

Regular Town Board Meeting 12/10/15

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

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Supervisor Nayer to waive the reading of the minutes of the October 11, 2015 meeting and accept the minutes as written. Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney abstained, motion was carried.

Announcements:

Holiday Light Parade is Saturday at 5:30 pm, Polar Express is Saturday at 10:30 am at the Library and the Hillsman singers will be on Sunday, 12/20 at 5:00 pm at the Library.

Correspondence:

From Colleen Miller – an email resigning as Asst. Playground Director.

From Peggy Lewis – an email resigning from the Hamlet Revitalization Taskforce as of December 31, 2015.

From Edward Ferratto – a letter resigning as Code Enforcement Officer effective December 31, 2015.

From N.Y.S.D.O.T. – a copy of a letter to Dean Knox, Director of Engineering, Columbia County DPW advising of the reduction in the maximum speed limit on Anthony Street, County Route 7A and Chrysler Pond Road.

From George Wilson – an email regarding the recent passage of the Anti-Littering Law.

Boards & Committee Reports:

Superintendent Gregory reported that they have completed leaf pickup and are working on trees.

Councilperson Mettler reported that the Taskforce has started reviewing the changes proposed to the zoning by LURC and they are suggesting that once each committee and board has an opportunity to review the proposed changes, then the Town could have a workshop to address and clarify any questions that the Committees and Boards came up with. Following the workshop the individual committees and boards could prepare their statements to present to the Town Board.

Public Forum:

Tom Gilbert, President Catamount Ski Area gave an update with what is going on with the proposed project. Rock Solid will no longer be pursuing the Hotel Project, Catamount will be defending the appeals and looking for a new developer as this is still a very important development for Catamount and is good for the Town.

New Business:

A motion was made by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and seconded by Councilperson Mettler to accept the resignations with regret from Ed Ferratto, Peggy Lewis and Colleen Miller. Motion was carried.

Supervisor Nayer advised the Board that Park Superintendent Bradway spoke to Ed Coons, Columbia County Health regarding the Town applying weed killer on Town Property and Mr. Coons stated that it would be legal for the Town to do their own application. With this being said Supervisor Nayer went onto state that he was not happy with their work and recommended to the Board not to renew the annual contract with Trugreen for this service.

A motion was made by Councilperson Sullivan and seconded by Councilperson Miller-Simmons to not renew the annual contract with Trugreen to apply weed killer on the Town of Copake's Property. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney and was seconded by Councilperson Mettler to authorize Supervisor Nayer to sign the annual contract with Columbia-Greene Humane Society as the Town Shelter for 2016 pending the approval of Town Attorney Dow. Motion was carried.

Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney questioned how the dog enumeration was going. Supervisor Nayer reported that our Dog Control Officer had started and had some family medical emergencies and will finish next year. Supervisor advised the Board that he has held back the money allotted for the enumeration until the Dog Control Officer resumes.

The Board agreed to put an ad in the newspaper for the Summer Playground Director due to no response to the Public Notice.

The Board scheduled a Special Meeting for Monday, December 14th at 7:00 pm for the purpose of going into executive session to conduct interviews and possible appointment of a Code Enforcement Officer.

The Board scheduled the 2015 Yearend Meeting for Wednesday December 30th at 10:00 am and the 2016 Organizational Meeting for Monday January 4th at 7:00pm.

The Board and Highway Superintendent Gregory discussed the sole bid from Ruge's GMC for a new 2016 one ton crew cab pickup truck with a utility body and snow plow for \$58,000.00 and where the funds would be taken from. Supervisor Nayer assured the Board and the Public that this purchase would not increase the amount to be raised by taxes.

A motion was made by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and was seconded by Councilperson Sullivan per the recommendation of Highway Superintendent Gregory to authorize the purchase of a new 2016 one ton crew cab pickup truck with a utility body and snow plow per the detailed specifications from Ruge's GMC for a bid price of \$58,000.00. Motion was carried.

Following a discussion on how the bottom fell out of the price of scrap steel and how it was going to start costing the Town to collect a dispose of the steel, a motion was made by Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney and was seconded by Councilperson Miller-Simmons to discontinue collecting scrap steel at this time. Motion was carried.

Old Business:

The Board tabled any discussion or action on the Proposed Zoning changes until January and set dates for workshops for the Boards and Committees to discuss.

The Board tabled any discussion or action on the Policy Manual changes until a later date.

Supervisor Nayer reported that the Anti-Littering Law has stopped most of the fliers being distributed to Copake Residents, Town Attorney Dow has been working with the Register Star with the Copake Residents that have a Hillsdale mailing address that are still receiving them.

Budget:

Supervisor Nayer contacted Hudson Solar regarding looking at a broken panel on the Park Building and it was discovered that the Town had an open invoice of \$7,621.15 dating back to 8/1/2012 for the final payment of the installation of the Park Building Solar System. Supervisor Nayer asked for paper work showing a breakdown of the cost of the system and payments made. Following a review of the paper work submitted it was determined that the invoice represents a \$7,000.00 NYDERDA payment the Town received on 3/14/2012 and \$621.15 which is represents the final payment of the Town's share of the project.

A motion was made by Councilperson Sullivan and seconded by Councilperson Mettler to authorize the payment of \$7,621.15 to Hudson Solar to close out the past due invoice # 8314. Motion was carried.

The Board discussed the cost verses the savings of the repair of the broken solar panel and the Board agreed to just disconnect the one broken panel at this time.

Councilperson Report:

Councilperson Sullivan reported that nothing new from the Planning Board Meeting.

Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney reported that the CAC had a joint meeting with the Ag & Farmland Protection Committee in December and will meet jointly again in January.

Public Forum:

Marsha Peteroy asked if the Town was going to advise the public some way that they will no longer be taking scrap steel. Supervisor Nayer said yes the Highway Department would put up signs, we will post it on the Town's Website and in the Copake Connection.

The Board Members thanked and applauded Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney for her dedication and hard work to the Town and for serving on the Town Board for four years.

Supervisor Nayer wished everyone a Happy Holiday Season.

A motion was made by Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney and was seconded by Councilperson Mettler to go into Executive Session to discuss possible litigation and personal in the Building Department. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Sullivan and was seconded by Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney to come out of Executive Session and return to the regular meeting with no action takes. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney and was seconded by Councilperson Mettler that the bills from General Abstract # 12 and the bills from Highway Abstract # 12 be paid. Motion was carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,