

**TOWN OF HORSEHEADS
TOWN BOARD
FEBRUARY 12, 2020**

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Horseheads was held on the above date at 7:30 P.M. at the Town Hall, 150 Wygant Road, Horseheads, New York.

Members present: Donald J. Fischer, Town Supervisor, Gary H. Riopko, Carl R. Lewis, Sr., and Stephen E. Wilber, Councilmen.

Members absent: Donald W. Zeigler, Councilman.

Others present: John P. Mustico, Town Attorney; Nancy Rohde, Town Clerk, Ray and Lori Cass, R. Craig Banfield, Town Justice, Joe Atkinson, Tom Nagle, and (Peg Woodard, 8th District Legislator- via Zoom).

Supervisor Fischer called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and the pledge of Allegiance was recited.

On a motion by Mr. Wilber, and seconded by Mr. Lewis, it was moved that the reading of the minutes of the January 13 and 27, 2021 meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Horseheads, be dispensed with and the same stand approved as entered by the Clerk.

Ayes: Riopko, Lewis, Wilber and Fischer. Nays: None.

Resolution #57 of 2021

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

Resolution by Mr. Wilber seconded by Mr. Riopko.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Supervisor is hereby directed to pay the audited bills from all funds in the amount of \$35,454.03

Ayes: Riopko, Lewis, Wilber and Fischer. Nays: None.

Resolution #58 of 2021

REPORTS OF TOWN OFFICERS

On a motion by Mr. Lewis, and seconded by Mr. Riopko, it was moved that the January, 2021 reports of the Supervisor in the General and Highway Funds, reports of the Town Justices, reports of the Code Enforcement Office, Assessor, Highway Superintendent and Town Clerk be received and placed on file.

Ayes: Riopko, Lewis, Wilber and Fischer. Nays: None.

02/10/2021 T.B.

Correspondence:

- ◆ Charter Communications – Programming notice of changes (Jan/2021).
- ◆ Town of Horseheads - Letter to Civil Service re: Building Safety Inspector job description (2/3/2021).

On a motion by Mr. Lewis and seconded by Mr. Riopko, it was moved that the correspondence be received and placed on file.

Ayes: Riopko, Lewis, Wilber and Fischer. Nays: None.

During the audience participation portion of the meeting, Peg Woodard asked to be recognized as attending the meeting. Next, Ray Cass of 22 Redwing Lane came forward to ask about the no parking on the street policy during the winter months. Supervisor Fischer explained that the Highway Superintendent is responsible for enforcing this and will be checking in with him.

Resolution #59 of 2021

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PUBLIC HEALTH
EMERGENCY DECLARATION PLAN**

Resolution by Mr. Wilber, seconded by Mr. Lewis

WHEREAS, all municipalities in the State of New York have been directed to prepare and adopt a public health emergency declaration plan, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Horseheads directed that a plan be prepared for its consideration and review, and

WHEREAS, the board has duly considered the same

NOW, THERFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horseheads hereby adopts the Town of Horseheads Public Health Emergency Declaration Plan as of February 10, 2021.

Ayes: Riopko, Lewis, Wilber and Fischer. Nays: None.

02/10/2021 T.B.

Resolution #60 of 2021

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TOWN WIDE ASSESSMENT REVALUATION
FOR THE 2022 ASSESSMENT ROLL**

Resolution by Mr. Wilber, seconded by Mr. Riopko

WHEREAS, Section 305 of the New York State Real Property Tax Law mandates uniform and equitable assessments, and

WHEREAS, computer-assisted mass appraisal systems, technical advice, and financial assistance are available by cooperative agreement with New York State Office of Real Property Services and the Chemung County Real Property Tax Service, and

WHEREAS, the last town-wide reassessment of our real property took place in 2000, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board is convinced that a reassessment is necessary to comply with section 305 of the New York State Real Property Tax Law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HORSEHEADS, NEW YORK AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That the Assessor of the Town of Horseheads is hereby authorized to undertake and implement a reassessment for the 2022 assessment roll.

SECTION 2. That the Town Board does hereby agree, in conjunction with the New York State Office of Real Property Tax Services agency, to support the Town's assessment staff in this reassessment.

SECTION 3. That the Town Board and the assessor are authorized to enter into any necessary agreements to achieve this purpose. Any agreements resulting in an expenditure by the Town of Horseheads must first be approved by the Town Board. Any agreement with a private contractor to provide services for this reassessment shall be entered into only upon review by the Town Attorney, John P. Mustico and the Assessor.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Ayes: Riopko, Lewis, Wilber and Fischer. Nays: None

02/10/2021 T.B.

Resolution #61 of 2021

RESOLUTION TO REDUCE NUMBER OF TOWN JUSTICES FROM TWO TO ONE

Resolution by Mr. Wilber, seconded by Mr. Lewis

WHEREAS, the office of Town Justice, Scott J. Pautz, term expires December 31, 2021, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Horseheads has determined that it would be in the best interest of the Town to reduce the number of town justices from two to one, in that, after consultation with there is presently no need for two justices to handle the low volume of matters in the Town Court of the Town of Horseheads and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to the provisions of subparagraph 2 of section 60-as of the Town Law of the State of New York as follows:

1. The number of town justices of the Town of Horseheads shall be reduced from two to one effective January 1, 2022.

2. In accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2 of section 60-a of the Town Law, this Resolution shall not become operative or effective unless and until thirty (30) days have elapsed after its adoption and no petition protesting against this resolution, signed and authenticated as required by law has been filed with the Town Clerk of the Town of Horseheads, or if such petition is so filed, a proposition for approval of this Resolution has been submitted at the next general election or a special election for that purpose pursuant to said section and received the affirmative vote of a majority of the voters voting thereon.

Ayes: Riopko, Lewis, Wilber and Fischer. Nays: None

Resolution #62 of 2021

RESOLUTION REDUCTING TOWN JUSTICE SALARY

Resolution by Mr. Riopko, seconded by Mr. Lewis

WHEREAS, Scott J. Pautz, the present town Justice is retiring as of 12/31/2021, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has considered the salary of that justice position based upon a new justice being elected without the longevity of the current justice, and

WHEREAS, the Town Board has duly considered the same

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the salary for the newly elected town justice shall be \$20,000.00 annually without benefits including health insurance.

Ayes: Riopko, Lewis, Wilber and Fischer. Nays: None

02/10/2021 T.B.

As there was no further action to come before the board, a motion was made by Mr. Wilber and seconded by Mr. Lewis to adjourn at 8:11 P.M.

Ayes: Edwards, Riopko, Lewis, Wilber and Fischer. Nays: None.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy C. Rohde, Town Clerk