

TOWN BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING

May 19, 2015

A regularly scheduled Town Board Workshop Meeting was held on Tuesday May 19, 2015 in the Town Hall 284 Broadway Ulster Park, New York at 7:30 PM with the following people in attendance:

Supervisor John Coutant
Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet
Councilperson Wayne Freer
Councilperson Diane L. McCord
Councilperson Kyle Barnett

Recording Administrator Holly A. Netter, Town Clerk

Supervisor John Coutant called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

OIL SPILL CLEANUP

Supervisor Coutant explained there were two methods of disposing of the contaminated soil from the Highway Garage oil spill. One way would be to haul the soil to an authorized burning facility and the Town would have no further exposure to liability. The other way, as discussed in previous meetings, is the soil may be transported to an authorized landfill. However, the responsibility will still be there for future Town Boards. The DEC has notified the Town that it has 60 days from the last deposit of the dirt to comply with the removing of the soil. The Town Board reviewed the three quotes received from various companies.

A POLE WAS TAKEN TO SEE HOW THE BOARD WANTED TO PROCEED WITH THE BIDS.

Councilperson Kyle Barnett – American Petroleum – Destination Landfill

Councilperson Barnett said, although there is potential down the road for exposure, and he is in favor of minimizing the Town's exposure, the cost to transport the soil to a landfill was significantly lower than the disposal via the burning facility. His choice was American Petroleum with the option to haul to the Town of Colonie, New York Landfill at \$50.60/ton.

Councilperson Diane McCord – American Petroleum - Pay extra \$30,000 now and have no liability in the future Councilperson Diane McCord said she was concerned with the possibility

of future exposure and she would like to spend the additional money, approximately \$30,000 to know we have zero exposure in the future.

Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet – American Petroleum – Destination Landfill

The cost savings is significantly lower disposing of the soil at the landfill.

Councilperson Wayne Freer – American Petroleum – Destination Landfill

We do not know the true tonnage. Councilperson Freer said in his opinion, the likely hood of future exposure is so remote and feels that if the Landfill decides in the future to clean up the site, other funding from other agencies may be available to them. It is a calculated risk to take.

Supervisor Coutant – American Petroleum – Destination Landfill

This method represents a constant dollar that we can be assured of. Burning may have additional charges once the soil is tested.

An estimate of 2,300 tons at \$50.60 will cost \$116,380.

A resolution authorizing Supervisor Coutant to sign the American Petroleum contract will be voted on at the May Town Board Meeting.

CPA LETTER

Brian Pickard, CPA sent Supervisor Coutant a letter stating the Town presently has \$763,967 of unappropriated funds. These funds come from prior year surpluses that are necessary to have in case of emergencies. These funds also pay bills at the beginning of every year before the current year tax levies are received. Supervisor Coutant said Brian also told him they should look at a small tax increase to build the fund back up after paying for this catastrophe at the Highway Garage.

Town Board member Gloria Van Vliet said she was not aware of the balance in the General Fund. She would like to have the balance of the account clearly given to the Board at budget time. Councilperson McCord agreed.

There are two ways to run a Town; Spend down the fund balance and bond for all expenditures or maintain a fund balance to be able to handle emergencies.

Councilperson Freer said for a township our size he did not feel the current balance was excessive.

It is a struggle to keep the budget tight, maintain services yet function and have the Highway balance extremely low like it is. Several harsh winters have taken a toll on the fund. Councilperson Wayne Freer asked Supervisor Coutant if the Board could get a current list of all of the figures pertaining to the various Town accounts from the bookkeeper.

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SETTLEMENT – TOWN OF ESOPUS ADV BELLAIRE RIDGE AND LIGHTHOUSE BLUFF, LLC

A resolution will be voted on at the May Town Board Meeting. Some clarification on the settlement is needed prior to the Board's vote. A question came up of why the two parcels were listed on the same petition. Councilperson Barnett will follow up with Town Attorney Paul Keller prior to the vote.

CUB Scout Pack 26- Park Rental

The Town Board approved the rental waiver for local Cub Scout Pack 26 to use Freer Park on June 12th.

TRANSFER STATION NEGOTIATIONS

Councilperson Kyle Barnett and Supervisor John Coutant met with Curt Dankelmann to discuss his bid for running the transfer station. Dankelmann and Associates was the only company to reply to the RFP in April. Curt bid \$89,000 to run the transfer station five days a week, which was unacceptable. They reviewed Curt's budget with him line by line to see where expenses could be cut. Insurance cost was up \$1,170 from last year. Supervisor Coutant and Councilperson Barnett negotiated back and forth to keep the overall cost of running the transfer station the same as last year. New changes will include the removal of the bond requirement for the scale from the contract due to it being cost prohibitive. The Town will continue to pay for water and port a pot. Curt will pay for electric. Councilperson Barnett said he did not remember discussing who would be responsible for paying for the phone that will need to be addressed. Currently Dankelmann and Associates kept the metal. They will now be splitting it 50/50 with the Town. Councilpersons McCord and Van Vliet questioned why the Town was splitting the cost, Councilperson Barnett replied by splitting the metal it enabled them to get the cost per month back where we were last year. Supervisor Coutant said Curt reminded them prior Supervisor Ray Rice gave him rights to all the metal in lieu of receiving an annual increase. Councilperson Van Vliet asked if that was ever in writing. Dankelmann also wanted a longer contract but it will be kept at 1 year to see if the transfer station can sustain itself with the new fee structure. Councilperson Barnett also reminded Curt the bins need to be covered and it will be his responsibility to get that done. The bin that sits within the water also needs to be raised. Councilperson Gloria VanVliet asked the status on the removal of the excess tires. Supervisor Coutant said Dankelmann has called for another pick up. The new pricing was also reviewed with Curt and the status of the Transfer Station will be evaluated again at the end of the year and necessary changes will be made. Supervisor Coutant will have Paul Kellar revise the contract. Once the draft of the contract is reviewed by the entire Board, a resolution will be made authorizing Supervisor Coutant to sign it.

Supervisor Coutant conveyed a concern Curt had with the weighing of the trucks from resource recovery. Often UCRRA haulers do not stop to get weighed as they leave the transfer station. UCRRA has several different size trucks and Dankelmann believes the additional charge for the larger trucks may cause a discrepancy which could be affecting the cost the Town is paying. Councilperson Freer suggested we start keeping a log weighing the truck as it comes in and making sure the truck is weighed before it leaves. Discrepancies can then be brought to UCRRA's attention. Councilperson Diane McCord said it is imperative that every person who uses the transfer station must have a permit.

UCRRA is meeting on May 27th. They are looking for towns to go into a long term agreement to buy the roll-offs or UCRRA will stop being in the hauling business. They are hoping most of the Towns will sign the 5 year agreement. Payment will be over 10 years \$78.00 per month for each roll-off. Michael Warren from Marbletown has done some research and found out he could get a private hauler and buy his own roll-offs which were about \$5,000 and it would be cheaper. We need 40 yard containers; currently they are using 35 yard containers. The UCRRA also needs to have 36 extra boxes to rotate. The UCRRA is buying 87 boxes, bonding over a ten year period. As a town we need to let them know we are going into the agreement. Jim Quigley, Town of Ulster Supervisor, feels it is reasonable. It would cost us \$2,844 per year for 3 of them. It is a 5 year contract but if we pull out of the contract the Town would still be responsible to pay. They are replacing the boxes over time. There is no guarantee when your town will receive the new boxes but you will be paying as of January 1, 2016. The Town Board will have to look at some other alternative and make a decision in the near future.

TOWN OF ESOPUS TRANSFER STATION/RECYCLING CENTER

FEE SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE DATE JUNE 1, 2015

ANNUAL PERMIT FEES – MUST BE STUCK TO CAR WINDSHIELD

BUSINESS CONTRACTOR PERMITS (TOWN RESIDENT ONLY)	\$250
RESIDENTIAL PERMIT	\$40
SENIOR PERMIT (over 60, proof required)	\$20
LOST PERMIT OR SECOND PERMIT (MUST BE SAME HOUSEHOLD AND SHOW REGISTRATION FOR SECOND VEHICLE)	\$5
1 DAY PASS	\$10

BULK HOUSEHOLD WASTE

\$.12 PER POUND

\$12 Minimum

TRASH BAGS

COUPON BOOKLET 10 BAGS (1 30 GALLON BAG OR CAN)	\$45
40 Gallon Bag	\$7
30 Gallon Bag	\$5
10 - 13 Gallon Bag	\$3

PROPANE

PROPANE (SM CAMPING SIZE)	\$1
PROPANE (20 GALLON)	\$5

APPLIANCES

Refrigerators/ Air conditioners R-22	\$20
Other Appliances	\$10

YARD WASTES – BRUSH LESS THAN 4 INCHES IN DIAMETER AND CUT INTO 4 -6 FOOT LENGTHS, GRASS LEAVES AND DEAD PLANTS

BRUSH (PICK-UP TRUCK LOAD)	\$10
BRUSH (DUMP TRUCK)	\$20
GRASS AND LEAVES (PICK-UP TRUCK LOAD)	\$5
GRASS AND LEAVES (DUMP TRUCK)	\$10
Leaves in Brown Bags	No Charge

TIRES

20" OR LESS	OFF RIM \$5	ON Rim \$10
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Only waste generated in Esopus is permitted to be disposed of at the Transfer Station.

Recyclables accepted: paper products, Newspaper, magazines, books, office paper, cardboard and junk mail

Container Products- Container Glass, Food & Beverage Cans, Plastic Containers

Automotive

Car batteries

Used motor oil

ALL RECYCLING MUST BE OBSERVED.

A one day pass is required when using another vehicle other than those registered for that permit.

The following FREE electronics can be taken to UCRRA – 999 Flatbush Road Kingston, NY

Monitors, Terminals, Typewriters, Printers, Scanners, Cables, TV's Radio's, CPU's, DVD's, CRT's, Stereo

There will no longer be prorated stickers available throughout the year. Commercial people will need to upgrade their current permit and pay an additional \$100 for the remainder of the year.

A MOTION WAS MADE TO ADOPT THE NEW FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE TRANSFER STATION BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER AND SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON KYLE BARNETT. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED

MISCELLANEOUS

Leaves will be picked up by the Highway department in the fall and spring. A designated time will be announced.

The Town needs to save 1% and show a \$60,000 savings. Councilperson Diane McCord said when she and Councilperson Van Vliet attended the Supervisors meeting earlier that day, everyone was talking about their plan to save 1% by sharing services, etc. Plattekill Supervisor Joseph Croce said he can save the mandated 1 % by getting a letter from Deputy County Executive Ken Crannell regarding the money the towns no longer have to pay for the safety net and elections. Councilperson Wayne Freer will contact Mr. Crannell to discuss the possibility of

this option for Esopus. Supervisor John Coutant agreed to attend an appointment when Councilperson Freer is able to obtain one. Rosendale and Marbletown are sharing the assessor. Councilperson VanVliet contacted Brian Piccard, CPA, to ask what plan Esopus has and he said he was working on it as well. Supervisor Coutant feels the solar project will show the necessary savings. This is a 4 year plan which needs to be submitted very soon. There are many questions the Board has about the mandate and the topic will continue to be discussed.

The Town received the \$50,000 check from the insurance company for the spill at the Highway Garage. Councilperson Barnett said we can appeal based on the catastrophic coverage involving a third party. New York State DEC was the third party involved. The water belongs to the state, DEC charged us with performing the cleanup due to the damage to the surface coverage. A letter was received from the DEC supporting this. The process of appeal will be investigated and pursued.

PETER GRAHAM – OPINION LETTER –TUCKER POND

Topic tabled. Communication from Peter Graham was not received.

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 9:25 PM WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER AND SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON JOHN COUTANT. ALL TOWN BOARD MEMBERS VOTED IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

**Holly A. Netter
Town Clerk**