

## **TOWN BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING**

**December 16, 2014**

A regularly scheduled Town Board Workshop Meeting was held on Tuesday December 16, 2014 in the Town Hall 284 Broadway Port Ewen, 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 7:40 PM.**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION – UNION – CANCELLED**

#### **Public Comment:**

Kathy Robinson, Chairman of the Winter Wonderland Parade, attended the meeting to recap the success of the parade. This year there was 62 participants in the parade. There were many businesses that made donations; Rag Dolls Cleaning service, Austin Benjamin, Teased Hair Salon, April & Co, Van Loans Beverage Center, Port Ewen Diner, Marios, Elizabeth Shanley-Manicone, Town Board, Mid-Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union, Doctor Anderson, the Recreation Board and Dollar General. Each class in Robert Graves will receive three certificates per class and the teachers will choose 3 deserving children who will receive those certificates. The hat, mitten and coat drive was also a great success. There were enough items collected to be able to provide Robert Graves, John F. Kennedy and George Washington schools each with 2 large black garbage bags to distribute to the families in need. A full bag of adult coats were received and will be donated to the Mental Health Association. Kathy Robinson informed the Town Board of her decision to rescind her resignation. All of the Board Members thought this was great news and told Kathy they appreciate all of her hard work and commended her and the Recreation Department on another magnificent job.

The lack of man power to help with the event needs to be addressed for next year. Traffic control needs to improve next year. Suggestions of asking for volunteers from the Fire

Department, Court of Officers and Fire Police Association were made. Town Clerk Holly Netter said she would work with Kathy Robinson to promote the parade via social media.

### **DOG REDEMPTION FEE INCREASE – PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

The Town Board is contemplating increasing the fees for Dog Redemption effective January 1, 2015. The fees are currently; first redemption \$10, second Redemption \$20, and third \$30. The proposed resolution increases the fees to First redemption \$20, second Redemption \$30 and third \$40. The resolution will be presented at the December Town Board meeting.

### **AGREEMENT FOR THE EXPENDITURES OF HIGHWAY MONEYS**

Highway Superintendent Mike Cafaldo has to complete the itemized expenditures. Councilpersons Barnett and McCord drafted an agreement. A copy of the agreement was emailed to Mike Cafaldo and Debbie Kane. Superintendent Cafaldo needs to complete the document listing his general repairs and anticipated improvements for 2015.

A few weeks back the Highway Department was delivering water to the kennel. The plastic container fell off of the highway truck and destroyed the tank as well as the pump. Superintendent Cafaldo was in agreement to purchase the container but would like the Town Board to absorb the cost of the pump since it broke while doing a service for the town. The purchase of the pump does not have to be made until after the first of the year. A discussion was held and decision will be tabled for a future meeting.

### **PHOTOVOLTAIC PROJECT CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES - RESOLUTION**

A resolution will be presented at the December Board Meeting regarding a contract for professional services for Randolph Horner, Consultant for the Transfer Station Solar Project. Vendor Sun Edison has agree to pay a Project Development Fee of \$100,000 to Randolph Horner for his professional services for the Esopus Landfill PV project. He will receive the money in three payments throughout the life of the project. Randolph has devoted countless hours to the solar efforts in Esopus and continues to negotiate the cost of the project. Central Hudson wanted \$182,000 to install the connecting lines from West Park to their substation. Randolph now has found a contract to make the connection for \$125,000 which will reduce the rate per kilowatt charged and be a significant savings over the years. Documentation was given to the Board regarding his role to the Town as Solar Project Manager. This documentation provides a complete audit trail of the money coming in and the Town Board authorizing payment. If someone looks at the project 10 years from now they will be able to understand what has been transpired.

### **CHA CONTRACT**

Clough Harbour & Associate LLP has provided their annual Consulting Agreement for 2015. The agreement remains unchanged from the one executed for the year 2014. Councilperson

Wayne Freer pointed out the contract named people not positions. He made the suggestion the contract be changed to reference the Title of the individual and not be a contract specifying the particular name of the person. The Town Board was in agreement and the necessary changes will be made. Supervisor Coutant made the suggestion to monitor the first few cases that are referred to CHA in January. Often it is costly for the applicant to have their case reviewed. The Planning Board needs to use their discretion on smaller projects. The Board will look into other options that may be more cost effective.

### **ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING DATE**

The Organizational Meeting will be held on January 5, 2015.

### **NYMIR TRAINING**

NYMIR has asked for permission to utilize the community center as a training facility for their workplace violence and sexual harassment training for their trainers. A series of dates were given for the month of February. The Board was in agreement to let them use the facility. Town Clerk Holly Netter will contact them with the available dates.

### **MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT - UNION**

**COUNCILPERSON KYLE BARNETT MADE A MOTION AUTHORIZING THE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE UNION, RESOLVING ALL ISSUES WITH THE UNION BETWEEN NOW AND THE END OF 2015. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER. THE BOARD WAS POLED AND ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.**

### **TEVAS CONTRACT**

Councilperson Kyle Barnett discussed the revised TEVAS contract with the Town Board. There was a minor change in terminology regarding the snow removal section of the contract. During the 2015 calendar year, when practical, the Town Highway personnel will assist the rescue squad in sanding and snow clearance of the ambulance base in exchange for the services they provide to the Town.

### **TRANSFER STATION**

The discussion continued regarding the Transfer Station. Councilperson Diane McCord has been working diligently on cost comparisons for the various operating options. She feels we will save a significant amount of money by bringing the operation in house. Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet said she spoke to Town of Ulster Supervisor Jim Quigley who said in 2015 he is only going to be open 2 days a week and projects he still will lose \$25,000.00. Councilperson Freer is concerned with to the Town taking on another task and having to deal with the day to

day operations. If it is determined the Transfer Station will only be open 3 days a week, then it may be cost effective to take it in house. It was determined we will go out to bid for operating both 3 days and 5 days. Councilperson Diane McCord drafted a copy of the Request for Proposal and it will need to be reviewed by Attorney Paul Keller. Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet added she had come across a contract from 2010 that outlines concerns Paul Keller had with the existing Dankelman contract. Councilperson Van Vliet will provide a copy of the document to Attorney Keller to ensure all concerns are addressed. After bids are received a full cost comparison and a final determination will be made regarding the operation of the Transfer Station. Councilperson Kyle Barnett said he would want to see a real significant cost savings in order for the operation to be brought in house.

### **APPOINTMENTS**

A list of vacancies and expiring terms for all of our Boards were given to the Town Board for review.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL ISSUE WITH A BOARD SECRETARY**

**A MOTION WAS MADE TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING A PERSONNEL ISSUE WITH A BOARD SECRETARY AT 9:00 PM BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER AND SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON GLORIA VAN VLIET.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:08 PM BY COUNCILPERSON GLORIA VAN VLIET AND SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER. NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion to adjourn at 9:12 PM was made by Councilperson Wayne Freer and seconded by Councilperson Kyle Barnett. All Town Board members voted in favor. Motion Carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Holly A. Netter  
Town Clerk