

**TOWN BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING  
NOVEMBER 19, 2013**

A regularly scheduled Town Board Workshop Meeting was held on Tuesday, November 19, 2013 at 7:30 PM in the Town Hall 284 Broadway Port Ewen, New York with the following persons in attendance:

**Absent:**  
**Supervisor John Coutant**  
**Councilperson Gloria VanVliet**  
**Councilperson Wayne Freer**  
**Councilperson Donna McAuley**  
**Councilperson Kyle Barnett**

**Administrative Recorder: Diane L. McCord, Town Clerk**  
**Kathryn Robinson**  
**Supt. Donald Kiernan**

Supervisor Coutant called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

**Public Comment: None**

**1. Kathy Robinson – Christmas Parade**

Kathy suggested opening up a Facebook safe book along with Kathy DiSciullo for the Recreation Dept. in order to advertise our events. Facebook is the biggest way to go. Councilperson Wayne Freer spoke about using several different Medias and if you open a Facebook page as a government page, you would be the owners of it. In a matter of days it multiplies and so many people get to see it. You would open the page as a non-for-profit government agency. Kathy Robinson and Kathy DiSciullo would be the administrators of it. Other uses would be for other events sponsored by the Recreation Department such as the Christmas Parade, the Easter Egg Hunt, Volleyball and signups could be used for our Summer Park Program.

The parade is going very well according to Kathy Robinson.

1. This Thursday there will be an advertisement in the Daily Freeman Festival of Light. The radio stations have been made aware of the event.
2. Quik Chek will be at the parade with 3,500 cups of hot chocolate and chocolate chip cookies. This is 1,000 more cups than last year.
3. We have advertisements that have gone to Robert Graves School, Kingston Catholic School and St. Joseph's School. Two notices are going on Channel 23.
4. One of the people with a float from a Pizza Restaurant will hand out bags of fried dough.
5. The Dollar General has offered to collect new coats, mittens and hats. Promotional fliers have gone to 911.
6. Jack Spinnenweber invited the Town Board to again ride on his float in the parade.
7. Three Deputy Sheriff's will help with the traffic. One will be stationed on Sunset Drive and one on Doris St.
8. We have a DeeJay.

9. Councilperson Wayne Freer suggested next year we purchase pre-paid phones for Kathy Robinson and Kathy DiScullo and have emails through the town for a two month period. We should have our webmaster Mike Rice reroute your email to the Town site. This would be done for safety reasons.
10. Mary Frances Clausi will decorate our tree and it will be simple and clean. We will not have reindeer with tramp cords.
11. Doug Short from WRNN will film the event.
12. We need a stage for the grandstand.
13. We need to have a cleanup crew after the event. Maybe the older Boy Scouts could help. Supervisor Coutant will contact Mike LaManna for names of Boy Scouts who may be interested.
14. Councilperson Freer will contact Ernie Ostrander about traffic control.
15. Supervisor Coutant will have Dan Vedder contact Kathy Robinson.
16. Rt. 9W will be closed from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM

## **2. Executive Session – Logan Certiorari**

**A Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the Logan Tax Certiorari was made by Supervisor John Coutant and seconded by Councilperson Kyle Barnett at 8:02 PM. All Town Board Members present voted in favor. Motion Carried.**

**A Motion to adjourn from Executive Session was made by Councilperson Kyle Barnett and seconded by Supervisor John Coutant at 8:07 PM. All Town Board Members present voted in favor. Motion Carried.**

Supervisor Coutant said we will notify the Assessor and our Attorney Paul Kellar to move forward with the settlement of this case.

## **3. Executive Session – Riverview Certiorari**

**A Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the Riverview Certiorari was made by Supervisor John Coutant at 8:08 PM and seconded by Councilperson Kyle Barnett. All Town Board Members present voted in favor. Motion Carried.**

**A Motion to adjourn from Executive Session at 8:22 PM was made by Supervisor John Coutant and seconded by Councilperson Wayne Freer. All Town Board Members present voted in favor. Motion Carried.**

The Town Board will take appropriate action with our local attorney and review this matter again.

## **4. Esopus Meadows – Port Ewen Housing on Cynthia and Eugene Street Port Ewen**

We received a letter from Stanley A. Schutzman an Attorney for the above project, referring to a subdivision with 25 single family homes. "I note that my client had mentioned in its earlier discussions that unless several pending requirements of the Planning Board could be satisfactorily address and resolved, in view of the economic and other circumstances present here by client would have no choice but to abandon its application as the cost and expense of moving forward as it now stands would render the project economically unfeasible. "

Supt. Don Kiernan said the town is asking for a twelve inch water main and Esopus Meadows wants to put in an eight inch main. This is an Ulster County Health Dept. requirement and must be met. The Dept. of Health does not review these subdivisions any longer; they refer them to the Dept. of Environmental Conservation.

Supervisor Coutant said this all comes back to their drainage issue and we have been down this road before. The Town Board can make the decision to approve or disapprove their drainage district. Councilperson Gloria VanVliet mentioned Esopus Meadows does not realize we also have a Recreation charge.

Supt. Don Kiernan said they need a right of way on Kren's property otherwise they need a sewer pump station. We need a ten inch pipe. Supt. Kiernan said the sewer lines are eight inches and this is what is common in this town. Councilperson Gloria VanVliet believes any drainage district will be a big problem. Supervisor Coutant said even if he put in the drainage district, the homeowners would have to pay for it. Councilperson Kyle Barnett said the special district for drainage was the best option. Councilperson Wayne Freer said the homeowners would set aside funds on a regular basis. Supervisor Coutant said a special district would have to be established to keep those funds separate. There would have to be a special tax district. Everything would have to be segregated. The town would then have the money to care of the drainage. If we agree to do it you can make the best project going so we have little maintenance for several years. We need to make the best special drainage district possible. The escrow would pay for the design. Brinnier & Larios would have to draw this up. Councilperson Freer – the Town Board should be the controlling entity. Councilperson Barnett had no objection to a drainage district. Supt. Kiernan said approval has also been given for the water and sewer lines. Councilperson VanVliet said no waiver should be given on the Recreation Fees. We are not in favor of a drainage district but Chairperson Roxanne Pecora should be asked if we have any control over the district? This is a Town Board responsibility according to Councilperson Freer. Will you have micro management over this and that is the Planning Board's decision. We should make sure we are involved. Supervisor Coutant believes the buyers should beware.

## **5. Grease Trap – Birchez**

The Port Ewen Water & Sewer Board is very concerned about the issue of a grease trap at Birchez. Councilperson Barnett asked on what authority does the Port Ewen Water & Sewer Board make these motions advising the Town Board of what they should do. Supt. Kiernan stated they are a very strong Board and are only interested in the taxpayers. They are an Advisory Board. Councilperson VanVliet said they are not trying to tell you what to do. They are very concerned about the grease and they don't want to have a major problem when the town takes it over. Supt. Kiernan does not believe we can force them to put in a grease trap. They realize they are an Advisory Board but sometimes you do not listen to them said Supt. Kiernan. Supt. Kiernan spoke with Showra Kamramapoura who is taking over the DEC from John Sansalone.

Supt. Kiernan said twice a week we test the grease samples. The pump station recycles every ten minutes. Supervisor Coutant asked how much it would cost for a grease trap? Supt. Kiernan said about \$25,000. Councilperson Barnett asked if the grease trap could cause another problem? It was Councilperson Gloria Van Vliet's suggestion we check with Doug DeKoskie to see if he could educate us

about grease traps. Councilperson Barnett did not want an opinion of someone that is affiliated with the town.

Supt. Kiernan still had the six outstanding items for taking over the pump station:

1. The Health Department wants a grease trap.
2. Easements need to be given and placed in our attorney's hands.
3. An alarm needs to be installed
4. Central Hudson bills need to be paid
5. Locate the lost pump
6. The generator needs to be serviced.

#### **5B. Harinan Properties – (Mobile Mart) Executive Session**

**A Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the Harinam Properties (Mobile Mart) - tax certiorari was made by Supervisor John Coutant and seconded by Councilperson Kyle Barnett at 8:50 PM. All Town Board Members present voted in favor. Motion Carried.**

**A Motion to adjourn from Executive Session was made by Councilperson Wayne Freer and seconded by Supervisor John Coutant at 9:02 PM.**

#### **6. Planning Board Appointment – Ulster County Planning Board**

Reappointment of Roxanne Pecora to the Ulster County Planning Board and alternate member Fred Zimmer need to be done at the Town Board Meeting.

#### **7. Moody's Request**

We had an email from Robert Weber requesting information for Moody's, however, we never received this email. The Supervisor has since answered their questions.

#### **8. Resolution to Accept Funding (Court)**

Justice Elizabeth Shanley-Manicone has requested a resolution accepting funding to be used solely for the Town of Esopus Justice Court. This resolution will be done at our next Town Board Meeting.

#### **9. CSX Railroad Assessment**

Councilperson Freer asked about the fourteen million dollar upgrade to the railroad where 130 car trains wait to switch systems. This amount is not included in their taxes to his knowledge. We are losing out on this. Councilperson Freer will talk with the Assessor. Twenty percent of our land mass is off the tax rolls.

#### **10. Ulster County Mitigation Plan**

The Town of Esopus has now signed into the Hazard Mitigation Plan – Update 2013.

**A Motion to adjourn this meeting was made by Councilperson Wayne Freer and seconded by Councilperson Gloria VanVliet at 9:24 PM.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Diane L. McCord  
Town Clerk, CMC, RMC**