

Resolution 30

TOWN OF ESSEX

PO Box 355
2313 Main Street
Essex, New York 12936

Edward Gardner
Supervisor

Patricia Gardner
Town Clerk

TOWN COUNCIL:

Claire LaPine
Bryan Garvey
James LaForest
Gretel Schueller

April 13, 2017

Town Board Meeting

Supervisor Gardner opened the meeting at 6:30 pm leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Councilperson LaPine	x
Councilperson Garvey	Excused
Councilperson LaForest	x(Late)
Councilperson Schueller	x
Supervisor Gardner	x

Supervisor Gardner offered the floor to Sheera Broderick from the Grange. The Grange has a contract to be a companion shelter, but they cannot advertise that they are a Red Cross shelter and wonder how they can notify the public that they are a shelter. She informed the board that numerous volunteers are at various stages of completing their Red Cross Training. When completed, they will be able to operate as a shelter as soon as an emergency occurs, otherwise, it could take up to 72 hours for the Red Cross to set up a shelter. Through donations, they have been able to stock some essentials and local farms have committed to availing food if needed. She told the board that the Fire Departments currently are listed as emergency shelters in the towns plan and they do not have a contract with the Red Cross so they could not open without the Red Cross being there. She stated that the departments feel they could not handle large crowds.

Supervisor Gardner offered the floor to those in attendance. Ken Hughes representing Essex Initiatives announced the spring newsletter is out, that the Spring Green up is underway and that later in May they will be working on the tunnel at Whallons Bay. Supervisor Gardner reminded Ken that they should contact the Highway Department when they start,

Motion made by Claire LaPine and seconded by Gretel Schueller to accept minutes from 3/9/17 meeting. All in favor no nays.

Supervisor Gardner asked Bradley French if he could give an overview of the accident that occurred on 3/14/17. Thankfully no one was injured. Supervisor Gardner told the board that both Bradley and Donny were asked to write a description of the accident and what could possibly be done to prevent it.

The Northern Border Grant for Beggs Park was discussed. Ann Holland-Ruzzo gave a quote of not to exceed \$4,000 to write the grant for the town. Cedar Creek has told the committee that he feels that they

Resolution 30

could complete this project on time and under the budget. Discussion was held concerning whether this we should go for this grant. Questions of whether the extra money is needed, will it affect our current funding and the effects of not using the total grant would be.

Claire LaPine made and Gretel Schueller seconded a motion to hire Ann Holland -Ruzzo to write the application for the grant, pending verification from Cedarwood

Row Call Vote:	Yes	No
Councilperson LaPine	X	
Councilperson Garvey	EXCUSED	
Councilperson LaForest	X	
Councilperson Schueller	X	
Supervisor Gardner	X	

Edward Gardner made and James LaForest seconded a motion to allow Bradley French attend the 2017 Highway School.

Row Call Vote:	Yes	No
Councilperson LaPine	X	
Councilperson Garvey	EXCUSED	
Councilperson LaForest	X	
Councilperson Schueller	X	
Supervisor Gardner	X	

The agreement for the expenditure of highway moneys was presented to the board for their signature, requesting repairs to the Albee Road.

Essex Theater Company is asking for support for the 2017 season by placing our ad in their program. After looking at last year’s ad and the pricing for this year’s ad a motion was made by James LaForest and seconded by Gretel Schueller to go with a ¼ page ad at the cost of \$85. All in favor, no nays.

The town received a letter from the attorney representing The Old Dock requesting a waiver of the 30-day notice. All agreed to have the Town Clerk send a letter.

Tina Gardner has requested from the Supervisor to purchase for \$890 a Gen-Eye Transmitter that would be used in conjunction with the equipment recently purchased. Although it is with the supervisor’s discretion to purchase, Supervisor Gardner wanted to get a nod of approval from the board. Gretel Schueller made and James LaForest seconded a motion to allow Tina to purchase this item. All in favor, no nays.

The garage door has been replaced and the insurance claim is being processed.

Employee Manual, Personnel Policy was tabled last month and brought back to the table by the Supervisor. After much discussion, the following Resolution was made by Edward Gardner and seconded by James LaForest.

Resolution 30-2017 is being made to change Section 2.4 HEALTH INSURANCE as follows:

2.4 HEALTH INSURANCE

Note: All employees and retirees of the Town of Essex currently receiving Health Insurance Benefits paid 100% by the Town as of December **31, 2007**, shall be eligible to continue those benefits; and shall not be subject to the proration listed below. However, all active employees shall be bound by these policies as they relate to insurance benefits upon retirement.

Resolution 30

This policy excludes employees under the Teamsters Union contract.

Medical Benefits (individual or two-person plan) will be provided to all employees hired before January 1, 2008 as follows:

- First (1) and second (**2**) year of employment — 80% coverage
- Third (3) year of employment and thereafter — 100% coverage
- Thereafter — 100% coverage

Medical Benefits (individual or two-person plan) will be provided to all full-time employees hired commencing January 1, 2017 as follows:

- Following the trial period of employment, through the second year, all new employees shall be reimbursed for 50% of the cost of insurance in effect at the time of employment.
- Following the third (3) year of employment and thereafter the employee shall be reimbursed for 50% of the cost

The balance of any premium due will be deducted from the employee's paycheck or compensation through payroll deduction each pay period prior to the period the premium is due.

- (a) Each person receiving paid health insurance has the option of extending coverage to include his/her family by contributing the balance of the total premium. A deduction covering the additional cost of coverage will be deducted from the employee's pay each payday prior to the period the premium is due.
- (b) Upon termination of employment, other than by retirement (as defined by the New York State Retirement System), each recipient of paid health insurance may continue coverage under the COBRA law by payment to the Town as defined below.
- (c) An employee may decline medical coverage if the employee has coverage elsewhere. If an employee declines health insurance, the employee will be paid \$1,000.00 per year (or a pro-rated portion thereof). The employee must show proof of alternate health insurance coverage to decline, and can opt back in if the alternate coverage ceases. Any payments received by opting of health insurance will be considered salary and will have the required payroll deductions withheld according to federal and state employment law.
- (d) Retirement — Employees will be granted medical benefits paid by the Town of Essex based upon their Town of Essex current medical benefits package in force at the time of retirement and subject to the following conditions:
 - With 20 years of Town of Essex continuous service — 50%
 - A lay off less than one (1) year will not constitute a break in service
 - Employees must qualify and receive a pension under the New York State Retirement System and must be an employee of the Town of Essex, at the time of retirement to be eligible to receive Health Insurance paid for according to the schedule in force at the time of retirement.
- (e) In the event of the death of an employee or retired employee, the coverage of his/her spouse and/or dependent(s) shall continue for seven (bi-weekly) payroll periods next succeeding the payroll period in which the employee's death occurs, or, in the case of an employee paid other than bi-weekly, the coverage shall continue for the three-month period next succeeding the month in which the employee's or retired employee's death occurs. The un-remarried spouse and/or dependent(s) may elect to continue coverage in the Town Health Insurance Plan beyond that point, but shall be required to pay the entire charge (both the employee's and the employer's contributions) for such coverage. All such payments must be received by the Town on the first day of the month for which coverage is in effect.

Row Call Vote:	Yes	No
Councilperson LaPine	X	
Councilperson Garvey	X	
Councilperson LaForest	X	
Councilperson Schueller	Absent	
Supervisor Gardner	Excused	

Resolution 30

Local Law 1, Parking Law was re-introduced. After discussing the original intent of the law, which gives our local justice to lower traffic tickets with the DA's permission, the decision is to leave as is. Let this be known that the board has reviewed this Local Law for accuracy.

Last month the board was given a Local Water Revitalization Program application to look over. After some discussion about the need for more paperwork for citizens to complete, it was decided to not move on this. All in favor no nays.

Motion made by Claire LaPine and seconded by Gretel Schueller to pay Abstract 4-2017 in the amounts of \$7117.99 in prepaids and \$75557.87 in unpaid

Row Call Vote:	Yes	No
Councilperson LaPine	X	
Councilperson Garvey	X	
Councilperson LaForest	X	
Councilperson Schueller	Absent	
Supervisor Gardner	Excused	

Motion made by Claire LaPine and seconded by James LaForest to accept the Town Clerks Report. All in favor no nays.

Motion by James LaForest and Seconded by Claire LaPine to accept the Supervisors Report. All in favor no nays.

Supervisor Gardner stated that all department reports were available at the Town Clerks Office.

A motion made by James LaForest and seconded by Claire LaPine to go into executive session. All in favor no nays.

James LaForest Made a motion to end the executive session. No decisions were made.

The sewer and water departments needs to have certified licensed operators and Tracey Smith is looking to retire. Options for attaining this were discussed including hiring Dawn St. Louis as a backup. It was decided to run an ad for water and sewer operators. James LaForest made a motion and Gretel Schueller seconded motion to place an ad in the Press, Sun, and on line for Water operator and sewer operator. All in favor no nays.

Claire LaPine made the motion to adjourn, seconded by all.

Respectfully Submitted
 Patricia Gardner
 Town Clerk