

TOWN BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING

July 14, 2015

A regularly scheduled Town Board Workshop Meeting was held on Tuesday July 14, 2015 in the Town Hall 284 Broadway Ulster Park, New York at 7:30 PM with the following people in attendance:

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

Recording Administrator Holly A. Netter, Town Clerk

Deputy Supervisor Kyle Barnett called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Don Van Buren of 216 Hoyt Street expressed his concern with the safety in the area of Hoyt and East Stout Street. Mr. VanBuren said there are neighbors in the area who entertain and parking becomes an issue causing the roadway to have room for only one lane of traffic. He would like to see NO PARKING signs placed in the area. Councilperson Freer said he would like to look at the area to find out the width of the road in the area. Supervisor Barnett agreed to look at the issue and see what if anything could be done from a legal prospective.

Steve Shapiro resident of 532 Lakeview Terrace was concerned with the progress that is being made at the "slave" cemetery on 213. Mr. Shapiro has attended the June 16th workshop and wanted an update on the progress the Board made researching the work that was being done on that location. Carmine Cozza of 540 Lakeview Terrace was also in attendance and said he and his neighbors were concerned about the painting of the retaining wall which was now entirely painted white in preparation of a mural.

Slave Cemetery

Supervisor Barnett explained there was a resolution passed a few years ago to authorize the signing of a 100 year lease with the American Legion. However, the lease agreement was never entered into. Supervisor Barnett wrote a letter to Attorney Heppner advising him of a resolution that has been passed. There was no lease agreement executed. The barrier wall does not belong to the Town. The number for Dave Corrigan from the local DOT office was provided to Mr. Shapiro. Mr. Shapiro was advised if he saw someone working on the property, he should contact the sheriff's office. The letter from Supervisor Barnett, dated July 2, 2015,

advised Attorney Heppner that no further action should be taken on the property until an agreement is in place clarifying for both parties on the use of the property by the American Legion and the public. Several councilpersons have visited the area to see the current conditions.

Donald Kiernan Agreement

Donald Kiernan’s Contract is identical to last year’s agreement.

A MOTION was made by Councilperson Diane McCord, seconded by Councilperson Wayne Freer to authorize Supervisor Barnett to sign the Contract for Water/Sewer Superintendent Donald Kiernan. All members in favor, Motion carried.

Resolution – Supervisor’s Salary

Town of Esopus Appointment to Town Supervisor

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Esopus, in the County of Ulster State of New York as follows,

WHEREAS, Kyle Barnett was appointed as Town Supervisor on Friday, June 19, 2015,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Esopus Town Board approves an annual salary of \$31,566.90.

Resolution offered by: Councilperson Wayne Freer
Seconded by: Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet

The Board was polled:

Councilperson Wayne Freer	Aye
Councilperson Gloria VanVliet	Aye
Councilperson Diane McCord	Aye

All in members were in favor.

Timesheets

Timesheets have been revised and we are now using the same format as the County. Minor modifications were made. All employees are required to sign their timecards. Highway Timesheets will be signed by the employees and attached to the coversheet.

Town Hall – Bathroom Issues

Sunday there was another issue with the bathrooms backing up at the Town Hall. Dan Vedder snaked it from outside and inside. Dan Vedder believed the backup was due to a pitch problem and possibly the type of toilet paper being used. Supervisor Barnett said we should have a camera in the line. Kingston has a camera however, Water Superintendent Kiernan said it is not able to be used in the 4 inch line. Water Superintendent will contact McCabe's plumbing and arrange to have them run a camera through the line.

Text Amendment

The proposed zoning amendment would regulate "farm breweries", "farm distilleries" and "farm wineries" in the R-40 District. Approval of a special use permit by the Town Planning Board would be required. The Amendments adhere to the Ag and Markets Law. Supervisor Barnett talked to Myles Putman, Planning Board consultant, and Paul Kellar, Town Attorney, who have reviewed the amendment. Public Hearing will be held at 7:30 pm at the Town Board Meeting July 16, 2015.

Burn Permits

The process for obtaining a burning permit will change as of August 1, 2015. All fire departments have been notified and all Chiefs are on board with the new procedure. The Building Department will no longer be issuing the burning permits. Fire Inspector Debbie Pugliese will be asked to post a listing of the firehouse locations outside the building department including the days and hours that the fire permits can be obtained.

Marshall & Sterling Health Insurance

A meeting with Marshall and Sterling was held earlier today. Supervisor Barnett said a change may need to be made from using CDPHP to a MVP plan which is more favorable at this time. CDPHP has become cost prohibitive. There will be two meeting days set up and Marshall and Sterling will come to explain the new plan and allow the employees to ask questions. The coverage for the retirees will remain the same.

Marshall and Sterling have a new program called i Navigator. The program is free and is a portal which allows the employees access to deal with many Human Recourse issues. They are able to complete forms from a link. There is a webinar and anyone interested on seeing how it works will be welcomed to sit in on the webinar.

Broker of Record Letter – Authorization to sign

A MOTION was made by Wayne Freer to authorize Supervisor Barnett to sign the Broker of Record letter naming Marshall and Sterling the Broker for the Town of Esopus. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Diane McCord. All were in favor, motion carried.

Orange County Trust – Centralized Collection of Taxes and Water/Sewer

Supervisor Barnett met with Orange County trust and they are offering a new service which would allow for a centralized collection and deposit of the Tax, Water and Sewer funds into the municipal account. Supervisor Barnett said it helps cut cost and stream lines the process. This would not eliminate the tax collector position. People can still come here to pay in person. The Town Clerk said that the Town of Ulster had a few issues when they went to a similar process. She will find out from them what the pros and cons were so we can address the issues prior to making a decision on the program. Debbie will set up a separate meeting with Orange County and Town Clerk Holly Netter will sit in on the meeting.

Fall Festival

After a discussion regarding the upcoming Fall Festival on September 26th, the Board has made the decision to eliminate the Giant yard sale from the event. The town wide yard sale and maps will still continue. However several locations such as the Library, Frozen Rainbow and Jack Spinneweber have shown interest in selling spots. Town Clerk Holly Netter will ask Tom Slattery to be in charge of the car show. Holly Netter will continue to make the marketing materials and coordinate the entertainment.

RRA Contract

A decision needs to be made whether to sign the Municipal Solid Waste Management Agreement. The agency is meeting on July 22, 2015 and they need to know what Towns will be participating so they are able to work on their budget. If we are going to keep a transfer station we have to have someone haul the garbage out to the RRA. A lengthy discussion was held analyzing the pros and cons of signing the agreement. Councilperson Diane McCord and Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet will attend the Supervisor's meeting on July 22, 2015 and see how the other Towns plan to proceed.

A MOTION was made by Councilperson Wayne Freer to grant Supervisor Barnett authority to sign the RRA contract pending the findings at the Supervisors meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Diane McCord. All members were in favor, motion carried.

Dankelman Contract

Supervisor Kyle Barnett met with Curt Dankelman today and said he now has a grinder, bailer and trailer. Curt wants to finalize the contract and discuss what services he can provide now that he has his equipment back. Curt said there were several items that were added into the contract that he and the former Supervisor, John Coutant, did not agree with. Supervisor Barnett said he has a follow up meeting scheduled with Curt on Thursday the 16th. He will report back to everyone on the outcome of the meeting. Supervisor Barnett also asked the Councilpersons to think about what they would like to do in 2016.

Agreement to Spend Town Highway Funds

Highway Superintendent, Mike Cafaldo, has provided the Board with an agreement to spend Town Highway Funds for general repairs of roads that need attention. The agreement is being revised to include 4 lines for the councilpersons to sign as well as a line for the Supervisor to sign.

Miscellaneous:

Councilperson Wayne Freer said he felt the portable defibrillator from Town Hall should go to the Park Program and be used when we have Town events. He suggests 1 wall mount unit be purchased for Town Hall as well as the proper signage.

Wayne Freer said he thinks the park program should have a misting fan at the park to keep the kids cool.

Wayne said some of the Wex bills have the taxes off and other do not. However there isn't any mileage listed for the vehicles. Wayne will also research the bills a little further.

Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet briefed the Board regarding a communication error that was received and repaired on the alarm system. Batteries were replaced and the system has been restored. Research needs to be done to check on the current contract with Cornerstone.

Supervisor Barnett said the Town was appealing the NYMIR insurance decision for the spill at the Highway Garage. Paul Kellar has been provided with the necessary documentation to pursue the appeal.

Supervisor Barnett met with an audio visual company to obtain an estimate for upgrades regarding the amplification for meetings in the common area in Town Hall.

Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet said Scenic Hudson appeared before the Planning Board to start the process for obtaining a Parking Lot at their location which was formerly known as the Silver Property. They do not have trails because it is still a PUD.

Councilperson Diane McCord said she would like to set up a meeting with the Planning, Zoning and Waterfront Boards so they each know what they are responsible for. It is just an educational issue, we have many new members. Myles Putman is not only a consultant for the Planning Board but he is also willing to clarify issues for the Zoning Board as well. Presently there is no liaison between the Planning Board and Waterfront Advisory Board. Councilperson McCord said she felt that sometimes Waterfront Advisory Board misunderstands their role. A date will need to be coordinated and the meeting will be publicized.

Riverview Tax Certiorari

A Motion was made at 9:10 pm by Councilperson Wayne Freer to enter into Executive Session to discuss the Riverview tax Certiorari and was seconded by Councilperson Diane McCord.

A Motion was made at 9:14 pm by Councilperson Wayne Freer to come out of Executive Session and was seconded by Councilperson Diane McCord.

No decisions were made.

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 9:20 PM WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER AND SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON DIANE MCCORD. ALL TOWN BOARD MEMBERS VOTED IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

**Holly A. Netter
Town Clerk**