

TOWN OF ENFIELD
REGULAR TOWN BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 2007
7:00 P.M.

The regular monthly meeting of the Town of Enfield Town Board was held Wednesday, May 9, 2007 at the Enfield Community Building, 182 Enfield Main Road, Ithaca, New York at 7:00 p.m. with Deputy Supervisor David Bock presiding.

Present: Deputy Supervisor David Bock, Councilperson Jennifer Fisher, Councilperson Peggy Hubbell, Councilperson Sandra Small, Councilperson Robert Harvey and Town Clerk Alice Laue. Supervisor Owens absent.

Others Present: Pat Dougherty, David Dimmick, Diane Aramini, Larry Lanning, Judy Hetherington, Larry Stilwell, Linda Stilwell, Debbie Teeter, Alan Teeter, Ron Clark, Ann Owens, Ed Hetherington, John Rancich.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: Deputy Supervisor Bock led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Privilege of the Floor:

John Rancich spoke with respect to the establishment of his wind farm in Enfield and thanked the Town Board for attending the special meeting last week. He urged board members and anyone else interested in wind energy to visit a wind farm and offered to make all the arrangements for such a trip.

Approval of March 28, 2007 Special Town Board Meeting Minutes:

Motion made by Councilperson Fisher, seconded by Councilperson Small that the Town Board approve the March 28, 2007 Special Town Board Meeting Minutes.

Discussion:

Vote: Councilperson Fisher aye, Councilperson Hubbell aye, Councilperson Small aye, Councilperson Harvey aye, Supervisor Owens absent. Motion carried.

Committees/Board Reports:

Tompkins County Legislature: No one present to give a report.

Beautification Committee: Debbie Teeter reported that there will be monies available for future beautification projects and presented the Final 2006-07 Beautification Grant Allocations Project and

Estimates for a total remaining of \$1,143.63 out of the original \$5,000.00 awarded. Ms. Teeter stated that the second “Welcome to Enfield” sign is soon to be completed and asked if payment to Mr. DeGroat could be handled the same as the April payment.

Motion made by Councilperson Small, seconded by Councilperson Hubbell that upon submission of documentation of completion with a signed voucher, the Town Board authorizes the Supervisor to issue a check in the amount of \$1,000.00 for completion of the second “Welcome to Enfield” sign.

Discussion:

Vote: Councilperson Fisher aye, Councilperson Hubbell aye, Councilperson Small aye, Councilperson Harvey aye. Supervisor Owens was absent. Motion carried.

Cemetery Committee: Councilperson Hubbell reported that the Veteran flags will soon be out.

Code Enforcement: Code Enforcement Officer Ron Clark distributed a monthly written report to the Town Board prior to the meeting and gave a brief overview of the month’s activities. Mr. Clark informed the Town Board that the Musefest is coming up soon. Councilperson Harvey said he would like to have public input on the matter.

Community Building: Councilperson Harvey reported that the electrical work is about half finished and the fire alarm will need to be revamped. Floor is finished.

Enfield Community Council: President Carolyn Tschanz reported that the next ECC meeting will be May 14th at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Building. The Harvest Festival will be Saturday, September 15, 2007. The “Enfield Currents” is out and contains Summer Day Camp applications. Summer Day Camp will be held July 2 through August 10, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Enfield Volunteer Fire Company: Fire Chief Ron Switzer delivered to the Town Clerk for distribution to the Town Board prior to the meeting the Company’s April and May training schedule, its Incident Type Report and a summary that he read with respect to the new Tompkins County paging system:

“In June of 2007 Tompkins County will be putting the new paging system online. This system is a UHF based frequency, the old system is low band and the current pagers and monitors we possess are incompatible with this updated system. Tompkins County has said that they will leave the old system online as long as it still continues to operate. However, if that system fails they will not fix it. The recent history is that the paging system fails on a regular basis. My concern is if the old system fails we will not have any means of being alerted and we would have to make phone calls, which would not allow for a speedy response. After some research, I have found that we are one of two Fire Companies that has not purchased any pagers as of this time.

The cost of an updated UHF band pager is about \$425 each. The EVFC has around 40 active members, which would equal around \$17,000 total. The Board of Directors is currently discussing this matter and we are unsure of how we will fund this project. As per our Procurement Policy we will put this project out to bid. We will assess the bids and try to find the best price we can get.”

He further added that the County is to pay for new truck radios and the Fire Company is responsible for new pagers. The Fire Company will obtain the best possible price for the pagers. Looking to have the new system up and running by the end of June. The old system will work and if there are minor problems, they will fix it.

Deputy Fire Chief Art Howser reported that the Fire Company participated in the Enfield Elementary School Book Fair on May 5, 2007. Three vehicles and ten Fire Company members were there. Last night the Fire Company updated their defibulator to new State requirements.

Ethics Committee: Committee Chair, David Dimmick reported that the Committee hopes to have something available at the June meeting.

Highway Department: No report.

Personnel Committee: Councilperson Small reported that the Committee met on April 30, 2007 to review the various options and/or plans for the Town's full-time employees as well as its retirees and will introduce two plans in a resolution to be discussed later in the agenda. She estimates a cost savings to the Town of approximately \$25,000.

Planning Board: Councilperson Peggy Hubbell reported that the Planning Board and the Town Board met to discuss wind mills and felt not much was accomplished.

Old Business:

Budget Amendment - Enfield Town Justices/Court Clerks Salary Adjustment

Councilperson Small had prepared a resolution for consideration reflecting the wishes of the Justices to giving their Court Clerks a 6% raise while the Justices remain at the 2006 rate for 2007, but because certain budgetary information was not filled in, the item was not presented and was tabled to the Town Board's June meeting.

New Business:

Youth Services Contract

The Town of Enfield's 2007 Youth Services Agreement was tabled until the Town Board's June meeting due to lack of clarification.

Medical Insurance Coverage Change Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-16 – MEDICAL INSURANCE
COVERAGE OPTION/PLAN CHANGE FOR TOWN OF ENFIELD
EMPLOYEES AND RETIREES

WHEREAS, due to the rising costs of health insurance premiums, the Personnel Committee of the Town of Enfield was given the task of looking into other alternatives. Two informational meetings

were held and attended by town employees, retirees, board members and others - one on February 8, 2007 for full-time employees and retirees 55 years of age to 65 years of age and another for retirees 65 years of age and older on March 19, 2007; and

WHEREAS, at the February 8, 2007 information meeting for full-time employees, three Excellus BC/BS options were presented and discussed showing costs savings for each option compared with the Town's Traditional Blue Cross/Blue Shield/Master Medical Plan for essentially the same services plus the offering of an eye exam and an eyewear allowance and comparable dental benefits; and

WHEREAS, at the March 19, 2007 informational meeting for retirees 65 years of age and older, three Excellus BC/BS plans were presented and discussed showing costs savings on each plan compared to the Town's Supplemental Medicare Policy for essentially the same services; and

WHEREAS, the Enfield Town Board's Personnel Committee met on Monday, April 30, 2007 to discuss and recommend new options/plans for the Town's medical insurance coverage.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that the Personnel Committee recommends to the Enfield Town Board Excellus BC/BS Blue EPO Balance Option 11 with a Dental Blue benefit of Class I 100%, Class II 80%, Class IIA 50%, Class III 50% and Class IV 0% for the Town's full-time employees and retirees up to 65 years of age and recommends Excellus BC/BS Medicare Blue PPO - Plan Three for retirees 65 years of age and older; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the above options/plans become effective June 1, 2007 provided that paperwork can be completed by May 15, 2007; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Personnel Committee of the Enfield Town Board revisit the Town's health insurance for its employees, elected officials and retirees on an annual basis; and it is further

RESOLVED, that in the future, the Town Board consider putting a dollar cap or a percentage on the amount the Town, employee or elected official pays toward the constantly increasing health insurance premiums and that any contribution change an eligible employee, elected official or retiree is required to pay is subject to change by resolution of the Town Board. The Town Board will provide a two-month written notice of such change; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Town Board may, at its discretion, change the medical insurance plan at any time, including, but not limited to, type of coverage, retiree contribution, and type of carrier.

Moved by Councilperson Small, seconded by Councilperson Hubbell.

Discussion:

Vote: Councilperson Fisher aye, Councilperson Hubbell aye, Councilperson Small aye, Councilperson Harvey aye, Supervisor Owens absent. Motion carried.

Cooperative Purchasing of Highway Services with County

**RESOLUTION NO. 2007-17 – COOPERATIVE PURCHASING
OF HIGHWAY SERVICES WITH COUNTY**

WHEREAS, the Office of the State Comptroller has ruled that counties may no longer extend their bids for public work (services) to political subdivisions; and

WHEREAS, General Municipal Law, Article 5-G, Section 119-0 states that “any agreement entered into there under shall be approved by each participating municipal corporation or district by a majority vote of its governing body.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town of Enfield hereby authorized to participate with Tompkins County in the cooperative purchasing of highway services; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Town of Enfield reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Moved by Councilperson Small, seconded by Councilperson Hubbell.

Discussion:

Vote: Councilperson Fisher aye, Councilperson Hubbell aye, Councilperson Small aye, Councilperson Harvey aye, Supervisor Owens absent. Motion carried.

Highway Shared Services Authorization

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-18 – HIGHWAY SHARED SERVICES AUTHORIZATION

WHEREAS, Highway Law #142.D allows co-operative agreements for highway services and sharing of labor, equipment and supplies; and

WHEREAS, General Municipal Law Article 5-G allows and encourages municipal co-operations, by joint or contract basis, performance of powers and duties among themselves; and

WHEREAS, it is deemed beneficial to the Town of Enfield to allow for shared highway agreements of equipment and services with other municipal highway departments.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that Enfield Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor pursuant to Highway Law #283 to enter into agreements for shared services and equipment with other municipalities and authorize, within existing budget constraints, the Town Highway Superintendent pursuant to Highway Law #284 to take such action to implement said agreements consistent with Town highway needs and availability, and maintain sufficient liability coverage to protect the Town in each joint efforts.

Moved by Councilperson Small, seconded by Councilperson Hubbell.

Discussion:

Vote: Councilperson Fisher aye, Councilperson Hubbell aye, Councilperson Small aye, Councilperson Harvey aye, Supervisor Owens absent. Motion carried.

Creation of Fire Contract Policy 700.1 to the Town of Enfield Policies and Procedures Manual

**RESOLUTION #2007- 19 - CREATION OF POLICY 700.1 - FIRE CONTRACT
TO THE TOWN OF ENFIELD POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL**

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Enfield realizes that a new policy section is needed to the Town of Enfield’s Policies and Procedures Manual as it relates to contract policy procedures involving a fire contract; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that a new Policy 700.1, titled “Fire Contract” be added to the Town of Enfield’s Policies and Procedures Manual and that the following provisions be included under Policy 700.1:

- A. The Fire Company will assume the decisions of the active and non-active membership status of its personnel and will allow the Fire Company to determine and take on the responsibility of who is and who is not a member and to file a document with the Town Clerk for distribution to the Town Board enumerating any changes in membership within ten (10) days of any change in membership.
- B. The Fire Company will assume the responsibility of establishing and maintaining a minimum training standard of all of its members and the Town will leave such decisions up to the discretion of the Fire Company’s Board of Directors or their Fire Chief.
- C. The Fire Company will ensure that new members pass a pre-membership physical and that existing members will have periodic physicals at the discretion of the Fire Company’s Board of Directors or their Fire Chief, or as may be required by law.
- D. When providing services for the Town, no one is to be under the influence of illegal drugs and/or alcohol. Furthermore, taxpayer funds shall not be used to fund any function where alcohol is provided.
- E. The Town realizes the Fire Company is subject to and must comply with the provisions of the Open Meetings Law (Public Officers Law Article 7) and the Freedom of Information Law (Public Officers Law Article 6).
- F. The Town realizes that since the Fire Company is receiving public funds, the Fire Company needs to comply with state and federal code requirements and the Town suggests that the Fire Company bring their fire hall in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

- G. The Fire Company will allow and encourage the use of the fire hall for charitable fundraising, community events, etc. for the promotion of community involvement.
- H. The Fire Company will adopt a procurement policy which will comply with requirements under General Municipal Law for municipal entities and forward the same to the Town Clerk for filing and for Town Board distribution.
- I. The Fire Company will need to submit their fiscal audit report to the state to comply with the new state audit requirements effective August 2007, the Town asks that Fire Company provide the same audit report to the Town Clerk for filing and for Town Board distribution.
- J. With respect to the renewal of the fire contract, the Town Board suggests that at least five (5) months prior to the expiration of any contract and no later than August 1st, the parties are to commence contract negotiations. If the Fire Company Board of Directors and Enfield Town Board are unable to reach an agreement by November 1st of the current contract year, then the Town Board agrees to carry the current contract over with the same annual dollar amount and terms with the exception that the contract will be on a month-to-month basis (with the dollar amount prorated accordingly) until a contract is acceptable by both parties; and it is further

RESOLVED, that in order to initiate these policies and procedures, the Enfield Town Board will submit a letter to the President and Fire Chief of the Enfield Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. outlining these same provisions as mentioned above; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor is authorized to sign such letter; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is responsible for photocopying and mailing this letter as indicated; and it is further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this letter is to be kept on file at the Town Hall.

Moved by Councilperson Harvey, seconded by Councilperson Small.

Discussion: Councilperson Fisher asked if there was an extra copy of the resolution for her review. Deputy Supervisor Bock was under the impression that when a Town enters into a contract with an independent service provider that those people are not employees. Councilperson Harvey said that the Town is actually the Fire Company's employer and these items should be addressed to alleviate the liability on the part of the Town and that he had attended a class given by the Fire Company's attorney highlighting same.

Vote: Councilperson Fisher no, Councilperson Hubbell aye, Councilperson Small aye, Councilperson Harvey aye, Supervisor Owens absent. Motion carried.

Audit Claims:

Monthly bills and vouchers were presented for payment. Motion made by Councilperson Fisher, seconded by Councilperson Harvey that the Town Board of the Town of Enfield authorizes the Supervisor to pay:

- General Fund Vouchers #93-116 dated May 9, 2007 in the amount of \$11,439.85
- Highway Fund Vouchers #27-33 dated May 9, 2007 in the amount of \$7,953.99
- Enfield Volunteer Fire Company SF-1 Voucher #4 dated May 9, 2007 in the amount of \$91,250.00.

Discussion:

Vote: Councilperson Fisher aye, Councilperson Hubbell aye, Councilperson Small aye, Councilperson Harvey aye, Supervisor Owens absent. Motion carried.

Announcements:

- Local Advisory Board of Assessment Review - May 10th at the Community Building from 3-6:00 p.m.
- Rabies Clinic - May 10th at the Town Highway Garage from 7-9:00 p.m.
- Spring Clean-up to end May 10th.
- Indexing of Town Board Minutes for 2005 and 2006 completed.
- Recreational Partnership Meeting – Monday, May 7, 2007 from 4-6 p.m., Tuesday, May 15, 2007 from 3:30-5:00 p.m. at the Ithaca Youth Bureau, Tuesday May 22, 2007 from 4:15 – 6:00 p.m. in the conference room at the Human Services Building and Tuesday May 29, 2007 4-6:00 p.m. at the Human Services Building.

Privilege of the Floor: No one wished to speak.

Adjournment:

Motion made by Councilperson Hubbell, seconded by Councilperson Harvey that the May 9, 2007 Regular Town Board meeting adjourn.

Discussion:

Vote: Councilperson Fisher aye, Councilperson Hubbell aye, Councilperson Small aye, Councilperson Harvey aye, Supervisor Owens absent. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Laue
Town Clerk