

**TOWN BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING
DECEMBER 2, 2013**

A regularly scheduled Workshop Meeting of the Town of Esopus Town Board was held in the Town Hall 284 Broadway Port Ewen, New York on Monday, December 2, 2013 at 7:30 PM with the following persons in attendance:

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

**Administrative Recorder: Diane L. McCord, Town Clerk
Daily Freeman Reporter William Kemble**

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

Public Comment: None

1. Anderson Center For Autism Home – 284 Union Center Road

The Town of Esopus has received a certified letter from the Anderson Center for Autism, formally notifying us of their intent to develop a home, as an Individual Residential Alternative, for people with developmental disabilities. The proposed home is located at 284 Union Center Road in Ulster Park. This home would be operated by Anderson Center Services, Inc. an affiliate of Anderson Center for Autism and would provide supervision by trained staff on a 24 hour per day basis.

The Town now has forty days upon receipt of this letter to respond in one of three ways:

1. Approve the site recommended by the sponsoring agency.
2. Suggest one or more suitable sites within its jurisdiction which could accommodate such a facility.
3. Object to the establishment of a facility of the kinds described by the sponsoring agency because to do so would result in such a concentration of community residential facilities for the disabled in the municipality or in the area in proximity to the site selected or a combination of such facilities licensed by other agencies of state government, including all community residence, intermediate care facilities for adults and residential treatment facilities for individuals with mental illness or developmental disabilities operated pursuant to article sixteen of article thirty-one of this chapter and all similar residential facilities of fourteen or less residents operated or listed by another state agency, that the nature and character of the areas within the municipality would be substantially altered.

It was agreed by the Town Board a public hearing should be held at our next Town Board Meeting at 7 PM to allow the neighbors to become aware and share their opinions. Councilperson Kyle Barnett stated it is important to get the opinions of the neighbors and the best way is through a public hearing. The Town Clerk will advertise a public hearing at 7 PM on December 19th, 2013.

Supervisor Coutant will notify Neil Pollack the CEO/Executive Director for the Anderson Center for Autism to attend this public.

2. Time Warner Franchise Documents

Time Warner Cable sent a thirty page document to the town regarding franchises. The Town of Esopus has never charged a franchise fee. The Supervisor asked if any Board Member had second thoughts about this? Councilperson Gloria VanVliet was not in favor of charging a franchise fee. It was suggested by the Supervisor, Time Warner Cable may want to consider a donation to the town. Councilperson Wayne Freer wanted to read over the documents to see if there were any changes and compare it to their last documentation. All Town Board members wanted copies of the agreement to review.

3. Union Negotiations

There was a memo sent to the Town Board regarding union negotiations. The Supervisor spoke with Micke Kutski, UPSEU, regarding the negotiations. Mike suggested the week of December 9th. They have chosen the first date of Tuesday, December 10th at 9:30 am. Councilperson Gloria VanVliet believes the union wanted dental insurance. Our insurance carrier Kim Hubert may be able to provide prices. Supervisor Coutant thinks this is their only request. He thinks the length of the contract should be considered.

4 . Port Ewen Housing (Meadows) – Stanley Schutzman Letter)

The Attorney for Esopus Housing came before the Planning Board. The Supervisor asked for approval for the following letter:

Re: Communication Re: Pending Subdivision Application – Meadows at Esopus (aka Port Ewen Housing), Cynthia and Eugene Street – Town of Esopus – Case No. 2006-10

Dear Mr. Schutzman:

Please be advised that the Town Board of the Town of Esopus reviewed your letter dated 11/13/2013 at the Town Board Workshop Meeting in November. A quick critique indicates substantial misleading information that you somehow obtained relative to water mains, etc.

The Town Board has requested an appearance by your client, engineer, etc. at the Town Board Workshop Meeting to be held on Tuesday, December 17, 2013 at 7:30 PM. I believe that an agreement can be preliminarily resolved to everyone's benefit at this time. Enclosed please find a copy of the Engineer's Report for Proposed Water/Sewer System submitted by Andrew B. Fetherston, P.E. of Maser Consulting dated May 30, 2012 regarding the proposed water/sewer issues for review.

Please contact my office at (845) 331-0676 advising us of your attendance.

Sincerely,

John K. Coutant, Supervisor

Supervisor Coutant stated we have no twelve inch water mains in the town. The Storm Water District is wrong. We should have Fred Zimmer attend this meeting also. The Town Board approved the letter to be sent to Mr. Schutzman.

5. Survey- Dept. of Sociology

A series of questions regarding the supply of natural gas and fracking have been asked in this survey. It has had a large impact on the sale of natural gas. Councilperson Freer said this survey comes from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. Councilperson Kyle Barnett suggested writing a letter thanking them but we chose not to participate in the survey. All Town Board Members agreed.

6. Miscellaneous Information

Ulster County Transportation Council

Councilperson Wayne Freer will attend the Ulster County Transportation Council to be held tomorrow. There are several grants available to the county but it takes them a year to be processed. These are for major projects. There was a good deal of paperwork to be completed and submitted and this has been done. It is basically a worksheet. Councilperson Freer would like to be put on the agenda for the next workshop.

The next Ulster County Transportation Meeting will be held in February. Supervisor Coutant said Councilperson Freer is the administrator and public works manager. The Supervisor explained Tim Keefe, our Building Inspector, is the Flood Plain Manager. Bruce Woineski from the Highway Dept. helped to draw up the plan. If there is a meeting Bruce and Tim Keefe should attend suggested the Supervisor. Under Land Usage and Committee Planning Myles Putman and Roxanne Pecora should be the representatives.

Solar Actuaries

Randolph Horner: The next Workshop Meeting Randolph Horner has asked to be placed on the agenda. Jerome Wilber, Supervisor in Woodstock wants to sell their town actuators. We do not know if we would need them since all our actuators have recently been replaced.

7. Executive Session – Riverview Certiorari

A Motion to enter into Executive Session was made by Councilperson Kyle Barnett at 8:05 PM and seconded by Councilperson Wayne Freer to discuss the River Certiorari. All Town Board Members voted in favor. Motion Carried.

A Motion to adjourn from Executive Session was made by Councilperson Gloria VanVliet and seconded by Councilperson Wayne Freer at 8:11 PM. All Town Board Members voted in favor. Motion Carried.

8. Dept. of Environmental Conservation Agreement

Deputy Clerk Holly Netter will be attending school tomorrow sponsored by the Dept. of Environmental Conservation. Since Town Clerk Diane McCord will retire from her position at the end of the month, the new Town Clerk Holly Netter needs to have her name added and passwords changed. There are also several changes DEC is making to the computer system. They no longer will provide a computer for our use, however, they will provide a printer. The Town is responsible for the cost. There will have to be an agreement signed for the new Town Clerk.

A Motion to adjourn was made by Councilperson Wayne Freer and seconded by Councilperson Gloria VanVliet at 8:13 PM. All Town Board Members voted in favor. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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