

 **DRAFT**

Town of Independence
Public Hearing
Regular Meeting
December 9, 2021

The Independence Town Board met in the Town Hall on December 9, 2021 at 7pm for a Public Hearing Re: LL#2-2021 - Wind Energy Systems and Facilities and for the regular monthly board meeting.

Present: Supervisor, Reichman; Council: Howe, Meunier; Town Clerk, Bledsoe; Highway Superintendent, Acomb; Police, Sherman

Absent: Council, Brubaker

Visitors: Dave Pullen (Town Attorney), Olivia Neter (Liberty Power), 29 others in person and 3 via Zoom

All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor called the Public Hearing to order.

Supervisor Reichman began by introducing herself, the Board and the attorney to visitors.

Olivia Neter (Liberty Power) spoke regarding a proposed wind project that would include Independence and gave background info on the company. She also gave timeline information as well as answered some questions from visitors including temporary meteorological towers, decommissioning, employment, blade construction & lifespan, environmental studies, intervener funds, etc.

Dave Pullen also took questions and comments from visitors and spoke to board regarding the law process with the County Planning Board and Board votes.

Public Hearing concluded at 8:25pm.

Supervisor called the regular meeting to order.

A motion to accept the November 8, 2021 Public Hearing minutes was offered by Council Howe, seconded by Council Meunier and carried by all.

A motion to accept the November 11, 2021 Regular Meeting minutes was made by Council Howe, seconded by Council Meunier and carried by all.

Superintendent Acomb gave his Highway report which included ditching and shouldering, multiple truck repairs, cold patching, grading, plowing and sanding.
A discussion was also held with the board re: preferences and pricing on the upcoming salt shed. All would like more quotes.

Supervisor gave Water Generator update from F&F Electric.
Supervisor gave Water well update.

Board discussed and a motion was made by Supervisor Reichman, seconded by Council Meunier and carried by all to hire Tyler Lewis to shovel town hall at \$15 per shovel.

Special meeting date set for 12/28/2021 at 5pm for the consideration of LL#2-2021 and an End of the Year meeting.

Organizational meeting date has been set for 1/3/2022 at 5pm.

Clerk to advertise and post both meetings.

Clerk read a Thank You card received from Denny Graves on behalf of the IES for the town's donation to the Santa visit.

 **DRAFT**

Financial, Clerk, and Police Reports were reviewed by the board.

Bills were reviewed with the motion made by Council Howe, seconded by Supervisor Reichman and carried by all to pay abstracts # 12-2021 in the following amounts.

General	#168-183	\$9,052.82
Water	#84-90	\$1,249.58
Highway	#172-183	\$17,073.17

A motion to enter Executive Session was made by Supervisor Reichman, seconded by Council Meunier and carried by all at 9:34pm to discuss the open Board seat.

Executive Session concluded at 9:46pm and Board re-entered the regular meeting.

A motion was made by Supervisor Reichman, seconded by Council Meunier and carried by all to appoint Thomas Bissett to carry out the term of previous board member, Robert Ellison.

A motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor Reichman, seconded by Council Howe and carried by all at 9:47pm.

Jasmine Bledsoe, Town Clerk