

MINUTES OF WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF HUNTER HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2021 AT 6:00 PM VIA ZOOM

Present at Town Hall:

Daryl Legg	Supervisor
David Kukle	Councilman
Raymond Legg	Councilman
Sean Mahoney	Councilman
Dolph Semenza	Councilman
Larry Gardner	Town Attorney
John Farrell	Superintendent of Highways
Marc Czermerys	IT

Present via Zoom:

Corina Pascucci	Town Clerk
Lara Hamrah-Poladian	Secretary to the Supervisor
Sgt. Robert Haines	Hunter Police Department
John Lyons	Grant & Lyons
Kimberly Garrison	Grant & Lyons
Mary Beth Bianconi	

J. Woolheater, C. Woolheater, Betsy Gude, Sarah, Keith, Susan, J. Nihan, David, Nashersons, Chip Thomas, Robert, Morgan, Gary Slutzky, Romiton

Supervisor Legg calls the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

POLICE REFORM & REINVENTION COMMITTEE

Councilman Legg offers RESOLUTION #1 of 2021. Seconded by Councilman Mahoney, Town of Hunter Resolution #1 of 2021 Police Reform & Reinvention Committee

The Town of Hunter Police Reform & Reinvention Committee first and foremost acknowledges that systemic racism and racial bias exist in our nation and policing. Based on our limited investigation and survey, we did not find evidence of extensive explicit or implicit bias within the Town of Hunter Police Department in its interactions with our community and its visitors. Nevertheless, we believe that specific policies and procedures should be implemented to address and prevent bias and racism. Towards that end, this committee submits the following recommendations to The Hunter Town Board for its consideration and adoption.

By way of [Governor Cuomo's executive order #203](#), "in the wake of the police-involved death of George Floyd in Minnesota," The Town of Hunter Police Reform & Reinvention Committee puts forward the following recommendations to be adopted by the Town Board in a Resolution:

- Dedicate the resources necessary to complete a comprehensive Town of Hunter Police Policies & Procedures Manual by December 31, 2021. The manual needs to include a specific code of conduct and accountability policies with respect to social media, background/hiring policies, and civil rights. The following policies have already been

adopted by the Hunter Police Department and will be explicitly codified in the said manual:

- Use of physical force
- Use of firearms and deadly physical force
- Procedure following any firearm discharge, whether accidentally or in performance of duty
- Death in custody reporting
- Ban on chokeholds or any similar restraints
- Entitlement to medical or mental health treatment for individuals under arrest or in custody
- Establish training requirements, including evidence of completion, for all members of the police force to include but not limited to the following:
 - Racial/Implicit Bias and Gender Bias training
 - Use of Force training
 - Mental health situational training
- Establish a civilian comment system for interactions with the Town of Hunter Police that offers a simple and easy way to communicate any issues with individuals or the department in general. The system must also allow for anonymous/confidential complaints as well. The comment system should include transparency and should apply appropriate actions of accountability.
- Continue the trend and increase efforts to treat addiction as a health issue rather than a crime, deploying diversion therapy as an alternative to incarceration as soon as possible in the Town of Hunter Police interaction with individuals.
- Proactively integrate, systematize, and integrate cooperation with mental health professionals, including MCAT, Mobile Crisis Assessment Team, as an alternative to arrest/incarceration.
- Commit to no less than two town halls annually, with a focus on police and community relations. Ensure meetings meet “public notice” qualifications and are distributed widely.
- The New York State Police & NYS DEC officers and forest rangers provide a significant amount of law enforcement in the Town of Hunter. We urge the Town Board to request that ALL State Police agencies undergo the same "Reform and Reinvent" analysis that county and local police agencies have undertaken.

ADOPTED	Supervisor	Daryl Legg	Aye
	Councilman:	Dolph Semenza	Aye
		David Kukle	Aye
		Anthony Coiro	Aye
		Raymond Legg	Aye

PLANNING

Supervisor Legg makes a MOTION to appoint Planning Board Member Doug Senterman as a Greene County Planning Board member effective immediately. Seconded by Councilman Semenza,

Ayes -5- Noes -0-

SOLAR LAW (Update-Grant & Lyons)

- ✚ Next Town Board meeting. If the Planning Board is able to review and get comments to the Town Board on the draft solar law, the Town Board should be able to start moving forward with formal adoption. Depending on the extent of the Planning Board comments (if there are substantial changes, we would have to formalize those and discuss those changes), the Town Board could take the following actions:
 - Adopt resolution to formally introduce the law
 - Circulate for lead agency (if necessary)
 - Classify the Action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) – This action will be a Type I, as it covers more than 25 acres of the Town.
 - Refer the law to the Greene County Planning Board pursuant to General Municipal law 239-m
 - Schedule a public hearing

- ✚ Following Town Board meeting.
 - Get responses back from the agencies referred to (30 days must elapse – unless they respond sooner)
 - Open the public hearing.
 - Depending on the extent of the public comments, close the public hearing or continue the hearing to a second date.
 - Discuss any changes to be made to the draft.

- ✚ Following Town Board meeting – depending on the public hearing:
 - If the public hearing is closed and the comments received during the public hearing do not require significant changes to the proposed local law → (1) Adopt a SEQRA Determination of Significance; (2) Adopt Local Law
 - If the public hearing did result in comments which necessitate significant changes to the proposed law → (1) continue public hearing; (2) if substantive changes made, recirculate to Greene County Planning Board and Town of Hunter Planning Board for review of changes. Once public hearing is closed, (3) Adopt a SEQRA Determination of Significance; (4) Adopt Local Law.

*Excerpt of email from Grant & Lyons

Supervisor Legg makes a MOTION to forward the draft Solar Law to the Town of Hunter Planning Board and Greene County Planning and a Public Hearing will be scheduled at the next Town Board meeting. Seconded by Councilman Legg.

Ayes -5-

Noes -0-

PROPOSED PUMP-STORAGE HYDRO PLANT

Supervisor Legg states that he has reached out to all involved parties and the consensus is that this project will not come to fruition. He wishes to be sure that the Town of Hunter puts pressure on the federal government, as the Town of Hunter was not invited to participate with comments, he asks Grant & Lyons if they would put together comments to submit on behalf of the Town. J. Lyons states yes and they can also file the Town of Hunter as an intervener to go on record that that the Town opposes this.

Supervisor Legg authorizes all information regarding this project that has been received by the Town be forwarded to Grant & Lyons.

Supervisor Legg makes a MOTION to retain Grant & Lyons to assist with the Hydroelectric proposed pump storage hydro plant. Seconded by Councilman Mahoney.

Ayes -5-

Noes -0-

AIR B&B

Councilman Semenza suggests getting assistance from Grant & Lyons for drafting an Air B&B law.

L. Lyons states that they would be happy to work with the Town on this.

GREENE COUNTY 911 TOWER

Councilman Kukle asks for clarity on line of site and what the tower will look like adding that he feels this project should be reviewed by the Town of Hunter Planning Board.

Discussion on placement of Twilight Tower and how if it were placed where it originally was scheduled to go, there would be no need for this tower at the Town Hall.

Councilman Mahoney states that alternate sites need to be identified and there should be an opportunity for community input. He is concerned about placing a large cell tower directly behind the Town Hall.

Mary Beth Bianconi states that Dan King will need to be involved in these discussions and she will inform the County of the discussion/questions from tonight's meeting.

Councilman Kukle states that it was inferred at the beginning of this process that this would go before the Town Planning Board.

Councilman Legg states that the constituents should be allowed to comment.

Discussion that a variance may be required as the very small parcel that this is sited for does not meet the Town's requirements in their law.

BID OPENING -Rental of excavator w/operator

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN the Town Board; Town of Hunter will accept sealed bids for the Rental of a 23-25 Ton Excavator with Hydraulic Thumb with Operator. Bids in sealed envelopes labeled "Rental of Excavator with Operator" must be submitted to the Town Clerk at the Hunter Town Hall, 5748 Rte. 23A, Tannersville, NY before 3:00 PM on Tuesday, March 23, 2021. The bids will be publicly opened and read at a meeting on that same date at 6:00 PM. Bids must include hourly and/or daily rates (based on 8 – 10-hour workday) and will be effective from 3/23/21-8/1/21. Bids must be accompanied by a non-collusion certificate in accordance with Section 103-d of the GML and must include proof of insurance. The Town Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

One bid was received.

Kevin Thompson \$195.00 per hour.

Supervisor Legg makes a MOTION to accept the bid from Kevin Thompson. Seconded by Councilman Legg.

Ayes -5-

Noes -0-

PLATTE CLOVE MOUNTAIN ROAD

J. Farrell states that that back mountain may not be open until May 1, 2021. He will update the board closer to the scheduled reopening date of April 15, 2021 and if the opening must be delayed the information will be placed on the Town’s website.

LIQUOR LICENSE RENWAL

Supervisor Legg makes a MOTION to approve a 30-day waiver for a Liquor License Application (Hotel Mountain Brook). Seconded by Councilman Semenza.

Ayes -5- Noes -0-

HIGHWAY

J. Farrell would like to purchase a gauge setter machine (tire machine).

Supervisor Legg makes a MOTION to authorize the purchase of a tire gauge setter machine not to exceed a cost of \$7,000.00. Seconded by Councilman Legg.

Ayes -5- Noes -0-

Supervisor Legg makes a MOTION to adjourn at 6:44 PM. Seconded by Councilman Semenza.

Ayes -5- Noes -0-

Corina Pascucci, Town Clerk, RMC
Town of Hunter