

Town of Essex

Town Board Meeting
February 12, 2015

Supervisor Gardner called the meeting to order 7:00pm.

Pledge of Allegiance lead by Supervisor Gardner.

Roll Call: In Attendance

Supervisor Edward Gardner

Councilperson Claire Lapine

Councilperson Brian Garvey

Councilperson Mark Wrisley

Supervisor Gardner offered the floor to Vicki Dickerson. Vickie was here to recognize Supervisor Gardner for the work he has done to get the Old County Home Cemetery back into the hands of the county. She wanted to publicly thank him for all the effort he put into it.

Floor was offered to Mr. Michael Diskin, Essex County Treasurer. Mr. Diskin explained the process the county went through to be in a position to assist towns with the collection of taxes, which included Resolution #336 that the Board of Supervisors had passed in 2010. The next step for the town is to pass a resolution to allowing the county to assist the town with the collection of taxes. Mr. Diskin also stated that the town and county would then have to sign a contract in order for this to occur. He emphasized that the county is not looking to take over this duty but to assist the newly appointed Deputy Town Clerk. He offered to answer any questions from the board and audience to which he received none.

Resolution 24 of 2015: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ESSEX COUNTY TREASURERS OFFICE TO COLLECT PRPERTY TAXES JOINTLY AND CONCURRENTLY WITH THE TOWN OF ESSEX TAX COLLECTOR, AS ALLOWED UNDER THE RPTL SECTION 578 AND TO ENTER INTO THE APPROPRIATE CONTRACTS WUTH THE MUNICIPALITIES.

WHEREAS, New York State Real Property Tax Law Section 578 allows the Essex County Treasurer's Office to collect taxes jointly and concurrently for towns, in conjunction with the Town Tax Collector; and

WHEREAS, a cooperative agreement and resolutions between the Essex County Board of Supervisors and the Town Board of the Town of Essex would need to be passed to allow the Essex County Treasurer's Office to collect taxes on behalf of Essex Tax Collector; and

WHEREAS, the Essex County Board of Supervisors has passed Resolution 336 November 1, 2010 granting permission to enter into cooperative agreements with various towns within Essex County.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Boar of the Town of Essex hereby authorizes the Essex County Treasurer's Office to collect property taxes jointly and concurrently with the Town of Essex Tax Collector, as allowed under RPTL Section 578; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED. That the Essex Town Supervisor is hereby authorized to enter into any and all contracts and agreements with Essex County to jointly and concurrently collect property taxes on behalf og the town of Essex pursuant to RPTL Section 578.

Motion was made by Councilperson Garvey and Seconded by Counciloperson LaPine. Roll Call Vote:
Supervisor Gardner Yes, Councilperson LaPine Yes, Councilperson Garvey Yes, Councilperson Wrisley Yes

Supervisor Gardner informed the public that Town Clerk Wm. Morgan had appointed Patricia Gardner as his deputy town Clerk, Tax Collector and was sworn in by County Clerk Joseph Provoncha.

Floor was opened for comment from the public.

Jan and John Fortune were concerned that the tax bill says that check should be made out to Wm. Morgan, Town of Essex Tax Collector, when Mr. Morgan is not here to deposit said checks. Mr. Diskin stated that these checks can be still deposited and suggested that anyone concerned about it can make the check out to Town of Essex Tax Collector. Councilperson LaPine spoke saying that all check are not signed but stamped with for deposit only on the backs.

Olive Alexander said that she had received numerous queries on her web page concerning the fact that they had not received receipts for taxes paid in January. There was confusion with Mr. Diskin as to whether this was a town web site where people can look at their taxes. Olive stated this was her unofficial old town web site and that there was a place where people can leave messages for her. He reassured the audience that this is something his office can assist with, resending all paid tax receipts.

Supervisor Gardner said he had a check from the Wesley Vanderhorst family asking that the town fulfill commitment to permanently attach the park bench they donated in memory of their father. Board members questioned making a commitment to making it permanent. Suggestions of how to make it permanent ended with tabling it until the spring when the board can see what would need to be done.

The sewer department has reported that there are 3 oxygen sensors that have failed in the sewer plant. Tina has contacted the parts company and set a credit account. The cost of the parts are approximately \$600 per unit but currently can be obtained for \$320. Councilperson Garvey asked if this was a safety issue to which Tina Gardner answered yes. Councilperson Wrisley asked if there was a warranty to which Tina responded that there is a one year warranty and that these were installed in That these sensors notify you when the oxygen level is low. All the council agreed that these parts be purchased.

Supervisor Gardner asked for resolution for the town to designate 2 spaces for handicapped parking on NYS Route 22 in front of the Essex Community Church. This will allow NYSDOT to paint the 2 spots. **Resolution 25-2015** made by Councilperson Wrisley and seconded by Councilperson Garvey. Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Gardner Yes, Councilperson LaPine Yes, Councilperson Garvey Yes, Councilperson Wrisley Yes

Councilperson Lapine made and Councilperson Garvey seconded **Resolution 26 of 2015** to thank the Craig Jackson family for their diligence in keeping the sidewalks in town clear. It is acts like this that need to be recognized. All in favor of said resolution.

Supervisor Gardner asked for **Resolution 27 of 2015** to establish a Safety Committee for the town to include a union representative, management and a board member. This is a requirement for our insurer NYMER. Motion made by Councilperson Garvey, seconded by Councilperson Wrisley to establish such committee. All in favor of this resolution.

Signatory Resolution 28 of 2015 to allow Deputy Town Clerk Patricia Gardner to sign as Deputy Town Clerk at Champlain National Bank. Motion made by Councilperson LaPine and seconded by Councilperson Garvey. All in favor of resolution.

Resolution 29 of 2015 appointing Deputy Town Clerk Patricia Gardner as Registrar of Vital Statistics was made by Councilperson Wrisley and seconded by Councilperson Garvey. All in favor of this resolution.

Resolution 30 of 2015 to appoint Town Board Deputy Town Clerk Dorothy Renadette as Registrar of Vital Statistics was made by Councilperson LaPine and seconded by Councilperson Garvey. All in favor of the resolution.

Resolution 31 of 2015 to move \$1,000.00 from 35101.01.017 Animal Control Personnel to 35104.01 Animal Control Contractual to cover the cost of shared service Dog Control Officer with Willsboro was made by Councilperson Wrisley and seconded by Councilperson Garvey. Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Gardner Yes, Councilperson LaPine Yes, Councilperson Garvey Yes, Councilperson Wrisley Yes

Town Clerk Report – unavailable

Supervisor Report – Motion made by Councilperson Wrisley, Seconded by Councilperson LaPine to accept report. Roll call vote: Supervisor Gardner Yes, Councilperson Lapine Yes, Councilperson Garvey Yes, Councilperson Wrisley Yes
Supervisor County Report – Supervisor Gardner update all on the stormwater project. There needs to be one more vote at the county, then a joint meeting will happen here. It will be advertised time and date. Please submit questions prior to the start of the meeting so that it can progress without incident.

Highway Superintendent Report – Bradley French reported that the new tanks are up and running and that a catwalk was erected for the purpose of filling tanks. He also reported insulating some of the pipes inside the town shed. And lastly that the town has been doing a lot of plowing.

Wastewater Operator Report – Tina Gardner reported that she and Mr. Jackson had spoken with a firm that has equipment that allows septic waste into our system. They will be looking into cost associated with this to see if it can actually help lower the user cost.

Water Superintendent Report - Annual test have been perform which show that there is still bugs in water and the EPA stated that getting water from the lake will not be allowed. Supervisor Gardner added that the Water Committee is almost ready to sign agreement with Hickory Hill for test wells. If this does not work out, there are other options by sharing with Willsboro.

Code Enforcement Officer Report

Assessors Report

Planning Boards Draft Minutes

A motion was made by Councilperson Wrisley and seconded by Councilperson LaPine to accept the above reports. All in favor.

Supervisor Gardner asked for a motion to go into Executive Session for personnel matters. Motion made at 7:56 by Councilperson Garvey and seconded by Councilperson Wrisley to enter into Executive Session. All in Favor

Motion to end Executive session and continue board meeting at 8:07 by Councilperson Garvey and seconded by Councilperson Wrisley. All in Favor.

Supervisor Gardner stated that no actions were taken in Executive Session.

Supervisor Gardner asked for a motion to accept minutes from the Emergency Special Meeting held on January 23 , 2015. Councilperson Wrisley made and Councilperson LaPine seconded motion to accept minute. Councilperson Garvey abstained. All in favor.

Motion made by Councilperson LaPine at 8:15 to adjourn. All in favor

Respectfully Submitted
Patricia Gardner
Deputy Town Clerk