

TOWN OF ESSEX
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
June 14, 2018

Supervisor Jackson opened the meeting with a salute to the flag.

Roll Call:	Present	Absent
Councilor LaPine	X	
Councilor LaForest	Late	
Councilor Schueller		X
Councilor Hughes	X	
Supervisor Jackson	X	

Supervisor Jackson offered the public the opportunity to address the board.

Mary-Nell Bockman asked the board to speak of the MOU for the Grange. Supervisor Jackson stated that he had talked to Andy and that this would be tabled. It is on the agenda.

Richard Teitelbaum thanked the board and Highway Supervisor for the installation of street signage at the intersection of Whallons Bay Road and Lake Shore Road. He also requested the status of his request to lower the speed limit. Supervisor Jackson responded that this item was on the agenda. Mr. Teitelbaum also asked if the hours of the board meeting be changed to a later start date to accommodate townspeople. Supervisor Jackson explained that this was brought up at the organizational meeting and discussed. The board decided to keep it at 6:30.

Motion made by Ken Hughes and seconded by Claire LaPine to approve minutes from April 12, 2018 with corrections made by Councilor LaPine.

Minutes from May 10, 2018 were tabled because of lack of a quorum of members in attendance.

Water Committee minutes from April 5 and May 10th were tabled because Councilor Hughes had not read them.

Old Business:

The board advertised a bid for equipment that will be needed for the pilot test. There were no bids received. Cedarwood contacted the Health Department and EFC (the grant people) concerning this. They agreed that Cedarwood engineering could purchase equipment as long as there were three prices obtained. The Water Superintendent and Supervisor will meet tomorrow to finalize this.

The MOU will be tabled until the July meeting. It has to be completed by this meeting because the MOU has to go to public referendum. This will be a tight schedule to get this completed within this year.

A second appraisal was completed for the Begg's Park conversion. Ann Ruzzo-Holland said it looked good but we need the approval from the state before they can proceed.

Ken Hughes reported that Ann Ruzzo Holland has an intern who could collect the data needed for the Comprehensive Plan. It would be pro-bono. He also stated that the Smart Growth Grant will not be awarded until later but suggested that the board move forward getting the data collected in anticipation of the grant monies. If the grant falls through, the info could be used in the following years grant application.

A motion made by Ken Hughes and seconded by Claire LaPine, allowing Tatiana Campes be allowed to collect the data needed for the Comprehensive plan at no cost to the town. All in favor, no nays.

Ken will be in contact with Tatiana and get things started.

Discussion on the list of town committees finalized the wording by adding “advisory” before committee and changing the Planning, Zoning and BAR to boards instead of committee. Ken Hughes made and Claire LaPine seconded motion to accept the list of committees as adjusted. All in favor, no nays.

The letter for the USDA Water Loan is being tabled until it is finished.

Resolution #40-2018 is tabled until July when the upstairs project is started.

Another reminder of the Hazardous Waste Day in Lewis on July 14th, including e-waste. Ken said he called the county and was told that there was no e-waste being accepted. Ron said he would verify this.

The Street Light Districts upgrade is tabled. We are waiting for ANCA’s advice.

Lauren Murphy has started the grant application for the upstairs renovation. A cleanup day will be scheduled to clean out upstairs. Ken and Jim will supervise the removal and retrieval of the records. Pat Gardner, Deputy Clerk volunteered to assist.

Supervisor Jackson informed all that the town has received a proposal to sue , to which he request that an executive session be held at the end of the meeting with no decisions made.

Harold Reynolds had requested that he have his hours reinstated that he had removed when he started collecting social security. After consulting with the former administration, Harold’s time was not adjusted. He just took days off to decrease his pay.

Resolution 52-2018

Allow the Supervisor to apply for the NYSEG energy-efficient lighting Incentive for schools and Municipal Buildings that will save up to 70% of the costs. This will commit the Town to pay for the balance of the costs from budgeted funds. This is for the Sewer Plant and Screening Buildings.

Moved by: Councilor LaForest	YES	Seconded by Councilor Hughes	No
Councilor LaPine	X		
Councilor LaForest	X		
Councilor Schueller		Absent	
Councilor Hughes	X		
Supervisor Jackson	X		

Supervisor Jackson has been investigating how much money should the town keep in the account at Champlain National Bank. He had the bookkeeper track all expenditures for a month, and then multiplied it by 5 to the amount of \$240,000. After looking at the figures, the board agreed that this amount would be sufficient.

Congratulation of our assessors for achieving 100% for the equalization rate for the tentative budget.

A request to reduce the speed limit on a section of Whallons Bay has been received. Ron suggests that the board forward this on to the state for them to investigate. The town cannot reduce speed limits, only the state.

Wi-Fi is now available to the public. He was asked why the town did not have public Wi-Fi. He found that when students were home and during the summer months, there was not enough bandwidth to keep the phone system and computers operating. After talking to the county IT Department, a solution was made by adjusting the router and increasing the bandwidth coming into the town.

Resolution 53-2018

Transfer \$2,500.00 from Contingency #19904.01 to Grange account #71804.01

Moved by councilor Hughes

Seconded by Councilor LaForest

YES No

Councilor LaPine X

Councilor LaForest X

Councilor Schueller Absent

Councilor Hughes X

Supervisor Jackson X

Resolution 54-2018

Support the proposed SWAP program as described in the attached sheets.

Moved by Councilor LaPine

Seconded by Councilor LaForest

YES No

Councilor LaPine X

Councilor LaForest X

Councilor Schueller Absent

Councilor Hughes X

Supervisor Jackson X

Bradley French brought up that the gradall is not operational. He is looking for a replacement which could run between \$40,000 to \$75,000. Ron said that there was \$25,000 in the equipment line of the budget and another \$40,000 in fund balance.

Supervisor Jackson reported that the law to raise the age for the sale of cigarettes was defeated at the county.

Supervisor Jackson spoke of the Lake George Lake Champlain Regional Planning Board, to which he is a member, that they are in trouble for giving loans to member's families and that these loans were not being repaid. Large article in the papers describes it. He will be insisting the by-laws be updated with ethics included.

Motion made by Ken Hughes and seconded by Claire LaPine to enter into executive session at 7:40 to discuss legal issues. All in favor

At 7:56 Supervisor Jackson ended the Executive Session.

Ken Hughes made a motion to adjourn the meeting, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Gardner
Deputy Town Clerk