

**Town of Knox  
Regular Meeting  
May 14, 2013**

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

**ALSO:** Town Attorney Dorfman  
Town Clerk Swain  
Highway Superintendent Salisbury

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Judy Petrosillo, Manager of the Berne Library reported to the board on the 2012 Annual Report. Currently, there are 1,100 total library card holders, 179 are Knox residents. There were 7,718 library visitors in 2012. The library has 15,201 total items in collection, 1,033 items were added in 2012. Purchased new audio books on MP3 players, and new children's audio books on handheld players.

The operating budget for 2012 was \$37,814; the operating disbursements were \$34,711. \$20,875 is six combined staff salaries.

Kathy Stempel, director of youth services reported on the programs available. Story time, adult book clubs, family movie night and the summer reading program.

Mary Kinnaird, President of the Library Trustees, announced that the Berne Library has received five awards from the Upper Hudson Library Services (UHLS). This year Donna Qwin, President of "Friends of the Library" has been nominated for an award from the UHLS. By the end of this year the library should be in the new building.

Daniel Driscoll, a Trustee of the Knox Historical Society, reported on the repairs needed at the Saddlemire Homestead. A few items in need of repairs can be done without hiring someone. Drywall and painting of a room and install wainscoting in the one room schoolhouse will be done by themselves. The major repairs such as repairing or replacing the roof, painting the exterior of the building and repairing the floor joists and support beams. The Historical Society would like to display an original lever style voting machine in the museum, but due to the weight of the machine and inspecting the floor joists, the need for replacing them is a concern.

The town should look into the replacement of the floor joists and support beams, Supervisor Hammond to inspect along with Robert Delaney, set a date to inspect the building. Councilman Viscio suggested that the chimney be removed before replacing the roof.

Zenie Gladieux reported on the progress of the Helderberg Hilltowns Association (HHA). The HHA preserving and promoting farms, businesses, culture and recreation in Berne, Knox,

Westerlo, and Rensselaerville, NY. Creating publicity for Hilltown events – Seven-Town-Hound Calendar; <http://seventownhound.info/> for a listing of events in the Hilltowns. The website for the HHA is; [www.hilltowns.org](http://www.hilltowns.org), website includes a list of products and services available in the Hilltowns. The Hilltowns Community Market and Hilltowns Café will be held again this year at the Mason’s Lodge in Berne on Saturdays from June 1 through October 12, 2013. Discussed the scheduled events for 2013; 2<sup>nd</sup> annual SAP 5K Run was held on March 24<sup>th</sup>, Berne House and Garden Tour (HAG) during Summer Fest on August 24<sup>th</sup> and fundraiser at park, Farmers and Artisans Tour (FAT) to be held September 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. Projects that the HHA are working on; Suitcases of History with Berne and Knox Historical Societies. Other proposed projects are: Community Information Bulletin Boards and signposts for local businesses, 10K in Partridge Run, USDA community kitchen, Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program and Seniors’ Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program.

Councilwoman Pokorny reported that a notice to residents regarding the survey for the comprehensive plan was in the May 9<sup>th</sup> edition of the Altamont Enterprise.

**Town of Knox Survey**

**May, 2013**

Town of Knox **citizens of all ages** are asked to participate in this Survey to help set priorities for the future as the Town updates the Comprehensive Plan. **Everyone’s input counts.**

Please write down your thoughts on your own paper to answer the following three main questions. Provide as much detail as you like.

**1. What do you appreciate and value about living in Knox or what aspects of life here would you like to be protected?**

(If you have any suggestions for protecting them, please describe.)

**2. What issues concern you about living in Knox, or what problems need to be addressed?**

(If you have any ideas for addressing them, please describe.)

**3. What kind of place would you like Knox to be 15 years from now?**

Please send survey responses to:

**SURVEY  
PO Box 56  
Knox NY 12107**

(If you would like to receive future correspondence or updates from the Town, please include your email address.) If you have questions, please contact me at 872-1879 or [alpokorny@nycap.rr.com](mailto:alpokorny@nycap.rr.com)

Topics you may want to consider as you answer the survey questions:

Aesthetics (maintenance of buildings and scenery, preservation of local architecture), Agriculture, Business, Community Relations, Culture and History, Economy, Energy, Environment, Government, Housing, Natural resources, Open space, Public Health and Safety, Recreation, Roads, Schools, Services, Transportation, Waste Management And feel free to add your own areas of interest.

The notice in the local paper was the first approach to reach out to residents, at the lowest cost to

the town. When the Emergency Preparedness mailer was sent out to all residents, the cost for that was \$500.00. Travis Stevens commented that other approaches should be made to get this survey out to all residents. Not many will respond by the ad in the local paper. Pamela Fenoff agreed to this and suggested posting it elsewhere, as many places as possible.

Supervisor Hammond reported on the meeting he had with the Workers' Comp Alliance. All paid and unpaid employees of the town need to attend mandatory meetings on an annual basis. Set a date and hold presentations here at the town hall. Will report back with time and date.

Town Attorney Dorfman sent an e-mail to all board members regarding the employee handbook. He suggested two handbooks; for the highway employees and another for all other town employees. The town board will have to appoint a panel of three (3) employees to received complaints related to sexual harassment.

Supervisor Hammond reported that the Sugar Maple Tree was purchased for the dedication to Edward Schmitt.

Councilman Barber reported on the activities planned for the Memorial Day Parade by the Youth Council, Ice Cream Social; dedication ceremony for Edward Schmitt. The youth soccer program would like to purchase jerseys, nets and paint, not to exceed \$600.00.

Discussed the proposed changes to the Zoning Ordinance to comply with New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets. NYS Department of Ag. & Markets made changes in 2002 which the town needs to comply with.

**RESOLUTION # 55 – ADVERTISE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CHANGES TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO COMPLY WITH NYS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS**

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

RESOLVED to hold a public hearing on June 11, 2013 at 7:30PM to propose changes to the Zoning Ordinance.

Highway Superintendent Salisbury highway report for May 2013:

- Discussed the condition of the hopper at the Transfer Station, need to replace tracks, shoes and side panel. Has contacted Jeffrey Grippin to do the welding. Scheduled to work on this Monday, May 20, 2013.
- Need to replace the air/hydraulic jack, safety an issue with the one that needs to be replaced. The cost of the new jack is \$1,700.00.
- Received permits for Dutch Settlement Road, waiting for final approval to start Hill and Dale Road. Would like to do the roads simultaneously for the purpose of renting equipment for the jobs.
- Waiting on quotes for chip sealing.
- Replacing 6 tires on grader, front tires on Challenger, front tires on #18 and # 19

- Replaced cable on hoist of garbage truck
- Put stone dust, crusher run and calcium on Becker and Litts Road for dust control and stabilization
- Cutting dead trees along road sides
- Still waiting on monthly budget report (received report at this meeting)

Supervisor Hammond stated that the Historical Society has two costly items for repair: replacing the roof and painting the building. The board didn't budget for any of these repairs; advertise for a request for Proposal for the roof. Councilman Viscio suggests the chimney be taking down before the roof is replaced.

**RESOLUTION # 56 – ADVERTISE FOR A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR REPLACING THE ROOF ON THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY BUILDING**

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

RESOLVED to advertise for request for proposals for replacing the roof of the Historical Society.

Councilman Barber passed the Town of Berne's newsletter around to the board members. Would like to see Knox have something of this kind. Councilman Barber volunteered to get something together for the Knox newsletter.

Supervisor Hammond reported that the sales tax received was \$11,000 below what the town received this time last year.

Town Clerk Swain reported that the Black Creek Retriever Club donating \$50.00 for the use of the town hall for a training seminar held on April 27, 2013.

**RESOLUTION # 57 - APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

RESOLVED that the minutes of the April 2013 meeting be approved

**RESOLUTION # 58 - APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS**

On motion of Councilman Barber, seconded by Councilman Decker, 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 April 2013 be approved.

**RESOLUTION # 59 - PAYMENT OF BILLS**

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

RESOLVED that the Bills be paid on General Abstract #05 of the General Fund, covering claims # 90-105 and of the Highway Fund, covering claims # 106-121 for the year 2013.

With no further business, on a motion of Councilman Decker, seconded by Councilman Viscio, the meeting was adjourned at 9:17p.m. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,  
May 22, 2013

Kimberly D. Swain