



Knox Town Board Minutes

June 11, 2019

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The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Lefkadits followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present on this date:

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

Absent on this date:

- Attorney Javid Afzali

RESOLUTION 099-2019 - A motion was made by Councilman Barcomb, seconded by Supervisor Lefkadits to suspend the public meeting of 6/11/19 to convene the public hearing on proposed local law 2 of 2019 definition of Home Occupation as described in the Knox Zoning Ordinance. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to suspend the public meeting of 6/11/19 to convene the public hearing on proposed local law 2 of 2019 for the purpose of the definition of Home Occupation as described in the Knox Zoning Ordinance.

-The proposed revision was put on the projector for the public to see.

-Questions were asked regarding the number of employees that were allowed, does the number change if employees are related, if persons had to be tenants of the property, etc.

-Board members were given a packet to review with all of the information involved regarding all that encompasses the law and definition and the changes that were made.

-Board members will email questions amongst themselves and Planning Board members and come back to this topic again at the next Town Board meeting when this public hearing is reconvened.

RESOLUTION 100-2019 - A motion was made by Councilman Barcomb, seconded by Councilman Pritchard, to suspend the public hearing on proposed local law 2 of 2019 definition of Home Occupation

as described in the Knox Zoning Ordinance and reconvene the public meeting of 6/11/19. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to suspend the public hearing on proposed local law 2 of 2019 definition of Home Occupation as described in the Knox Zoning Ordinance and reconvene the public meeting of 6/11/19.

Public Comment: Dennis Cyr – representing the VFW, American Legion and the Legion Riders. After placing 1,100 flags over the hill towns, he would like to ask the Town to reimburse the non-for-profit organizations for the cost of the flags for the Town of Knox.

As a Veteran Mr. Cyr thanked the Town of Knox and Knox Fire Department for the parades and ceremony. He stated it was a beautiful ceremony, thanked the Fire Department for their continuous support of the Legion. He stated he has taken part in many ceremonies over the years, and there has always been hiccups. He stated that it is the thought that counts, and everyone involved should be proud. He asked that people move past whatever mishaps may have happened and remember what the ceremonies are for.

Don Champion – stated for years he has been the moderator for the Memorial Day ceremonies in Knox. This year, he stated he was appalled. He forgives the Supervisor for an error in his speech when mentioning the Coast Guard rather than the National Guard, stating he has made mistakes himself. He stated he was appalled at the Board for the way the monument looked, for not taking care of it, and asked the Board not to let it happen again. Supervisor Lefkaditis spoke for the Board, stating that the Board apologizes, and in light of the suggestions that Mr. Champion has made, everything has been torn out around the monument and it will be re-done. He welcomed Don to help with the new design. Mr. Champion has spoken with Councilman Saddlemire and they will work together for a new design. Councilman Saddlemire invited the public and other veterans to participate in the new design. Mr. Champion has a friend who is an engineer for GE and will help with the design.

RESOLUTION 101-2019 - A motion was made by Supervisor Lefkaditis, seconded by Councilman Pritchard, to donate \$110.00 to the American Legion for Memorial Day flags. suspend the public hearing on proposed local law 2 of 2019 definition of Home Occupation as described in the Knox Zoning Ordinance and reconvene the public meeting of 6/11/19. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to suspend the public hearing on proposed local law 2 of 2019 definition of Home Occupation as described in the Knox Zoning Ordinance and reconvene the public meeting of 6/11/19.

Presentations

Liaison reports: There are no liaison reports.

Kathy Stemple from the Berne library invited everyone to the summer reading program. The program is available to children and adults alike. Donna Gwin will be conducting the Story Walk within the park again this summer. The walking path is currently being worked on, and Kathy will let Donna know.

RESOLUTION 102-2019 - A motion was made by Councilman Barcomb, seconded by Supervisor Lefkaditis, to approve the May 14, 2019 minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to approve the May 14, 2019 minutes.

Highway Superintendent report: nothing to report. Councilman Barber mentioned that he has asked Gary to work with the Berne Highway Supervisor to hand the Pucker Street Fair banner across Route 156. Superintendent Bashwinger is present in the audience and Supervisor Lefkaditis thanked him for his help with this for several years now.

Transfer Station: Dumping fees have increased to \$70.00/ton in six months. Supervisor Lefkaditis would like to schedule a workshop or special meeting on a Wednesday to have the Transfer Station employees attend to discuss SOPs. Wednesday, June 19th @ 8:00pm.

Old Business:

Blight: Councilman Barcomb spoke with Building Inspector Dan Sherman offering to help with Blight law. He stated he has not heard back from him yet. Councilman Barcomb suggested holding a workshop to have Dan Sherman attend to go over forms and blight conditions. Supervisor Lefkaditis suggested the same day as the SOPs and Councilman Barcomb suggested starting earlier, so the time was changed to 7:00pm on June 19th.

Parking lot striping: Supervisor Lefkaditis will speak with the Commissioners regarding the need for a fire lane and if it is necessary. Superintendent Salisbury stated the one-way signs were posted due to snow removal and parking issues in the winter. Councilman Barber will revisit gathering estimates after Supervisor Lefkaditis speaks with the Fire Commissioners. This will be added to the next agenda.

Councilman Barcomb asked when the public hearings will be scheduled for the MRD. He would like to schedule them in July in August in two meeting are required while the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals work concurrently on the MRD. Supervisor Lefkaditis will verify how many public hearings are necessary and then schedule them beginning in July if two are needed and in August if only one is needed.

New Business:

Proposed Local Law 2 of 2019 definition of Home Occupation will be rescheduled for the July 2019 meeting.

The zero-turn mower is having difficulty continually running for two seasons now and will have to be replaced sooner rather than later. The Town has been using Supervisor Lefkaditis' personal mower. It has been sent out to be repaired as well as Superintendent Salisbury and his crew have tried to fix it and it still does not work properly. Nothing will be acted on right away, but this will need to be revisited at a later date.

Supervisor Lefkaditis addressed the issue of having meetings streamed live. He stated he likes the idea that Mrs. Gagnon has brought up previously regarding Facebook live, but Supervisor Lefkaditis would like to purchase two small cameras so that one faces the Board and one faces the audience.

There was a discussion regarding the closing of the Berne doctor's office. There are fears regarding the strain this will place on patients, senior residents and emergency responders. Many suggestions were made regarding an increase in senior bussing, options to sponsor a private entity through municipalities in order to run a business and grants for underserved areas. Supervisor Lefkaditis has been in touch with Assemblymen, Senators, Community Care, physicians and residents regarding possible solutions. Supervisor Lefkaditis will reach out to other Town Supervisors and move forward.

The Senior bus is no longer working, but the Senior van is working just fine. Supervisor Lefkaditis will continue working with CDTA and BKW on the purchase of a used bus and continue a shared agreement with Berne and let other towns use it as well. Amy Pokorny suggests towns setting money aside for Uber rides for Seniors. Supervisor Lefkaditis will forward this idea to Charlotte Fuss.

RESOLUTION 103-2019 - A motion was made by Councilman Barber, seconded by Councilman Pritchard to accept the Supervisor and Clerk reports as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

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

There was a brief discussion regarding the closing of the Key Bank accounts and fees associated with it.

RESOLUTION 104-2019 - A motion was made by Councilman Saddlemire, seconded by Councilman Pritchard to authorize the Supervisor to pay the bills. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to authorize the Supervisor to pay the bills.

RESOLUTION 105-2019 - A motion was made by Supervisor Lefkaditis, seconded by Councilman Pritchard to pay the Pucker Street Fair bills as presented, not to exceed \$4,602.75. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to pay the Pucker Street Fair bills as presented, not to exceed \$4,602.75.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A. Pokorny – Wondering when the next park committee meeting was being held. ZBA Chair Roether and the Clerk replied that the meeting is scheduled for 6/20 and it has been posted on the website.

C. Gufstafson – Inquired about the speed limit on Zimmer Road being reduced stating she had requested it a while back. Councilman Barcomb stated the Home Rule option is still being worked on with Assemblyman Santabarbara’s office and he will reach out to see if he can get an update.

B. McCauliffe – Inquired if the Town has been provided with a date for the audit. Supervisor Lefkaditis stated no date has been given. Also inquired if 2018 had been filed yet. Supervisor Lefkaditis stated no, but it will be soon. Councilman Barcomb inquired if an extension had been filed, and Supervisor Lefkaditis stated yes, but the extension is up.

RESOLUTION 106-2019 - A motion was made by Councilman Barcomb seconded by Councilman Pritchard, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Traci Schanz
Knox Town Clerk