

**ESSEX TOWN OFFICES**  
**2313 MAIN STREET, PO BOX 355**  
**ESSEX, NEW YORK 12936**

Ronald E. Jackson, Supervisor

Alicia Kelly, Town Clerk

Town Councilors: Kenneth Hughes, James LaForest, Claire LaPine, Gretel Schueller

**December 12, 2019 Regular Town Board**

Supervisor Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm followed by the salute to the flag.

**Roll Call:**

Councilor Hughes:     **PRESENT**  
Councilor LaForest:   **ABSENT**  
Councilor LaPine:     **PRESENT**  
Councilor Schuller:    **ABSENT**  
Supervisor Jackson:   **PRESENT**

Supervisor Jackson gave the public the opportunity to address the Board:  
No one spoke.

**Meeting minutes:**

Councilor Hughes moved October 10, 2019 minutes as corrected, Supervisor Jackson seconded.

**Roll Call:**

Councilor Hughes:     **YES**  
Councilor LaForest:   **ABSENT**  
Councilor LaPine:     **YES**  
Councilor Schuller:    **ABSENT**  
Supervisor Jackson:   **YES**

**November 7, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

Councilor Hughes, moved the motion to accept  
Councilor LaPine seconded

**Old Business:**

Water Filtration update: Supervisor Jackson commented that he and the Board are happy with Cedarwood and the Department of Health, A few minor things to be changed were discussed. We should be able to go to bid soon with two options in the spring and in the fall.

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Library: Supervisor Jackson stated we still don't have any bids, but hopefully soon. Councilor Hughes asked if there is any reason why we haven't gotten any bids. Supervisor Jackson commented possibly too small of a job.

**RESOLUTION # 55– 2019**

Final Town Board approval to rebuild Wright's Inn 1911 porch assuming financial feasibility.

Moved By: Councilor Hughes      Seconded By: Councilor LaPine

Councilor Hughes:      YES  
Councilor LaForest:      ABSENT  
Councilor LaPine:      YES  
Councilor Schueller:      ABSENT  
Supervisor Jackson:      YES

Supervisor Jackson discussed the Resolution with Gary Heurich, Councilor Hughes and Councilor LaPine.

Supervisor Jackson announced that we did not receive the grant to purchase the parking lot but will discuss things further with Lauren Murphy to raise money for the Town to purchase it. A short discussion took place on the price of purchasing the parking lot.

LED Lighting, we received recommendations on color, sizes. Nancy Berntein at ANCA is willing to come to our end-of-the-year meeting to talk about the street lighting.

Roost Money: \$2,500 to promote tourism. Supervisor explained the changes that the amount received may be increased. Supervisor Jackson discussed his ideas. Councilor Hughes added a few ideas.

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**New Business:**

Copies of the Supervisors report, the water and wastewater report, the code officer's report, and the Highway Superintendent's report have been given to the Town Board and the Town Clerk.

Supervisor Jackson discussed with the Board and the Highway Superintendent Bradley French about the purchase of a new snowblower for the town sidewalks. Highway Superintendent Bradley French discussed the two that he had found in his search. Bradley recommends the snowblower from Peru Farm Center for the purchase price of \$868.96. Councilor Hughes asked some questions. A short discussion followed about the options. Supervisor Jackson recommended researching into another snowblower and discussing the purchase at the next meeting.

**RESOLUTION # 56– 2019**

Resolution of Support for the Restoration of the  
Whitcomb's Garage Building in the Hamlet of Whallonsburg

WHEREAS: The historic Whitcomb's Garage building is an important part of the landscape in the town of Essex and the hamlet of Whallonsburg; and

WHEREAS: Whitcomb's Garage was purchased in 2018 by the Whallonsburg Grange Hall Inc—a non-profit organization—with the aim of renovating the building in order to provide low-cost space for start-up businesses, mixed-use community space, and a retail store; and

WHEREAS: The Whitcomb's Garage building is being renovated largely by volunteer labor and with funds from private donors and grantors; and

WHEREAS: The plans for the renovation of the Whitcomb's Garage Building have received the enthusiastic approval of the town of Essex Planning Board; and

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WHEREAS: The Whitcomb Garage project will make an important contribution to the economic revival and cultural life of Whallonsburg, Essex, and the surrounding region; and

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Town Board of Essex expresses its support for the renovation of Whitcomb's Garage undertaken by the Whallonsburg Grange Hall Inc. and resolves to support the Whallonsburg Grange Hall's efforts to secure grant funding for this project.

Moved By: Councilor Hughes      Seconded By: Councilor LaPine

Councilor Hughes:      YES  
Councilor LaForest:      ABSENT  
Councilor LaPine:      YES  
Councilor Schueller:      ABSENT  
Supervisor Jackson:      YES

Angel Forbes recommends the town purchase the Enhanced Business Systems for \$3000.00. Councilor Hughes made the motion. Councilor LaPine seconded.

Councilor Hughes:      YES  
Councilor LaForest:      ABSENT  
Councilor LaPine:      YES  
Councilor Schueller:      ABSENT  
Supervisor Jackson:      YES

Date Set for the end of the year meeting, December 30, 2019 for paying the Bills. The Organizational meeting will be combined with the regular Town Board Meeting on January 2, 2019 at 6:30 pm

The Town has received a letter from the new President of the Essex County Fair Board Scott Christian, that the Essex County Fair Board has put in a

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request for \$1000.00 to help them out financially. Supervisor Jackson explained to the Board. Councilor LaPine, and Councilor Hughes asked questions. Bradley French answered the questions. Councilor LaPine recommended tabling it. Supervisor Jackson agreed. Councilor Hughes made the motion to table the request.

The request from Northern Forest Center which is a group centered in NH. They are trying to raise money but haven't made decisions on how they are going to spend it. The Board and Supervisor decided they can't support them at this time.

**RESOLUTION # 57- 2019**

Give the Supervisor permission to sign the negotiated 3-year contract with the Teamsters for our Highway Department workers

Moved By: Councilor LaPine    Seconded By: Councilor Hughes

Councilor Hughes:	YES
Councilor LaForest:	ABSENT
Councilor LaPine:	YES
Councilor Schueller:	ABSENT
Supervisor Jackson:	YES

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**RESOLUTION # 58– 2019**

Give the Supervisor permission to sign the contract with Upstate Agency for NYMIR Insurance Premium & Fees for 2020 of \$25,120.01

Moved By: Councilor Hughes    Seconded By: Councilor

Councilor Hughes:	YES
Councilor LaForest:	ABSENT
Councilor LaPine:	YES
Councilor Schueller:	ABSENT
Supervisor Jackson:	YES

**RESOLUTION #59 – 2019**

Give the Supervisor permission to sign the contract with Upstate Agency for Travelers Cyberrisk Insurance Premium for 2020 of up to \$3,500.

No one moved or seconded this motion, so no vote was taken.

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Supervisor Jackson asked the Board's permission to sign a contract with Elizabethtown Community Hospital to provide physicals as needed for 2020-2021. Councilor Hughes made the motion. Councilor LaPine seconded.

**Roll Call**

Councilor Hughes: YES  
Councilor LaForest: ABSENT  
Councilor LaPine: YES  
Councilor Schueller: ABSENT  
Supervisor Jackson: YES

Supervisor Jackson asked permission to sign a contract with North Country SPCA. Councilor LaPine made the motion. Councilor Hughes seconded.

**Roll Call**

Councilor Hughes: YES  
Councilor LaForest: ABSENT  
Councilor LaPine: YES  
Councilor Schueller: ABSENT  
Supervisor Jackson: YES

Supervisor Jackson discussed the request from CATS to support their Grant Application for the Quarry. Supervisor Jackson turned it over to Chris Maron to explain

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**RESOLUTION # 60– 2019**

Give the Supervisor permission to sign the letter supporting the Grant Proposal by Champlain Area Trails to the Land Trust Alliance to develop the former Quarry into a trail system for Public use.

Moved By: Councilor Hughes                      Seconded By: Supervisor Jackson

Councilor Hughes:            YES  
Councilor LaForest:        ABSENT  
Councilor LaPine:            NO  
Councilor Schueller:        ABSENT  
Supervisor Jackson:        YES

The Resolution failed for the lack of three YES votes

An executive session to discuss filling the Town Board seat opening that will be created by the resignation by Ken Hughes and will be discussed on 1/2/20.

Abstract of Bills:

Councilor LaPine moved the motion. Councilor Hughes seconded.

Councilor Hughes:    YES  
Councilor LaForest:    ABSENT  
Councilor LaPine:      YES  
Councilor Schueller:    ABSENT  
Supervisor Jackson:    YES

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Supervisor Jackson gave the Public the opportunity to address the Board:  
Gary Heurich discussed the cost of painting the Town Hall and the new front porch. Short discussion followed.

Supervisor Jackson Councilor Hughes discussed the Organizational Meeting.

Meeting Closed for Executive Session 7:52 P.M.

Supervisor Jackson Closed the Executive Session and Adjourned the Meeting at 8:18 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alicia Kelly,  
Town Clerk