

DRAFT

**Regular Town Board Meeting held September 10, 2012 at 6:00 P.M. at the Town Hall
in Schroon Lake N.Y.**

Present:

Town Supervisor: Michael Marnell

Councilpersons: Roger Friedman, Don Sage, Meg Wood and Clara Phibbs

Highway Superintendent: Dana Shaughnessy

Town Clerk: Patricia Savarie

Also Present: Rosemarie Ritson, Albert May, Marcia Hartnett, Dick

Newell, Fran Timmy and Skip Mahler, James OConnor ,Mark Whitney, Jane and Brian

Bouchard, Bob and Jane Claus, Joe Hyland, Ed Vopelak, Anne Durkee, Iris Civalier, Mickey

Caputo-Abbott, Kathy and Dan Riggins, Fred Eshelman, Diane D'Amico, Liz Insull and John

and Linda Milsom

Supervisor Marnell called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. with a Pledge to the
Flag.

C. T. Male on Space Needs in Town Hall

Joe Hyland and Ed Vopelak from C.T. Male stated that they were present to answer any
board members questions may have. They would first like to do an interior design for the
Town of Schroon and get a layout for the 5,000 square feet addition to the Town Hall. A
good rule of thumb is a cost of \$200.00 a square foot. C.T. Male would like to meet with the
Judge to see what is mandated for the Court Councilman Friedman stated that at their last
board meeting they had asked for C.T. Male to do a proposal of the cost of the interior
schematics for the Town Hall expansion. C.T. Male will be giving the Town of Schroon a
proposal for what it will cost to do the design in the near future.

Resolution #161 Audit of Claim

Councilman Friedman moved a resolution to pay the bills as reviewed, seconded by
Councilman Sage; carried.

General Fund \$25,499.22 Water \$5,124.94 Highway \$153,699.16 Sewer \$ 4,203.26

Resolution #162 Kids Fun Run Support Letter

Resolution #162 was moved and seconded unanimously to support the One K Kids Fun Run to be held Marathon Weekend; carried.

Resolution #163 Resignation of James Armstrong

Councilman Friedman moved a resolution with regret to accept the resignation of James Armstrong as the Golf Course Superintendent, seconded by Councilwoman Wood; carried.

Resolution #164 Hiring of Auto Mechanic

Councilwoman Phibbs moved a resolution to hire Brent DeZalia as auto mechanic contingent on getting his CDL within 6 months of his hiring date at the rate of \$15.38 an hour, seconded by Councilman Sage; carried.

Resolution #165 Approval of Minutes

Councilman Friedman moved a resolution to accept the minutes of August 13, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. with a change to Resolution #160 to state that CT Male does a proposal **of the cost** of the interior schematics of the Town Hall, second by Councilman Sage; carried.

Update on Protestant Cemetery

Supervisor Marnell state that Sam Foote would be doing fund raising to purchase new fencing for the Protestant Cemetery as an Eagle Scout Project anyone wanting to donate to this project can contact Sam Foote.

Thank You to Volunteers for the Street Dance

Supervisor Marnell expressed his many thanks to all those who helped make the Street Dance a great success, the Schroon Lake Volunteer Fire Department, Essex County Sheriffs and the New York State Police and all the Town employees.

Completion of the Paradox Weir

Supervisor Marnell was pleased to announce that the Paradox Weir came in below budget with a total price of \$59,061.63.

Resolution #166 Rate Increase for William Jenks

Councilwoman Phibbs moved a resolution to increase William Jenks hourly pay to \$13.73 an hour for obtaining his Grade 2A license for the Sewer Treatment Plant, seconded by Councilman Friedman; carried.

Resolution #167 Declare as Surplus International Truck #8

Councilman Sage moved a resolution to declare the following item as surplus for the Town of Schroon Highway Department, one 1998 Tandem Truck #8 for \$25,000.00, seconded by Councilman Friedman; carried.

Update on the Property on the Corner of Hoffman and Route 9

Jon Senecal stated that this is to bring you up to date with the two abandoned properties on the corner of Hoffman and US Route 9. 2706 & 2698 Hoffman Road, tax map # 147.13-3-3.100 and 147.13-3-3.200 are owned by Mohammed Badruddin. We all know the history of these properties, so to detail what has happened since the department's letter date 7-25-12.

8-7-12: We received an e-mail from a Ms. Badruddin thanking us for our letter that detailed changes needed to be made. She guaranteed that she would maintain the lawns and whatever needed to be done to make the buildings safe. She also stated she needed some time to do this.

8-7-12: I sent another letter expressing the need for a quick remedy to an ongoing situation that dates back over 5 years. It appears communication is not something that the Badruddins do a regular basis.

9-6-12: Again, I have sent the Badruddins a letter detailing the violations, requesting a plan for code compliance, stressing the need to move sooner than later with a plan, and offering an “anytime” face to face meeting either here at the Hoffman Road properties, or their home in Queensbury.

So far the only response I have gotten was the e-mail dated 8-8-12. Now, a quick check of the address where these registered letters are going and being signed for is a familiar area to me, as I have worked in that development. The association's maintenance code is very strict, going as far as the height of one's grass can be, size and position of exterior decks, and even the color of exterior sidings of your unit. It seems to me the Badruddins, have a working knowledge of maintenance codes. In honesty, the last correspondence recently left my office, so who knows maybe we will get a response.

I have also been in contact with the Dept of Health. There may be an avenue to take if indeed vermin are living in the abandoned buildings. It is in the area of a “Nuisance”. The Department of health has sent along a Guide to the local Heath Official, plus the State Sanitary Code- Part -8. Please find both attached. It's a long procedure that involves our local health official, listed as Hudson Headwaters, the town board which is listed as the de facto health department for this municipality. I am sure you are aware of this option.

Suggestions to the board:

In a nutshell, I still hold out hope I can speak with the Badruddins, but looking at their track record I am not positive it will happen. If it does not happen: Then we should set out to hire legal counsel: to see if we should follow the Health Department Guidelines which could result in fines and penalties. Or clean up the grounds and board up the structures with town workers, add the cost to the Badruddins tax bill, or pending the legal aspect, demolish and remove the buildings, add the cost to the Badruddins tax bill.

Resolution #168 Adirondack Artists & Crafters

Councilwoman Phibbs moved a resolution to approve the Adirondack & Crafters for the 2013 Season on Thursdays during the summer season, seconded by Councilman Sage; carried.

Board Comments

Councilman Sage stated that the Broadband Grant had been switched to another fund and that we need more letters of support from the school, Chamber of Commerce and the general public to help receive the grant.

Councilman Friedman announced that TAUNY (Traditional Arts in Upstate New York) had saluted the North Country Legends recognizing the recipients of the annual North Country Heritage Awards with an audiovisual profile of each recipient, musical entertainment, and the awards presentation. In 2012 they are celebrating the Schroon Lake Square Dances.

Schroon Lake Square Dances, Schroon Lake, Essex County

Since the 1930s, year-round residents and “summer people” have gathered every Wednesday evening in July and August in a lakeside park in Schroon Lake to “do-si-do” and “Allemande left” until dark. The local tradition continues



today, even when such dancing has decreased in popularity elsewhere. As many as 200 people attend each week, with three, even four, generations taking part. While fiddlers and other musicians were from the local area in earlier years, now the musicians and callers come from several places and vary from week to week, so the dances and tunes may vary as well. Each week, however, there are plenty of opportunities for children to learn the basics and for teenagers and young families to participate. There is even one dance they call the Zodiac that’s such a local favorite that it’s a requirement each week and nearly everyone gets into the act.

Public Participation

Dan Riggins would like to thank the Parks Department for the great job of cleaning up the streets after the Street Dance and also stated that the Golf Course looked the best it has ever looked this year and thanked Nathan Armstrong and the his crew for doing a great job.

Bob Claus would encourage all of us to write letters of support for the broadband funding.

John Milsom mentioned to the Board that there needed to be clean up done around the millstream by the Bandstand. Supervisor Marnell stated that he would take care of that.

Councilman Sage moved to adjourn at 6:55P.M seconded by Councilwoman Wood; carried.

I, Patricia J. Savarie, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct transcript from the minutes now on file in my office and of the whole such original minutes.

Dated: September 12, 2012 _____
Town Clerk