

TOWN BOARD MINUTES
TOWN OF POESTENKILL
TOWN BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 17, 2020
(Not approved at time of distribution)

ROLL CALL AS FOLLOWS

Councilwoman Butler	Present
Councilman Hass	Present
Councilman Van Slyke	Present
Councilman Wohlleber	Present
Supervisor Hammond	Present

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Susan Horton, Town Clerk
Jack Casey, Town Attorney

Supervisor Hammond opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7 p.m. and on a motion by Hass, seconded by Butler and carried it was stated that the monthly bills had been audited for payment.

Motion by Wohlleber, seconded by Van Slyke and an oral vote of 4 ayes with Supervisor Hammond abstaining to accept the Town Clerk's minutes of August 20, 2020 as written.

Public Hearing for the Town of Poestenkill for the creation of an Ambulance District –

Supervisor Hammond opened the Public Hearing at 7 pm and asked the crowd not to talk over someone else, to be courteous and to please address the Board not each other.

During this hearing there were many comments both "for" and "against" any change to our existing procedures. People voiced their concerns over the possibility of a tax increase if this ambulance district was approved. Supervisor Hammond stated that when campaigning, many residents expressed concern over our existing service and that he was just looking into all alternatives for better service. He stated that tonight's Town Board approval was just to move forward on the "Mandatory Referendum" and to further study alternative approaches.

Supervisor Hammond clearly stated that before anything was done that a proposal would be put out for the residents to vote upon, with all the pertinent facts known.

A copy of the comments discussed at the meeting is available at the Town Clerk's office. The main subjects of discussion in these comments related to the following: cost of improved service, quality of existing service, data of recent and past history of Mohawk Ambulance Service, transparency and accuracy of data provided, etc. When everyone was given the opportunity to speak, the public hearing was closed at 8:15 p.m.

Public Comment Period – T. Jacangelo, Town resident expressed concern over the Highway Department not picking up brush. She said it has been months since brush was last picked up.

Correspondence

Resignation – Judy Grattan – Supervisor Hammond stated that Judy has served the Town for many years and would like to thank her for her service, she truly will be missed.

Liaison Reports:

Planning Board- Town Board members had copies of the Planning Board meeting of August 11, 2020 and September 1, 2020 in their packets. H. Teal reported on the agenda items from the September 1, 2020 meeting. T. Russell, Planning Board Chairman stated it is with great sadness that he has received the resignation of Judy Grattan. He also stated that Victor Gush who proposed the 8-lot subdivision on Route 355 passed away. T. Russell also stated he feels very

strongly about Mr. Jamison's qualifications to continue to serve in that issue. (referring to a ZBA applicant)

Councilman Wohlleber directed this message to Chairman Russell, Planning Board and Chairman Jamison, ZBA because of an issue during a recent ZBA meeting. "We should have the common courtesy to discuss this matter in private, not "Grandstanding" a member from a different Board at another meeting." He suggested they have a conversation with their perspective Boards.

Zoning Board–Town Board members had copies of the ZBA meeting of July 14, 2020, July 21, 2020 and August 18, 2020 in their packets. P. Jamison, Chairman reported on the agenda items. P. Jamison elaborated on a member from another board wanting him to recuse himself from the Hitchcock issue because he is friendly with a person involved in this case. Mr. Jamison stated he has spoken with our Town Attorney and it was determined there is no conflict. Supervisor Hammond agreed that he should follow counsel's advice.

Fire Company – Town Board members had copies of the August 2020 Fire Co. report. L. Basle asked Supervisor Hammond if the Fire Company would be getting anymore storz connections. Supervisor Hammond stated no they will not be getting any this year. Councilman Wohlleber asked about training on Narcan for the Fire Company. D. Ruppert, Asst. Chief stated that the Fire Company is looking into it. D. Basle, Asst. Chief stated that the Sheriff and Stated Trooper's carry Narcan with them and before First Responders enter the scene it needs to be secured. Supervisor Hammond is looking into a Narcan training for Town residents.

Library – L. Lungren reported on the current activities happening at the Library. She stated the Library was still looking for painting contractors. H. Van Slyke, Town Board member stated that the Library will be funding the painting of the Library. K. Gypson wanted to thank the Library for all their hard work. Motion by Van Slyke, seconded by Wohlleber and an oral vote of 5 ayes authorizing the Library to purchase paint and hire contractor to paint the Library.

Youth Advisory Board- T. Buker, Youth Director stated that she was trying to figure out a Halloween celebration for the children of Poestenkill.

CAC- no activity reported this month

Discussion Items:

Keyhole Lot/Wood Processing – These two items will be discussed at a Special Workshop which will be held on Thursday, October 1st at 7 pm at the Town Hall.

Library – Painting – this item was discussed during the Liaison Reports.

Zoning Board – Alternate

Supervisor Hammond stated he has no objection of having an Alternate for the Zoning Board of Appeals. Motion by Wohlleber, seconded by Van Slyke with an oral vote of 5 ayes to reinstate having an Alternate to the ZBA.

Town Code updates – E-code – Town Board members had copies of the estimate dated September 16, 2020 from General Code. S. Horton, Town Clerk updated the Board on what the estimate would entail. This will be voted on during the Action Items portion of the meeting.

Telephone Proposals – Town Board members had copies of (3) proposals for new telephones for the Town Hall. M. Asquith, Administrative Assistant spoke on each proposal. This will be voted on during the Action Items portion of the meeting.

Action Items:

Approval for Ambulance Service to Move on to Referendum – Resolution #13-2020-RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF POESTENKILL, NEW YORK, CREATING THE AMBULANCE DISTRICT SUBJECT TO MANDATORY REFERENDUM
Now Be It Therefore Resolved, that the Town Board of the Town of Poestenkill, in compliance with Town Law article 12-A, hereby resolves that such Ambulance District as set forth in the “Map, Plan and Report” (MPR) filed August 13th with the Town Clerk be created subject to a mandatory referendum.

MOVED BY: Councilman Wohlleber

SECONDED BY: Councilman Van Slyke

VOTED UPON AS FOLLOWS:

Councilwoman Butler:	NO
Councilman Hass:	NO
Councilman Van Slyke:	YES
Councilman Wohlleber:	YES
Supervisor Hammond:	YES

Pending Discussion Decision on Keyhole Lot - this will be discussed at a Workshop on October 1st at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall.

Approval of Zoning Board Alternate – Motion by Councilman Van Slyke, seconded by Councilman Wohlleber and an oral vote of 4 ayes and 1 nay to approve Frank Burzesi as the Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate. Term to expire 12/31/2020.

Approval of Library Painting Project - this was discussed and voted on during the Liaison portion of meeting.

Pending Discussion on Wood Processing – this will be discussed at a Workshop on October 1st at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall.

Pending Discussion on Telephone System- Motion by Councilman Wohlleber, seconded by Councilwoman Butler with an oral vote of 5 ayes to approve the purchase of the Hudson Valley Communication Phone System for the Town Hall and Highway.

Set Budget Workshop Date- A budget workshop is scheduled for Thursday, September 24th at 7pm at Town Hall to discuss 2021 budget items.

Reports:

Supervisor’s Report- Supervisor Hammond - Supervisor Hammond gave no report.

Town Attorney’s Report – Mr. Casey reported on the matters that he worked on since the last Town Board meeting which included attending a ZBA meeting and working on the resolution for the ambulance. He stated that his referendum was a mandatory referendum and that nothing is in place until voting is done by the residents, whereas in the past it was a permissive referendum. The mandatory referendum will allow the democratic process to happen and puts safeguards in place for residences who are both for and against the ambulance district.

Town Clerk's Report – Motion by Wohlleber, seconded by Van Slyke and an oral vote of 5 ayes to accept the Town Clerk's report of August 2020. The total amount received in the Clerk's office was \$14,627.54 and of that amount \$8,647.79 was remitted to the Supervisor. Town Board members had copies of the Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer's written report. There were also reports from the Assessor, DCO, 811 report/Water Manager and Highway Dept. report. Councilwoman Butler questioned P. Jamison, ZBA Chairman regarding the July 21st minutes. The minutes included a statement by a town resident saying that the Code Enforcement Officer was rude on the phone. Councilwoman Butler received an email from this resident and was told he did not make any derogatory comments regarding the Code Enforcement Officer and stated that T. Church was very helpful and courteous. Supervisor Hammond said the Code Enforcement Officer was very upset about this incorrect statement printed in the minutes and feels that the minutes should be amended. P. Jamison, ZBA Chair, stated he and board members remembered the meetings remarks as minutes stated. Supervisor Hammond stated hopefully when you approve your minutes you can make proper adjustments. P Jamison said minutes had already been approved and Supervisor Hammond went on to say minutes should be amended to reflect correct changes. Supervisor Hammond went on to say that T. Church goes out of his way for the Town residents and is very kind and courteous to all our residents.

R. Brunet, Water Manager and past Code Enforcement Officer also stated that he has been working with T. Church and he feels that he is one of the finest Code Enforcement Officers he has known and feels that the Board picked a great guy.

Payment of Bills:

Motion by Hass, seconded by Butler and an oral vote of 5 ayes to pay Warrant #17-2020 in the amount of \$186,335.04. Motion by Hass seconded by Butler and an oral vote of 5 ayes to pay Warrant #18-2020 in the amount of \$42,610.20.

Motion by Wohlleber, seconded by Van Slyke, and carried to adjourn this meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Horton, Town Clerk

