

TOWN BOARD MEETING

December 18, 2014

A regularly scheduled Town Board Meeting was held on Thursday December 18, 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 7:30 PM.

Public Comment:

Susan Holland, resides in Ulster Park and has been a resident of the Town of Esopus since 1988. She strongly urges the Board to pass a resolution opposing the Pilgrim Pipe line.

Joe Barbarito, resides in Rifton since 1952. Mr. Barbarito asked the Board to join with other towns to ban the pipeline. He has many concerns with the project. Mr. Barbarito feels there will not be enough regulators and will decrease our property values in the Town. He cares about our community and hopes the Board will make a resolution supporting the other towns to ban the pipeline.

Linda Sakai of 974 Cowhough Road said the pipeline will be less than a mile away from her home. Ms. Sakai said she only recently learned about the pipeline but felt so strongly about it she decided to attend her first Town Meeting to express her concerns. She provided informational handouts to the Town Board Members regarding research that has been done on the pipeline. The pipeline will run under and across the Wallkill River and Esopus River. She feels we will be faced with negative environmental issues that the area is not able to handle. Ms. Sakai strongly recommends the Board consider passing a resolution opposing the pipeline.

Joanne Steele, resident of Saint Remy also asked the Board to consider a resolution to oppose the pipeline. She feels the area would benefit short term but the long term affects are not worth it for the residents of the town. Ms. Steele feels the project will have negative impact on the health of people and animals. She feels it will not be to our benefit to take the risk and we should protect our town.

Kathy Adin has lived in Esopus since 2000 and would like to support Linda Sakai and others asking the Board to oppose the pipeline. She feels it is dangerous for our environment and we need to protect the area for the future.

Supervisor John Coutant did not feel the Town Board had been fully aware of the resolutions of other towns and concerns that have been brought before them at this meeting. He assured the audience the Board will look into this matter, do their homework and take into consideration what was brought before them tonight.

Linda Sakai asked if the Board could make a definitive response by the January meeting. Supervisor Coutant said he could not commit to that but enough information has been given to discuss it at the next workshop meeting. It is an important issue and will be looked into from a government stand point.

Eagle Scout Douglas Terrone

Eagle Scout Douglas W. Terrone was presented with a Certificate of Achievement from the Town. Supervisor Coutant feels scouting produces good citizens. It takes a lot of effort from the individual as well as the family to support the scout in achieving this honor. Supervisor Coutant says he knows a lot of Eagle Scouts and they are well rounded individuals who are assets to the community. It is a pleasure to have another Eagle Scout in our town.

RESOLUTION TO INCREASE DOG REDEMPTION FEE

WHEREAS, the Town of Esopus Town Board, County of Ulster, State of New York, has recognized the need to increase the Town of Esopus Dog Redemption Fee from \$10.00 to \$20,00 effective January 1, 2015 for first offense. Second offense will be \$30.00 and third offense will be \$40.00.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Esopus Town Board approves the fee increase to \$20.00, \$30.00 and \$40.00 accordingly effective January 1, 2015.

RESOLUTION OFFERED BY COUNCILPERSON DIANE MCCORD.

RESOLUTION OFFERED BY COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREEER.

The Board was polled

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

**ESOPUS TOWN BOARD RESOLUTION: PHOTOVOLTAIC PROJECT
CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

WHEREAS, since early 2009 Randolph Horner (hereinafter called "CONSULTANT") has served in a comprehensive Solar Project Development role for the Town Hall and Esopus Library PV Projects, and

WHEREAS, the CONSULTANT is recognized as an expert in Photovoltaic project development, and

WHEREAS, the Esopus Town Board authorized the CONSULTANT to conduct the development of New York State's first Municipal Solar project equivalent in capacity to the full annual electrical requirements of Town operations, beginning with the October 2011 Solicitation, and

WHEREAS, all the CONSULTANT's work on the Landfill Project, as well as the continued upkeep and operation of the Town Hall installation, has been performed without prior compensation, in accordance with the understanding between the parties that the CONSULTANT would be paid by means of a \$100,000 Project Development Fee to be paid by the successful Vendor for the Landfill Project chosen by the Town, and

WHEREAS, as a condition of being selected by the Town Board to finance, install and operate the Esopus Landfill Solar System, Vendor SunEdison agreed to pay the \$100,000 fee to the Town, for disbursement to the CONSULTANT,

NOW, THEREFORE, the Esopus Town Board confirms the engagement of the CONSULTANT to perform professional services for a project known and described as the Esopus Landfill PV Project and authorizes the Supervisor to sign the Professional Services Contract.

Resolution offered by: Councilperson Wayne Freer

Resolution seconded by: Councilperson Diane McCord

The Board was polled

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

Supervisor Coutant explained the Vendor, Sun Edison, has agreed to pay a Project Development Fee of \$100,000 to Randolph Horner for his professional services for the Esopus Landfill PV project. They will forward a check to the Town of Esopus and the money will be passed on to Randolph Horner. The first payment he will receive is for the amount of \$40,000.00. No moneys will be forwarded to Mr. Horner until the funds are received from SunEdison. Mr. Horner will receive the money in three payments throughout the life of the project. Mr. Horner has devoted countless hours to the solar efforts in Esopus and continues to negotiate the cost of the project. Supervisor Coutant explained Mr. Horner's role to the project will be comparable to a clerk of the works.

APPROVAL TO SIGN TEVAS AGREEMENT

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON GLORIA VAN VLIET TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR COUTANT TO SIGN THE TEVAS AGREEMENT FOR 2015 THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON DIANE MCCORD. ALL WERE IN FAVOR.

CHA CONTRACT

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILPERSON KYLE BARNETT TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR COUTANT TO SIGN THE CHA CONTRACT FOR 2015 THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON GLORIA VAN VLIET. ALL WERE IN FAVOR

WINTER WONDERLAND PARADE

The Winter Wonderland Parade was a huge success this year. Kathy Robinson and the Recreation Board did another fantastic job. The parade gets bigger and better each year. This year there were 62 participants in the parade. There were many businesses that made donations. The hat, mitten and coat drive was also a great success. Supervisor Coutant and the Board thanked Kathy and everyone who assisted with the parade for making the event such a success.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING – 1-5-15

The Organizational Meeting will be held on January 5, 2015 at 7:30 pm.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Be It Resolved, by the Town Board of the Town of Esopus, County of Ulster as follows:

Whereas, the Town of Esopus has been presented with budget adjustments and the adjustments have been examined and approved by the Town Board.

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the following budget adjustments be approved for payment:

BUDGET ADJUSTMENT FOR DECEMBER 2014

AO 0599.000 Fund Balance AO 1620.403 BLDG SUPPLIES \$ 352.22

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS.

OFFERED BY: Councilperson Diane McCord

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Wayne Freer

ALL TOWN BOARD MEMBERS VOTED IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

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

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Board of the Town of Esopus, County of Ulster as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town of Esopus has been presented with vouchers for payment and these vouchers have been examined and approved by the Town Board,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the following vouchers be approved for payment:

General Fund	141548 - 141594	\$ 96,239.95
Highway Fund	142281 – 142304	\$ 22,656.33
Street Lights	146012	\$ 5,883.95
Port Ewen Sewer Fund 143161 - 143173		\$ 6,739.45
Port Ewen Water Fund 144293 - 144325		\$ 24,958.60

Total.....\$ 156,478.28

A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS.

OFFERED BY: Councilperson Kyle Barnett

SECONDED BY: Councilperson Wayne Freer

ALL TOWN BOARD MEMBERS VOTED IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

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

COUNCILPERSON WAYNE FREER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILPERSON DIANE MCCORD. ALL WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMUNICATION & REPORTS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE.

ADJOURNMENT

Prior to the adjournment Supervisor Coutant and the Board wished everyone a Happy Holiday. **A motion to adjourn at 8:18 PM was made by Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet and seconded by Councilperson Kyle Barnett. All Town Board members voted in favor. Motion Carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Holly A. Netter
Town Clerk