He will follow up on the status of this version. Mr. Wolfe discussed the need for the Town to set up an escrow account and Attorney Afzali will assist in this matter. Supervisor Lefkaditis will be following up on the Knox Box, school district and county aspects of the program.

Supervisor Lefkaditis, Attorney Afzali, and Building Inspector Dan Sherman have been working of forms regarding the Blight Law and are almost complete. When the forms are complete all of the information will be added to the newsletter, and website.

The building use policy was discussed. Councilman Saddlemire expressed his concerns regarding rules for the new playground. Councilman Barber believes there may be a policy from the '90's that could apply to the playground and will check into it and let the Board know.

Doug Roether discussed the changing of the speed limit on Old Stage Road. Councilman Barcomb had placed a call to Angelo Santabarbara's office regarding Home Rule status and has not received any call back. He will follow up again. Mr. Roether would like a resolution for Home Rule. The Board discussed

pros and cons of Home Rule. Mrs. McCaulliff would like the Board to address the issue of cars not stopping at the bottom of Old Stage Road at the intersection with Route 156. Supervisor Lefkaditis will follow up with Gary Salisbury regarding replacing the current stop sign with a larger one at the bottom of Old Stage. Investigator Amy offered to post an Albany County Sheriff's Deputy at the problem area on Old Stage to raise awareness of having to stop at the intersection. Councilman Pritchard suggests a petition by residents to reduce speed limit. After polling the Board, Councilman Barber, Barcomb and Saddlemire stated they would support a resolution for home rule.

RESOLUTION 196-2018 – A motion was made by Councilman Saddlemire, seconded by Councilman Barcomb to petition Assemblyman Santabarbara and Senator Amedore to grant home rule over speed limits within the Town of Knox. The motion carried 3:2 with Councilmen Saddlemire, Barcomb and Barber voting Yay, Councilman Pritchard abstaining and Supervisor Lefkaditis voting Nay.

RESOLVED: to petition Assemblyman Santabarbara and Senator Amedore to grant home rule over speed limits within the Town of Knox.

RESOLUTION 197-2018 – A motion was made by Councilman Barcomb, seconded by Supervisor Lefkaditis to approve the Building Use Policy as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to approve the Building Use Policy as presented.

Supervisor Lefkaditis informed everyone that Vicki Vattimo will be helping with the newsletter and will be contacting all Board members for information. It will be mailed to residents in January.

Supervisor Lefkaditis would like to make a proclamation to two residents who saved the life of a young girl involved in a fiery crashed that took the life of her boyfriend. The Board agreed that this would be ok, and Supervisor Lefkaditis will reach out to those residents and will then go forward.

A discussion was held regarding the emergency lights within the Town Hall, and how several are not currently working and need replacement batteries. Supervisor Lefkaditis asked the Board members for help researching the price of replacement batteries. No members offered to help. Doug Roether, Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals offered to help and will provide estimated costs of replacement batteries.

A discussion was held regarding the Community Choice Aggregate Agreement (CCA), which was previously discussed approximately a month ago. A non-binding commitment in the form of a Resolution is needed to go any further with the Agreement. Supervisor Lefkaditis read the Resolution out-loud for the Board and public.

RESOLUTION 198-2018 – A motion was made by Councilman Barcomb, seconded by Supervisor Lefkaditis to approve the Energy Resolution as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to approve the Energy Resolution as presented.

A brief discussion took place regarding the conflict of interest policy currently in the handbook. Attorney Afzali explained that the Town of Knox's policy needs to be passed by local law in order to be effective. There will be a public hearing held in January regarding the Conflict of Interest Policy. It will be scheduled, and a legal notice posted in the Altamont Enterprise.

Supervisor Lefkaditis stated the generator will be serviced this week by CAT to prepare for the winter months ahead. He also stated the new AED batteries and pads have arrived and will be placed into the

devices as soon as possible. He also informed the Board that the credit cards have arrived. He and Gary Salisbury will each have a card. Mr. Salisbury's card has a limit of \$2500.00 and the Town Hall card has a limit of \$1000.00. The cards are to make on-line purchases easier and to save on shipping.

RESOLUTION 199-2018 - A motion was made by Councilman Barber, seconded by Councilman Saddlemire to accept the resignation of James McDonald from the ZBA effective 12/6/2018. This motion passed unanimously.

RESOLVED: to accept the resignation of James McDonald from the ZBA effective 12/6/2018.

Supervisor Lefkaditis has a call into the County Clerk regarding a grant for digitizing ZBA, PB and Building Inspector records. He will update the Board as soon as he has more information.

Supervisor Lefkaditis led a discussion regarding the posting of open positions and appointed positions. The Board decided to post all positions.

Councilman Barber and Councilman Saddlemire have completed interviews for the DCO position and propose Nicki Salisbury is capable for this position due to her familiarity of rabies protocols, grooming and handling of dogs.

RESOLUTION 192-2018 - A motion was made by Supervisor Lefkaditis, seconded by Councilman Barber to appoint Nicki Salisbury* to the position of Dog Control Officer effective January 1, 2019. This motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to appoint Nicki Salisbury to the position of Dog Control Officer effective January 1, 2019.

*Attorney Afzail pointed out that Nicki Salisbury is related to an elected official but there is no conflict of interest because the elected official has no control over what the DCO will be doing regarding budget, pay, management.

RESOLUTION 193-2018 - A motion was made by Councilman Barcomb, seconded by Councilman Pritchard to authorize the Supervisor to make NYS Retirement payment in the amount of \$39,218.90 from the highway account and \$13,708.10 from the general account. This motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to authorize the Supervisor to make NYS Retirement payment in the amount of \$39,218.90 from the highway account and \$13,708.10 from the general account.

RESOLUTION 194-2018 - A motion was made by Councilman Pritchard, seconded by Councilman Saddlemire to accept the Supervisor's and Clerk's report as presented. This motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to accept the Supervisor's and Clerk's report as presented.

RESOLUTION 195-2018 - A motion was made by Councilman Barcomb, seconded by Supervisor Lefkaditis to authorize the Supervisor to pay the bills from Abstract 12. This motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to accept the Supervisor's and Clerk's report as presented.

Public Comment

Mrs. McCauliff asked a question regarding what the official paper of the Town is. Councilman Barber and Supervisor Lefkaditis informed her it was the Altamont Enterprise. She stated she searched for records of certified copies of the financials that would have been posted in the Enterprise and was unable to find any and was wondering if any other paper had been used. Supervisor Lefkaditis stated no.

Joan Adriance thanked the Board for the general email that is now posted on the website. She also stated that she would like to have the Agenda's posted online with the minutes. She had questions regarding hunting permits, and stated she heard a rumor that people were being let into the Transfer Station after hours. Supervisor Lefkaditis stated he let one woman in after receiving a phone call from her stating she was very upset that she missed getting rid of her garbage due to the hours being changed.

Mike Vincent from the Town of Berne Planning Board announced that the Town of Berne has approved the building of a Dollar General.

RESOLUTION 196-2018 - A motion was made by Councilman Barcomb, seconded by Supervisor Lefkaditis to adjourn the meeting. This motion was unanimously approved.

RESOLVED: to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Traci Schanz
Knox Town Clerk