

TOWN OF BRIGHTON, FRANKLIN COUNTY, NEW YORK
PUBLIC HEARING FOR FIRE SERVICES MINUTES

November 10, 2016

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A Public Hearing was held for the Fire Protection Services at the Town of Brighton on Thursday, November 10, 2016, following the Public Hearing on the Budget 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at the Brighton Town Hall, Paul Smiths, NY, with the following:

CALL TO ORDER:

Public Hearing was Called to Order by Supervisor Peter Shrope at 6:08 p.m.
Pledge to the Flag was recited

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

PRESENT: Supervisor Peter Shrope

Council Members: Brian McDonnell, Amber McKernan, Steve Tucker, Lydia Wright

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Elaine Sater-Town Clerk, two residents and Paul Smiths-Gabriels Volunteer Fire Department Representatives Tom Tucker and Dan Whitson, Fire Chief

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING:

Notice of this Public Hearing was posted on the Town Clerk's Sign Board in the three local post offices and businesses in the Town on October 31, 2016. A notice was published in the Adirondack Daily Enterprise on Monday, October 31, 2016.

Fire Protection Services Contract: Supervisor Peter Shrope said the Town received a contract from the Paul Smiths-Gabriels Volunteer Fire Department (PSGVFD) for the next five years with a 3% increase each year. He is recommending the contract be changed to three years so as not to tie the hands of future Town Boards since there is a tax cap on Town Budgets.

FLOOR OPENED FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Tom Tucker - Gabriels: Spoke in favor of the contract as presented. He said there should be a 30-day opt out option in the contract so it should not matter if the contract is for 5 years or less.

Dan Whitson - Gabriels: Spoke in favor of the contract as presented. He said the PSGVFD is looking into funding for the future and they need a longer contract for loans.

There were no further comments from the public.

Supervisor Peter Shrope asked the Fire Department to amend the contract to add the "opt out option" as it not in the contract. The Board said they support the Fire Department for its service to the Town residents, but they do not want to tie up future funds for such a long period.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn the public hearing at 6:15 p.m. made by Supervisor Peter Shrope, second by Amber McKernan, Aye 5 (McDonnell, McKernan, Shrope, Tucker, Wright), Nay 0

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine W. Sater, RMC
Brighton Town Clerk