

The Regular Meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Brighton was held Thursday, November 9, 2000 at 7:00 p.m. at the Brighton Town Hall, Paul Smiths, NY, with the following:

PRESENT: Supervisor Christopher Leifheit
Council Members: Alicia Bodmer
Linda Dobson
John Quenell
Roger Smith

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Elaine Sater-Town Clerk, Don Oliver- Superintendent of Highways, Nik Santagate-Justice, Tom & Pat Willis-Historians, and Doug Tichenor-Assessor

RESIDENTS: There were several residents present.

GUESTS: Scott Campbell – Friends of the North Country (HUD Administrator)

Meeting was Called to Order by Supervisor Leifheit **at 7:04 p.m.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion made by Supervisor Christopher Leifheit **to accept the minutes of the Regular Town of Brighton Meeting on October 12, 2000 as written**, second by Alicia Bodmer, All Aye

Motion made by Supervisor Leifheit **to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting (Budget Workshop) of the Town Of Brighton on October 19/24, 2000 as written**, second by Linda Dobson, All Aye

TOWN CLERK REPORT

Total Revenue to Supervisor as of October 31, 2000 was \$113.98

- 10 DEC Sport Licenses
- 1 Certified Copy
- 1 Dog License
- 4 Building Permits (BRI2000-24 through 27)
- 1 Donation for Park Use

1. Sent notices to Board Members for Teleconference “The Key to Inter Municipal Cooperation” seminar held on October 25, 2000 at Franklin County Courthouse
2. October 24, 2000, received notification of Application for Liquor License from Simone Sutera, Meacham Lake Inn on Route 30.
3. October 26, received notification of Performance Assessment Report (PAR) from Friends of the North Country for the period ending September 30, 2000 for the HUD '94 Grant, Public Notice was published on October 31, 2000, copy of legal notice sent to FONC on November 9, 2000.
4. November 7, General Election was held, 402 people out of 595 voted. Vouchers for Election Inspectors and Voting Booth Custodians are available for payment
5. November 9, received Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year ending December 31, 1999. Public Notice will be published as soon as possible
6. November 9, received two phone calls in regards to the bidding for the Landfill Closure, companies not getting specs. Address is wrong in Public Notice, shows PO Box 206 as does the DODGE listing.
7. Town Hall Schedule: Food Pantry Nov 16
8. Park Use: No requests

SUPERVISOR’S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE:

BUSINESS AT HAND:

1. HUD PROJECTS: Scott Campbell-Friends of the North Country:

- a. HOME Grant Program is finished and Friends of the North Country (FONC) would like to receive payments to close out by November 30, 2000.
- b. One project (BRI 94-T6) is left to complete for the '94 HUD Grant. Considerable work has been accomplished. A building permit was issued. FONC would like an indication that the septic system was inspected. The owner is close to finishing one unit and would like a payment for this unit. FONC will send a letter notifying the Project owner of the Board’s decision. Supervisor Leifheit asked for a copy of the letter to the Project owner to be sent to the Code Enforcement Officer, Ed Randig, as well as to the Board.

RESOLUTION #85

AUTHORIZATION TO MAKE PAYMENTS FOR HUD PROJECT 94-T6

Motion made by Supervisor Christopher Leifheit **to authorize a payment of \$9,000 for HUD Project BRI 94-T6 when the following two conditions are met by the project owner: 1) Certification of Occupancy is received from the Code Enforcement Officer for one completed rental unit and 2) Unit inspection by the Friends of the North County is satisfactory**, second by John Quenell, All Aye

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Christopher Leifheit	Aye
Council Members: Linda Dobson	Aye
John Quenell	Aye
Roger Smith	Aye
Alicia Bodmer	Aye

Resolution #85 declared duly adopted.

2. Assessor Doug Tichenor:

- a. Update of Town Of Brighton will take place in 2001, currently doing an update in the Town of Santa Clara and will be able to use their numbers for comparisons in the Town Of Brighton. Data review will take place in

spring, summer, and fall of 2001. Equalization rate is currently 100% and several sales in the Town will affect this rate next year, especially the waterfront property. Expenses will be in postage and envelopes in February 2002 when updated assessments are sent out. Will be holding informal meetings before Grievance Day. Valuation will be accomplished using equipment and knowledge available at the Franklin County Real Property Office in Malone. Data inventory mailers will not be sent out until next valuation. Will need the 2000 building permits for new construction and additions before March 1, 2001. Maintenance Aid is paying \$5.00 per parcel when an update is done.

- b. STAR exemption renewal forms for seniors will be sent out in December 2000. Seniors who turn 65 any time during the year are eligible for a senior exemption during 2001. Exemptions for residential property will be \$30,000 in 2001.

Questions from the Floor: Tom Willis – Garondah Road: If a house is marketed for a large amount will it change the assessment of the houses nearby by a large amount? The assessor uses the average selling price not the market price to assess property. Does category “Seasonal Home” affect the assessment? Refers to usage category and doesn’t affect assessment. How are continual additions handled? March 1 is tax assessment day and whatever work is done is assessed as of that day. Keeps track through building permits.

3. Landfill Closure: Bid closing for construction of landfill cap is on Wednesday, November 15, 2000 at 4:00 p.m. Specs are available from Griffin International.

4. Year 2001 Budget: Added two lines for “Junk” Clean-up Grant, one for appropriations and revenues Community Enhancement Program (A8160.4a & A3989), totaling \$18,498. Need to add additional money to State Retirement and General Social Security. Discussion was held on raising the Tax Collector salary back to \$6,000. The current Tax Collector is retiring in December 2000. The Deputy Tax Collector, Barbara Marshall, addressed the Board and asked the Board to reconsider the decision to reduce the salary. Supervisor Leifheit noted there is no salary structure for Town Officials. The Board felt the new Tax Collector should not start at the same salary as one who had been in the position for 33 years. Medical, Dental and Optic benefits are available for this position since it is an elected office. The salary was reduced to what it was two years ago (\$4,500).

RESOLUTION #86

ADOPTION OF THE YEAR 2001 BUDGET

Motion made by Supervisor Christopher Leifheit to adopt the Year 2001 Preliminary Budget for the Town Of Brighton with the following changes:

GENERAL FUND: 1) Correct the Appropriations Code for the Community Enhancement Program from A3989 to A8160.4a, 2) Increase State Retirement (A9010.8) by \$100, from \$3,200 to \$3,300 and 3) Increase Social Security (A9030.8) by \$110 from \$8,100 to \$8,210 for a Total of General Appropriations of \$ 296,333

HIGHWAY FUND: Increase State Retirement (DA 9010.8) by \$100 from \$2,350 to \$2,450 for a Total of Highway Appropriations of \$195,122

Total Appropriations for Town is \$566,240, Total Revenues for Town is \$100,198. Total General Fund Application is \$25,000. Tax Levy is General Fund \$ 214,335, Highway Fund \$ 151,922, Street Lighting \$700, and Special Fund (Fire and Rescue) \$74,085 for a Total Tax Levy of \$441,042

Second by Linda Dobson, All Aye

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Christopher Leifheit	Aye
Council Members: Linda Dobson	Aye
John Quenell	Aye
Roger Smith	Aye
Alicia Bodmer	Aye

Resolution #86 declared duly adopted.

- 5. “Junk” Clean-up Grant: Linda Dobson gave an update on this project. Contract has been received and money is available until October 16, 2001.

RESOLUTION # 87

AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN CONTRACT FOR ANCEP GRANT FOR “JUNK” CLEAN-UP PROJECT

WHEREAS, the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal has reserved an award of \$18,948 in the Adirondack North Country Community Enhancement Program (ANCEP) for the Town Of Brighton, and

WHEREAS, the Town Of Brighton intends to utilize said funds in a 2001 Spring Clean-Up Week allowing all residents to rid themselves of abandoned vehicles, non-working appliances, and more,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town Of Brighton submits that it is authorized to enter into a contract with the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal to receive said award and authorizes Supervisor Christopher Leifheit to sign said contract for the Town Of Brighton.

Motion made by Linda Dobson, Second by John Quenell, All Aye

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Christopher Leifheit	Aye
Council Members: Linda Dobson	Aye
John Quenell	Aye
Roger Smith	Aye
Alicia Bodmer	Aye

Resolution #87 declared duly adopted.

- 6. Transfer of invested funds:

RESOLUTION #88

AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER INVESTMENT FUNDS FROM “NOW” TO “CLASS”

WHEREAS, the current rate of interest paid on the Town’s CLASS Investment Accounts is approximately four percentage points per annum higher than the rate paid on the Town’s NOW (NBT Bank) accounts, and

WHEREAS, a significant difference in rates between CLASS accounts and NOW accounts may be expected to continue indefinitely, and

WHEREAS, the Class accounts are secure and have adequate liquidity to meet the needs of the Town

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the balances presently held in the Town's NOW accounts be transferred to CLASS accounts as soon as is convenient.

Motion made by John Quenell, second by Alicia Bodmer, All Aye

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Christopher Leifheit	Aye
Council Members: Linda Dobson	Aye
John Quenell	Aye
Roger Smith	Aye
Alicia Bodmer	Aye

Resolution #88 declared duly adopted.

7. Received letter dated October 12, 2000, from the Franklin County Legislature, Re: Empire Zone for Franklin County

RESOLUTION #89

AUTHORIZATION TO SUPPORT EMPIRE ZONE IN FRANKLIN COUNTY

Motion made by Supervisor Christopher Leifheit to support Franklin County in its efforts to apply for State approval of a County Empire Zone for Franklin County by submitting a letter to the Franklin County Legislature stating the same, second by John Quenell, All Aye

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Christopher Leifheit	Aye
Council Members: Linda Dobson	Aye
John Quenell	Aye
Roger Smith	Aye
Alicia Bodmer	Aye

Resolution #89 declared duly adopted.

8. Received letter dated November 8, 2000, from Rainbow Lake Association, Re: Watershed Programming for Educational Facilities and Organizations, grants up to \$7,500 are available for proposals "that will build awareness and understanding of the key issues facing the Lake Champlain Basin..." Rainbow Lake Association (RLA) would like to apply for a \$350 to \$500 grant to mail a packet of information this spring (2001) to 110 association members and others with lake rights. The RLA does not have 501(c)3 status to apply directly for the grant so they would like to ask the Town Of Brighton to act as the conduit to support the RLA to obtain this funding.

RESOLUTION #90

AUTHORIZATION TO ACT AS CONDUIT FOR RLA FOR EDUCATIONAL GRANT FUNDS

WHEREAS, the Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP) has announced a grant program "The Watershed Programming for Educational Facilities and Organizations" which offers grants up to \$7,500 for proposals that will build awareness and understanding of the key issues facing the Lake Champlain Basin, and

WHEREAS, Rainbow Lake in the Town Of Brighton is within the Lake Champlain Basin area, and

WHEREAS, the Rainbow Lake Association (RLA) wishes to apply for a \$350 to \$500 grant to mail a packet of information this spring (2001) to 110 members and others with lakes rights (estimated 200 mailings), and

WHEREAS, this packet would contain information about safe and courteous boating, "Jet Ski" regulations, reporting violations, protecting the lake from non-native invasive species such as Eurasian Water Milfoil and preserving lake water quality by maintaining septic systems, shoreline buffer zones, and reducing the use and proper disposal of chemicals, and **WHEREAS**, the source of LCBP funds is the federal Environmental Protection Agency and the RLA does not have 501(c)3 status,

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Town Of Brighton agrees to act as a conduit for the Rainbow Lake Association and support the RLA grant proposal as described, to receive grant money if awarded, and in turn to disperse that grant money to the Rainbow Lake Association.

Motion made by Supervisor Christopher Leifheit, Second by Linda Dobson, All Aye

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Christopher Leifheit	Aye
Council Members: Linda Dobson	Aye
John Quenell	Aye
Roger Smith	Aye
Alicia Bodmer	Aye

Resolution #90 declared duly adopted.

9. Received letter from Diane Leifheit, Re: Hanging Pictures in the Town Hall, pictures of the churches in the Town Of Brighton completed and need to be hung in the Town Hall. Open Studio days are November 12 & 19 and December 2 from 1 to 4 pm.

Motion made by Supervisor Leifheit to grant permission to Diane Leifheit to hang four pictures of the Town churches in the Town Hall for which she received grant money to complete as part of the Brighton 2000 project, second by Linda Dobson, All Aye

10. Mary Jane Conors will be attending the December meeting to discuss a rescue service

11. Have not received word from attorney on review of proposed Local Law for Litter

12. Ruth Cassin from Harriestown Hill asked if a "Speed Zone Ahead" sign could be put up before Gabriel's 40 mph zone. Also, the hill down to Ricketson Brook is hazardous. Could speed be lowered from cemetery to bottom of hill on the State Road 86? Board asked Ruth Cassin to poll her neighbors and get signatures to support her request.

Supervisor Leifheit will send a letter about the "Speed Zone Ahead" sign for Gabriels.

13. No word has been heard from county on Split Rock Road speed reduction request.
14. Amber McKernan asked if something was being done about the dead tree in the Park that needs to be removed.
Supervisor Leifheit will contact Niagara Mohawk about removing it.
15. Tracie Santagate complimented the Board on the Year 2001 budget.
16. Barb Marshall asked if an electrical outlet could be put in the corner of the Town Hall where the Tax Collector sits.
17. Furnace Contract

RESOLUTION #91

AUTHORIZATION FOR ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT FOR TOWN HALL FURNACE

Motion made by Superintendent Leifheit to authorize a maintenance contract with Agway Energy Products for the Town Hall Furnace for the period Oct 2000 to Sept 2001 and expend General Funds for \$156.95, second by Roger Smith, All Aye

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Christopher Leifheit	Aye
Council Members: Linda Dobson	Aye
John Quenell	Aye
Roger Smith	Aye
Alicia Bodmer	Aye

Resolution #91 declared duly adopted.

18. Received letter dated October 19, 2000 from NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Stuart Buchanan, Re: Potential Acquisition of Land in the Town of Brighton on State Route 30 near County Route 485, DEC has been approached by Mr. Pierre Roy of Herkimer Forest Products Corporation who desires to sell this land to New York State. Alicia Bodmer bought up the point that the State needs look into using this land for ATV use to get the machines off the roads. Board needs to review this request and discuss it at the next Board meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. COURT:

- a. 20 Cases were disposed and \$2,560 in fines was sent to the State Comptroller.
- b. Court will be Closed Nov 22 and 29

2. HIGHWAY:

- a. Ran Road Rake over dirt roads
- b. Brakes have been repaired on the Oshkosk
- c. Two hydraulic cylinders were repaired on the LT 9000 Sand Truck
- d. New Sander is in place on the L9000 Ford Plow Truck
- e. Steel blades for wings and front plow are on order
- f. Sand box on truck is beyond repair and another one is being sought

3. PARK: No Report.

4. CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER: No Report

5. INSURANCE: Applied for the HMOBlue Value Option health plan to Blue Cross Blue Shield.

6. CEMETERY: Nothing to report

7. TAX COLLECTOR: Nothing else to report

8. ASSESSOR: See comments under Supervisor's Report #2

CITIZENS COMMENTS:

Tom Willis-Garondah Road: Would like to suggest the supervisor brief the town on how the landfill will be funded. The house in Gabriels was given a deadline of November 15 to clean up the yard and nothing has been done as of November 9. What will the Board do to the owners? It will not be ignored, will not expound on this at this time. Enforcement process needs to be examined. A light would be nice at the intersection of Jones Pond Road and Route 86.

Balances of Accounts as of October 31, 2000 were not available.

RESOLUTION #92-2000

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY ALL VOUCHERS LISTED ON ABSTRACTS

Motion made by Linda Dobson to pay all the vouchers audited by the Town Board and listed on the abstracts attached to theses minutes as follows:

ABSTRACT #11–Pre-Paid Vouchers #11A through and including Voucher #11C: General Fund \$447.33

ABSTRACT #11-General Fund: Voucher #199 through and including Voucher#224: \$3,808.84

ABSTRACT #11-Highway Fund: Voucher #128 through and including Voucher #140: \$9,026.69

ABSTRACT #8–STREET LIGHTING: Voucher #8: \$51.65

Second by Supervisor Leifheit, All Aye

Roll Call Vote:

Supervisor Christopher Leifheit	Aye
Council Members: Linda Dobson	Aye
John Quenell	Aye
Roger Smith	Aye
Alicia Bodmer	Aye

Resolution #92 declared duly adopted.

Motion made by Alicia Bodmer to adjourn the Regular Town Board Meeting at 9:20 p.m., second by Linda Dobson, All Aye

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine W. Sater, Brighton Town Clerk