

12/04/2018

**TOWN BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING
December 4, 2018**

A Town Board Workshop Meeting was held on Tuesday, December 4, 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

Public Comment – none

Updates:

Culvert improvements- A \$101,800 grant from DEC's Hudson River Estuary Program in partnership with the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPC) will be used to design and mitigate 3 Ulster County Culverts and 3 Esopus Culverts. Tighe & Bond is developing a road-stream crossings municipal management plan. We have received a few RFPs and by the next meeting we should have more. A team will need to be chosen to review the RFPs and make recommendations to the Board.

Water Tank –\$2,237,400 grant for the Water Tank project

We are proceeding to acquire the property by Imminent Domain. The project will begin spring 2019.

County Sales Tax: We received \$45,069.64 which is a \$6,000 increase over what was budgeted for in 2018.

REDC Awards – Tuesday, December 18th at 11:30 am 2018 Regional Economic Development Council Awards will be given out by Governor Cuomo. Everyone is invited to attend. Supervisor Harris is hopeful that Esopus will be a recipient of an award.

Master Plan Updates:

Councilperson Jared Geuss said the final edits should be done by January 4, 2019. The third draft is expected January 18, 2019. A Public Hearing will be set in February. The Town Board will then need to approve it and send the plan on to the State for their approval.

12/04/2018

Vacancies- Environmental Board 2 vacancies, Waterfront Advisory Board 2 vacancies, Port Ewen Water/Sewer Board 1 vacancy and Assessment Board of Review 1 vacancy.

Housekeeping – A proposal to have a Volunteer Board Celebration at 6 pm on January 8th prior to the Reorganizational meeting was made. Supervisor Harris distributed a calendar of proposed meeting dates for next year and asked everyone to consider moving the Town Board meetings to the 3rd or 4th Tuesday of each month instead of Thursdays.

Town Hall Communications: John Schwartz from Blink Voice gave a presentation to the Town Board for the phone system upgrade and cost savings. Multiple companies have presented proposals throughout the year. Blink was invited to the meeting to answer any questions the Board may have about the system. Should we decide to choose Blink Voice the company will buy out the remainder of any contract obligations the Town may have. Chris Farrell confirmed the price was guaranteed for a 5 year period. The price includes equipment training and maintenance.

Town Hall and Court Security: Throughout the year, multiple companies have made presentations relating to the upgrade of security and surveillance equipment for the Town Hall. Terry Barton and Bob McCarthy from Frontier Communications reviewed their presentation. Jared Keplinger was here to present the proposal from Liberty Security Services. The Board will review the proposals and the matter will be discussed further. Judge Manicone applied for a grant for the additional equipment for the Court however, we will not know the results until March. The proposals were structured differently and a follow up will be done with each of the companies. Liberty offered an option of taking a deposit and amortizing the cost over three years. Frontier offered 2 months up front and financing for 60 months. Brian Pickard, CPA for the Town, will be contacted for his opinion on a lease option.

Planning Board Re-appointment – Daniel Michaud

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON CHRIS FARRELL TO REAPPOINT DANIEL MICHAUD TO THE PLANNING BOARD WITH A 7 YEAR TERM TO EXPIRE 12/31/2025. THIS APPOINTMENT WILL BE IN EFFECT AS OF JANUARY 1, 2019. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON GLORIA VAN VLIET. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS MADE BY SUPERVISOR SHANNON HARRIS AT 8:18 PM FOR THE PURPOSE OF INTERVIEWING CANDIDATES FOR VACANCIES IN THE BUILDING AND GROUNDS DEPARTMENT WHICH WAS ADVERTISED IN THE DAILY FREEMAN, A PERSONNEL ISSUE RELATING TO THE JOB HISTORY OF A PARTICULAR INDIVIDUAL, AND A LEGAL MATTER REGARDING THE LITIGATION OF A TAX CERTIORARI. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON JARED GEUSS. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

12/04/2018

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON CHRIS FARRELL TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:40 PM AND WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON KATHIE QUICK. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

NO DECISIONS WERE MADE ON CANDIDATES.

NO ACTION TAKEN AT THIS TIME FOR THE PERSONNEL ISSUE.

LITIGATION ACTION TAKEN:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Fair River Inc. commenced a Tax Certiorari proceeding against the Town of Esopus challenging the Real Property Assessments of tax parcel designated as SBL, 72.3-1-1.200; and

WHEREAS, Fair River Inc. has agreed to withdraw and discontinue its Tax Certiorari proceeding with respect to said parcel; and

WHEREAS, with respect to the parcel 72.3-1-1.200 Petitioner purchased said parcel for \$160,000 and Petitioner sought a reduction in assessment from \$240,000 to \$160,000 but has agreed to a reduction to \$180,000; and

WHEREAS, after consultation with the Town of Esopus Assessor and the Attorney for the Town of Esopus, the Town Board deems said proposed settlement to be prudent and in the best interest of the Town of Esopus.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Kellar Kellar and Jaiven LLP, as attorneys for the Town of Esopus, are authorized to execute the Stipulation of Settlement resulting in a reduction in Assessment with respect to tax parcel 72.3-1-1-200 from \$240,000 to \$180,000.

RESOLUTION OFFERED BY: COUNCILPERSON CHRIS FARRELL

SECONDED BY: COUNCILPERSON KATHIE QUICK

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

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

12/04/2018

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON CHRIS FARRELL AT 9:48 PM TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON JARED GEUSS. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

**Holly A. Netter
Town Clerk, RMC**