

**TB 7/25/18**

**Special Emergency  
TOWN BOARD MEETING  
July 25, 2018**

An emergency Town Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, July 25, 2018 in the Town Hall, 284 Broadway, Ulster Park, NY with the following persons in attendance:

**Supervisor Shannon Harris  
Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet  
Councilperson Jared Geuss  
Councilperson Kathie Quick  
Councilperson Chris Farrell**

**Administrative Recorder: Holly A. Netter, Town Clerk, RMC**

**Supervisor Shannon Harris called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON CHRIS FARRELL TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 4:04 PM TO DISCUSS CANDIDATES FOR THE VACANCY OF ASSESSMENT FIELD WORKER/ASSESSOR ASSISTANT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON GLORIA VAN VLIET. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION BY COUNCILPERSON CHRIS FARRELL AT 4:40 PM. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON KATHIE QUICK. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON CHRIS FARRELL TO APPOINT KENNETH SICKLER TO THE POSITION OF ASSESSMENT FIELD WORKER AND ASSISTANT TO THE ASSESSOR. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON KATHIE QUICK. THE BOARD WAS POLLED:**

|                                      |            |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Councilperson Gloria VanVliet</b> | <b>No*</b> |
| <b>Councilperson Kathie Quick</b>    | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Councilperson Jared Guess</b>     | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Councilperson Farrell</b>         | <b>Aye</b> |
| <b>Supervisor Shannon Harris</b>     | <b>Aye</b> |

**MOTION PASSED 4 AYE, 1 NO.**

\*Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet asked to have her justification of her vote of no be part of the record. "I did not feel that the person that has been chosen for the position has the qualifications and experience of the job. I believe more consideration should have been given to the recommendation of two assessors for another applicant. Therefore, I do not believe this is the best choice being made for this position and I am voting no."

Joanna Mignone, Assessor, said she will be on vacation August 3 – August 10. Supervisor Harris asked if she recommends Ken start when she returns on August 13? Joanna was in agreement. Joanna said, "There will be two days during her vacation where there will not be anyone to cover the Assessor's office, August 2 and August 9." A suggestion was made to ask Kristin to work the additional two days for pay or comp time.

**A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPOINT KENNETH SICKLER TO THE POSITION OF ASSESSMENT FIELD WORKER/ASSESSOR ASSISTANT EFFECTIVE AUGUST 13, 2018 AT A RATE OF \$15.00/HR AND 35 HOURS PER WEEK. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR HARRIS.**

**BOARD WAS POLLED.**

|                                      |                  |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Councilperson Gloria VanVliet</b> | <b>Abstained</b> |
| <b>Councilperson Kathie Quick</b>    | <b>Aye</b>       |
| <b>Councilperson Jared Guess</b>     | <b>Aye</b>       |
| <b>Councilperson Farrell</b>         | <b>Aye</b>       |
| <b>Supervisor Shannon Harris</b>     | <b>Aye</b>       |

**MOTION PASSED 4 AYES, 1 ABSTAINED.**

Supervisor Harris said, "We had a thoughtful deliberation on this matter." Assessor Mignone said she felt there was no respect for her or her office with the decision that was made. She said this choice leaves her with a new hire with no experience and a partially trained employee. She was concerned that she will have to go over everything they do while trying to get her own work done and it will be crazy. She explained when Mara came on board, Edie, who had 20 years of service, was there to oversee Mara's work, allowing Joanna to do her work. When Kristin began working in the Assessor's office, Mara helped with the training. Councilperson Geuss said, "I don't want you to feel disrespected, no one was trying to disrespect you at all." Joanna said, "You didn't give me a person who could do the job." Supervisor Harris said, "You will have Patty there two days a week to train." Joanna asked, "I'm going to have her two days a week plus Kristin three days?" Jared said, "That is where it is right now." Joanna asked if Patty was going to get a little more money to train since she knows everything already? Councilperson Farrell said Ken has a skill set that will match well with the office. Councilperson Farrell said the Board has confidence in Joanna's ability to train the

person. There will be plenty of time to get him up to speed since it is a slower time of the year. Joanna was concerned with the Board only meeting him for 20 minutes and looking at his resume, where he has been jumping around so much with his employment. Joanna said, "He may leave in 6 months. He may not like it and he could jump ship because he thinks he is going to be out in the field so much and he is not. This is all guesswork that you guys did." Councilperson Jared Geuss said, "There is one guarantee we have and that is you. We know you can get the job done, show the role and keep people in it. It's a gamble yes, but you're still running the show and are the backbone of the office and do a very good job." Councilperson Van Vliet said, "An evaluation should be done as stated in our employee handbook." She believes in evaluations and they do not take place. Other members agreed that evaluations should be done.

Councilperson Chris Farrell said it is going to be a challenge no matter who was appointed but ultimately the payoff will be beneficial. Councilperson Farrell told Joanna, "You may not see it now but you may see it six months from now." The Board knows Joanna's ability and is counting on her to get Ken up to speed and provide him with the proper skills. Councilperson Farrell said, "You're the professional, you know the job and you can do it."

**ADJOURNMENT**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON CHRIS FARRELL AT 4:50 PM TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR SHANNON HARRIS. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

Respectfully submitted,

Holly A. Netter  
Town Clerk, RMC