

**TOWN OF BRUNSWICK  
PUBLIC HEARING  
JANUARY 14, 2021 6:30 p.m.  
TOWN HALL**

**Board Members Present:** Supervisor Herrington, Councilman Christian, Councilman Sullivan, Councilman Balistreri and Councilman Cipperly

**Board Members Absent:** None.

**Also Present:** Attorney, Andrew Gilchrist and Town Clerk, William J. Lewis.

Supervisor Herrington called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The purpose of the meeting was to hold a Public Hearing to accept public comment on the proposed Introductory Local Law #3 of the year 2020 entitled “A Local Law Amending Local Law No. 1 of the Year 1988 Entitled “A Local Law Setting Speed Limits on Town Highways and County Highways Within the Boundaries of the Town Of Brunswick, Rensselaer County, New York”.”

Supervisor Herrington asked Town Clerk Lewis to read the complete Notice of Public Hearing into the record. The Notice had been posted on the Town Website, Town Hall bulletin board and published in The Record.

Supervisor Herrington opened the Public Hearing.

**VISITORS WHO WISH TO SPEAK:**

Jennifer Mann, 91 Hill Road, commended the Town for proposing this change and asked if there were any discussions about having a 4 way stop at Freer Park Road, North Lake Avenue and Genesee Street? Supervisor Herrington advised her that Rensselaer County had hired a Traffic Engineer to study that option and was told they were close to finishing up and will be making a recommendation soon. He decided to go ahead and at least take care of the speed limit in the meantime. Ms. Mann mentioned the issue of heavy traffic and speeding on the side roads in that area, perhaps as people try to avoid Route 7. She asked about the possibility of speed bumps being installed. Councilman Balistreri offered that speed bumps were a real issue with snowplowing.

Maureen Brier, 148 North Lake Avenue, believed the speed limit was 25 mph from Westlane Road to Frear Park Road, and felt a 4 way stop wouldn't help as the main problem was enforcement. Supervisor Herrington said he has reached out about enforcement. Ms. Brier has also seen drivers turning right from Frear Park Road go around people waiting to take a left, using the park lawn, and shooting right onto North Lake. She said there used to be guardrails along the exit from the park and maybe they should be reinstalled to prevent this. Councilman Sullivan inquired if a digital radar speed limit sign had ever been used on North Lake Avenue. Ms. Brier said there had been last spring, but it was set up closer to Liberty Road. Supervisor Herrington was informed by the County that there were plans to repave North Lake Avenue, which will include signage and marking changes. The down side is nicer roads often tempt people to go faster. Hopefully not.

Supervisor Herrington closed the public hearing

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilman Christian made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Sullivan. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Lewis  
Town Clerk

**TOWN OF BRUNSWICK  
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING  
JANUARY 14, 2021, 7:00 P.M.  
TOWN HALL**

**Board Members Present:** Supervisor Herrington, Councilman Christian, Councilman Sullivan, Councilman Balistreri and Councilman Cipperly.

**Board Members Absent:** None

**Also Present:** Attorney, Thomas Cioffi and Town Clerk, William Lewis.

Supervisor Herrington called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

All joined in with the salute to the flag.

**VISITORS WHO WISH TO SPEAK:**

Zack Metzger, 3842 NY Route 2, has been to several meetings at Town Hall and thanked the Town for taking the pandemic seriously and following all the recommended precautions to keep attendees safe. With endless media/social media speculation recently about “rigged elections” including some about local ones, he asked the Board Members how they stood on the issue. Without exception, all the Board Members stated that they had never personally heard from anyone claiming unfair elections at the Town level or witnessed any improprieties. Supervisor Herrington felt that workers representing all parties have always been involved and diligent in their duties during elections, while working to get the vote out and as inspectors at the polling locations. He also commented that he felt the violence at the Washington demonstrations was disgusting, uncalled for and those responsible for the rioting should be prosecuted. Violence is not the answer to anything.

**BUSINESS MEETING:**

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Councilman Balistreri made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 10, 2020 regular meeting and the minutes for the December 29, 2020 End of Year and the January 4, 2021 Organizational Meetings. Motion seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved.

**REPORTS:**

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, in order to limit contact as well as keep meetings as brief as possible, department heads continue to have the option of not attending the monthly Board Meeting. The following reports for the month of December were submitted by department heads in lieu of personally appearing to present orally, and copies were included in each Board Member’s packet.

*Town Clerk:* William Lewis

*Highway:* Terry Scriven

*Water & Sewer:* Bill Bradley

*Code Enforcement:* Charles Golden

*Town Historian:* Sharon Zankel

*Recycling Coordinator:* Thomas Engster

*Library Report:* Sara Hopkins

Motion to accept submitted reports was made by Supervisor Herrington and seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved. Copies of the written reports are on file in the Town Clerk’s Office.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

Supervisor Herrington explained the following Resolution concerned North Lake Avenue, which is a County road. The Town has been working with Rensselaer County on the speeding issues on this road. The Town has the authority to, and this Local Law will, if adopted, reduce the speed limit to 30 mph from its beginning at Route 142 (Grange Road) to the Troy City line. The possibility of a 4 way stop at Frear Park Road, North Lake Avenue and Genesee Street is also being reviewed by the County. A Public Hearing had been conducted prior to tonight's meeting.

**Resolution No. 22** Resolution Adopting Town of Brunswick Local Law No. 1 of the Year 2021 Entitled "A Local Law Amending Local Law No. 1 of the Year 1988 Entitled "A Local Law Setting Speed Limits on Town Highways and County Highways Within the Boundaries of the Town Of Brunswick, Rensselaer County, New York"." The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Balistreri and seconded by Councilman Christian, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Christian, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Aye; Councilman Cipperly, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

**Resolution No. 23** Resolution Approving, and Authorizing Supervisor to Execute, 2021 Animal Shelter Agreement. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Sullivan, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Christian, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Abstain; Councilman Cipperly, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

**Resolution No. 24** Resolution Approving Amendments to the Municipal Cooperation Agreement Pertaining to the New York Liquid Asset Fund. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Sullivan and seconded by Councilman Christian, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Christian, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Aye; Councilman Cipperly, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

**Resolution No. 25** Resolution Accepting Bond for Decommissioning of Solar Equipment. The foregoing Resolution, offered by Councilman Christian and seconded by Councilman Sullivan, was duly put to a roll call vote as follows: Councilman Christian, Voting Aye; Councilman Sullivan, Voting Aye; Councilman Balistreri, Voting Aye; Councilman Cipperly, Voting Aye; Supervisor Herrington, Voting Aye. The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Betty and Larry Zepf sent a note thanking all the employees of the Town, both office and highway, for doing a great job. Many, many thanks!

Gail Whitefield wrote thanking the Highway Department for the removal of a tree stump on the side of their road. They did a great job even grading the area after. This stump, it should be noted, was a concern of the Highway Department for interfering with plow vehicles.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Supervisor Herrington mentioned that he has received a few calls from residents concerning a couple, possibly homeless, with a sign asking for help/handouts at the entrance to Price Chopper. Some felt uncomfortable, that they shouldn't be there, and some asked if there were any ways to help them. There is also the possibility that this is a money scam. The issue is not uncommon around the Capital District. Mr. Herrington contacted Social Services and was informed that many programs were available for food and shelter and other assistance if the parties were willing to reach out and accept the help. He plans to speak to the people and give them the information. Attorney Cioffi noted that any ordinances/laws to address this type of problem would have to consider the constitutional rights of the people involved.

**WARRANTS:**

Warrants No. 210001 through 210097 and No. 10821001 through 10821007 were presented. Motion to approve the warrants was made by Councilman Balistreri and seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved. Individual fund expenses were as follows:

General	\$ 215,475.20
Highway	\$ 152,272.15
Water	\$ 36,800.36
Sewer	\$ 2,277.92
Special Sewer	\$ 1,363.88
Special Fire	\$ 19,456.76

**FURTHER VISITORS WHO WISH TO SPEAK:**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Supervisor Herrington made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilman Christian. Unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William J. Lewis  
Town Clerk