

April 27, 2021

At the regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Newcomb, Essex County, N.Y., held at the Town Hall, Newcomb, N.Y., on the 27th of April 2021 at 7:00 P.M., the following Board Members were present:

Robin Deloria	Supervisor
Donald Bott	Councilman
Lana Fennessy	Councilwoman
David Olbert	Councilman
Paul LaCourse	Councilman

Others present: Cliff Demars, Wes Migs, Joan Burke and Mary Pound. Zoom: Laurinda Minke, Sue Mills, Mary Lamphear, Dave Hughes, Nike Garrido, Alex Garrido, Mark Yandon, Melissa Yandon, Lori Demars, George Damasevitz, Marlene Bott, Dave Dorey, George Sogoian, Sue Paul, and Erica Demars.

Supervisor Deloria called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Motion was made by Councilman Bott to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2021 meeting. Seconded by Councilman LaCourse and carried.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Fennessy to approve the General Fund Abstract #8 in the amount of \$45857.59. Seconded by Councilman Bott and carried.

Motion was made by Councilman LaCourse to approve the Highway Fund Abstract #8 in the amount of \$35054.49. Seconded by Councilwoman Fennessy and carried.

Motion was made by Councilman Bott to approve the Water Fund Abstract #4 in the amount of \$2876.19. Seconded by Councilman LaCourse and carried.

Motion was made by Councilman Olbert to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract #4 in the amount of \$1916.57. Seconded by Councilman Bott and carried.

May meeting dates were tentatively set for May 11th and 25th.

Supervisor Deloria submitted a draft of the Town Procurement Policy. Board members should review and be ready to discuss and adopt at the May 11, 2021 meeting.

Craig and Kathy Poulton have offered the Town first buyer option on the lot on Route 28N. This lot has access to both Winebrook water and sewer. The Board should be ready to discuss this at the May 11, 2021 meeting.

DEC has issued a certificate showing the tanks on the Bissell property have been removed. Rainy weather has prevented the town from completing the job. The road is temporarily closed to local traffic. Testing and removal of any contaminated soil will resume May 3, 2021.

The Board will have a special meeting May 4, 2021 to discuss and approve summer events. The New York State re-opening guidelines will apply.

Joanne Bush has retired from her appointment to the Planning Board. The Town would like to thank her for her many years of service and dedication to the Planning Board. Motion was made by Councilman Bott to appoint Drew Cullen as the new member of the Planning Board. Seconded by Councilwoman Fennessy and carried.

Larry Newcomb has been notified that he can no longer base camp out of the Santanoni garage area. Supervisor Deloria will be reaching out to DEC to get more information on the situation.

The Town of Long Lake has expressed that they will help with the Youth Program by providing both transportation and having an employee remain at the Youth Program during the day. This will be discussed at the special board meeting next week.

The High Peaks Golf Course will open for league play on May 6. The Course will open to the public on May 8.

Amanda Lamphear has been chosen as the part time Confidential Secretary to the Supervisor to replace Marsha Chase. Motion was made by Councilwoman Fennessy to approve Amanda Lamphear as the part time Confidential Secretary at the rate of \$18.50 per hour with a minimum of 24 hours per week to start. Start date TBD. Seconded by Councilman LaCourse and carried.

Anthony Audino has been chosen as the part time maintenance person to work with Eugene Bush and Nelson Turcotte. Motion was made by Councilman Bott to approve the appointment of Anthony Audino as part time maintenance person for 30 hours per week at a rate of \$26.00 per hour. Start date TBD. Seconded by Councilman Olbert and carried.

Highway Supt. Cliff Demars reported that he will be meeting with OSI next week to discuss the work to be done at Tahawus.

Councilman Olbert reported on the meeting with the Snowmobile Club regarding the trail maintenance. The Club will be having a meeting next week to discuss the proposal. Councilman Olbert discussed the advertising with the Adirondack Employer. He feels that they give both side of issues. Councilman LaCourse reminded the Board that this was discussed and the Board voted to hold on advertising with them. Councilwoman Fennessy attended the Zoom meeting with Essex County Youth Bureau and updated the Board.

Joan Burke reported the Museum is working with a writer on a "murder" that occurred in Newcomb many years ago.

Melissa Yandon, Youth Commission Chair, has questions about the Youth Program. Many of these issues will be discussed at the special meeting of the Board next week. Mark Yandon has comments on the State protocols for Covid.

Motion was made by Councilman Bott to adjourn. Seconded by Councilwoman Fennessy and carried at 7:55 p.m. Town Board moved to Executive Session.

Respectfully Submitted _____

April 13, 2021

At the regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Newcomb, Essex County, N.Y., held at the Town Hall, Newcomb, N.Y., on the 13th of April 2021 at 7:00 P.M., the following Board Members were present:

Robin Deloria	Supervisor
Lana Fennessy	Councilwoman
David Olbert	Councilman
Paul LaCourse	Councilman
Don Bott	Councilman

Others present: Cliff Demars, Joan Burke and Mary Pound. Zoom: Duane Finch, Melissa Yandon, Mary Lamphear, Marlene Bott, Lori Demars, Laurinda Minke, Dave Hughes, George Sogoian, Niki Garrido, Sue Mills, George Damasevitz, and Wes Miga.

Motion was made by Councilman Bott to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2021 meeting. Seconded by Councilman LaCourse and carried.

Motion was made by Councilman LaCourse to approve the General Fund Abstract #7 in the amount of \$31725.66. Seconded by Councilman Olbert and carried.

Motion was made by Councilman Olbert to approve the Highway Fund Abstract #7 in the amount of \$12670.57. Seconded by Councilman Bott and carried.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Fennessy to approve the Capital Projects #3 Buildings Abstract #2 in the amount of \$3123.15. Seconded by Councilman Bott and carried.

Motion was made by Councilman LaCourse to approve the Capitol Projects #8 Santanoni Abstract #1 in the amount of \$26527.77. Seconded by Councilwoman Fennessy and carried.

Discussion on the Procurement Policy was tabled until the next meeting.

The US House Appropriations Committee has given each member of Congress authority to nominate up to ten community projects for the Fiscal year 2022. Suggestions for a project were accepted until April 5. Supervisor Deloria applied for a community project grant to help with architectural and engineering costs for the Welcome Center Project. The Town should here if accepted by April 16, 2021.

Environmental and Fueling Systems will be cleaning the tanks and providing a closure report for the tanks on the Bissell property. Ben Hankins from DEC will be on site on April 14, during the soil testing. Essex County DPW will allow the Town to use one of its trucks to haul any necessary soil to the burn plant.

The Town Board approved the Agreement to Spend Town Highway Funds.

Motion was made by Councilman Olbert for a Resolution in support of the County Resolution of broadband and cellular coverage in Essex County. Seconded by Councilwoman Fennessy and carried.

New York State has a new law allowing the County, by local law, to authorize the County to participate in a Deer Hunting Pilot Program. This would allow 12 year old's to hunt deer when accompanied by a parent or guardian 21 years of age or older that has at least three years hunting experience.

The low bidder on the tree removal for the Pine Hill Cemetery was High Peaks Tree Removal. Motion was made by Councilwoman Fennessy to award the bid to High Peaks Tree Removal in the amount of \$18800.00. Seconded by Councilman Olbert and carried.

The Town received three applicants for each position advertised. Interviews should begin next week and all applicants will be interviewed.

There was discussion on whether to do the fireworks on TR weekend or Labor Day weekend. The Board took a vote and it was decided on Labor Day weekend.

The town is planning to purchase a purple, zipper polyester tote bag for the Newcomb Day Alumni Reunion.

Motion was made by Councilman LaCourse to appoint Councilman Olbert to act as the official representative for the Town of Newcomb Youth Commission and Councilwoman Fennessy will act as the alternate. Seconded by Councilman Bott and carried.

Highway Superintendent Demars reported that he met with OSI to discuss the work that will be done at the Tahawus parking lot and Blast Furnace.

Councilman Bott suggested that we get a sample tote bag for the Newcomb Day gift before we purchase them. He also recommended that we keep going with the repairs on the ski tow.

Councilman Olbert would like to know what the cost of the bank renovation has been so far. He also questioned the status of advertising with the Adirondack Explorer.

Councilwoman Fennessy questioned plans for Newcomb Day. She will contact the school regarding food for the day.

Joan Burke would like to have work done on the cemetery at the Upper Works. Wes Miga thanked Highway Supt. Cliff Demars for his work with OSI. He reminded all of the restrictions and protocol that we need to follow for any of the scheduled events in Town.

Laurinda Minke encouraged the Town to advertise with the Adirondack Explorer. They have a readership of over 40,000.

Motion was made by Councilman Bott to adjourn. Seconded by Councilman LaCourse and carried at 8:18 pm.

Respectfully Submitted _____

March 9, 2021

At the regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Newcomb, Essex County, N.Y., held at the Town Hall, Newcomb, N.Y., on the 9th of March 2021 at 7:00 P.M., the following Board Members were present:

Robin Deloria	Supervisor
Lana Fennessy	Councilwoman
David Olbert	Councilman
Paul LaCourse	Councilman
Donald Bott	Councilman

Others present: Joan Burke, Cliff Demars, and Mary Pound. Zoom: Erica Demars, Laurinda Minke, Niki Garrido, George Damasevitz, Mary Lamphear, Lori Demars, Wes Miga, Brandi Fifield, Sue Mills, Kevin Bolan, Dave Hughes, Dave Dorey, Marlene Bott and George Sogian.

Supervisor Deloria called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Motion was made by Councilman Bott to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2021 meeting with correction. Seconded by Councilwoman Fennessy and carried.

Motion was made by Councilman Bott to approve the General Fund Abstract #5 in the amount of \$126789.81. Seconded by Councilman LaCourse and carried.

Motion was made by Councilman Olbert to approve the Highway Fund Abstract #5 in the amount of \$11872.22. Seconded by Councilman LaCourse and carried.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Fennessy to approve the Capital Projects #5 Abstract #2 in the amount of \$11650.00. Seconded by Councilman Olbert and carried.

Supervisor Deloria has another update on the Tahawus Railroad. Trustee Bill Brandt has two railroad companies interested in buying the line and has requested an abeyance until April 30, 2021. The State Attorney General is requesting that STB make a final ruling by April 30, 2021.

The Town has \$5955.01 remaining on the grant reimbursement on the Salt Shed project. The Town received another bill from Peckham Industries in the amount of \$10951.76. This invoice will be submitted for the remaining funds.

The Town is still working to find information on the underground storage tanks that were on the Bissell property. NYSDEC does not have any record of their removal. Essex County will loan the Town ground penetrating radar equipment and provide engineers to operate it. This device will determine if any tanks remain in the ground.

Supervisor Deloria declared a Local Emergency Declaration Order to allow the Highway Department to sand driveways to help with all the melting snow and icy conditions.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Fennessy to authorize the Code Enforcement Officer to issue municipal building permits through the State of New York Unified Solar Permit applications procedures for solar installation. Seconded by Councilman Olbert and carried.

Supervisor Deloria provided a screen share of the proposed Welcome Center Draft Plan. Motion was made by Councilman Olbert to approve the draft plan by March Associates. This is not a final plan. Seconded by Councilman LaCourse and carried. There will be a meeting on March 22 with the State, County and Welcome Center committee. Then the committee can begin plans for the community meetings.

Highway Supt. Cliff Demars reported that the Town used 750 tons less of salt this year. Councilman Olbert thanked Kevin Bolan and the medical center staff for reaching out to the community with information and help with getting the COVID vaccine. He also talked about the NYSERTA Grants that are being offered for charging stations for cars. Olberts currently have one at their location. There would be no cost to the Town through this grant. Possible locations for charging stations could be the overlook and the beach.

Kevin Bolan reported that the medical center is still working on getting the vaccine. NYS determines who is able to get the vaccine. The fund raiser for the Medical Mission is Sunday March 14, from 4-7 pm.

Wester Miga commented that any site work, in kind match, for the Welcome Center needs to be started as soon as possible.

Motion was made by Councilman Bott to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilman Olbert and carried at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted _____

February 23, 2021

At the regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Newcomb, Essex County, N.Y., held at the Town Hall, Newcomb, N.Y., on the 23th of February 2021 at 7:00 P. M., the following Board Members were present:

Robin Deloria	Supervisor
Donald Bott	Councilman
Paul LaCourse	Councilman
David Olbert	Councilman
Lana Fennessy	Councilwoman

Others present: Cliff Demars, Joan Burke and Mary Pound. Zoom: Laurinda Minke, Erica Demars, Mary Lamphear, Marlene Bott, Niki Garrido, Alex Garrido, Paul Hai, Davaid Dorey, George Damasevitz, Debbie Damasevitz, Brandi Fifield, Tyler Lamphear, Sue Mills, Dave Hughes, Wes Miga and Kevin Bolan.

Motion was made by Councilman Bott to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2021 meeting. Seconded by Councilwoman Fennessy and carried.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Fennessy to approve the General Fund Abstract #4 in the amount of \$50948.45. Seconded by Councilman Olbert and carried.

Motion was made by Councilman Olbert to approve the Highway Fund Abstract #4 in the amount of \$77605.53. Seconded by Councilman LaCourse and carried.

Motion was made by Councilman Bott to approve the Water Abstract #2 in the amount of \$30823.54. Seconded by Councilman Olbert and carried.

Motion was made by Councilman Bott to approve the Sewer Abstract #2 in the amount of \$970.15. Seconded by Councilman Olbert and carried.

Motion was made by Councilman LaCourse to approve the Capital Projects #5 Smart Growth Abstract #1 in the amount of \$78,000.00. Seconded by Councilwoman Fennessy and carried.

Motion was made by Councilman LaCourse to approve the Capital Projects #9 Gen. Fund Equipment Abstract #1 in the amount of \$22970.00. Seconded by Councilman Bott and carried.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Fennessy to approve the appointment of Niki Garrido to the Town's Planning Board. Seconded by Councilman Bott and carried.

The Town received a letter from Rob Ripp of DEC. Only current TRP holders are allowed to perform work on DEC lands or Conservation Easement land held by DEC. The Town is also required to have a Certificate of Insurance for DEC in order for Bootie to continue to groom the trails. Councilman Olbert will be meeting with the snowmobile club on February 24, 2021 to discuss this.

Supervisor Deloria received a call from a concerned citizen regarding a potential risk to drivers pulling in or out of the Lake Harris Lodge. Supervisor Deloria sent pictures of this area to DOT showing this potential risk. DOT will be here next week to investigate this visibility problem.

Open Space Institute has requested help from the Newcomb Highway Department to complete the work on the Upper Works Road. This includes a gate, fencing, removal of

blacktop, signage and repaving in front of the Blast Furnace. Additional meetings will be scheduled to plan this project.

Dave Hughes attended a four hour conference call with the North Forest Center discussing attracting new residents to the park. A report was generated of this meeting.

Motion was made by Councilman Bott to authorize Supervisor Deloria to sign the agreement with North Country SPCA for seized dogs at a cost of \$667.08. Seconded by Councilman LaCourse and carried.

Councilwoman Fennessy was asking about the timing for the AT&T tower. No time has been set yet for opening. Councilman Olbert encouraged the town of continue working toward a boat washing station for Lake Harris. Councilman Bott felt that there should also be lighting for the boat washing station. Councilman LaCourse reported that Chuck Canon may need a new mower for the golf course.

Kevin Bolan, P.A. reported that he had a conference call with the North Country Covid Task Force. The Town has been applying every week for vaccines. There are several details to work out in order to receive vaccines. Kevin Bolan is encouraging people to get the vaccine.

Paul Hai reported that the Planning Board signed off on two subdivisions, one on the Chassion Rd. and one in Goodnow Flow. The Town Comprehensive Plan should be complete in June.

Joan Burke and the Newcomb Historical Museum is requesting some initial design work be done for the church conversion plans. The Town Board approved this request. The Historical Museum is highlighting eight local women in honor of Woman's Historical Month. They will be using the sign in front of the Town Hall and the Newsletter to highlight these women.

Paul Hai said that ESF is currently looking to hire for a new position in facilities operation. Mary Lamphear thought it was great that the town ski slope and skating rink had a lot of use, especially during the school vacation. She asked that the Town consider paving the rink for summer use. Niki Garrido thanked the town for her appointment to the Planning Board. Wes Miga thought that the town snowmobile trails were in great shape. Sue Paul criticized Supervisor Deloria for spending town money on a new groomer.

Motion was made by Councilman Bott to adjourn. Seconded by Councilwoman Fennessy and carried at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted _____

February 9, 2021

At the regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Newcomb, Essex County, N.Y., held at the Town Hall, Newcomb, N.Y., on the 9th of February 2021 at 7:00 P. M., the following Board Members were present:

Robin Deloria	Supervisor
Lana Fennessy	Councilwoman
Donald Bott	Councilman
David Olbert	Councilman
Paul LaCourse	Councilman

Others present: Joan Burke, Cliff Demars and Mary Pound. Zoom: Barbara Kearns, Marlene Bott, Nicole Garrido, Erica Demars, Debbie Damasevitz, George Damasevitz, Mary Lamphear, Wes Miga, Dave Dorey, Duane Finch, Tyler Lamphear, Francis Cummings, Sue Mills, and Kevin Bolan.

Meeting was called to order by Supervisor Deloria at 7:00 pm. Motion was made by Councilman Bott to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2021 meeting. Seconded by Councilman Olbert and carried.

Motion was made by Councilman Olbert to approve the General Fund Abstract #3 in the amount of \$18181.49. Seconded by Councilman Bott and carried.

Motion was made by Councilman Olbert to approve the Highway Fund Abstract #3 in the amount of \$6946.48. Seconded by Councilman LaCourse and carried.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Fennessy to approve the Capital Projects #3 Buildings Abstract #1 in the amount of \$10951.76. Seconded by Councilman LaCourse and carried.

The Town and the Newcomb Snowmobile Club need to have a simple contract agreement for work and reimbursement for work on the trails. Wes Miga, Councilman Olbert and Councilman Bott are appointed to a committee to work with the Snowmobile Club to work out a contract.

The Town Attorney has provided documents for the Winebrook Hills Water and Sewer District deed transfer. Motion was made by Councilman Bott for a Resolution authorizing the confirmation of Town ownership of property on behalf of both the Winebrook Water District and the Winebrook Sewer District. Seconded by Councilwoman Fennessy and carried by roll call vote: Supervisor Deloria – Aye, Councilman Bott – Aye, Councilwoman Fennessy – Aye, Councilman LaCourse – Aye and Councilman Olbert – Aye. The Town will have to publish a Notice of Adoption of Resolution subject to Permissive Referendum.

Supreme Court Justice Bruening has approved the sale of the historic Episcopal Church to the Town.

The Essex County Board of Supervisors approved a Resolution condemning the unlawful entry into the US Capital Building on January 6, 2021.

Councilman LaCourse made a motion for a Resolution to amend the purchase price of the 2022 Western Star 4900SF at State Contract pricing to \$212302.89. Seconded by Councilman Olbert and carried.

Nature Conservancy, Open Space Institute and ADK Mountain Club have come out in support of the DEC in their lawsuit against Protect the Adirondacks and their “timber tree

cutting lawsuit.” There was discussion on the article by the Adirondack Explorer. It was felt that the article was based totally on the opinion of Peter Bauer of Protect the Adirondacks. The Adirondack Explorer also plans to call out Kathy Moser of Open Space Institute and Joe Martens. Motion was made by Councilman LaCourse to temporarily suspend advertising with the Adirondack Explorer. Seconded by Councilman Olbert and carried.

Community Bank will be changing their banking hours in Long Lake and Indian Lake starting in April 2021. Indian Lake will be open M-W- F and Long Lake will be open T- Th.

Councilman Fennessy questioned the timeline on the AT&T tower. There is no date set but they did pour concrete on site and are continuing to work on the construction of the tower.

Kevin Bolan reported that they are still trying to get the COVID vaccine here in Newcomb. They are also assisting seniors with appointments for the vaccine in other locations. Joan Burke suggested working with Adirondack Life for articles and advertising. They will be coming out with an article on the Douglas Legg search in the next issue. Laurinda Minke reported that we are already committed to advertising with Adirondack Explorer in their next issue. Kevin Dewey wants the town to use volunteers to do the snowmobile trail maintenance. He would like the town to unhook the drag from the groomer and the club will take care of the trails.

Motion was made by Councilman Bott to adjourn. Seconded by Councilwoman Fennessy and carried at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted _____

January 26, 2021

At the Public Hearing of the Town Board of the Town of Newcomb, Essex County, N.Y., held at the Town Hall, Newcomb, N.Y., on the 26th of January 2021 at 6:30 P. M., the following Board Members were present:

Robin Deloria	Supervisor
Lana Fennessy	Councilman
Donald Bott	Councilman
David Olbert	Councilman
Paul LaCourse	Councilman

Others present: Wes Miga, Joan Burke and Mary Pound. Present on Zoom: Marlene Bott, Mary Lamphear, Nicole Garrido, Mary Monaghan, Dave Hughes, Debbie Damasevitz, George Damasevitz, Anita Brundage, Laurinda Minke, Barbara Kearns and George Sogoian.

Supervisor Deloria called the Public Hearing for the 2021 Fire Department Contract to order at 6:30 P.M. Wes Miga addressed the Board with his concerns regarding the Fire Department and Rescue Squad. He feels that we are at a ‘Critical Juncture’ and there is a need for more participation from the younger, strong members of the community. There is a need for drivers and people to help with transport particularly on Rescue Squad calls. There was discussion on the cost of having to pay drivers and aides which could be in excess of \$100,000. The Town would hate to have to eliminate jobs in order to pay for this. There is a critical need for volunteers. The next Fire Department meeting is February 15, 2021. Please get the word out and encourage community members to attend.

Motion was made by Councilman Bott to close the Public Hearing. Seconded by Councilman LaCourse and carried at 6:55 p.m.

Supervisor Deloria called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Motion was made by Councilman Bott to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2021 meeting. Seconded by Councilwoman Fennessy and carried.

Motion was made by Councilman Bott to approve the General Fund Abstract #2 in the amount of \$38056.12. Seconded by Councilman LaCourse and carried.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Fennessy to approve the Highway Fund Abstract #2 in the amount of \$29796.26. Seconded by Councilman LaCourse and carried.

Motion was made by Councilman Olbert to approve the Water Fund Abstract #1 in the amount of \$411.52. Seconded by Councilwoman Fennessy and carried.

Motion was made by Councilman Bott to approve the Sewer Fund Abstract #1 in the amount of \$1103.29. Seconded by Councilman Olbert and carried.

February meetings are tentatively set for February 9th and 23rd.

The State Comptrollers office has communicated information to the towns regarding the changes in distribution of local sales tax revenue to towns beginning in February 2021. They have been required to withhold local sales tax collections from counties in quarterly installments and deposit funds into the Distressed Provider Assistance Account to fund financially distressed hospitals and nursing homes.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Fennessy to enter in the agreement with the Adirondack Park Local Government Review Board in the amount of \$300.00. Seconded by Councilman Olbert and carried.

There has been an update with the Department of State Contract for the Welcome Center. Supervisor Deloria received a phone call and she encouraged the Town to change the contract execution date to March 1, 2021. This would ensure the funds would be paid from the previous state budget.

The Town Attorney has approved adding the Sewer District to the Winebrook Water Town lot. This will enable the Sewer District to receive funds from the AT&T payments for the cell tower.

The Quick Claim Deed for the Pine Cemetery has been signed and sent to the Town Attorney. The Town will need to get new estimates for tree removal at the cemetery.

Supervisor Deloria and Councilman Bott met with Joan Burke and Don Seauvageau to discuss renovations to the Episcopal Church building for the Newcomb Historical Museum. Joan Burke indicated that she and the others at the Historical Museum are willing to work with the Town on the move to this building.

Councilman Olbert reported that the skating rink has been used a lot for hockey this winter. He was wondering if the hours could be adjusted to accommodate all. The skate inventory is low and more larger sizes are needed. The hours for the skating rink and the ski tow should be posted in the newsletter and website.

Joan Burke said the name was changed for the cemetery to the Pine Hill Cemetery. There are 6-7 cemeteries in Newcomb but they do not currently all have signs. The ABF church has agreed to give the Huntington Cemetery to the Town.

George Damasevitz reported that AT& T has begun the construction work for the new tower. The concrete pour was delayed due to low temperatures.

George Sogoian questioned if the Town is doing anything to protect Lake Harris from the invasive species. The Town is working on getting a boat washing station at the beach boat launch.

Motion was made by Councilman LaCourse to adjourn. Seconded by Councilwoman Fennessy and carried at 7:45 pm. The Board adjourned to go into Executive Session.

Respectfully Submitted _____

January 12, 2021

At the regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Newcomb, Essex County, N.Y., held at the Town Hall, Newcomb, N.Y., on the 12th of January 2021 at 7:00 P. M., the following Board Members were present:

Robin Deloria	Supervisor
Lana Fennessy	Councilwoman
David Olbert	Councilman
Donald Bott	Councilman
Paul LaCourse	Councilman

Others present: Cliff Demars, Joan Burke, Barbara Kearns and Mary Pound. Present on Call: Sue Mills, Mary Lamphear, Laurinda Minke, Lori Demars, Dave Hughes, George Sogioian, George Damasevitz, Marlene Bott and David Dorian.

Supervisor Deloria called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Motion was made by Councilman Bott to approve the December 15, 2020 meeting. Seconded by Councilwoman Fennessy and carried. Motion was made by Councilman LaCourse to approve the minutes of the January 1, 2021 organizational meeting. Seconded by Councilman Bott and carried.

Motion was made by Councilman Olbert to approve the General Fund Abstract #1 in the amount of \$52156.16. Seconded by Councilman LaCourse and carried.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Fennessy to approve the Highway Fund Abstract #1 in the amount of \$16048.56. Seconded by Councilman Bott and carried.

Public Hearing for the Fire Department Contract was reset to January 26, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Fennessy to approve the audit of the Town Justice Court Records and Docket Books. Seconded by Councilman Bott and carried by roll call vote: Supervisor Deloria – Aye, Councilman Bott – Aye, Councilwoman Fennessy – Aye, Councilman LaCourse - Aye and Councilman Olbert – Aye.

Motion was made by Councilman Bott authorizing the Board of Assessors to forgo senior all exemption review following an Executive order by the Governor. Seconded by Councilman Olbert and carried by roll call vote: Supervisor Deloria – Aye, Councilman Bott – Aye, Councilwoman Fennessy – Aye, Councilman LaCourse – Aye, and Councilman Olbert – Aye.

A water test was done for a claimant for salt contamination in his well. The threshold for pottable water is 270 and the water tested at over 1900. The claimant has agreed to sign a General Release Agreement discharging the Town from further claims. Motion was made by Councilman Olbert to authorize Supervisor Deloria to sign the settlement agreement for a payment of \$9000.00. The Town Attorney will draft an agreement. Seconded by Councilwoman Fennessy and carried.

Charles Canon and Gene Poulin are alternating weekends to do monitoring and testing at the Sewer Plant per DOH. Motion was made by Councilman LaCourse to approve a monthly stipend of \$3000.00 each for the job. Seconded by Councilwoman Fennessy and carried.

The Town of Newcomb has received a purchase offer for the Bissell barn property. A public notice of Resolution subject to permissive referendum will be published in the

paper. The purchase offer is \$65000.00 and they will split the legal and attorney fees with the Town. Motion was made by Councilman LaCourse to move the Resolution to accept the purchase offer. Seconded by Councilman Olbert and approved by roll call vote: Supervisor Deloria – Aye, Councilman Bott – Aye, Councilwoman Fennessy – Aye, Councilman LaCourse – Aye and Councilman Olbert – Aye.

Councilman Olbert has contacted USPS regarding bidding information on their contract. The Town is hoping to have the USPS use the current bank property location.

The Town is waiting on the NYS Court to approve the Town purchase of the Episcopal Church property. There was discussion on the future move of the Historical Museum to the Episcopal Church. Motion was made by Councilman Bott to approve the move of the Historical Museum to the Church property. Seconded by Councilwoman Fennessy. Councilman Olbert would like to have more discussion and would like to wait at least until the next board meeting. Councilman LaCourse agreed that there is no rush to make this decision. The motion was tabled until the next meeting. Joan Burke strongly encouraged the Board members and others to visit the Historical Building and view the space they use and what will be needed.

The deed for the transfer of ownership for Pine Tree Cemetery is ready to be signed. The current owners should be in this week to sign.

The bankruptcy trustee for the Iowa Pacific Railroad known as the Saratoga North Creek railroad filed with the Surface Transportation Board requesting continued abeyance until April 2021. He is currently negotiating with two railroad companies that may purchase and reactivate the line.

NYS Labor Law Section 27-C has been amended and now requires all Towns to develop a Pandemic Response Plan. This must be completed by April 1, 2021. Essex County towns are working together to develop this plan.

The town sliding hill and skating rink are now open but are limited to five persons at a time in the building. Sanitizer and masks will be available. Weekdays it will be open 5-9 pm and weekends 12-4 pm and 5-9 pm. An inventory needs to be taken of the skate sizes that we have available.

Councilman Olbert talked with Kevin Bolan regarding the salaries of medical center staff. The budget is complete, and it is too late to make changes now. He feels that in the future, negotiations should be separate from the Highway contract. Councilman Bott feels that in the future, a cost-of-living raise should be done for all.

Barbara Kearns complimented the Town Newsletter. She felt it was a good way to get information out to residents, especially those that may not have a computer. She hopes that the town would send out more notices to keep the community informed. George Sogioian loves the new technology for the Zoom meeting. George Damasevitz reported to the Board that 123 Marcy Lane is in violation of Zoning Laws. Mary Lamphear felt that the public should have some responsibility for reaching out and getting information for themselves. Denise Bolan questioned the status of the Grant and felt that the Town is responsible for following the Comprehensive Plan with all properties. Ruth Olbert questioned a Board member regarding sharing of information with each other. She also encouraged Board members and community to visit the Historical Museum and the Church.

Motion was made by Councilman Bott to adjourn. Seconded by Councilman LaCourse and carried at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted _____