

**TOWN OF WHITEHALL**  
**7 PM**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**TOWN HALL**  
**57 SKENESBOROUGH DRIVE**

**January 20, 2016**

**PRESENT:** George Armstrong – Supervisor  
Farrell Prefontaine – Councilperson  
Stephanie Safka – Councilperson  
David Hollister-Councilperson

**ABSENT:** John Rozell-Councilperson

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Town Clerk, Julie Millett; Town Highway Superintendent, Louis D. Pratt II; Heritage Director, Carol Greenough; Enforcement Officer, Vernon Scribner; Whitehall Times Reporter, Dan King, Julie Hunt from DMV, Marge Mohn and John Millett Jr.

Supervisor opened the board meeting with Pledge to the Flag and prayer.

Julie Hunt from DMV would like to speak at this time.

Julie handed out a flyer to the public and board. We will be bringing in a mobile unit once a month to Whitehall residences. We are going to do it on Wednesdays from 10 AM – 2 PM. We are hoping it will start driving some revenue back into the county while serving the residences in Whitehall and nearby towns. When you register online all the money is going out of the county. We get a 12.7% retention for the county if you come in in person to see us. We will not be able to take pictures because the camera is very expensive. We will not be able to do a new license. I am hoping that March 5th will be our first date. We can put it on the public channel 16 and the radio station in Poultney. We will try it for a year to see how it does. Someone asked if we could access the county site on line and she said right now there is no way to do that. Councilperson Safka got a notice online by DMV to do a renewal. Julie doesn't have county email, so she can't have access to Washington County. Supervisor will give info to Supervisor Gang in Dresden and Putnam if Julie can get something for him. Councilperson Hollister said that it seems that we have to talk to our representatives to see what they can do. Councilperson Hollister asked if when you do it online it would be nice if something pops up and sends the person to Washington County.

Marge Mohn would like permission to have Winter Festival on February 13<sup>th</sup>. There will be a penguin dip, Historic Grounds will be having hot chocolate and hot coffee, face painting, Paul Bartholomew will be talking about Bigfoot. We will not have the horses this year because the man can't do it and the Amish don't want to do it. The Skenesborough Museum will be open from 11-1 PM. We will have an art exhibit.

**Motion** to approve Winter Festival made by Councilperson Prefontaine and seconded by Councilperson Hollister.

**ADOPTED**                   **Ayes 4 Armstrong, Hollister, Safka, Prefontaine**  
**Nays 0**

**Motion** to approve the December 9, 2015 minutes made by Councilperson Hollister and seconded by Councilperson Safka.

**ADOPTED**                   **Ayes 4 Armstrong, Hollister, Safka, Prefontaine**  
**Nays 0**

**Heritage Report**- written report by Carol Greenough

**Motion** to accept report made by Councilperson Prefontaine and seconded by Councilperson Hollister.

**ADOPTED**                   **Ayes 4 Armstrong, Hollister, Safka, Prefontaine**  
**Nays 0**

**Written Report to be filed with the minutes.**

**Rec. Report**-no report

**Dog Control Report**- no report

We did get a big voucher to pay for village dogs

**Enforcement Officer Report-verbal report made by Vernon Scribner**

Nothing to report this month. Received one phone call for the village and told them to call Peter Telisky.

**Town Clerk Report** -written report by Julie Millett

I have been collecting a lot of taxes and have had enough to pay on some of the budget and by the end of January should have enough to pay the rest to cover the 2016 budget of \$879,266.

**Motion** made by Councilperson Safka and seconded by Councilperson Prefontaine.

**ADOPTED**                   **Ayes 4 Armstrong, Hollister, Safka, Prefontaine**  
**Nays 0**

**Town Assessor Report**- no written report

He has been sick and hasn't been in, but promises to make up the time next week. The Supervisor said it was unfortunate because with the assessor forms coming in and tax payments, it was very busy here and the Deputy Town Clerk could have come in. The town clerk wanted to know why she should be charged in her budget to cover the assessor.

**Town Supervisor Report** – written report by George Armstrong

Lots of areas in building with no insulation that Jim has been working on.

First Assembly Church would like to use the park in the future for a few days. They have used it before and I told them that I didn't see a problem with it.

**Motion** to let them use the park sometime in May without any paperwork being filled out made by Councilperson Prefontaine and seconded by Councilperson Hollister.

**ADOPTED**                   **Ayes 4 Armstrong, Hollister, Safka, Prefontaine**  
**Nays 0**

**Supervisor will get back to her and let her know board approved.**

**Motion** to approve Supervisor's report made by Councilperson Safka and seconded by Councilperson Prefontaine.

**ADOPTED**                   **Ayes 4 Armstrong, Hollister, Safka, Prefontaine**  
**Nays 0**

**Supervisor approved the Committees for 2016**

**Rec Committee**                      **Safka & Prefontaine**

**Park Committee**                      **Rozell & Safka**

**Highway Committee**                      **Hollister & Rozell**

**Senior Citizens Committee**                      **Hollister & Armstrong**

**Union & Labor Committee**                      **Prefontaine & Hollister**

**Budget Officer Report by Joel Carpenter**

**Motion** to accept report and approve budget transfers made by Councilperson Hollister and seconded by Councilperson Safka.

**ADOPTED**                      **Ayes 4 Armstrong, Hollister, Safka, Prefontaine**  
**Nays 0**

**RESOLUTION # 30 BUDGET TRANSFERS FOR 2015**

**Resolution will be filed with the minutes and in the Resolution Book.**

**Planning Board Report**

**Motion** to accept report made by Councilperson Hollister and seconded by Councilperson Prefontaine.

**ADOPTED**                      **Ayes 4 Armstrong, Hollister, Safka, Prefontaine**  
**Nays 0**

**Highway Report-** verbal report by Louis Pratt

Highway inventory reports have been submitted to the board.

Supervisor has talked to the village and they sent the check back for CHIPS so we are just waiting on the state for \$64,000. We were talking about purchasing our 1 ton this coming year. I've gotten two quotes. They will be included in the minutes. We can piggy back off of them or our local guy is looking to see if he can match up. We will have to put it out to bid if the local guy thinks he can do something for us. Hometown will let me know Friday what he can do. If Hometown thinks they can give me a comparable price and stay in town, I would like to have the board's permission to put it in the paper and have the bids opened up at the next board meeting.

**Motion** to put the bid in the paper if a local dealer thinks he can honor that price on a 1-ton pickup for the February board meeting made by Councilperson Hollister and seconded by Armstrong.

**ADOPTED**                      **Ayes 4 Armstrong, Hollister, Safka, Prefontaine**  
**Nays 0**

**Motion** to accept reports made by Councilperson Safka and seconded by Councilperson Hollister.

**ADOPTED**                      **Ayes 4 Armstrong, Hollister, Safka, Prefontaine**  
**Nays 0**

We should get \$10,000 for the old truck.

**Motion** to approve Skene Manor to use the Senior Building for their meetings the months of January – March 2016 made by Councilperson Hollister and seconded by Councilperson Prefontaine

**ADOPTED**                      **Ayes 4 Armstrong, Hollister, Safka, Prefontaine**  
**Nays 0**

**Monthly Vouchers for End of Year** Abstract # 14 General Fund V#15-14-1/3 \$4,821.12

**Monthly Vouchers for Abstract # 1 of 2016** General Fund V#16-1/13 \$4,837.85  
Highway FundV#16-1-1/5\$15,691.68

**Motion** to pay the monthly vouchers made by Councilperson Safka and seconded by Councilperson Hollister.

**ADOPTED** Ayes 4 Armstrong, Hollister, Safka, Prefontaine  
Nays 0

**Public Comments: None at this time**

**Motion** to adjourn meeting at 8:05 PM made by Councilperson Hollister and seconded by Councilperson Prefontaine.

**ADOPTED** Ayes 4 Armstrong, Hollister, Safka, Prefontaine  
Nays 0

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Millett  
Town Clerk