

Town of Hamilton Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 10, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.
Held at the Court House, 60 Montgomery Street, Hamilton, NY

Present: Peter Darby, David Holcomb, Suzanne Collins, Chris Rossi. Absent: Eve Ann Shwartz. Others Present: Sue Reymers, Jason Florenz, Brynley Wilcox. Public: Angel Rogers, John Taibi, Eileen Augustyn.

Call to order & Welcome: Deputy Supervisor Darby called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

Public Comments: Angel Rogers from Hubbardsville attended due to issues with speeding and a lack of stopping at the stop sign on Quarterline Road, Kylie Road and Green Road. They all have little kids out there and they are very concerned. There have been accidents. They have called the troopers (state) and the sheriffs and they say that they don't have permission to come out there and sit. So Angel is here to beg the town board help and do something. Ms. Rossi seconded that because she lives in Hubbardsville and she can hear tires screeching. Ms. Rogers continued that there is also a few particular ones that come through there from the bar in Brookfield. They are drunk and romping on their engines and going by their houses at 11:30 at night. Everyone has gone after these kids and they retaliate and continue to do it. Mr. Darby asked who the troopers need permission from. Ms. Rogers stated it's not their jurisdiction. They need permission or something from the town to go out there. A few years ago, there was a kid killed out there and they don't want it to happen again. The board discussed the jurisdiction and it was determined that it's a County Sheriff's jurisdiction. The board agreed that Eve Ann could do something at the County level. Clerk Reymers got her contact information. Ms. Rossi also stated that John Ball would be at the Farmer's Market at the Democratic Booth on Saturday and she said that she could be there. There was further discussion on the signage and speed limit on the road. The board expressed their appreciation for bringing this to their attention.

John Taibi asked to address the board as a non-town resident. He introduced himself as someone from Stockbridge. He wanted to say a few things about the demise of the railroad station. When Mr. Taibi originally heard of the project, he was aghast because he did not like the idea of political forces stepping in to wreak havoc with historic artifacts. When he called Clerk Reymers, he really lambasted her, but she was polite, she listened, and turned him around when she told him the board's plans. He said that this really is quite a project. He's a railroad historian, author and preservationist, and because he lives in a railroad station, it's in the forefront of his writings and desires to preserve these old buildings. Over the years, however, he's been involved with similar projects with other towns and he always thinks that you can't save everything. What can be saved is great. As elderly as the station was, there's a few other elderly stations in Madison County that can be focused on. When he was considering his plan of

remodeling, then dismantlement, and then when it came to the unfortunate demolition stage, he thought it is unfortunate, but the thing that pleased him throughout the process was that the thought process that the town board had all along. Always keeping in mind the historic correctness of the building, that all these things that you try to maintain. Even if the building was going to have to succumb. The best part of what you did was that you did not need a so-called expert like him, it was done on your own. He came here this evening to applaud all of you. We'll all be sad that the old station is gone. People will always wonder why this had to happen. He believes that there is a majority of people who will agree with the logic used throughout this process to utilize the town's resources in the best interest of the tax payers. Thank you for your consideration. Mr. Taibi paid compliments to the highway department for their first class work. The Town of Hamilton is fortunate to have people of their caliber.

Peter Darby commented that John Taibi has given us a lot of advice on what we should preserve and how we should preserve it. And he himself, cut out large sections of the walls that had graffiti dating back to the early days, which he is holding onto along with the transom windows until we are ready for them.

Mr. Taibi continued that while he was displeased at the loss of the building, it was a good opportunity to learn a lot about old buildings and railroad stations. How they erected them and the methods they employed to build them. The best way to figure how they put them up is to take them down. He did get a chance to examine it. When the town has the new building open it is going to be wonderful. He could only think of two other cases where townships built stations to replace it, so the town falls into a small category. Mr. Taibi offered his help in the future. The board thanked him.

Ms. Eileen Augustyn did have a comment as well. She had interest in the building as well because she is an archeologist. She wondered why there was not public knowledge of this happening. She wondered if the best documentation could have happened of the building before its demise. If it had to go, she does not have a strong opinion as she was not part of the whole process, except that she cares about old buildings. For example, what was in the ground. She wondered if it was glossed over. There are archeologists in the area that would have helped, either or at Colgate or at the County. Mr. Darby responded that we did not seek them out. This has been public information. The town published each month notes from the town board meetings in the paper and this has been discussed for months and months. And there was an article on May 5 saying that it would have to be torn down. Except for John, there was no response from the public until the day that it actually came down. Ms. Rossi stated that we did have our historian that has been involved and documentation. Clerk Reymers has lots of photos. Formal excavation, no, but documentation of what's been taken from the building. There has been some consideration to that. Mr. Taibi shared they took photographs of the interior of the building, they removed historic panels with graffiti, they removed elements of the building that will be used in the new building. There was an amateur archeologist

come in and she used her metal device. The original freight house sign was found under the building. All of us were in and around the building and there is nothing left to find. There was nothing significant, but nor was anything expected. If you saw the plans from Bell & Spina and see the building that they are planning, it's a near duplicate only slightly smaller. It was logically thought out and you can't argue with logic. Mr. Darby stated that it's about 20 feet shorter. We've salvaged all the brackets. Clerk Reymers shared whenever someone calls about the project, she invites them to come in to see the numerous photos and information. Only some have been printed so far. The town plans to do a lot to celebrate its history that a lot of people have not seen before. John has provided historic photos. She bought his books with the history of the station and the railroad. Maybe there will be a small glass case to display some recovered artifacts. Mr. Taibi said this was a grassroots effort, but that does not mean they don't know what they are doing. Mr. Darby showed a few photos to Ms. Augustyn. She wondered more about the process. Ms. Rossi stated that it's not on the historic registry so there are no requirements. It was that we value the history that led the town to take the steps that were done. The board thanked Ms. Augustyn and Mr. Taibi.

Mr. Darby stated that they have to go into executive session but that they should be done by 7:30 and that she is welcome to come back.

RESOLUTION 2017-83: Executive Session

On a motion Councilmember Rossi, seconded by Councilmember Collins, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

Resolved that this Board move into an Executive Session for the purposes of personnel at 6:56 p.m.

RESOLUTION 2017-84: Return to Regular Session

On a motion Councilmember Rossi, seconded by Councilmember Collins, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

Resolved that the Board return to regular session at 7:11 p.m.

GENERAL:

RESOLUTION 2017-85: Approval of Minutes for July 13, 2017

On a motion of Councilmember Rossi, seconded by Councilmember Collins, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0

Resolved that the minutes from July 13 be approved.

Claims for Payment:

RESOLUTION 2017-86: Audit of Claims

On a motion of Councilmember Collins, seconded by Councilmember Rossi, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

Resolved that the bills contained on Abstract #8 have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts:

General Fund A	No.	227	<i>through</i>	253	45,217.39
General Fund B	No.	33	<i>through</i>	35	425.98
Highway Fund DB	No.	129	<i>through</i>	141	17,613.63
Lighting Districts	No.	13	<i>through</i>	14	351.84
Pre-pays					\$1,857.02

Supervisor/Bookkeeper – Brynley Wilcox

RESOLUTION 2017-87: Refund for Building Permit for Manning’s

On a motion of Councilmember Holcomb, seconded by Councilmember Collins, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0

Resolved that the building permit fees of \$447.50 be refunded except the base application fee of \$30.00, for a total of \$417.50 for the John and Bonnie Manning project on 7470 Bonney Hill Road, Tax Map #154.-3-26.16.

CHARGING STATION:

- \$10,000.00 was received from Colgate toward the purchase and installation of a new ChargePoint electric car charging station

FEMA:

- Winter Storm Stella was determined to be a FEMA reimbursable event.
- The initial paperwork is being worked on
- FEMA will come meet with Madison County towns within the next couple weeks to submit our project worksheets

2016 AUDIT:

- Met with Dan Farrow on Tuesday, August 8th
- Copy of the 2016 audit is available for each Board Member
- Several of the prior year’s recommendations have been cleared, new recommendations center around personnel and internal policies

Mr. Darby interjected that there was a time when the books could not be audited. It was a pretty clean audit and Dan has been a good auditor for us. He’s worked with two of our bookkeepers. It’s been one of our accomplishments in the last five years, getting our bookkeeping in order. We owe first Sue (Reymers), then Donna (LaMarco) and Brynley (Wilcox) our thanks for cleaning things up.

SALES TAX:

- \$98,248.61 was received (in August) from the County for Q2-2017 sales tax
 - 2016: \$ 271,219.43
 - 2017 YTD: \$ 277,056.36 (~2% higher than 2016)
 - BUDGET: \$ 350,000.00

RESOLUTION 2017-88: Funds Transfer

On a motion of Councilmember Rossi, seconded by Councilmember Collins, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4 Nays: 0

Resolved that \$40,000 be transferred from Community Bank Money Market account to NBT Bank Checking account to cover August abstract and August/September payroll.

A MMKT to Checking in the amount of \$ 40,000

TOWN REPORTS:

Highway Superintendent - Jason Florenz

GENERAL REPAIRS:

- Ditched on Bonney, Mason, Preston Hill, and Chappel Rd.
- Cut shoulders on Preston Hill and Horton Rd. (see pictures)
- Unplugged pipe on Excell Rd. due to beavers
- Fixed Shoulder on Eaton Rd. and driveway problem
- Removed stumps and brush pile on Morse Rd. (see pictures)
- Graded the shoulder of Morse Rd. and grass seeded.

EQUIPMENT:

- # 16 has a new transmission

CHIPS:

- Paving is scheduled for Aug 15 (Horton, Alderman, Humphrey, Bailey, Noble)

OTHER:

- Met with Sean Graham and Bart King to discuss the charging station
- Removed all the brackets from the depot and stored them at the shop
- Knocked down the depot building
- Storm damage (Friday 8/4) on Willey, Chappel, Borden, Wickwire, Smith Roads
- PERMA training was done at the Village fire house on July 31st.

Town Clerk/Collector - Sue Reymers

	July 2015	July 2016	July 2017	Notes
Total Fees Collected	2,193.00	2,538.50	1,966.04	
Disbursements:				
Town Revenues	550.92	650.90	1,094.88	
NYSDEC Hunt/Fish	699.18	1,128.10	288.16	
NYS Dept of Health	157.50	202.50	157.50	
NYS Ag & Markets	21.00	11.00	16.00	
Mad Co (Landfill)	764.40	546.00	409.50	

Tax Collection

RESOLUTION 2017-89: Authorize Supervisor to sign Agreement for Tax Collection

On a motion of Councilmember Holcomb, seconded by Councilmember Rossi, following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0

Resolved that Supervisor Shwartz be authorized to enter into a shared services agreement with Madison County Treasurer's office for Tax Collection for 2018.

Codes Enforcement Officer

The board reviewed the monthly report. Three building permit applications came in and one zoning application. In addition there is a proposal by Mark Miller and Don Forth. Peter Darby explained that Mark had training in the new energy code, which is one of the 4 items needed for the Clean Energy Program. Don Forth joined us on our invitation. Both Don and Mark came up with some good ideas. There are manuals that both departments should have, but because we are both small operations neither of them would get overused, so why not buy them together and share them. That seems a no brainer. Then we would like to be authorized to cover for each other so if one of them was sick or on vacation. They are one person departments. Eve Ann would have to talk to Ruth Ann about it. Chris Rossi asked how it would work. The cost for the manuals would be split in half.

RESOLUTION 2017-90: Authorize Implementation of an Inter-Municipal Agreement

On a motion of Councilmember Rossi, seconded by Councilmember Collins, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0

Resolved that the town move forward with implementation towards an inter-municipal agreement with the Village of Hamilton for Codes Enforcement as proposed by Mark Miller and Donald Forth.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:**SOMAC**

There was no monthly report, but Brynley will follow-up with Kyle. David Holcomb shared that something good happened that resulted in a letter and a very good donation from the person that they helped. There will be a report next month. David left at this time to attend a funeral.

Partnership for Community Development

Clerk Reymers shared that at the July meeting, the board requested that Jennifer Marotto Lutter present at a meeting. She will be attending the September meeting.

Mr. Darby shared that they have awarded \$127,000 in launch grant funds (new business less than 6 months old or a business that is adding a job) to 5 local businesses. Work is beginning on two homes for the home renovation grant, both in Hamilton. There is a \$350,000 grant in \$35,000 for home renovation for income at twice the poverty level. They are still accepting applications. Working on a grant application to improve a section of the trail and they are working on the recreation website. They are working on a grant for Fojo Beans who want to put in a roasting and retail business in Hamilton.

38 Milford Street

Mr. Darby shared that the bids came in yesterday and they were dismal. The committee will meet on August 16 at 2 p.m. All of the bids came in over the \$500,000 Wickes Law limit, which means that we have to reject them all. Sue and I spoke with Jim Hughes

today and we need a formal resolution rejecting the bids. He provided us with this language.

RESOLUTION 2017-91: Rejection of All Bids for 38 Milford Street Town Hall Project

Whereas, bids for the new Town Hall Project were opened on August 9 and the lowest bid exceeded the \$500,000 threshold set forth in New York General Municipal Law Section 101 thereby precluding use of a single prime contract; and,

Whereas, the Project was bid only as a single prime project and therefore precludes award of any of the contracts as the bids would not comply with the aforesaid statute.

Now therefore, it is hereby:

Resolved, that the Town of Hamilton reject all existing bids submitted for the new Town Hall Project; and, it is further,

Resolved, that the Town take steps to amend the contract and bid documents and rebid the new Town Hall Project on a multi-prime basis as soon as possible.

On a motion of: Councilmember Rossi, Seconded by: Councilmember Collins

Darby: yes x no

Rossi: yes x no

Collins: yes x no

Shwartz: absent

Holcomb: absent

Vote: AYE: 3, NAY: 0

ADOPTED

Mr. Darby reviewed that multiple prime means four contractors: general construction, mechanical (HVAC), electrical and plumbing and no one is in charge. Mr. Darby clarified that there is no general contractor. First off, the contractors are selected by him, paid by him, and controlled and organized by him. There was a brief discussion including the consideration of needing to get a project manager or clerk of the works.

Comprehensive Plan & Action Plan

- **Zoning Revision Committee** - Chris Rossi reported that they have a committee meeting on August 31 with Nan Stolzenberg (consultant).
- **Green Team & Climate Smart Communities (CSC)** - Chris Rossi reported that the CSC is meeting in September. The intern (Colgate) has been working with Sue Reymers and Ms. Rossi on the action notes in the Comprehensive Plan and CSC program on environmental education. It will be on the website. Emily's been gathering information and creating flyers which all ties back to bringing community members back to the website to find more information on saving energy. Sue, Chris and Emily attended the ARE Park's open house out at the County Landfill. That was fascinating.

- **Clean Energy (CE)** – Chris Rossi reported that we are really close to getting all four of our points. The last one is installing the EV Station. Ms. Rossi asked Clerk Reymers how it gets submitted. Clerk Reymers replied that she has the last forms for the EV Charging station and that can be sent once it's live. There might be a form after that, but she needs to check with Amanda Mazzoni from Central New York Regional Planning & Development Board. There are still 5 grants left. Ms. Rossi continued that there is an application process for the grant. Sue and Chris thought that it could be used for the building. Clerk Reymers clarified that the LED lights program has been pushed back until December by NYSEG. Chris Henke and John Pumilio could help with the application. Clerk Reymers shared that the grant is earmarked, and that we have 3 months to put an application together. Amanda and Sue talked about strategy for the grant for the building. It's tough because the town is not replacing lights like in the garage. We can argue that the funds are needed otherwise it might be too costly.
- **Recreation Committee** – Sue Collins reported that she is meeting with Jodi Palmer on Monday and they are going to see Irwin Lamb. Clerk Reymers reminded the board that the Wetland Trust is interested in working with us on this project. The PCD could help as well.

OLD BUSINESS:**Alternate Members for Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals**

Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS:**Frontier Service Issues**

Chris Rossi explained to the board that Sue Baker of Hubbardsville was without services from Frontier for a while. They finally got someone to talk to them and come in and they were told it was going to cost them \$120 or more to fix this because it's an internal problem. Then they were told that if they had insurance, the insurance would pay for it. The guy convinced them they need insurance. Then the supervisor came in and said, "Let me guess, did this guy ask you to get insurance?" He finally got them figured out but now they are paying monthly for insurance. Ms. Rossi wondered if they didn't need it. Sue Baker and her husband received all sorts of conflicting information about who could fix it, when it could get fixed, etc. Seems like Frontier is back to their old tricks and residents are getting the short end of the stick. Ms. Rossi wondered if the board wanted to step up their game, perhaps invite someone from Frontier, like a manager, to attend a board meeting and explain or try to get Dave Valesky or Bill Magee involved. Clerk Reymers shared that Valesky likes to help constituents. The board asked Ms. Reymers to contact his office.

Concerns of Town Board: None.

Supervisor's Report: Madison County Activities: No report this month.

Clerk Reymers asked if a resolution was needed for the personnel discussion earlier. Mr. Darby stated yes.

RESOLUTION 2017-92: Authorization for Uniforms for New Temporary Full-time Employees

On a motion of Councilmember Collins, seconded by Councilmember Rossi, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0
Resolved that the Highway Superintendent be authorized to purchase uniforms for the two new temporary full-time employees.

RESOLUTION 2017-93: Authorization to Provide Town Health Insurance for New Temporary Full-time Employees

On a motion of Councilmember Collins, seconded by Councilmember Rossi, the following resolution was: ADOPTED: Ayes: 4, Nays: 0
Resolved that the town be authorized to provide town health insurance for the two new temporary full-time employees, in which they would pay 50% and the town would pay 50% of the premiums until they become permanent employees.

With no further business, on a motion of Councilmember Rossi, seconded by Councilmember Collins, the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne K. Reymers
Town Clerk