

Town of Albion
Special Meeting: Wildlife Resolution
May 23, 2019

Present: Supervisor Aaron Walter
Councilman Randy Mattison
Councilman Lonny Mattison
Councilman Richard Corlis Sr.
Councilman Richard Mullin
Recording Secretary: Amy J. Ford, Town Clerk

Supervisor Walter called the special meeting to order at 6:34pm.

Supervisor Walter read resolution # 4 of 2019 – Support of Legislation. This basically asks for the State to pay the property taxes owed on lands within the Towns located in their Wildlife Management Areas.

Resolution § 4 of 2019
Support of Legislation

BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Albion, Oswego County, New York, at a special meeting of said Board on the 23rd day of May 2019 as follows:

WHEREAS, the State of New York through the New York State Department of Conservation possesses the Happy Valley Wildlife Management Area located in the County of Oswego in the Town of Albion, Amboy, Parish and Williamstown; the Little John Wildlife Management Area located in part in the County of Oswego, Town of Boylston and the Three Mile Bay Wildlife Management Area in the County of Oswego in the Towns of West Monroe and Constantia; and

WHEREAS, there is a precedent in many other counties; notably in the legislatively-defined Tug Hill Region in Oswego County for the Town of Redfield and in Jefferson County for the Towns of Lorraine and Worth for the remainder of the Little John Wildlife Management Area; and in Lewis County for the Town of Montague for the Tug Hill Wildlife Management Area, that similarly situated lands that are possessed by the State are subject to taxation under subdivision (g) of Section 532 of the Real Property Tax Law; and

WHEREAS, the lands included in the Happy Valley, Little John and Three Mile Bay Wildlife Management Areas and not currently subject to state taxation cover approximately 13,649 acres and represent a significant amount of untaxed property for the Town of Albion, Amboy, Parish, Williamstown, Boylston, West Monroe and Constantia; and

WHEREAS, these lands are a critical component for the State's plan to conserve open space by providing wildlife habitat, protecting natural resources such as water and wetlands and allowing public access to scenic open space for recreation; and

NOW, upon the recommendation of the Town Board of the Town of Albion be it

RESOLVED that the Town of Albion hereby supports legislation to amend Real Property Tax Law Section 532, subsection (g) to add to the list of Wildlife Management Areas lands found within the County of Oswego, in the Towns of Albion, Amboy, Parish, Williamstown, Boylston, West Monroe and Constantia to the State Legislature by State Senator Patty Ritchie and State Assemblyman William Barclay.

Dated this 23rd day of May 2019

Motion made by Councilman L. Mattison seconded by Councilman Corlis to accept resolution # 4 of 2019 as read. Motion carried. Adopted (5-0) Supervisor Walter – aye; Councilman R. Mattison – aye; Councilman L. Mattison – aye; Councilman Corlis – aye; Councilman Mullin – aye

Adjournment: Motion made by Councilman L. Mattison seconded by Councilman Mullin to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Adopted (5-0) Supervisor Walter – aye; Councilman R. Mattison – aye; Councilman L. Mattison – aye; Councilman Corlis – aye; Councilman Mullin – aye

Supervisor Walter called the meeting to a close at 6:39pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy J. Ford, RMO
Town Clerk