

**August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012**  
**Public Hearing & Regular Meeting**  
**Petersburgh Town Board**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

The Petersburg Town Board held a Public Hearing for the purpose of hearing those present for or against the proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2012, consisting of changes to Local Law No. 2 of 1993 entitled, Establishing the Date for the Hearing of the Board of Assessment Review of the Town of Petersburg, on August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 6:45 PM at the Petersburg Town Hall, 65 Main Street, Petersburg N.Y. The proposed revisions were presented prior to the Regular Town Board meeting. Notice of the time, place, and date of the hearing was posted in the Post Office, Office of the Town Clerk, and published in The Eastwick Press.

Present: Supervisor Siegfried Krahforst  
Councilman Richard Snyder  
Councilman Duane Goodermote  
Councilman David Alderman  
Highway Superintendent Raymond Harrison  
Town Clerk Callie Crisp  
Absent: Councilman William Seel

Guests: Rensselaer County Engineer Wayne Bonesteel, Denise Church, Timothy Church, Emily Harrison, Peter Schaaphok, William Shorter Sr.

Press: Alex Brooks, The Eastwick Press

Supervisor Krahforst opened the hearing at 6:45 PM to anyone desiring to make comments for or against the changes made.

With no comments received, on motion of Councilman Snyder, seconded by Councilman Goodermote, Supervisor Krahforst closed the hearing at 6:59 PM.

**REGULAR MEETING**

Present: Supervisor Siegfried Krahforst  
Councilman Richard Snyder  
Councilman Duane Goodermote  
Councilman David Alderman  
Highway Superintendent Raymond Harrison  
Town Clerk Callie Crisp  
Absent: Councilman William Seel

Guests: Rensselaer County Engineer Wayne Bonesteel, Denise Church, Timothy Church, Emily Harrison, Peter Schaaphok, William Shorter Sr., Thomas Berry

Press: Alex Brooks, The Eastwick Press

### **PUBLIC ADDRESS**

- Library Director Sharon Hodges: thanked the Town Board for their support of the Library this year. The Summer Reading Program has concluded, with a total of 44 children completing the program. Mrs. Hodges reported that the Library also hosted 22 various programs this summer, for which 527 people attended. The Board was informed that all prizes distributed to winners had been donated, which helped save funds being used from the budget. In addition, Mrs. Hodges announced that the Library would be changing its hours soon to better accommodate the public.
- Denise Church: had a question pertaining to the Youth Program budget time frame, for which she received an answer.

### **CORRECTIONS**

- Supervisor Krahforst stated that he had two corrections relating to Water District information relayed at last month's meeting. A phone call was received from Water District Superintendent Todd Stradinger, who informed Mr. Krahforst that the generator is started and ran several times per year to ensure its functionality. Additionally, the snow removal is done by the Highway Department, and a contractor will not be hired for this.

### **REPORTS**

- Town Clerk: Callie Crisp provided copies of Town Clerk's monthly report to the Board. The report showed a total of \$1,529.50 received in revenue for the month of July.
- Highway Superintendent: Raymond Harrison reported that the crew has been finishing blacktopping on several roads, and has completed CHIPS sealing. Other work as of late has included grading, spreading gravel, and changing culverts.
  - Supervisor Krahforst presented a letter that he received from the "Unofficial Petersburg Concerned Citizens Group" regarding the maintenance of gravel roads in the Town. The Town Clerk read the letter aloud, which consisted of a list of concerns relating to the Highway Crew's care procedures for gravel roadways. In addition to the letter, the group provided a Gravel Roads Maintenance and Design Report number LTAP-02-002 April 2005, which is a publication originally intended for South Dakota, but recommended by the USDT as the best publication for our area. With no response received from Superintendent Harrison, the Board tabled this matter.
- Supervisor: Siegfried Krahforst presented the monthly Supervisor's report to the Board. The report showed receipts \$443,433.43, disbursements \$391,585.97, leaving a balance on hand as of August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012 of \$428,067.96. This report is on file in the Town Clerk's office. The Supervisor also reported that all reimbursement funds from FEMA have been received, and the Bond loan has been retired. As the amount received was higher than the up-front costs, additional funds are remaining.

- Dog Control Officer: Lynne Torello-Burns provided a monthly report to the Board, which showed a total of one call for the month of July.
- Town Officials: Councilman Snyder questioned the state of the un-working fire hydrant. Highway Superintendent Harrison stated that the hydrant has been prepared by the Highway Crew, and is currently awaiting installation.
- Water District Committee: had previously requested a Town Board liaison. Councilman Alderman agreed to take the position.

#### **Resolution #54**

##### **Appointment of Town Board Liaison to Water District Committee**

On motion of Councilman Snyder, the following resolution was adopted. Be it resolved that Councilman David Alderman hereby be appointed to serve as the Town Board Liaison to Water District Committee of the Town of Petersburg. Councilman Goodermote seconded such motion, and roll call showed the following results:

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

Supervisor Krahforst declared that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- Refinance USDA Loan: Supervisor Krahforst has been researching various options to retire the Water District Loan with USDA. The Town still has 13 years left on the current loan, which includes an extremely high interest rate that has had a negative impact on the budget of the Water District. Supervisor Krahforst has received a quote of \$1,500.00 for the bond attorney costs, which would be paid off in less than two years with the interest saved from retiring the USDA loan. The Supervisor requested a motion to approve the hiring of Bond Attorneys at Hodgeson & Russ, the company who handled the FEMA BAN last year, at a cost of \$1,500.00.

#### **Resolution #55**

##### **Authorization to Hire Bond Attorney**

On motion of Councilman Snyder, the following resolution was adopted. Be it resolved that Bond Attorneys Hodgeson & Russ be hired at a cost of \$1,500.00 to begin the process of obtaining a bond to retire the current Water District Loan through USDA. Councilman Goodermote seconded such motion, and roll call showed the following results:

|                                |        |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Supervisor Siegfried Krahforst | Aye    |
| Councilman Richard Snyder      | Aye    |
| Councilman William Seel        | Absent |
| Councilman Duane Goodermote    | Aye    |

Councilman David Alderman

Aye

Supervisor Krahforst declared that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

- Re-Val: A resolution will be required if the Town Board decided to have a re-val conducted for the year 2015. Assessor Craig Surprise stated that he would prepare the figures in time for next month's Board meeting, at which the decision can be made. This matter was tabled until next month.
- Fire Alarm Systems: an appointment has been scheduled for August 29<sup>th</sup> for the system to be completed.
- Local law Revisions: the Board is awaiting written determinations from the Planning Board.
- Grant Writer for the Town: Supervisor Krahforst stated that a search is still being conducted to find a grant writer, in part to assist with energy audit grants that may be available.
- Broken Wheel Bridge: County Engineer Wayne Bonesteel was present to discuss the plan of action to rectify the red flag received for the Broken Wheel Bridge. Mr. Bonesteel stated that the first step is to write to NYDOT in order to request a master agreement to be drafted. A proposed agreement will be returned for the Town Board to adopt be resolution. In order for the work to commence, the Town must be able to provide 100% of the total project cost up front, regardless of the plan for reimbursement. Approximately 80% of the project will be federally funded, 15% state funded, with the remaining 5% applicable to the Town. Engineering cost have been estimated at \$151,000.00, and the County will provide a list of approved engineering firms for the Town to choose. Once the initial approval is granted, an agreement for construction costs will be determined. The Town Board resolved to request the agreement as indicated through DOT.

#### **Resolution #56**

#### **Request to DOT for Master Agreement, Broken Wheel Bridge**

On motion of Councilman Goodermote, the following resolution was adopted. Be it resolved that the Town Board hereby authorizes a request to the New York State Department of Transportation to draft a Master Agreement for the Project Plan of the Broken Wheel Bridge in the Town of Petersburg, NY. Councilman Snyder seconded such motion, and roll call showed the following results:

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

Supervisor Krahforst declared that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

- JCAP Grant: Court Clerk Callie Crisp provided the Board with a list of items to be applied for in the JCAP grant for the Court. The list included both purchase prices,

and any applicable recurring costs for the Board's reference. A resolution was adopted approving the grant application.

#### **Resolution #57**

##### **Authorization of JCAP Grant Application**

On motion of Councilman Goodermote, the following resolution was adopted. Be it resolved that the Town Board hereby authorizes Court Clerk Callie Crisp to apply for the 2012 JCAP Grant on behalf of the Petersburg Town Court. Councilman Snyder seconded such motion, and roll call showed the following results:

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

Supervisor Krahforst declared that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

- 2013 Party Committee: Supervisor Krahforst requested that a meeting be scheduled to form a 2013 4<sup>th</sup> of July Party Committee. A meeting was scheduled for Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 7:00 PM at the Petersburg Town Hall.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- FEMA Reimbursement: Supervisor Krahforst addressed the Board in regard to the reimbursement of overtime worked relating to FEMA 4020DRNY. Following last year's hurricane, both the Town Clerk and Highway Superintendent put in many hours of overtime in order to document everything required for FEMA. Former Supervisor Schaaphok was present to confirm the overtime spent on the paperwork. Although the reimbursement from FEMA has been received, approximately \$100,000.00 has been received in addition to the amount claimed by the Town. Supervisor Krahforst stated that there are more than enough funds to cover the compensation of overtime for these two Town Officials, and has had Bookkeeper Charles Guntner research the legal way to reimburse elected salaried employees. According to the Office of the State Comptroller, a resolution may be adopted and put up for a permissive referendum for a one-time salary increase. If any complaints are received, the matter will be put up for a public vote. The Town Board stated that immediately following any future disasters employees should be hired to manage the paperwork and documentation, and a rate of compensation should be immediately established. A resolution was then adopted to be published as a permissive referendum.

#### **Resolution #58**

##### **Compensation of Two Salaried Town Officials**

On motion of Councilman Goodermote, the following resolution was adopted. Be it resolved that the Town Board hereby approves the compensation of two elected

salaried officials of the Town of Petersburg, to be expended for the purpose of two one-time salary increases for the year 2012 in the amount of \$2,932.38 for the Highway Superintendent and \$2,654.32 for the Town Clerk, for overtime relating to FEMA 4020 DR-NY. Be it further resolved that this resolution be subject to permissive referendum pursuant to Section 64(14) of the Town Law. Councilman Snyder seconded such motion, and roll call showed the following results:

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

Supervisor Krahforst declared that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

Local Law No. 1 of 2012: a resolution was adopted approving this Local Law, which consists of changes to Local Law No. 2 of 1993 entitled, Establishing the Date for the Hearing of the Board of Assessment Review of the Town of Petersburg.

#### **Resolution #59**

#### **Adoption of Local Law No. 1 of 2012**

On motion of Councilman Goodermote, the following resolution was adopted. Be it resolved that Local Law No. 1 of 2012 be hereby adopted and be effective immediately upon filing with the Department of State. Councilman Snyder seconded such motion, and roll call showed the following results:

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

Supervisor Krahforst declared that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

- Parking Lot Sealing: Supervisor Krahforst stated his intent to research options for parking lot sealing for the municipal complex. The Highway Department does not have time to perform such a chore; therefore the RCSD Work Order program will be approached regarding the labor involved. This matter was tabled.
- Petersburg Pass/Taconic Trail: Supervisor Krahforst spoke about his concern of the overgrowth surrounding the parking lot located at the top of the Petersburg Pass (Taconic Trail). Approximately 30 years ago, this site provided a beautiful view of both the New York side and the Massachusetts side that attracted tourists to the Town. Since the State purchased the property, no maintenance has been done to preserve the view. The overgrowth is now rampant and the parking lot full of holes, but the Town does not have permission to perform any repairs. The Supervisor was granted approval by the Board for a letter to be sent to the NYS Department of Parks and Recreation regarding the clean up of this site.

- Executive Session:

### **Resolution #60**

#### **Move Into Executive Session**

On motion of Councilman Snyder, the following resolution was adopted. Be it resolved that the Board move into Executive Session at 7:50 PM to discuss personnel issues. Councilman Goodermote seconded such motion, and roll call showed the following results:

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

Supervisor Krahforst declared that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

### **Resolution #61**

#### **Return From Executive Session**

On motion of Councilman Snyder, the following resolution was adopted. Be it resolved that the Board return from Executive Session at 8:02 PM. Councilman Goodermote seconded such motion, and roll call showed the following results:

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

Supervisor Krahforst declared that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted.

- Alternative Energy Committee: Thomas Berry was present to provide a report to the Board regarding the research on Energy Audits. A written report was provided, which indicated that at this point in time it would be inefficient for the Water District to convert to solar power. The overall cost would be much greater than the resulting savings. In addition, several companies have been addressed to obtain pricing information regarding energy audits, and grant options are also being researched. As for the Light Districts, NYSEG currently does not offer LED streetlamps, so a letter has been sent to request the consideration of this option.
- NY Society of Daughters Historical Association: a letter was received from this Association requesting the signing of two proclamations, for which the Board approved. The first proclamation designated the week of September 17<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> as Constitution week, while the second proclamation acknowledged November as National American Indian Heritage Month.

With no further business, on motion on Councilman Goodermote, seconded by Councilman Snyder, the meeting was adjourned at 8:49 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Callie Crisp, Town Clerk