

TOWN OF ESSEX
Regular Board Meeting
September 8, 2016
6:00 pm

Supervisor Gardner called the meeting to order and led with the pledge.

Roll Call: Present	Absent
Councilperson Claire LaPine	
Councilperson Bryan Garvey	
Councilperson James LaForest	
Councilperson Gretel Schueller	
Supervisor Edward Gardner	

Supervisor Gardner asked for a moment of silence for former resident Brad Beers.

Supervisor Gardner offered the floor to the Grange. Mary Bochman introduced herself and the part-time staff member Kate Ritter. She passed out a summary sheet. She gave a synopsis of work that has happened over the last 7 years for restoration raising most money through the Whallonsburgh Civic Association. The board is asking the town to purchase a new furnace. The current furnace is over 50 years old and they had an energy audit done by NYSEDA. They have Hulbert Supply compile a comprehensive plan for a new HVAC. They have had three bids, but are not quite final. The lowest bid was at \$15,976.10. Bryan asked if they gave an overall savings. Mary responded the NYSEDA estimates a \$3,000. Jim asked if it was a heat pump or a forced hot air. Mary said forced. Jim asked if the new duct work would be used to the air conditioning. She said yes. She also said that the ducting would go to the dining area to help with heating that area. There is a second furnace that heats the dining area and the office upstairs. Gretel asked if they were going to re insulate and she said that this was being looked at. Claire and Bryan asked if this included air conditioning or is that separate to which she responded that it is included in the bid. Ed asked if they have looked at any grants for this. She replied because the town owned the building it would be the town that would have to do this but would help. Ed said he was meeting with Mike Mascarenas and will ask about it then. Gretel stated that she would like to honor the spirit of the American Legion by using money from the sale of the Old Stone Church to purchase this for this civic organization. Mary stated that they were afraid the furnace would not make it through the winter and asked that the money be allocated immediately. Ed responded that the money was not in this year's budget for this expenditure but definitely it could be in the budget. If they thought that this was going to be needed in the future, it should have come before the board before this point. Bryan also asked that you will be getting more detailed bids. Claire said that the bids have to be identical so that there are no hidden charges. James LaForest made a motion to have Ed meet with Mike Mascarenas about a grant for this and then meet again and go over the bids with the Grange board. Gretel seconded the motion. All in favor, no nays.

Supervisor Gardner offer the floor to anyone wanting to speak. Patricia Burnes introduced herself. She asked if the board was going to act on the issue she presented in a letter sent to them. She asked that the building be changed to a single residence instead of a single residence and small business. Ed asked if she was just asking for a change in use to which she responded yes. He asked if this was what was billed for the last three years to which she replied yes. He suggested that she should have come before when you first question it. She stated that she did not live here. Ed suggested that she could have contacted us in the same way she just did with a letter/email. Claire said she read the letter and asked if she was looking to get it reduced from now on and she said no from the beginning. Claire then asked about the office that was there last summer she responded that there was no money exchanged as the letter stated NYS does not say that is a business. Claire said that she would like to look at the law again and meet with them after the water meeting next week. She said she had to leave but would have a rep there. Bryan brought up that we can correct the issue but cannot go back. Jim VanHoven asked if he could state that if she wanted the use changed to residential, she should come before the Planning board. He stated that it has been done in the past and they got their rates changed to residential. James LaForest made a motion that upon change of use from the Planning Board, the water bill for Quarter 4 would change to single residence.

This seconded by Bryan Garvey. A roll call vote was taken:

	Yea	No
Councilperson LaPine	X	
Councilperson Garvey	X	
Councilperson LaForest	X	
Councilperson Schueller	X	
Supervisor Gardner	X	

Supervisor Gardner informed the board that the report for water leaks by Prowler showed no leaks in our system.

He brought back on to the table, permission for Tina to purchase the water leak detection system. Tina states that she talked them into training her on the devise for free. Bryan asked how it works and Tina explained. Jim asked if there was software involved and Tina responded no.

Jim LaForest made a motion to allow Tina to purchase the water detection devise. This seconded by Gretel Schueller. A roll call vote was taken:

	Yea	No
Councilperson LaPine	X	
Councilperson Garvey	X	
Councilperson LaForest	X	
Councilperson Schueller	X	
Supervisor Gardner	X	

Collen Van Hoven gave a presentation on the bids received for the work that is to be completed at the library. She asked the town to assist them in removing the current screen/storm windows. Ed said he spoke to Nathan from the Transfer Station and will talk to Brad to see if they can assist. Ed asked if the grant requested minority woman owned business. She responded that NYS has decided to give up on this requirement because of the lack of available companies. Bryan asked if the bids were in align with the grant awarded. Colleen responded that the total bids have come in at \$74000 and the total grant is \$84000.

Gretel Schueller made a motion to approve the bids and allow the library to go forward. This seconded by Bryan Garvey. A roll call vote was taken:

	Yea	No
Councilperson LaPine	X	
Councilperson Garvey	X	
Councilperson LaForest	X	
Councilperson Schueller	X	
Supervisor Gardner	X	

Resolution 60-2016

September 8, 2016

The following resolution was offered by Edward Gardner who moved its adoption:

Whereas; Governor Cuomo has announced the State's acquisition of the 20,758 acre Boreas Ponds Tract, completing the largest addition to the Adirondack Forest Preserve in more than 100 years, and

Whereas; Governor Cuomo has sent a letter to the Adirondack Park Agency requesting the agency begin the classification process for the Boreas Ponds Tract, and

Whereas; Governor Cuomo has stated that this will provide even more unparalleled settings for outdoor tourism and recreation, and

Whereas; DEC Commissioner Basil Sago's has stated the DEC looks forward to working with all partners to carefully protect this vital habitat and ensure that all visitors can enjoy the breathtaking views and outstanding recreational opportunities, and

Whereas; New York State has partnered with the Five Towns of the Upper Hudson Recreation Hub to develop tourist destinations that rely on the extensive trail network of the Adirondack Park and existing and potential lodging opportunities, and

Whereas; DEC Commissioner Basil Segggs has stated that the Concept Plan for a Hut-to-Hut Destination-based Trail System for the Five Towns of Long Lake, Newcomb, Indian Lake, Minerva and North Hudson will lead to improved public access to the Forest Preserve coupled with the lodging for the benefit of tourists, sportsmen and women, outdoor enthusiasts of all types and the people and communities of the Five Town region of the Adirondack Park, and

Whereas; the Five Towns in the Adirondack Park most affected by this acquisition wish to realize the maximum economic benefit of increased tourism revenue as do the Counties of Hamilton and Essex, and

Whereas; these tracts of land have an extensive network of maintained roads formerly used as logging and access roads, and

Whereas; Town Board of the Town of Essex are in agreement with the Upper Hudson Recreation Hub that the only path to realize the maximum economic benefit of this land acquisition is to provide the utmost access to the public ponds, rivers, streams and trails and that access should be provided to all citizens including the elderly, handicapped, disables and physically challenged, and

Whereas; Town Board of the Town of Essex area also in agreement with the Five Towns of the Upper Hudson Recreation Hub that all forms of recreation activities to include, but not limited to, hiking, canoeing, camping, skiing, snowmobiling, cycling, horseback riding and dog sledding, be permitted,

Now Be It Resolved; that the Town Board of the Town of Essex, realizing that in order to achieve the greatest economic benefit from this purchase we must have maximum use of those lands, strongly opposes any land use classification that does not provide for the

maximum access to ponds, rivers, streams and trails by all citizens, including the elderly, handicapped, disabled and physically challenged, and

Be It Further Resolved; The Town Board of the Town of Essex does strongly oppose any land use and classification that does not allow for all forms of recreational activities to include, but not limited to, hiking, canoeing, camping, skiing, snowmobiling, cycling, horseback riding and dog sledding, be permitted, and

Be It Further Resolved; that it is critically important that the Adirondack Park Agency and the Department of Environmental Conservation recognize the physical and logical reasons to classify the MacIntyre Tracts, East and West, and the Boreas Tract lands as Wild Forest:

1. There is an existing network of roads sufficient to support higher levels of use.
2. There are existing bridges and dams, demonstrating these lands are NOT Wilderness Classification.
3. Rights will remain on these lands doe motorized use (authorization through 2018 for lease holders and 2019 for TNC), which is absolutely inconsistent with a Wilderness Classification.

And,
Be It Further Resolved; that copies of this resolution will be sent to Governor Andrew Coumo; Commissioner Basil Seggos; Senator Elizabeth Little; Senator Hugh Farley; Assemblyman Daniel Stec; Assemblyman Marc Butler; Chairman Sherman Craig, Adirondack Park Agency; Robert Stegemann, DEC Region 5 Director; Thomas Martin, DEC Region 5 Natural Resource Supervisor, Fred Monroe, Executive Director, Adirondack Local Government Review Board; Brian Towers, Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages and the Five Towns.

This Resolution was duly seconded by Gretel Schueller. A roll call vote was taken:

	Yea	No
Councilperson LaPine	X	
Councilperson Garvey	X	
Councilperson LaForest	X	
Councilperson Schueller	X	
Supervisor Gardner	X	

Resolution 61-2016
September 8, 2016

Resolution 61-2016 is being made to acknowledge the audit done in February for the offices of:

Chief Fiscal Officers
Town Clerk
Tax Collector
Zoning and Code Officer
Justice Court

This Audit was completed by Claire LaPine and Gretel Schuller, signed 2/1/2016, with thanks to Claire and Gretel.

Motion Made By: James LaForest Seconded By: Gretel Schueller

	Yea	No
Councilperson LaPine	X	
Councilperson Garvey	X	
Councilperson LaForest	X	
Councilperson Schueller	X	
Supervisor Gardner	X	

Resolution 62 -2016
9/8/2016

Resolution 62-2016 is being made to make the Water/Sewer Committee two separate committees so the committees can concentrate on each department separately. They will now become the Water Sustainability Committee and the Sewer Sustainability Committee.

Motion Made By: Bryan Garvey Seconded By: Gretel Schueller

All in Favor, no nays.

Resolution 63 -2016

9/8/2016

Resolution 63-2016 is being made to appoint the current members of the Sewer/Water Committee to the Water Sustainability Committee.

Motion Made By: Bryan Garvey

Seconded By: Gretel Schueller

All in favor, no nays.

Bryan Garvey made a motion to pay Abstract 9-2016 and Claire LaPine seconded it.

Yea	No	
		Councilperson LaPine X
		Councilperson Garvey X
		Councilperson LaForest X
		Councilperson Schueller X
		Supervisor Gardner X

Bryan asked about the park and having the wells there. Ed responded that he has talked to our lawyer and to Ann Holland. They feel there should be no problem but we should still move forward with requesting a bill from Senator Betty Little and Representative Dan Stec.

Supervisor Gardner reported that pumping has been ongoing on the well now for 2 weeks and that it has maintained at 150 feet, averaging at 20 gallons a minute. There is still some turbidity but the good water will have to be filter anyways because of the lake influence.

At 7:10 Supervisor Gardner made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss a legal matter with the Planning Board.

At 7:15 a motion by Claire to end the Executive session. There were no decisions made.

Being no further business, Bryan Garvey made the motion to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Gardner
Town Clerk