

TOWN BOARD MEETING
March 22, 2017

A regularly scheduled Town Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, March 22, 2017 in the Town Hall, 284 Broadway, Ulster Park, N.Y. with the following persons in attendance:

Supervisor Diane McCord
Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet
Councilperson Wayne Freer
Councilperson Jared Geuss
Councilperson Kathie Quick

Administrative Recorder: Holly A. Netter, Town Clerk

Supervisor Diane McCord called the regularly scheduled Town Board Meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

PLEDGE

Supervisor Announcements – MARCH 22, 2017

1. Solar Project – We have been informed by BQ Engineering that our solar project will begin at our Landfill as soon as the snow melts. We are hoping to have a Grand Opening in the very near future. This project has been a long time coming and we are anxious to begin saving more money. We have signed our Memorandum of Understanding, our Net Metering Agreement, a Guaranty with the financier and NYSERDA is on board with our grant. Central Hudson has been paid by BQ to extend the power lines to the Transfer Station. It is finally a go.
2. We are waiting for L & S Energy, a company hired by BQ Energy, to work on the cost savings we will incur with this project. They are now reviewing our bills for a Needs Assessment which is required by NYSERDA prior to receiving our grant.
3. Computel is a company working on reviewing our Street Lighting bills in order to see if we are due any overpayments and if the street lighting we now have is sufficient or if the lights should be changed to reduce our bills. Rosendale has been very successful in receiving a significant rebate on their street lights through this same company.
4. The snow storms have been more than sufficient for this year. Our Highway Supt. and his crew have worked long and hard to keep our streets open and we thank you our citizens for cooperating in keeping your cars off the roads so we can plow without

incident. Several sidewalks have been cleared by our Highway Dept. and we thank the Bruderhof for their help with the cleanup.

5. We are working with Eileen O'Neil a Senior Environmental Scientist, associated with Tighe & Bond, who is helping us with a DEC Grant to repair culvert/bridge crossings assessment. This is a grant tied in with the NYSDEC Tributary Round 20 grants and does not require a matching grant amount. Eileen is also sending us information about a 5% matching grant for watershed connectivity we may be entitled to.
6. In 2016 we were able to connect our Environmental Board with Cornell University. A student report was done titled "Town of Esopus Scenic Resources Inventory Study 2016" and this report makes the identification and protection of scenic and cultural resources with the municipality a priority. The goal of this inventory is to assist the municipality in protecting scenic resources and focusing efforts on high priority sites. This will be a valuable tool when combined with our Comprehensive Plan and our Economic Development Plan. We are grateful for the help provided by the students and staff at Cornell University.
7. Our Comprehensive Plan Committee and our Economic Development Committee have designed a brochure entitled – "Want to establish a business in the Town of Esopus?, Our Welcome Mat is Out". The tax base in Esopus has many properties off the tax rolls and the only way to improve the tax base and lower the taxes is to encourage new businesses to come in.

The committees will host a Town Wide Meeting probably in June and we hope to invite the residents to come and participate in learning how to lower our taxes. A survey will be circulated asking residents to give their opinions on how you would like to see Esopus grow within the next twenty years. Their goal is to support and develop Smart Growth and sustainability in our Town. You will be hearing a lot about this upcoming meeting. We encourage you to come to the meeting and express your opinions through this survey.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Roxanne Pecora, Planning Board Chairperson, attended the meeting to set the record straight with the Town Board and the public regarding a recent article in the Daily Freeman. The paper stated there were 3 Planning Board meetings canceled due to lack of a quorum. Roxanne said that was FALSE. In the last 3 years 1 public hearing has been cancelled due to the lack of a quorum. The other 3 public hearings recently rescheduled were due to a modification that the Town Board has now made to the publication of the notification of meeting. In 20 years the Planning Board has only had to cancel 1 Public Hearing for a lack of a quorum. "It is not a driver or a need for Alternates".

Bill McKnight from Lit Green attended the meeting to make a presentation on saving the Town money by replacing fluorescent lighting with LED lamps. A case study was

presented to the Board for review. He will be rescheduled for the next workshop meeting.

Local Law – Alternates for Planning and Zoning Board members

Public Hearing from February 22, 2017, which was recessed, will be publicized and reopened on April 18, 2017 at 7:30 pm. There are revisions that need to be further reviewed by the Board.

Transfer Station

Lenny Liberta, Transfer Station Manager, has requested to accept clean fill. Pricing will be discussed with Lenny. He would also like to accept larger tires. The Board agreed to give Lenny the discretion to accept the larger tires on a case by case basis. He will call for pricing and double the cost for handling. The topic of a front porch and e-waste will be discussed at a future workshop meeting.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON JARED GEUSS TO ACCEPT CLEAN LANDFILL USING SCALE WEIGHT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER TO ACCEPT LARGER SCALE TIRES ON A SLIDING SCALE ON A PER CASE BASIS. PERSONNEL AT THE TRANSFER STATION WILL ADJUST THE PRICE ACCORDING TO THE SIZE OF THE TIRE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON JARED GEUSS. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

**TOWN OF ESOPUS RESOLUTION
TO HIRE LIBERTA BROTHERS, INC.
FOR A FIVE DAY OPERATION OF
TOWN OF ESOPUS TRANSFER STATION**

Be it Resolved, by the Town Board of the Town of Esopus, in the County of Ulster, State of New York, as follows,

Whereas, Leonard Liberta, Liberta Brothers, Inc., Pine Plains, New York, was the sole bidder of the RFP for operation of the Transfer Station held on March 22, 2017, and

Whereas, the Town Transfer Station, 70 West Shore Drive, West Park, New York will be operated on a five day schedule, and

Whereas, the Term of Agreement between the Town of Esopus and Liberta Brothers, Inc., shall be for a one-year period, which will be effective May 1, 2017 – April 30, 2018 with a five year renewal option at the discretion of the Town Board.

Therefore, Be it Resolved, the Town of Esopus Town Board shall hire Leonard Liberta, Liberta Brothers Inc., for the operation of the Town of Esopus Transfer Station, five (5) days per week, in the amount of \$72,000 for a one year term with a five year renewal option at the discretion of the Town Board.

Resolution offered by: Councilperson Wayne Freer
Resolution seconded by: Councilperson Jared Geuss

Councilperson Wayne Freer	AYE
Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet	AYE
Councilperson Jared Geuss	AYE
Councilperson Kathie Quick	AYE
Supervisor Diane McCord	AYE

ALL TOWN BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

REHIRE EVAN LEWIS

An interview will be scheduled for Evan on April 3rd at the Workshop Meeting.

RECREATION BUILDING

Supervisor McCord asked if we can start clearing the area for the Recreation Building and order supplies. Councilperson Freer said the area can start to be cleared in a few weeks when the weather cooperates. Further discussion regarding the number of doors and R factor for the insulation needs to be had and references for the concrete work need to be shared with the Board Members.

COMPUTER SERVICES

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER TO AUTHORIZE THE EXPENDITURE OF \$4,965.00 FOR THE PURPOSE OF NETWORK, SECURITY AND BACKUP PLAN FOR THE ESOPUS COMPUTER SYSTEM. SUBSEQUENT YEARLY COST WILL BE \$2,377.00. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON KATHY QUICK. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

REPLACEMENT OF TWO WELCOME TO ESOPUS SIGNS

Two quotes were received for the replacement of Welcome signs for the Town. Prices were received from Slotnick Designs and Mike LaManna. Slotnick Designs price was \$525 for the 4 x 8 welcome sign on 213 Rifton plus \$75 for installation. LaManna Printing price was 2 signs for \$500. All of the Board members were in agreement to hire Mike LaManna to replace the welcome signs for a total of \$500.

LOWE PLUMPING –INSPECTION OF GAS LINE

Central Hudson requested we have our gas lines inspected. Lowes performed the task for \$323.95. Dan Vedder was present for the inspection.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – HIGHWAY NOTICE OF LAWSUIT

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:08 PM FOR THE PURPOSE OF A HIGHWAY RELATED NOTICE OF LAWSUIT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR DIANE MCCORD. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:20 PM BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER AND WAS SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR MCCORD. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO CONTACT THE LITIGANT TO ATTEMPT TO SETTLE THE CLAIM PRIOR TO IT GOING TO LAWSUIT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON GLORIA VAN VLIET. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Miscellaneous

Wayne freer had talked to Highway Superintendent Mike Cafaldo and gave an update regarding the sidewalks and storm. This was an extraordinary storm dropping 31 – 32 inches of snow throughout the Town. The Highway assisted by pushing snow back in areas that are not their responsibility to try to get things opened up for safe vantage points. This is not going to be a regular practice. The Bruderhof had a bus of members who assisted homeowners shoveling out their properties. The Town thanks them for their support.

Kathie Quick said she was thankful the Highway helped out clearing the corners because the snow banks were a safety issue. Everyone felt the Highway department did an outstanding job handling the extreme conditions.

Councilperson Van Vliet said there was an issue on Tilden Street with people parking on the roads. Cars are not suppose to be on the roads 10pm – 6 am November – April. Highway will be asked to supply flyers to the residents to remind them of the ordinance. Connelly is also an issue.

Wayne said he talked to Mike and next year he is hoping to be able to pre-treat the streets by using the tank that used to take water to the kennel, which is no longer in use.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - PORT EWEN WATER TANK PROJECT

SUPERVISOR MCCORD MADE A MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING THE NEGOTIATION OF THE LAND FOR THE NEW WATER TANK AT 8:29 PM. COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:35 PM BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER, MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON KATHIE QUICK. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERVISOR TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE OWNER OF SAID PROPERTY FOR THE PURPOSES OF BUYING THE LAND FOR THE WATER TANK. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON GLORIA VAN VLIET. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Be It Resolved, by the Town Board of the Town of Esopus, County of Ulster as follows:

Whereas, the Town of Esopus has been presented with budget adjustments and the adjustments have been examined and approved by the Town Board.

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the following budget adjustments be approved for payment:

BUDGET ADJUSTMENT FOR MARCH 2017

O-0599.000 Fund Balance	To	AO.1620.434 \$114.32
		OTIS ELEVATORS ANNUAL

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS.

OFFERED BY: Councilperson Wayne Freer
SECONDED BY: Councilperson Diane McCord
Councilperson Wayne Freer AYE
Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet AYE
Councilperson Jared Geuss AYE
Councilperson Kathie Quick AYE
Supervisor Diane McCord AYE

ALL TOWN BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS - MARCH 2017

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Esopus, County of Ulster as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town of Esopus has been presented with vouchers for payment and these vouchers have been examined and approved by the Town Board,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following vouchers be approved for payment:

GENERAL FUND	171072 -171122	\$ 38,978.73
HIGHWAY FUND	172034 – 172050	\$ 90,261.95
STREET LIGHTS	176001	\$ 6,587.98
PORT EWEN SEWER FUND	173022 - 173033	\$ 4,287.68
PORT EWEN WATER FUND	174045 - 174063	\$ 58,543.89
TOTAL		\$ 198,660.23

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS.

OFFERED BY: Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet
SECONDED BY: Councilperson Jared Geuss

Councilperson Wayne Freer	AYE
Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet	AYE
Councilperson Jared Geuss	AYE
Councilperson Kathie Quick	AYE
Supervisor Diane McCord	AYE

ALL TOWN BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR MCCORD TO APPROVE THE TOWN CLERK'S MINUTES. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON KATHIE QUICK. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMUNICATION & REPORTS ARE AVAILBLE IN THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON FREER AT 8:45 PM. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON KATHIE QUICK. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Netter
Town Clerk, RMC