

Regular Town Board Meeting

May 12, 2016

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

A motion was made to waive the reading of the minutes of the 4/14/16 Regular Meeting and the 4/27/16 Special Meeting and accept them as written. Motion was carried.

Announcements: May 15th R.J. Historical Society presentation at 2:00 pm, May 21st Copake Cleanup Day 9:00 – Noon, May 21st Copake Park Summer Program signups 9:00 – Noon, May 21st West Copake Reformed Church Italian Night 5:00 – 7:00 pm Copake Park Building, May 28th Copake Falls Day Committee BBQ 5:30 pm, Dinehart Bridge will be closing the first or second week of June for repairs.

The Board welcomed Chris Quinby and Gloria Lyons back from their health related absences. Supervisor Nayer had thanked the Rescue Squad last meeting for their response to Mr. Quinby's call and would like to include thanks to the Copake Fire Department, Columbia County Sheriff's Department and the New York State Troopers who also responded.

Correspondence:

From Anna Thompson, Columbia County Historical Society Curator – a letter advising the historical importance of the Bash Bish Inn Flag to the Town of Copake.

From Lee Heim, Code Enforcement Officer – a letter requesting demolition permit fees be added to the Building Permit Fee List.

From Pamela Wyeth, Catherine Kaputa and Michael Kadri – emails expressing their concerns with additional 8' fencing being constructed on North Mountain Road where trees are being planted.

From Columbia County DPW – a memo advising that the Dinehart Bridge will be closed starting the first or second week of June for approximately 4 – 5 months.

From William Gregory Jr., Park Superintendent – an email requesting the Board approve Shane Hotaling, Ron Piper Jr. and Shelby Anderson as part time maintenance employees of for the Park at \$9.00 per hour.

From Timothy Stalker, Chairperson, Columbia County Planning Board – a letter advising that they did not have a quorum for their April 8, 2016 meeting and will discuss the Town of Copake Proposed Local Law # 1 of 2016 at their May 17, 2016 meeting.

Department Head/Committee Reports – None

Public Forum:

Lenny Barham read a statement thanking the Board for considering the matter of displaying the Bash Bish Flag.

New Business:

A motion was made by Councilperson Gansowski and seconded by Councilperson Sullivan to declare the 2004 Ford pickup truck as surplus equipment and authorize Highway Superintendent Gregory to advertise it for sale on Auction International Website. Motion was carried.

Councilperson Mettler updated the Board and the public on this year's Roe Jan Ramble Bike Tour plans and once again asked the Town of Copake's sponsorship with no expense to the Town. The tentative date is September 24, 2016 and is free to all riders. The Town of Hillsdale has already agreed to support this event and the Town of Ancram will discuss this matter at their meeting next week.

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Sullivan that the Town of Copake sponsor the Roe Jan Ramble Bike Tour at no expense to the Town. Motion was carried.

A Motion was made by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and seconded by Councilperson Mettler to add Demolition Fees to the Building Permit Fee Schedule as follows: \$50.00 for residential or commercial buildings and \$25.00 for accessory buildings or sheds (120 sq. ft. & under) per structure. Motion was carried.

Old Business:

Copake Cleanup Day is Saturday, May 21st No mattresses, box springs, hazardous waste or appliances with Freon.

Comprehensive Plan Workshop had to be canceled because some people were unable to make the workshop. Councilperson Mettler suggested to wait until the fall to reschedule the workshop.

Action on the Solar Moratorium Proposed Local Law has to be tabled to a later date due to the County Planning Board not having a quorum for their May meeting.

Town Reval is winding down, notices have been sent out and Grievance Day is Tuesday, May 24th 10:00 am – 2:00 pm and 4:00 – 8:00 pm.

Councilperson Mettler asked that the Bash Bish Flag matter be tabled for another month due to some questions that have not been answered yet and to give the Board time to read the letter submitted tonight. Supervisor Nayer was against tabling for another meeting and at the last meeting you were against tabling the matter. Councilperson Sullivan questioned whether the flag would be a permanent display and asked if the petition that is being circulated would be available next month for the Town Board to see. Lenny Barham stated that it is being offered as a permanent display and the petition will be available next month. Councilperson Sullivan would like to see what the Community has to say about this matter and does not object to tabling the Flag until a later date. Councilperson Gansowski stated that he is not opposed to waiting another month. Town Attorney Dow advised the Board that if there are terms attached to this donation to the Town they have to be agreed by both parties. Councilperson Gansowski read the definitions of a Town Hall and a Museum and added that he feels that maybe the best location for the flag to be displayed is in the Museum. Councilperson Miller-Simmons felt that doing a display for a few months at the Town Hall would be better and then it should be kept at the Museum. The Board agreed to table this matter until next month.

Action on the Zoning Revision matter was tabled until after the Town is finished with the Reval and the Solar Moratorium is in place.

Town Attorney Dow reviewed pros and cons of Reserve Funds and the different types of Reserve Fund. Following a lengthy discussion on the types of reserve funds, types of equipment that would be covered by an equipment reserve fund and how and when during the year could the board deposit money into these funds, the Board asked Attorney Dow to prepare the resolutions establishing these reserve funds for the next meeting.

Upon the recommendation of Attorney Dow the Board set a Special Board Meeting for Monday May 23rd at 1:00 pm for the purpose of considering the adoption of Local Law #1 of 2016 entitled "Town of Copake Commercial Solar Energy Installation Moratorium Law".

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Copake hereby establishes the following standard work day for the position of Highway Superintendent will be 8 hours and will report the official to the New York State and Local Retirement System based on their record of activities.

Resolution # 7	Supervisor Nayer	yes
Dated May 12, 2016	Councilperson Miller-Simmons	yes
Copake, New York	Councilperson Mettler	yes
	Councilperson Sullivan	yes
	Councilperson Gansowski	yes

Budget:

Supervisor Nayer advised that the Town's 1st Quarter Sales Tax check was \$147,764.37 up 7.1% from last year.

Appointments:

A motion was made by Councilperson Gansowski and was seconded by Councilperson Sullivan to hire Shane Hotaling, Ron Piper Jr. and Shelby Anderson as part time summer maintenance employees for the Park at a starting rate of \$9.00 per hour. Motion was carried.

Councilpersons Report:

Councilperson Mettler still working on waterway designations.

Councilperson Miller-Simmons reported that Park Superintendent Gregory requested permission to purchase 25 ton of Beam Clay at a cost of approximately \$2,120.00 to complete the work he has started on the ball fields. Supervisor Nayer expressed his concerns of why the Park Superintendent would start the second field without having enough material to finish. Councilperson Mettler asked if we buy a load this year will we need to purchase one next year. Supervisor Nayer stated we don't know.

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Gansowski to authorize Park Superintendent Gregory to order 25 ton of Beam Clay not to exceed \$2,500.00. Motion was carried.

Councilperson Gansowski advised the Board that the River keeper's Community Science Program who have tested the water quality of the Hudson River since 2008 are expanding their testing to the Roe Jan

Kill and the Noster Kill. Councilperson Gansowski will be volunteering to assist in the water sampling in these two waterways.

Public Forum:

Lindsay Lebrecht questioned if there should be a cap on the Reserve Accounts? Supervisor Nayer replied he doesn't feel there should be a cap. Lindsey reported that she was able to secure a playground equipment grant for \$1,200.00 from the National Board of Realtors and the Local Board has committed to \$130.00 donation. Also is the Town Board looking for a "no strings attached" agreement for the Bash Bish Flag? Supervisor Nayer stated he doesn't have an answer for that question.

Debra Goldberg asked what was the name of the water testing group. Councilperson Gansowski stated it is the River keeper's Community Science Program.

Robert Haight pointed out to the Board that they currently have other pieces of history of Copake on display now.

Stella Anastasia introduced herself to the Board and advised that she trying to find a place in the Hamlet to open a bakery.

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Gansowski that the bills from Highway Abstract # 5 and the bills from General Abstract # 5 be paid. Motion was carried.

Supervisor Nayer asked everyone to please rise to observe a moment of silence in memory of Joseph N. LaPorta who served the Town of Copake as Deputy Supervisor, Budget Officer, Councilperson, Building Inspector, Land Use Review Committee, Captain, Lieutenant and Director of the Community Rescue Squad, Life Member of the Copake Fire Company, Volunteered as an Umpire for the Roe Jan and Taconic Hills Little Leagues and a supporter of the Taconic Hills Storm Football Team.

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

Respectfully submitted,