

**Town of Johnsburg
Public Hearing on the 2022 Budget and
Regular Meeting of the Town Board
Tannery Pond and Zoom Meeting
October 5, 2021 7:00 PM**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2172603617>

Meeting ID: 217 260 3617

888 788 0099 US Toll-free

877 853 5247 US Toll-free

PRESENT: Andrea Hogan – Supervisor
Eugene Arsenault – Councilman
Arnold Stevens – Councilman
Laurie Arnheiter – Councilwoman
Kate Lorah - Town Clerk
ABSENT: Justin Gonyo – Councilman

Supervisor Hogan called the Public Hearing on the 2022 Budget to order at 7:01.

She began the Public Hearing by listing actions to be taken, including expanding sources of income, reviewing Town ownership of properties, employee development, and evaluating expenses for return on investment.

There were discussions regarding the cemetery budget, how the finding of \$750K in value (by the Assessor) translated into incoming tax for the Town, and how the Supervisor's salary compared to other Towns in the area.

Pete Olesheski commented on some items mentioned by Ms. Hogan as good ideas.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:10 pm.

Supervisor Hogan called the regular meeting to order at 7:10 pm and the Pledge to the Flag was led by Peter Olesheski.

Approval of Minutes September 21, 2021 meeting

RESOLUTION #175-21

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Ms. Arnheiter to approve the minutes from the September 21, 2021 meeting. With 4 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 4 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter) Nays – 0 Absent – 1 (Gonyo)

Correspondence:

- Letter of resignation from Emily Sargent, Bookkeeper

New Business:

- Bookkeeper discussion

The Board discussed the resignation of the bookkeeper and concluded that the hours for the position should be increased to 40 hours. Ms. Hogan said the increase is included in the 2022 budget.

- **RFP for General Contracting Services**

There was one response to the RFP for General Contracting Services.

RESOLUTION #176-21

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Arsenault to approve the bid for General Contracting Services received from Jim Jones – renewable yearly. With 4 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 4 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter) Nays – 0 Absent – 1 (Gonyo)

- **Budget Amendments**

Ms. Hogan pointed out that the budget amendments are corrections to coding to the proper account and that there are no changes to dollar amounts.

RESOLUTION #177-21

Ms. Arnheiter presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Stevens to approve the budget amendments. With 4 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 4 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter) Nays – 0 Absent – 1 (Gonyo)

- **Lake Champlain/Lake George Regional Planning Board MOU – Set Special Board Meeting to open responses for engineering services for Ski Bowl Mitigation project.**

We received bids for the Ski Bowl Mitigation project. In order to get that bid, the Town worked with Lake Champlain/Lake George Regional Planning Board. Part of the award is administrative fees to LC/LGRP for administering the grant for us, for five months at \$2000 per month. This will be reimbursable through the grant. The paperwork was due at the end of September, so Ms. Hogan is asking the Board to ratify executing the MOU between the Town and the Lake Champlain/Lake George Regional Planning Board.

RESOLUTION #178-21

Ms. Arnheiter presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Arsenault to ratify executing the MOU between the Town and the Lake Champlain/Lake George Regional Planning Board for the Ski Bowl Mitigation project. With 4 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 4 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter) Nays – 0 Absent – 1 (Gonyo)

For the above named project, we put out an RFP for engineering services with a deadline of Friday, October 8th. In order to meet the necessary timeline, we need to set a Special Meeting for Tuesday, October 12th at Town Hall at 9:30 am.

- **New Bank Account – EMS**

The Bookkeeper has suggested that it would be much easier to manage EMS funds if there was a separate bank account for them.

RESOLUTION #179-21

Mr. Arsenault presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Ms. Arnheiter to approve opening a separate bank account for EMS. With 4 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 4 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter) Nays – 0 Absent – 1 (Gonyo)

• Broadband Survey

Ms. Hogan encouraged everyone to take the Broadband Survey from the NYS Department of Public Service found at www.empirestatebroadband.com.

• Lease agreement – Ski Bowl Connector Trail

The Town received the 2021 – 2022 lease agreement from Frontstreet Mountain Development, LLC for the Ski Bowl Connector Trail for one dollar.

RESOLUTION #180-21

Ms. Arnheiter presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Stevens to approve the 2021 – 2022 lease agreement from Frontstreet Mountain Development, LLC for the Ski Bowl Connector Trail for one dollar. With 4 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 4 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter) Nays – 0 Absent – 1 (Gonyo)

• Waddell Road discussion

James Morris III has written the Town regarding a section of Waddell Road that he feels is a potential danger, asking if the Town would install guard rails. Fred Comstock got two quotes for the guard rails. Kelly Nessel asked if this is a county decision. Ms. Hogan said it is a local decision. There was discussion as to where this spot is and if there is a need for a

safety feature. Ms. Arnheiter suggested it be tabled until the next meeting to give Board members time to go see for themselves.

Mr. Olesheski pointed out that if there were boulders there at one time, the Town at some point acknowledged some danger.

Old Business:

- Trophy hutch at Tannery Pond

Peter Olesheski has agreed to take the sports trophies from the hutch at Tannery Pond to put in storage for the time-being.

- Budget discussion

Ms. Hogan said the Library has waived late fines since the beginning of Covid and would like to continue doing so.

RESOLUTION #181-21

Ms. Arnheiter presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Stevens to approve the Library continuing to waive late fines. With 4 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 4 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter) Nays – 0 Absent – 1 (Gonyo)

- Update on Trails Project

The Trails Committee met Monday night. There is a trail completed between Peaceful Valley Road and the Ski Bowl now. The next project is the Rabbit Pond Trail.

- **Update on Sewer**

Ms. Hogan referred to Matt Parobeck to report on the sewer project. He announced that a grant has come through from the Northern Borders Regional Commission for \$750,000 toward establishing a Sewer District.

One part of the announcement that came with the award was that when the

Town made the resolution to put in the grant ask, there must be an individual designated to execute all of the paperwork, not merely the Title of the person.

RESOLUTION #182-21

Ms. Arnheiter presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Stevens to amend Resolution #80-21 to read, “Andrea Hogan” in place of “Supervisor”. With 4 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 4 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter) Nays – 0 Absent – 1 (Gonyo)

• **Youth Committee**

There was an accounting error with the Youth ski lessons. Normally the Town contributes \$35 per participant. The Youth Committee is asking for \$630 they paid which was not reimbursed by the Town last winter.

RESOLUTION #183-21

Ms. Arnheiter presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Arsenault to reimburse the Youth Committee \$630 for last year’s Youth ski lessons. With 4 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 4 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter) Nays – 0 Absent – 1 (Gonyo)

Committee Reports:

The Stimulus Committee met to begin prioritizing ways to spend stimulus funds. One suggestion was rather than giving money to not-for-profit groups, to instead designate money to hire a grant writer specializing in not-for-profits. Other priorities included marketing, improvement to recreational facilities, and child care.

Historical Society held their open house which was well attended. Deana Wood also said donations are coming in. They have hired a CPA to do the books, and have placed three historical markers this year.

Approval of Warrants

General Fund (Total \$13,654.89)
Highway Fund (Total \$25,733.87)
Library Fund (Total \$512.67)
Water District (\$11,927.21)
Trust and Agency (\$492.88)
Total all warrants \$53,321.52

RESOLUTION #184-21

Mr. Stevens presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Arsenault to approve the warrants. With 4 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 4 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter) Nays – 0 Absent 1 (Gonyo)

Privilege of the Floor

Bob Nettle gave information on a professional engineering company in Albany that may be of use to the Town.
Matt Parobeck brought up the corner of Durkin Road by Stewart’s continuing to be a problem. Ms. Hogan said Mr. Comstock has plans to widen and improve that area so the delivery trucks will not continue to be damaging to it.

Motion to adjourn

RESOLUTION #185-21

Ms. Arnheiter presented the following resolution and moved its passage with a second from Mr. Stevens to adjourn. With 4 members voting in favor the resolution is declared carried. Ayes – 4 (Hogan, Arsenault, Stevens, Arnheiter) Nays – 0 Absent 1 (Gonyo)

Prepared by:

Kathleen C. Lorah

Next meeting October 19, 2021 7:00 pm