

Regular Town Board Meeting 11/12/15

Members Present: Supervisor Nayer, Councilperson Miller-Simmons, Councilperson Mettler and Councilperson Sullivan. Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney was absent.

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and seconded by Councilperson Sullivan to waive the reading of the minutes of the Public Hearing and Regular Board Meeting on 10-8-15 and accept the minutes as written with the following addition: ***“The Roe Jan Ramble Bike Tour Committee is chaired by Jon Strom. The Copake members of the Bike Copake are Cassandra Miller, James Redman, Devyn Bessette, Peggy Lewis, Gary Lewis, Ed Werfelman and Chris Quinby. Copake volunteers on the day of the Ride included: Stosh and Carol Gansowski, Paulette Bonanno, Pat Placona, Dick Barton, Rose Aulino, Jennifer Redman, Robin Bruce, Cecele Kraus, Jeff Nayer, Kelly Miller Simmons, Leslie Wood and John Pollok. Lorraine Strohmer, Pat Placona and Chris Quinby took photographs. Chocolate milk was donated by Hudson Valley Fresh and food was donated by the Harlem Valley Rail Ride. Grant Herman of Bash Bish Bicycle volunteered to fix bikes at the starting point.”*** Motion was carried.

Announcements: A free Thanksgiving Dinner will be at the Park Building on Thanksgiving Day at 2:00 pm sponsored by the West Copake Church, Adopt a Tree for the Hamlet applications are at the Front Porch Market, Copake Parks & Recreation Annual Holiday Light Parade will be on December 12th line up at 5:00 pm step off at 5:30pm, Work has begun on the Rapid Care Center and they are looking at a March opening.

Correspondence:

From Ryan Biggs Clark Davis Engineering & Surveying – an updated Emergency Notification Form for the Herrington Pond Dam.

From Peter Cipkowski, Roe Jan Historical Society – a letter thanking the Town Board for their generous support this year and asked the Board to consider having a survey of historical resources be integrated into the plan for the Hamlet.

From Bridget Roberts – a letter of resignation as Summer Youth Program Director.

From the Jon Strom, Chairperson, Roe Jan Ramble Bike Tour Committee – a letter thanking the Town of Copake for sponsoring the Third Annual Roe Jan Ramble Bike Tour.

Public Forum:

Lindsay LeBrecht questioned the status of stopping the fliers from being thrown on the ground in front of peoples mailboxes and houses? Town Attorney Dow explained that he is working with the enforcement people and the Register Star to come to a conclusion on this matter.

Department & Committee Reports:

Councilperson Mettler reported that Ag Advisory Committee will be holding a joint meeting with the Conservation Advisory Committee on Tuesday, November 17th. The Task Force is working with Copake Community Service Inc. in fund raising for the Community’s contribution to Rapid Care Center.

Chris Quinby, Parks & Recreation Commission Member advised that there was a great turn out at the Halloween Costume Party and they are working on the Light Parade.

New Business:

A motion was made by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and was seconded by Councilperson Sullivan to accept Bridget Robert's resignation as Summer Youth Program Director with regrets. Motion was carried.

A motion was made Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Miller-Simmons to authorize the advertisement for a Summer Youth Program Director with letters/resumes return to the Town Clerk's Office by December 8, 2015 at 2:00 pm. Motion was carried.

A motion was made Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Miller-Simmons to authorize the advertisement for a member to Hamlet Revitalization Task Force with letters/resumes return to the Town Clerk's Office by December 8, 2015 at 2:00 pm. Motion was carried.

Old Business:

The Board tabled the Zoning Revision matter until the Board has more time to study the revisions.

The Board will address the proposed changes to the Policy Manual at the next meeting.

Supervisor Nayer advised that we had three applicants for the Parks & Recreation Commission and one for the ZBA. The letters have been forward onto the ZBA and the Commission for them to interview.

Resolutions:

Councilperson Mettler read the following statement:

As we consider making some of the improvements set forth in our Hamlet Plan we are particularly concerned about how we can finance these initiatives. The Hamlet Task Force intends to rely as much as possible on Grant opportunities, and we were advised by Margaret Irwin of River Street Planning and Ian Law of Place Alliance that the one thing that we could do to make ourselves both eligible and more competitive for grant money was to pursue a designation of INLAND WATERWAY for both the Roeliff Jansen Kill and the Bash Bish Brook.

Communities in New York State which are adjacent to bodies of water designated as "inland waterways" are eligible to participate in New York Coastal and Inland Waterways programs. New York State offers a grant program funded through the Environmental Protection Fund which assists communities in developing and implementing local waterfront revitalization programs. These initiatives can be invaluable in enhancing and revitalizing the area and fostering the beneficial use of the waterfront.

The process here is: The Town Board has to pass a resolution requesting that the State Legislature pass a law designating each of these streams. We send these resolutions along with a letter from our Supervisor to Senator Marchione and Assemblyperson Didi Barrett, asking that they sponsor this legislation.

I have been in touch with both offices- they are willing to support this legislation.

The following resolution was offered by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Supervisor Nayer:

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION IN THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE DESIGNATING THE BASH BISH BROOK AS AN INLAND WATERWAY

Whereas, the Copake Comprehensive Plan, adopted in 2011, recognized that “Management of all water resources is a...top priority”, and specified that the Town should “Protect lakes and bodies of water”; and

Whereas, the Bash Bish Brook begins at a spring in the Town of Mount Washington in Massachusetts and falls over Bash Bish Falls then continues into New York State through the Taconic State Park into Copake Falls and Copake before flowing into the Roeliff Jansen Kill in Ancram; and

Whereas, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has classified the Bash Bish Brook as a cold-water habitat having conditions suitable for trout or trout spawning; and

Whereas, the Bash Bish Brook is of great historical significance in Copake and a natural resource of the Town; and

Whereas, the Town Board of the Town of Copake seeks to take measures to protect and preserve the health and quality of the Bash Bish Brook for the benefit of all of the residents of Copake; and

Whereas, communities in New York State which are adjacent to bodies of water designated as “inland waterways” are eligible to participate in New York Coastal and Inland Waterways programs; and

Whereas, New York State offers a grant program funded through the Environmental Protection Fund which assists communities in developing and implementing local waterfront revitalization programs; and

Whereas, these initiatives can be invaluable in enhancing and revitalizing the area and fostering the beneficial use of the waterfront; and

Whereas, designation of the Bash Bish Brook as an “inland waterway” in state law will permit the town to seek state grants through the Waterfront Revitalization Program, now therefore

Be it RESOLVED:

That the Town Board of the Town of Copake hereby requests legislation be enacted to designate the **Bash Bish Brook** as an inland waterway for purposes of the Waterfront Revitalization Program under Article 42 of the Executive Law, and that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to Senator Kathleen A. Marchione and Assemblyperson Didi Barrett.

Resolution # 16	Supervisor Nayer	yes
Dated November 12, 2015	Councilperson Miller-Simmons	yes
Copake, New York	Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney	absent
	Councilperson Mettler	yes
	Councilperson Sullivan	yes

The following resolution was offered by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Miller-Simmons:

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION IN THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE DESIGNATING THE ROELIFF JANSEN KILL AS AN INLAND WATERWAY

Whereas, the Copake Comprehensive Plan, adopted in 2011, recognized that “Management of all water resources is a...top priority”, and specified that the Town should “Protect lakes and bodies of water”; and

Whereas, the Roeliff Jansen Kill which is 56.2 miles in length, is of great historical significance in Copake and a natural resource of the Town; and

Whereas, a Habitat Summary created for the Town of Copake by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation’s Hudson River Estuary Program and Cornell University’s Department of Natural Resources recognized that “Most of Copake is in the Roeliff Jansen Kill (Roe Jan) watershed, which drains approximately 150 square miles of land within Columbia and Dutchess Counties and a small area of Massachusetts and flows into the Hudson River at Linlithgo on the border between Germantown and Livingston”; and

Whereas, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has classified the Roeliff Jansen Kill as a cold-water habitat having conditions suitable for trout or trout spawning; and

Whereas, the Town Board of the Town of Copake seeks to take measures to protect and preserve the health and quality of the Roeliff Jansen Kill for the benefit of all of the residents of Copake; and

Whereas, communities in New York State which are adjacent to bodies of water designated as “inland waterways” are eligible to participate in New York Coastal and Inland Waterways programs; and

Whereas, New York State offers a grant program funded through the Environmental Protection Fund which assists communities in developing and implementing local waterfront revitalization programs; and

Whereas, these initiatives can be invaluable in enhancing and revitalizing the area and fostering the beneficial use of the waterfront; and

Whereas, designation of the Roeliff Jansen Kill as an “inland waterway” in state law will permit the town to seek state grants through the Waterfront Revitalization Program, now therefore

Be it RESOLVED:

That the Town Board of the Town of Copake hereby requests legislation be enacted to designate the **Roeliff Jansen Kill** as an inland waterway for purposes of the Waterfront Revitalization Program under Article 42 of the Executive Law, and that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to Senator Kathleen A. Marchione and Assemblyperson Didi Barrett.

Resolution # 17	Supervisor Nayer	yes
Dated November 12, 2015	Councilperson Miller-Simmons	yes
Copake, New York	Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney	absent
	Councilperson Mettler	yes
	Councilperson Sullivan	yes

Budget:

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Sullivan to authorize the Copake Parks & Recreation Commission to spend up to \$600.00 for supplies for the Holiday Light Parade. Motion was carried.

Supervisor Nayer reported that the Town got a 3rd quarter Sales Tax check for the amount of \$165,084.81 which is down approximately 2.1% from last year's third quarter. The 2nd Mortgage Tax check was \$60,544.33 which brings us to a total for the year of \$127,620.63 which is \$44,828.53 more than last year.

A motion was made by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and was seconded by Councilperson Sullivan to authorize the funding of the Community Rescue Squad for 2016 in the amount of \$233,508.00 up \$8,953.00 from 2015. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and seconded by Councilperson Mettler to authorize Columbia County to collect \$233,508.00 for the Town of Copake 2016 funding for the Community Rescue Squad and charge it back to the Town of Copake. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Miller-Simmons to authorize Supervisor Nayer to sign a contract with the Community Rescue Squad to provide service to the residents of the Town of Copake for 2016. Motion was carried.

Councilperson Mettler read the following remarks from Roberta Roll, Chairperson of the Copake Hamlet Revitalization Task Force who was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

"The Copake Hamlet Revitalization Task Force is pleased to present the final draft of the Copake Hamlet Design and Development Plan. This plan is the culmination of a ten-month process of collaboration between the Task Force, the Town Board, the citizens of the Town and the expert skills of our planners, PLACE Alliance and River Street Planning and Development.

This plan makes recommendations for the design and development of the hamlet which will create a walkable, vibrant, safe, as well as visually aesthetic and attractive community. It will enhance the existing buildings, upgrade infrastructure and draw new business, enterprises and people into the hamlet.

The plan presents both short-term and long-term recommendations which can be realistically implemented over time. It is a major accomplishment in the ongoing revitalization process of the Hamlet and will enable the Town to apply for funding for projects important and appropriate for the development and stability of the Hamlet.

The Task Force thanks the Town Board for its support in the creation of this plan. We believe it provides a dynamic framework for the revitalization of the hamlet, and we ask the Board to adopt this Hamlet Plan."

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Sullivan that the Town of Copake adopt the Hamlet Plan present by the Copake Hamlet Task Force as vision for the revitalization of the Hamlet of Copake, by adopting this plan we are not necessarily committing to each and every particular of the Plan but rather we are endorsing the Plan as a concept and a vision for the future of the Hamlet of Copake and agreeing that the Town will continue to move forward in a

meaningful way to revitalize the Hamlet of Copake in keeping with the ideas and goals set forth in the Hamlet Plan. Motion was carried.

Supervisor Nayer reiterated that this is a conceptual plan and it does not mean that it will look exactly like the plan and that the Town is not bound financially to have to do anything with this if we can't.

Councilperson Report:

Councilperson Sullivan reported that the Planning Board Meeting for December has been changed to Monday, December 7th due to a lack of a quorum and Lenny Barham, Chairperson of the Copake Ethic's Board gave an excellent presentation at last month's training.

Councilperson Miller-Simmons wanted to thank Liana Roberts, the Copake Highway Department and all the other volunteers. Also Gary Singh of Copake Sunoco for sponsoring the Halloween Party. There was a great turnout for both events.

Public Forum: None

A motion was made by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and was seconded by Councilperson Mettler that the bills from Highway Abstract #11 and the bills from General Abstract # 11 be paid. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Sullivan and was seconded by Councilperson Miller-Simmons that the meeting be adjourned. Motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted,