

**TOWN OF PHILADELPHIA**  
**AUGUST 10, 2016 TOWN BOARD @ 5:30 P.M.**  
**PUBLIC HEARING/SOLE ASSESSOR @ 6:00 P.M.**

**Present:** Supervisor: Cheryl Horton, Clerk: Cheryl Reed, Hwy. Supt.: Mike Freeman, Council Members: Sandra Carpenter, Deborah LaMora, Bob Watson Sr., Ron Spicer and Assessor: John Kiechle.

**Guests:** Jefferson County Legislator: Al Drake and Jack Jones representing the Philadelphia Volunteer Fire Department.

At 5:30 P.M. Supervisor called the meeting to order, followed by prayer and pledge.

**Privilege of the floor:** was given to Al Drake and the following issues were briefly discussed:

1. Jefferson County Dog Control Contract Renewals.
2. Distressed Properties.

**Minutes:** Were read prior to the meeting. Clerk Reed wished to point out two needed corrections:

1. Page one, Hwy. Report number three should read, Painting to be done at IRCS in the State and Town Bay Areas.
2. Page two, bottom, in closing remark, it should read meeting was recessed.

Ron made a motion to accept the minutes with the necessary corrections. Sandra seconded this motion. All were in favor, motion carried.

**Financial Report:** for the month of July was read aloud by Supervisor. With there being no questions, board members signed the July Financial Report as their approval of said report.

**Town Board Review :** of Supervisor's Financial Records was completed on August 4, 2016. (Please see attached attestation of review).

**Clerk Report:**

1. Tax Collector Meeting on August 23, 2016 at the Savory Downtown Restaurant to discuss implementation of a new Tax Collection Program.
2. Very busy with Sporting License Sales.

**Highway Report:**

1. Waiting for Paver to arrive to pave Elm Ridge Road. Paver should be available in two to three weeks.
2. Culvert and intersection work on Elm Ridge Road are complete.
3. Landscaping done on Sandy Hollow.
4. Worked with County on paving and shoulders of the roads on County Route's 29

and 30.

5. Stop light at intersection of Rt. 11 and Co. Rt. 29 is scheduled for completion by the end of August.
6. Will be doing work for IRCS, on the Theresa School Playground.
7. Will not be attending September Board Meeting due to Highway Superintendent's Meeting in Lake Placid.

**Recycling Report:**

1. Load of cardboard sent to Carthage Specialty.
2. Load of metal to Kimco.

**Privilege of the floor:** was given to Jack Jones representing the Phila. Fire Dept.

1. Have located a new Fire Truck in Mississippi and will be meeting with company representatives to further discuss a purchase order.

At 6:00 P.M. Supervisor called for a recess of the Town Board Meeting.

REPORT OF TOWN BOARD AUDIT OF TOWN SUPERVISOR'S FINANCIAL RECORDS

DATE: 8/4/16

We attest that we have reviewed the following accounts for 2015:

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS: GF #200-001; HWY #200-035; CEM #201-385; S/W #201-856

CHECKING ACCOUNTS: HWY #300-030; GF #300-001; T&A #300-033

FINDINGS: *Everything in order*

*Deborah Lamola*

Councilperson

*Paul Spicer*

Councilperson

*Jandra Carpenter*

Councilperson

*Paul E. Walsh*

Councilperson

**Public Hearing regarding Sole Assessor  
August 10, 2016 @ 6:00 P.M.**

**Present:** Supervisor: Cheryl Horton, Clerk: Cheryl Reed, Hwy. Supt., Mike Freeman, Town Council Members: Sandra Carpenter, Deborah LaMora, Bob Watson Sr., Ron Spicer, Assessor: John Kiechle and Board of Assessment Review Members:

At 6:00 P.M. Supervisor called the Public Hearing in order to discuss a Mandatory Referendum calling for abolishment of the Board of three (3) elected assessors in the Town of Philadelphia and to have a single Town Board appointed assessor, the Referendum to be on the November Ballot.

The following issues were presented and addressed by Supervisor Horton to all those attending:

1. Letter from the Board of Assessment Review Members: Stephen Watson (Chair), Steven Glick, Kevin Culbertson, Brandi Hale was read aloud
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Letter from Jones, Hacker and Murphy LLC – 5/2/16
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Bond, Schoeneck & King Attorney's/Syracuse – 5/10/16
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. (History) Stipulation of Settlement & Order – 8/8/12
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. Special meeting of the Town Board/Resolution Approving – 8/13/12
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. CD for original payment of Task Force Settlement – 1/28/12

7. Copy of check town had to pay back after 8/8 and 8/12 Settlement Agreement.

8. Court denial of John Kiechle's request to Judge McClusky to throw out his decision and stop the Stipulation and Settlement Agreement 9/18/12. Decision sent to attorneys and Town of Philadelphia from Attorney Gebo 9/19/12. Hacker, Murphy's Attorney's responded 9/26/12.

9. Explanation of settlement requiring to be in place for 3 years – 13, 14, 15

10. Tentative Assessment Roll for 2013 Budget 7/1/12. (Note 5/21/13 John's request to do a reval and the Town Board Denied this

11. Philadelphia Housing 2016 complaint to the B.A.R.

12. B.A.R. decision.

13. 2016 Comparables of regional (former 801's) assessments and occupancy for Friends Settlement.

14. Legality of the Town Board to settle claims against the Town- per the New York State Association of Towns.

At this time Supervisor Horton handed out information from the New York State Department and Taxation and Finance-Office of Real Property Tax Service, pertaining to the change from 3 elected Assessors to a Sole Appointed Assessor Appointment and Certification requirements.

Board of Assessment Review Members Steven Glick, Kevin Culbertson and Stephen Watson all spoke in favor of the Town of Philadelphia Town Board to implement a Local Law to abolish the position of three elected assessors and move to a Sole Appointed Assessor. B.A.R. Member Brandi Hale was unable to attend this meeting and asked Supervisor Horton to read her letter of support aloud.

At 6:45 P.M. Supervisor re-opened the Town Board Meeting.

**CEO Report:** was handed out to all Board Members.

Tree down on the Vault Building at the Quaker Cemetery. Supervisor suggested a Memorial be built with the original stones from the building. Town Board Members were in favor of seeking financial aid from Assembly person: Addie Russell and Senator: Patty Ritchie.

Supervisor will speak to Mike Delles regarding finishing the siding on the old garage and to put in Back Door to parking lot at the Town Office Building.

**Assessor Report:**

1. Per a request from the owner of Sandy Hollow Power Co., Dick Ely, assessor did a stipulation to reduce assessment.

**Dog Control Contract:** Still working with Attorney Gebo and Daniel Moyer.

Supervisor asked for a motion regarding moving from 3 elected assessors to one appointed assessor. **(Please see attached resolution)**

At 7:30 P.M. Sandra made a motion to adjourn. Ron seconded this motion. All were in favor, meeting adjourned.

*Respectfully submitted, Cheryl Reed ~ Town Clerk*

**TOWN OF PHILADELPHIA  
JULY 21, 2016 – BOARD MEETING**

The following resolution was offered by Deborah and seconded by Ron who moved its adoption

**RESOLUTION: 2016-39 SOLE APPOINTED ASSESSOR/MANDATORY REFERENDUM**

**WHEREAS:** The Philadelphia Town Board has reached a final determination and has agreed it is in the best interest of the residents to move from 3 (Three) Elected Assessors to a Sole Appointed Assessor and

**WHEREAS:** Deborah made a motion calling for a Mandatory Referendum Public Hearing to be held at the next Town Board Meeting of August 10, 2016 to discuss this issue and

**WHEREAS:** Ron seconded this motion moving its adoption,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** the Philadelphia Town Board does wholly agree to a Madatory Referendum calling for the abolishment of 3 (Three) elected Assessors and adoption of a sole appointed assessor.

This resolution was adopted via the following roll vote:

Supervisor Horton:	aye
Council Members:	
Sandra Carpenter:	aye
Deborah LaMora:	aye
Bob Watson:	aye
Ron Spicer:	aye

I hereby certify the above resolution was adopted by the Philadelphia Town Board on July 21,2016.

{ SEAL }

*Town Clerk:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Date:* \_\_\_\_\_