

**Town of Knox  
Regular Meeting  
August 19, 2014**

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

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Supervisor Hammond opened the floor to John Elberfeld from the Knox Historical Society to discuss the idea of hanging historical pictures and documents at the Town Hall to be displayed in the lobby area. John proposed installing a similar display system to that of the Voorheesville Public Library - which consists of a permanent metal gallery rail installed high on the wall, from which metal rods are hung. The metal rods are more versatile and can have different kinds of hooks and fasteners attached to them to display different pictures and items without putting holes in the walls.

Supervisor Hammond mentioned that he had seen a similar display at the Princetown Town Hall recently and thought it would be a wonderful addition to the Knox Town Hall. The board was in full agreement that this would be a great addition to the Town Hall and a nice way to extend the display time for some of the wonderful historical items currently at the historical museum.

Supervisor Hammond and the board agreed that they would like to move forward on this project and will work with the Historical Society to install a display system that will work best.

Anna Wolfe asked the Board for a Comprehensive Plan update.

Councilwoman Pokorny reported that almost 25% of households have responded so far which has met the goal set. Last minute responses will of course be accepted as well. The next step will be to get all of the paper copies keyed into SurveyMonkey software so that the reports can be run and analyzed. Councilwoman Pokorny explained that everything written on the survey will be keyed in exactly as it was written on the paper survey so as not to miss anyone's input. At the September board meeting a follow-up meeting will be scheduled at which time specific questions can be analyzed in more detail.

Travis Stevens asked about Knox Park and the boardwalk needing some repairs.

Supervisor Hammond agreed that over time the elements and wear/tear on the boardwalk has created some issues that need to be addressed. Supervisor Hammond suggested that the boardwalk be closed off until it can be repaired and that the town will need to find people interested in helping with the repairs.

Supervisor Hammond read the following resolution:

***BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Supervisor of the Town of Knox is hereby authorized to:*

- 1. Pay the principal sum of \$ 80,000.00 and interest in the amount of \$11,375.70 through and including September 6, 2014 to Key Bank pursuant to the Bond anticipatory note executed by the Town of Knox on September 7, 2013.*
- 2. Execute a one year extension of the Bond Anticipatory Note on the remaining principal amount owned to Key Bank after payment of the principal amount of \$80,000.00 at an annual interest rate not to exceed 1.48 per cent per annum. Said amount owed after said payments is \$ 639,981.00.*
- 3. Authorize the Town Attorney to execute an opinion of Counsel directed to Key Bank setting forth the compliance by the Town of Knox of all statutory requirements for the renewal of said Bond Anticipation Note.*
- 4. Renew a certain Bond Anticipation Note with Key Bank in the amount of \$ 639,981.00 at an interest rate not to exceed 1.48 per cent for a period of one year commencing September 7, 2014.*

**RESOLUTION #80-2014 – AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO RENEW BOND ANTICIPATORY NOTE**

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

RESOLVED to authorize Supervisor to renew Bond Anticipatory Note.

Supervisor Hammond reported that he would like to reschedule the report to be presented by the Knox Conservation Advisory Council until the September meeting.

**RESOLUTION #81-2014 – APPOINT MARY LOEBER AS PART-TIME MINUTES**

**RECORDER TO THE PLANNING BOARD**

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

RESOLVED to appoint Mary Loeber as part-time Minutes Recorder to the Planning Board.

Supervisor Hammond reported that the new International truck has been received and is at the highway garage. Funds will need to be transferred for final payment.

**RESOLUTION #82-2014 – AUTHORIZE TRANSFER OF \$184,349 FROM RESERVE FUND TO HIGHWAY FUND DA5130.2 FOR PAYMENT ON NEW INTERNATIONAL TRUCK**

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

RESOLVED to authorize the transfer of \$184,349 from reserve fund to Highway Fund DA5130.2 for payment on the new International truck.

Councilman Viscio reported that he has been approached by several residents about reducing the speed limit on Seabury Road. Several residents have reported several near misses with large trucks from a business in Schoharie who is using Seabury Road as a thoroughfare. When the business was approached by the concerned residents their comments were not well received and so they are asking for the towns help in helping to make this road safer.

Highway Superintendent Salisbury mentioned that he receives calls like this weekly, about this issue as well as other roads. The town can set weight limit but not speed limit. Reducing the weight limit may keep heavier truck traffic down but in order to reduce the speed the town would have to apply to lower the speed with Albany County. Salisbury also mentioned that roads like Seabury are not built for that kind of capacity and traffic so he will look into it and determine a reasonable weight limit for that road.

Supervisor Hammond asked Town attorney Dorfman to look into options for setting town-wide speed limit to 30 to prevent issues such as this in the future. In the meantime the town will begin the process for applying to lower the speed limit of Seabury Road with Albany County.

**RESOLUTION #83-2014 – PURSUE THE REDUCTION OF SPEED SURVEY REQUEST WITH ALBANY COUNTY FOR SEABURY ROAD.**

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

RESOLVED to pursue the reduction of speed survey request with Albany County for Seabury Road.

Supervisor Hammond, along with Bob Price, Councilwoman Pokorny and Russ Pokorny, attended a DEC sponsored workshop in Newburg on July 15<sup>th</sup> that exposed the group to a broad

range of programs available at no cost to educate townspeople and officials about implementing residential or large scale solar power systems.

Supervisor Hammond announced that the town will be hosting a Solar Power Seminar on August 26<sup>th</sup> from 1-5pm to discuss and help educate residents and other town officials about options for the Town of Knox.

Bob Price reported that he expects about 30 people to attend this workshop, with Planning Board and Zoning Board members coming from Knox and Berne and perhaps other neighboring towns.

Supervisor Hammond mentioned that he, along with Councilman Viscio, Russ Pokorny and Bob Price met with several Princetown officials and took a tour of the municipal solar PV system installed at the Princetown Town Hall. The Princetown officials spoke very highly of the system and of the substantial savings it will bring the town.

Councilman Viscio mentioned and thanked Russ and Amy Pokorny for their work in the Helderberg Community Energy group which has served as a think tank for alternative energy for our community over the years.

**RESOLUTION #84-2014 – AUTHORIZE KNOX PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS TO RECEIVE 4 CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS FOR ATTENDANCE AT THE KNOX SOLAR SEMINAR.**

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

RESOLVED to authorize Knox Planning Board members to receive 4 Continuing Education credits for attendance at the Knox Solar Seminar on August 26, 2014.

Planning Board Chairman, Bob Price, reported that Building Inspector Bob Delaney came to the Planning Board with concerns about how to address building permits and projects with regards to the special codes afforded to agricultural districts. Delaney was going to look into how other towns work with this and report back.

Supervisor Hammond reported that there was a malfunction at the Town Hall last week with one of the air handlers in the basement. It seems a belt failed which caused the system to break and leak. The repair will have to happen soon before heating season starts. Both belts and filters have been replaced but further repairs will need to be done.

Councilman Viscio suggested that a sticker be placed on all thermostats asking people not to adjust them.

**RESOLUTION #85-2014 - PAYMENT OF BILLS**

On motion of Councilman Barber, seconded by Councilwoman Pokorny, the following

resolution was ADOPTED                      AYES 5              NAYS 0

RESOLVED that the Bills be paid on General Abstract #08 of the General Fund, covering claims #208-229 + 314 in the amount of \$17,105.52 and of the Highway Fund, covering claims #230-313 in the amount of \$268,620.58 for the year 2014.

**RESOLUTION # 86-2014 - APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

RESOLVED that the minutes of the July 8, 2014 meeting be approved.

**RESOLUTION # 87-2014 - APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS**

On motion of Councilman Viscio, seconded by Councilwoman Pokorny, 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 July 2014 be approved.

Highway Superintendent Salisbury reported that Tabor and Zimmer roads have been paved and the cost of supplies went a little over what was estimated. Salisbury suggested that a single seal be applied to both roads to protect them which should cost approximately \$20,000. He also reported that Becker Road is almost complete and Street Road will be done tomorrow and both of these jobs came under budget. Some blacktop patching is left which should cost approximately \$1,500-2,000 to complete that. Salisbury then requested an Executive Session.

Supervisor Hammond reported that the Girl Scouts came over to put together the new sandbox for the Town Park and had a lot of fun working on it. It is all ready to be installed at the park now. Supervisor Hammond also mentioned that the large pine tree out front of the Town Hall is completely dead and will need to come down.

Councilman Barber stated that the Youth Soccer Program will be starting soon. Supervisor Hammond stated that Louie has the field all set and looking good.

Councilwoman Pokorny announced that Mavin Technologies (electronics recycling company for Knox Transfer Station) will no longer be accepting old (CRT) televisions. The last of them have been picked up and signs will have to be put up letting people know that they can no longer leave them there to be recycled until the town comes up with a solution.

Also mentioned was the Hilltowns Farms and Artisans Tours coming up September 13-14.

**RESOLUTION #88-2014 – ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

RESOLVED to enter into executive session regarding highway personnel matters.

Return to general session at 9:16pm

**RESOLUTION #89-2014 – RETURN INTO GENERAL SESSION AT 9:16PM**

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

RESOLVED to return to general session.

**RESOLUTION #90-2014 – MOTION TO CHANGE JAMES SCHAGER EMPLOYEE STATUS FROM PROBATIONARY TO PERMANENT OPERATOR ONE STATUS EFFECTIVE NEXT PAYROLL**

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

RESOLVED to change James Schager employee status from probationary to permanent Operator One status, effective next payroll – Monday, August 25<sup>th</sup>.

With no further business, on a motion of Councilwoman Pokorny, seconded by Councilman Decker, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20p.m. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,  
September 3, 2014

Tara Murphy