

## **TOWN BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING**

**April 07, 2014**

A regularly scheduled Town Board Workshop Meeting was held on Monday April 7, 2014 in the Town Hall 284 Broadway Port Ewen, New York at 7:30 PM with the following persons in attendance:

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

**Recording Administrator Holly A. Netter, Town Clerk**

Supervisor John Coutant called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM.

### **Public Comment:**

Katherine Haber of New Salem Road attended the meeting to express her concern with the visibility on New Salem St. On March 27, 2014 Mrs. Haber witnessed a terrible accident on New Salem Road at the junction of Lakeview Terrace. Mrs. Haber is concerned with the logging trucks that will be exiting from Lakeview Terrace. As people fly up the hill she is afraid they are not going to see the trucks pulling out and another accident will occur. The Town Board informed Mrs. Haber the town does not have any jurisdiction over New Salem Road because it is a County Road. Over the years the speed limit has been reduced and speed traps have been set up by the Sherriff's Department. Mrs. Haber asked if there could be signage placed in the area. The Town Board advised her to contact Dave Sheeley , Commissioner of Highways to see if she may qualify for signage for a blind driveway which would be more of a permanent solution. The logging should be minimal and few trucks will be exiting from the location. The Town Board asked Mrs. Haber to let them know how she made out.

### **Sleightsburgh Shipyard:**

Supervisor Coutant received a packet of information about a proposed shipyard. Raymond D. Yannone III of New Windsor has filed applications at the Federal level and State level to resurrect a shipyard that was in Sleightsburgh the 1800's. Supervisor Coutant found several errors in the proposal. It mentions Front Street which is the road that goes into our spit. Mr. Yannones' property lies off of Front St, 20 feet in width that goes off into the water. The 20 foot area is all swamp. Supervisor Coutant feels it is a very aggressive plan. Mr. Yannone wants to build and rebuild boats 50-100 feet in length; he also wants to put in a marina and a fishing dock for the public. He claims the old docks are in the Rondout deteriorating and blocking the channel. However, Supervisor Coutant pointed out the channel was actually on the Kingston side of the Rondout Creek. The Supervisor feels that Mr. Yannone has filed these applications at the State and Federal level thinking he may be able to circumvent the Planning

Board and Town Board approval. He also refers to Sleightsburgh Spit as a State park, which it is not. The Waterfront Board has until May 1<sup>st</sup> to submit any concerns or objections to the Department of State.

### **Dog Bite – Transfer Station**

A pit bull from the City of Kingston was being walked by our employee Tammy Sylvester when the dog jumped on transfer station worker, Brian Clarke, brought him to his knees and bit him. Marshall and Sterling was contacted and it was determined it was a workman's compensation case through Dankelmann since Brian is not an employee of the town. The dogs should not be walked in that area and the dog warden needs to address this matter. Supervisor Coutant said he had told Jill Shufelt, our Dog Control Officer, that she had the authority to address the matter with the employee.

### **Resolution – Support of UC Town Clerks & Ulster County Tax Receivers Association**

Many Townships and Villages in Ulster County have been having serious problems with mail delivery since the United States Postal Service changed the flow of the mail to the distributing centers. Non delivery of Tax bills, official mail, utility bills and important notices with deadlines have impeded local government to carry out their responsibilities on a daily basis. Local Legislators, The County Executive Office, Senators, Assemblymen and Congressmen have offered their support to the Town Clerks Association to take the necessary steps to rectify and improve the timely delivery and receipt of the mail. Each Town Clerk has asked their Board to sign this resolution in full support of their efforts and resolving issues involving the US mail to benefit all of our town residents.

### **Logging Lakeview Terrace**

The logging is not expected to take very long to complete, there are only 10 trees per acre being removed. Supervisor John Coutant has been keeping an eye on the logging that is being done. A stop work order had been placed on the logging because they started before their permit was approved. The permit is for 6 months but Tim feels it will probably only take 3 months at most. Councilperson Diane McCord had an issue with the stop work order being removed from the tree. Supervisor John Coutant had gone to the site and told them to cease and desist. The son said I'm just doing what my father told me to do. Debbie Pugliese posted a stop work order the next day and 2 days later it was down. The owner of the company apologized for jumping the gun and said he would comply. He also put in a black drainage pipe with stone on top around the back of Lakeview Terrace to make sure any water that came off of the mountain would not go over the town road.

### **Sale of Aluminum – Highway Department**

The Highway Department has brand new aluminum that has not been used since Art Cross purchased it during his term, which was used for bleachers. A few people have shown interest in purchasing it. Mike Cafaldo was asked to put together a price and the town will put it out for Bid.

### **ZBA Resignation – Sean Fitzgerald**

We received a resignation from Sean Fitzgerald of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

### **Comcast – Time Warner**

The Town of Esopus does not have a cable franchise. Several Board members remembered drafting a contract but it was never signed and returned to the Town. A copy of the contract will be located, reviewed and revamped to address current issues.

### **Resolution - New Capacity Zone**

Capacity Zones are being proposed. When they deregulated the electric companies they gave Central Hudson the option to sell or make the power but they could not do both. Central Hudson chose to sell the power. In the New Capacity Zone they are developing eggs. Our egg is coming from the New York Metropolitan area, coming up the Hudson Valley and encompassing the Hudson River. The federal government is now saying the energy that is sold within the egg needs to be made within the egg. Our zone contains Indian Point and Danskammer which is not currently open. The Town Board will review the paperwork that was provided.

### **Scenic Hudson – Lighthouse Park (shed)**

Scenic Hudson has asked for permission to relocate their shed temporarily to the lighthouse park while they erect a Gazebo on their property. Wayne asked for a certificate of insurance so if there was any issue of something missing the Town would not be responsible. Councilperson Kyle Barnett explained that it was not necessary because the contents of the shed are not the Town's responsibility.

### **Miscellaneous items discussed**

The Great River Sweep will be April 26 from 9am – 11:30 am at Sleightsburgh Spit Park. Clean up will be May 10<sup>th</sup> 3pm – 6pm at Light House Park. Waterfront committee is concerned with the erosion of Light House Park. Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet said she had been talking to Susan Van Vliet who is a resident and is concerned with the late night activity. Carl Belfiglio is expected to attend the Town board meeting to address this issue.

Councilperson Wayne Freer has been attending meetings for the Ulster County Transportation Council. The DOT is offering grant training tomorrow in Poughkeepsie for TIGER grant funds. Councilperson Wayne Freer mentioned he would like to see Rte 213 in the Perrine's Bridge area be addressed to help with the flooding, whether it be raising the road or changing the road to avoid the flooding. As a result from last year's grant the bridge was re-decked, refurbished and repainted.

Councilperson Wayne Freer requested the final W-2 figures that were paid out to each of the Town Hall employees for the year 2013. He said he already had the figures for the highway because of the union contract. He would like Supervisor Coutant to gather that information and give it to him at the next workshop meeting.

Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet reported the Flood Management plans for the Town through Emergency Management have not been updated since 2009. The Ulster County Multi Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Update paperwork was emailed to all councilpersons by Councilperson Wayne Freer

about a month ago. Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet and Councilperson Wayne Freer have started to fill in the names but the Town Board needs to finalize the points of contact and submit the plan.

Supervisor John Coutant updated the Board on the status of the work which will be done on the Rondout Bridge. The work will begin the second week of July and take approximately four months. The detour will be extended from 90 days to 120 days. The project should be completed early November. Stew Goodrich, NYSDOT reported they had local contractors from the Poughkeepsie area. This was later corrected via email to say they were from Lincolndale, a Hamlet of the Town of Somers in Westchester County. The company will do the work and stay within the State's budget.

**Executive Session- Town of Esopus adv Dyno Nobel Inc.**

A motion was made at 9:05 by Councilperson Wayne Freer to enter into executive session to discuss pending litigation between the Town of Esopus and Dyno Nobel. Motion was seconded by Councilperson Kyle Barnett, all were in favor.

A motion was made at 9:20 to come out of executive session by Councilperson Kyle Barnett and Seconded by Councilperson Wayne Freer, all were in favor.

Councilperson Kyle Barnett was authorized by the Town Board to contact Paul Keller, Town Attorney regarding the tax certiorari.

Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet asked for the minutes to reflect the Town Board members would like to continue to receive emails, however, The Board would like to receive a hard copy of any documents that are more than 5 pages. Supervisor John Coutant wants to receive hard copies of everything. Town Clerk Holly Netter will make April Oneto, Secretary to the Supervisor aware of the change.

**Adjournment**

**A Motion to adjourn at 9:30PM was made by Councilperson Wayne Freer seconded by Councilperson Diane McCord. All Town Board Members voted in favor. Motion Carried.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

Holly A. Netter  
Town Clerk