



# Knox Town Board Minutes

*June 13, 2023*

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

Present on this date:

- Supervisor Pokorny
- Councilman Cyr
- Councilman Saddlemire
- Councilwoman Springer
- Councilman Pritchard
- Town Clerk Schanz
- Highway Superintendent Schanz

**RESOLUTION 099-2023** A motion was made by Supervisor Pokorny seconded by Councilman Saddlemire to approve the minutes from the May 2023 meeting as presented. This motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** to approve the minutes from the May 2023 meeting as presented.

## **Presentations:**

Nancy Williams from Section 8 provided the Board with a review of the Section 8 program that is used/provided within the Town. The program was initiated in 1995 and currently has 12 families receiving assistance, with 92% being elderly or disabled. Outreach is done to make people, both landlords and recipients, aware of the program. Knox does not have a lot of Section 8 housing, sometimes making it difficult to provide housing for those in need. Nancy is concerned that if the vouchers do not get used, eventually HUD will want to recapture the monies. If the monies allocated for the program are not used, it will be revoked eventually.

Michael Uvegas asked for an update on the speed limit reduction request on Church Road. Supervisor Pokorny advised him that the request had been sent and it is now in the hands of the County Highway Superintendent and will then go on to the state.

There was a brief discussion regarding Verizon Connect. Superintendent Schanz states he does not need or want it. The Board is ok with this, and there will be no further discussion regarding it.

The Clerk provided the Board with an update on the installation of the new key fab system. The contractor has been installing the wiring needed for the system, and will continue to do so over the next few weeks. The next step is to provide a list of names of people who require fabs. The Board and Clerk will discuss this at the next meeting a finalize the list.

Street Road solar update: a 6' fence is required to go around the project area (80x102). Quotes need to be sought for the cost of fencing. The possibility of renting a post hole digger will be looked into as well, to be used by the highway department to assist with the installation of the fence. A Knox Box will also be required at the project.

Park concession update: Plans have been made and received from an engineer. Councilman Cyr will be going over them and will talk with the building inspector and engineer about a few things so that they are all on the same page.

Transfer Station rebuild update: The new compactors have been working nicely and it seems as though the residents are pleased with how things are working. Two quotes have been provided for plans for the new design. The prices range significantly from \$9,000.00-\$50,000.00. Once plans are decided upon then the RFP process can start.

Highway garage barn repair update: David Zook has submitted a bid of \$32,000.00 for a new roof, repairs to the rafter ties and replacing wood as needed to fill in missing pieces/gaps in siding. The Board members will go and look at the building, and this will be revisited next month. Councilman Saddlemire asked about the procurement policy, wondering about amounts and number of bids that must be received. Advertising was discussed as well, as a way of getting more bids. The Supervisor will place an ad in the paper.

School bus passing fines update: The Supervisor received communication back from the Town Attorney's stating they are willing and able to participate in the prosecution process. A discussion ensued regarding whether or not the Town should participate in this process, how many cases may or may not happen in the town, and how much would the town have to pay the attorney above and beyond the retainer fee. Supervisor Pokorny will ask a representative from the county to come to next month's meeting to discuss this and answer any questions.

There was a discussion regarding the harassment training that is required to be completed. The Supervisor will try and schedule a date and time so that all town employees and board members can attend.

There was a discussion regarding several openings within the town. The Assessor position was discussed in regard to how the applicant wishes to be paid. This was discussed and approved by the town attorney and the Board has agreed to hire the applicant.

**RESOLUTION 100-2023** A motion was made by Supervisor Pokorny seconded by Councilman Cyr to hire John Bonanno as the Town Assessor beginning July 1, 2023 with his pay split between salary (amount?) and contract. This motion carried unanimously, 4:1, Councilman Saddlemire voting NAY.

**RESOLVED:** to hire John Bonanno as the Town Assessor beginning July 1, 2023 with his pay split between salary (amount?) and contract.

Peter Farqueson (sp?) has resigned from the CAC. The board accepts his resignation with thanks for his service.

**RESOLUTION 101-2023** A motion was made by Supervisor Pokorny seconded by Councilman Pritchard to accept the resignation of Peter F. from the CAC. This motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** to accept the resignation of Peter F. from the CAC

There was a brief discussion regarding an opening on the Planning Board. The PB recommends Zach Martineau to the open position on the Board. Further discussion was held regarding two PB members who have not attended meetings, and the PB would like to apply the local law regarding lack of attendance and dismissal of these members. One member was contacted and has agreed to step down. The other member has not been contacted yet. There was a suggestion made to reduce the number of members from 7 to 5. Ed Ackroyd stated the PB did not vote on this and wanted to clarify that this was not a PB decision, but rather the Chair's preference. Councilman Saddlemire suggested the PB discuss it at their next meeting and inform the Board of their wishes. This will be revisited next month.

**RESOLUTION 102-2023** A motion was made by Supervisor Pokorny seconded by Councilwoman Springer to appoint Zach Martineau to the planning board with a term of ????????. This motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** to appoint Zach Martineau to the planning board with a term of ????????

Councilwoman Springer provided an update on the Pucker Street Fair. Fireworks, vendors and crafters have been confirmed. She is still looking for volunteers, but is excited and hoping that all goes well!

Highway Superintendent Schanz would like to advertise for the positions he needs to fill. The ad will go on the website, face book and paper.

There was a discussion regarding Steve Choiniere and his request to the town to give him the property that is the end of his driveway, used as a turn-around circle. He would like this property given to him so he can pave the entire driveway and not have to worry about the portion that the town owns. The Supervisor will speak with the town attorney regarding the issue.

There was a brief discussion regarding a soil and water grant that came before the supervisor. He submitted an application for a grant for Street Road (wash away area) and the Boardwalk repairs.

**RESOLUTION 103-2023** A motion was made by Supervisor Pokorny seconded by Councilman Saddlemire to approve reimbursement to Eric Marczak in the amount of \$26.30 for purchases made for the Boardwalk repairs. This motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** to approve reimbursement to Eric Marczak in the amount of \$26.30 for purchases made for the Boardwalk repairs.

There is an open house for Senior Citizens at the Senior Center on 6/29/23. This will be posted on the website.

**RESOLUTION 104-2023** A motion was made by Councilwoman Springer seconded by Councilman Cyr to hire Glen Polito as the Youth Coordinator, pending a background check. This motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** to hire Glen Polito as the Youth Coordinator, pending a background check.

**RESOLUTION 105-2023** A motion was made by Councilwoman Springer seconded by Councilman Pritchard to pay Richard Grant in the amount of \$3440.00 for work completed at the transfer station. This motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** to pay Richard Grant in the amount of \$3,440.00 for work completed at the transfer station.

**RESOLUTION 106-2023** A motion was made by Councilman Pritchard seconded by Councilman Saddlemire to pay Sun Common in the amount of \$50,946.00, 50% of the total cost, (from the line item with the maintenance money) This motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** to pay Sun Common in the amount of \$50,946.00, 50% of the total cost, (from the line item with the maintenance money)

**RESOLUTION 107-2023** A motion was made by Councilwoman Springer seconded by Councilman Saddlemire to hire Ray Decker Jr. as a part-time seasonal (under 20 hours/week) employee. This motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** to hire Ray Decker Jr. as a part-time seasonal employee.

**RESOLUTION 108-2023** A motion was made by Councilwoman Springer seconded by Councilman Saddlemire to purchase a 2017 New Holland 4WD tractor/loader w/ snowblower, and an auto feed chipper in the amount of \$41,500.00. This motion carried unanimously, 4:0, Councilman Cyr voting NAY.

**RESOLVED:** to purchase a 2017 New Holland 4WD tractor/loader w/ snowblower, and an auto feed chipper in the amount of \$41,500.00.

**RESOLUTION 109-2023** - A motion was made by Supervisor Pokorny seconded by Councilman Saddlemire to authorize the Supervisor to pay the bills from Abstract #006 including voucher #'s 139-161 in the General Account, totaling \$12,353.05 and voucher #'s 162-174 in the Highway Fund, totaling \$17,138.19. This motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** to authorize the Supervisor to pay the bills from Abstract #006 including voucher #'s 139-161 in the General Account, totaling \$12,353.05 and voucher #'s 162-174 in the Highway Fund, totaling \$17,138.19.

**RESOLUTION 110-2023** - A motion was made by Councilman Saddlemire seconded by Councilwoman Springer to accept the Clerk's reports as presented for May and June of 2023. This motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** to accept the Clerk's reports as presented for May and June of 2023.

**RESOLUTION 111-2023** - A motion was made by Councilman Saddlemire seconded by Councilman Pritchard to accept the Supervisor's report as presented. This motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** to accept the Supervisor's report as presented

There was a discussion regarding issues with Culligan water delivery and maintenance. Also, water coolers were moved around between the transfer station and parks garage without anyone knowing where they should be. The Supervisor will continue to work on this issue.

**RESOLUTION 112-2023** - A motion was made by Councilman Saddlemire seconded by Councilman Pritchard to add Ray Wieler to the municipal phone contract with Verizon. This motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** to add Ray Wieler to the municipal phone contract with Verizon.

A very brief discussion was held regarding another Hazardous Waste Day, in response to a question from a resident. The town will not be having another day for approximately a year or so from now.

There was a discussion regarding the usage of the Parks Truck by other employees. Milage records must be maintained by each employee who uses it and submitted to the Supervisor monthly.

**RESOLUTION 113-2023** - A motion was made by Councilwoman Springer seconded by Councilman Pritchard to adjourn the meeting. This motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

*Traci Schanz*

Traci Schanz  
Knox Town Clerk