

**November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Petersburgh Town Board**

The regular monthly meeting of the Petersburgh Town Board was held on November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 7:00 PM at the Petersburgh Town Hall, 65 Main Street, Petersburgh, New York.

Present: Supervisor Siegfried Krahforst  
Councilman William Seel  
Councilman Richard Snyder  
Councilman David Alderman  
Councilman Duane Goodermote  
Highway Superintendent Raymond Harrison  
Planning Board Chairman David Miller

Guests: Peter Schaaphok, Sharon Hodges, Timothy Church, Denise Church, Deidra Michaels, Don Fletcher- NYSERDA, Linda VonDerHyde- Rensselaer County Department of Economic Development and Planning

Press: Alex Brooks- The Eastwick Press

**GUEST SPEAKERS**

- Don Fletcher, NYSERDA representative for Barton & Loguidice and Linda VonDerHyde, Director of Rensselaer County Department of Economic Development and Planning, were present to discuss energy efficiency and the resulting financial savings available to municipalities. Possibilities introduced by Ms. VonDerHyde included changing the heating system to save on fuel costs, as well as creating a power system to produce energy. The energy made, through a plant using solar, wind water, etc., may make available to the Town tax credits for use toward municipal buildings energy bills. Information was provided from NYSEG as well about grant and rebate possibilities, Mr. Fletcher spoke about a required energy audit that would determine statistics such as the efficiency of the heating system, insulation, and other energy related matters within the Town Hall. As the audit is a requirement in order to apply for grants through NYSERDA, the Town would only be responsible for half the cost of the audit. The total cost was quoted at \$4,500.00, leaving the Town with a fee of \$2,250.00. Councilman Goodermote questioned whether or not this expenditure would be reimbursed if and when a grant was awarded, however no guarantee could be given that the Town would receive grants depending on what funding options are going to become available. Mr. Fletcher stated that if approved, the audit would be performed by Barton & Loguidice representative on behalf of NYSERDA. The Board thanked Ms. VonDerHyde and Mr. Fletcher for their presentation, and agreed to consider the energy audit.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- Approval of Minutes:

### **Resolution # 82 Approval of Minutes**

On motion of Councilman Goodermote, the following resolution was adopted. Be it resolved that the minutes from the Regular Town Board Meeting held on October 15th, 2012 be approved as presented. Councilman Seel seconded such motion, and roll call showed the following results:

Supervisor Siegfried Krahforst	Aye
Councilman Richard Snyder	Aye
Councilman William Seel	Aye
Councilman Duane Goodermote	Aye
Councilman David Alderman	Aye

Supervisor Krahforst declared that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

## **REPORTS**

- Town Clerk: presented a monthly report to the Board. The report showed a total of \$1,350.07 received in revenue for the month of October.
- Highway Superintendent: Raymond Harrison stated that the trucks were ready to plow, and the crew had been working to finish drawing sand. The Ice and Snow Agreement with Rensselaer County has also been received, and a resolution was passed for its approval.

### **Resolution #83 2012-2013 Ice and Snow Agreement**

On motion of Councilman Goodermote, the following resolution was adopted. Be it resolved that the 2012-2013 Ice and Snow Agreement between the Town of Petersburg and Rensselaer County be approved as presented. Councilman Snyder seconded such motion, and roll call showed the following results:

Supervisor Siegfried Krahforst	Aye
Councilman Richard Snyder	Aye
Councilman William Seel	Aye
Councilman Duane Goodermote	Aye

Supervisor Krahforst declared that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

- Supervisor: Siegfried Krahforst presented the Supervisor's monthly report to the Board. The report showed receipts \$52,056.68, disbursements \$119,677.90, leaving a balance on hand as of November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012 of \$272,967.87. This report is on file on the office of the Town Clerk.
- Dog Control Officer a monthly report was provided to the Board, showing a total of one call for the month of October.
- Planning Board: Chairman David Miller was present to discuss his attendance at a recent meeting of the Rensselaer Plateau Alliance. A map referenced at this meeting included only the western side of Route 22, and not the rest of the Town. Mr. Miller reported that economic opportunities and other ideas were discussed at the meeting but no definite plans were yet in the works.
- Historian: Peter Schaaphok stated that he would like to begin an assessment of all rural cemeteries through the Town, and compile the information into a report for the Town Board. Mr. Schaaphok asked Attorney Engel to review the laws and determine the Town's legal involvement in such a process, in addition to what responsibility the Town may be required to adhere to in their upkeep. A determination will be made in regard to acceptable courses of action toward the cleanup of the forgotten sites, and clarification will be obtained on access restrictions, maintenance plans, and protection possibilities.
- Board of Ethics: Chairperson Deidra Michaels informed the Board that the revisions to the Code of Ethics had been completed and were in need of legal review, which Attorney Engel agreed to provide. Ms. Michaels stated that four complaints had been received, however they were determined not to be ethical violations according to the current policy.
- Broken Wheel Bridge: Supervisor Krahforst stated that preliminary proposals were in the works and final versions were expected by November 30<sup>th</sup>. Once this date has passed, a selection committee will be established in order to choose an engineering firm for the project.
- USDA Loan Retirement Bond: is in the works through Pioneer Bank.
- Revised Subdivision Regulations: Mr. Miller stated that several slight changes were being made, and once the revisions have been completed, all enforcement will fall under the responsibilities of Code Enforcement. By law the Planning Board cannot enforce the required regulations, so the job description of the Building Inspector will need to be revised to reflect the new changes.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Departmental Reports: Based on recent discussions during the last Planning Board meeting, an idea was introduced to begin requesting that the Building Inspector and Planning Board submit monthly reports to the Town Board. The Building Inspector's reports shall consist of a list of building permits issues, to include both open permits and the status of completed work, in addition to the

issued Certificates of Occupancy. The Planning Board reports are to include road cuts (driveways), subdivisions, site plan reviews, and other relating matters. A question was raised in regard to the PVMCC monthly reports, which is mandated in the User's Agreement with the Town, and although these reports have been requested, to date none have been received.

- Youth Program: discussions had also taken place regarding fundraising opportunities for the Youth Program. While the Town is not legally allowed to participate in such activities, the matter could be introduced to the public for their ideas. Additionally, the salary amounts of the Youth Program employees was discussed as another option to save money. Currently the directors receive \$15.00 hour, counselors are paid \$7.50/hour and counselors-in-training receive \$16.00/day. Although the Youth Program Director makes these decisions, the Board agreed to review the rates in order to suggest a different method of payment, and the matter was tabled.
- Jones Garage: Supervisor Krahforst stated that he had met with the State Police, and was informed that nothing could be done about the garbage dumped behind the building because it was too old. While ENCON is still investigation, it was determined that no radiation was detected on the premises.
- NYWARN: Supervisor Krahforst requested that the Board pass a resolution in favor of joining the New York Wastewater Agency Response Network. This organization is available for assistance to the Water District by providing training opportunities and a network of beneficial information, in addition to mutual aid if needed.

#### **Resolution #84 NYWARN**

On motion of Councilman Snyder, the following resolution was adopted. Be it resolved that the Town of Petersburg Water District is hereby authorized to join the New York Wastewater Agency Response Network. Councilman Seel seconded such motion, and roll call showed the following results:

Supervisor Siegfried Krahforst	Aye
Councilman Richard Snyder	Aye
Councilman William Seel	Aye
Councilman Duane Goodermote	Aye
Councilman David Alderman	Aye

Supervisor Krahforst declared that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

- Board of Ethics Appointments: Peter Schaaphok and Charlotte Neaton have shown interest in joining the Board of Ethics. Chairperson Deidra Michaels stated that although their interest was appreciated, neither are eligible for participation as they both are employed by the Town. The applicants will be notified and the positions will be advertised.

- Town Hall Repairs: Supervisor Krahforst stated that one solution to deter the water from flooding the basement of the Town Hall may be to change the grade, or slope, of the west side of the Town Hall lawn. He also suggested the installation of new window wells. A curtain drain is already in place along the side of the building, and has been flushed of any blockages. The Board discussed the low amount remaining in the buildings fund, in addition to damage that may be caused due to the muddy conditions, and decided to table the matter until spring.
- Appointed Positions: a question was raised regarding the appointed positions, and whether or not to advertise prior to January's reappointments. Although the goal of this proposal was to create an open, fair process, the Board was conflicted on if this may inspire false hope, since most positions are filled, or if the incumbent employees may take offense. Discussions eventually led to the conclusion that one ad would be run stating that applications were being accepted for all appointed positions.

#### **Resolution #85**

##### **Advertisement of Appointed Positions**

On motion of Councilman Goodermote, the following resolution was adopted. Be it resolved that an advertisement be run stating that applications were being accepted for the appointed positions for the year 2013. Councilman Snyder seconded such motion, and roll call showed the following results:

Supervisor Siegfried Krahforst	Aye
Councilman Richard Snyder	Aye
Councilman William Seel	Opposed
Councilman Duane Goodermote	Aye
Councilman David Alderman	Aye

Supervisor Krahforst declared that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

- Energy Audit: as the Board was hesitant to approve the expenditure of \$2,250.00 for the energy audit without a guarantee that it would result in a grant, Mr. Fletcher offered to lower the Town's portion of the cost to \$1,000.00. A resolution was passed in favor of this agreement.

#### **Resolution #86**

##### **Approval of Energy Audit**

On motion of Councilman Goodermote, the following resolution was adopted. Be it resolved that the Town Board hereby approves an expenditure to be made not to exceed \$1,013.00 for the purpose of having an energy audit conducted by Barton &

Loguidice on behalf of NYSERDA. Councilman Seel seconded such motion, and roll call showed the following results:

Supervisor Siegfried Krahforst	Aye
Councilman Richard Snyder	Aye
Councilman William Seel	Aye
Councilman Duane Goodermote	Aye
Councilman David Alderman	Aye

Supervisor Krahforst declared that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

- Audit of Bills: #11/12:

### **Resolution #87**

#### **Audit of Bills**

On motion of Councilman Snyder, the following resolution was adopted. Be it resolved that the bills as listed on abstract # 11/12 be paid in the following amounts:

General Fund # 207-223	\$ 882.96
Highway Fund # 198-223	\$24,580.50
Light District # SL1-SL2	\$ 823.00
Water District # 49-53	\$ 710.38
Library Fund # 76-85	\$ 5,543.74

Councilman Goodermote seconded such motion, and roll call showed the following results:

Supervisor Siegfried Krahforst	Aye
Councilman Richard Snyder	Aye
Councilman William Seel	Aye
Councilman Duane Goodermote	Aye
Councilman David Alderman	Aye

Supervisor Krahforst declared that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

With no further business, on motion of Councilman Snyder, seconded by Councilman Goodermote, the meeting was adjourned at 10:43 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Callie Crisp, Town Clerk