

Regular Town Board Meeting

1-11-18

Supervisor Nayer opened the Public Hearing at 6:50pm with 10 people present. The purpose of the Public Hearing was to present proposed Local Law # 1 Of 2018 Entitled "A Local Law extending an exemption from real property taxes for real property owned by Veterans of the Cold War." Supervisor Nayer closed the Hearing at 6:51pm. The Regular Board Meeting followed at 7:00pm.

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

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Miller-Simmons to waive the reading of the minutes of the December 28, 2017 Yearend Town Board Meeting and the minutes of the January 3, 2018 Organizational Meeting and accept the minutes as written. Motion was carried.

Announcements: Supervisor Nayer welcomed Richard Wolf to the Town Board, The Town is updating our emergency call list that request to be contacted during an emergency.

Correspondence:

From Edgar Masters, Commissioner, NYS Council of Parks & Historic Preservation – a copy of a letter addressed to Linda Cooper, Regional Manager, NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historical Preservation regarding the plans to put the 5 acre solar farm in the Town of Copake's Scenic Overlay Zone.

From Grant Langdon – a letter requesting the censure of D.A. Paul Czajka.

From Charter Communications – a letter changing the program lineup.

From Town Judges – a letter requesting the re-appointment of Teri Traver and Nicole Miller as part time Court Clerks for 2018.

From J. Craig Surprise – a letter of resignation as the Town of Copake's Sole Assessor effective 1/9/18.

Department/Committee Reports:

Deb Cohen advised the Board that the Broad Band Committee's next meeting is January 20, 2018 and they will be hosting the Broad Band Committees from Ancram, Hillsdale and Austerlitz to set up a Public Forum tentatively on February 24th at 10:00am. This will give Fairpoint and Charter Communications a chance to update the public on the status of the improvements on high speed internet service.

Presentation:

Roberta Roll, Chairperson of the Hamlet Revitalization Committee presented a summary of events leading up to the Town receiving the \$40,000.00 Water Front Revitalization Planning Grant and the next steps the Town Board needs to take in accepting the Grant. At this stage of the grant the Town has approximately 32,000 man hours to use towards the Town's matching part of the Grant. Supervisor Nayer thanked Roberta for all her hard work on this project and questioned if we were doing this Grant

just for the Spur or are we writing this Grant for other options? Roberta responded that this Grant is a Generalized Plan, not just for the Spur, it also will be used for business development, tourism, recreation, etc. Councilperson Ganzowski asked for an update on the negotiations with Kiernans over the Trail Spur passing through their land. Roberta states that the land has been put into a Land Conservancy and there is an agreement to have land set aside for the Trail Spur. There are no negotiations going on at this time. Councilperson Wolf asked what is the timetable if the Board approves this resolution tonight. Roberta stated that the plan would take about 4-5 months.

Public Forum:

Edgar Masters thanked the Board and especially our Town Clerk/Tax Collectors for making it possible for Town of Copake residents to pay their taxes prior to January 1st. Also Mr. Masters spoke in favor of getting the Rail Trail North of Millerton completed as the money has been allocated and try to get the planning stage of the Trail Spur completed as soon as possible. Supervisor Nayer gave the credit for making it possible to collect the taxes early to Vana and Larry. They collected 1.2 million dollars prior to January 1st.

New Business:

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Miller-Simmons to accept the resignation of Craig Surprise as the Town of Copake Sole Assessor effective January 9, 2018. Motion was carried.

Following a brief discussion by the Town Board, the following Motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and seconded by Supervisor Nayer to accept the \$40,000.00 Water Front Revitalization Planning Grant from the State. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Miller-Simmons to adopt the 2018 Snow & Ice Control Policy. Motion was carried.

The Inter- Municipal Agreement has not been received from the Taconic Hills Central School District so it will be tabled until next month.

The Board discussed a request from a Planning Board Member for \$210.00 for training. After a brief discussion by the Board, the matter was tabled until next month's meeting.

Supervisor Nayer reported that he has completed the audit of the Planning Board, Z.B.A., Building Department and Town Clerk accounts for 2017 and everything was in order.

Old Business:

Councilperson Mettler advised the rest of the Board that the Grange has not come up with an alternate plan regarding the Parking issues on Empire Road at this time.

The Board set a Zoning Update Workshop for Tuesday, January 23, 2018.

The Board discussed the need for a 3rd member for the Conservation Advisory Committee and requested a notice be put on the Town's Website and the Copake Connection.

The following Resolution was made by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and was seconded by Supervisor Nayer:

“A Local Law extending an exemption from real property taxes for real property owned by Veterans of the Cold War”

WHEREAS, the Town Board of the Town of Copake finds that it is appropriate and desirable to extend the duration of certain real property tax benefits to veterans of the Cold War, as authorized by the New York State Real Property Tax Law; and

WHEREAS, to such end, the Town Board finds it appropriate and desirable to enact Local Law Number 1 of 2018, “A Local Law extending an exemption from real property taxes for real property owned by Veterans of the Cold War”; and

WHEREAS, all legal prerequisites to the enactment of such Local Law have been timely completed, including notice to the public and the holding of a public hearing;

It is hereby **RESOLVED**, that Local Law Number 1 of 2018, “A Local Law extending an exemption from real property taxes for real property owned by Veterans of the Cold War” is hereby enacted.

Resolution # 3	Supervisor Nayer	yes
Dated January 11, 2018	Councilperson Miller-Simmons	yes
Copake, New York	Councilperson Mettler	yes
	Councilperson Gansowski	yes
	Councilman Wolf	yes

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Miller-Simmons to appoint Lynn C. Hotaling as the Town of Copake Sole Assessor effectively January 15, 2018 with a term expiring on December 31, 2019. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and was seconded by Councilperson Mettler to appoint J. Craig Surprise as a Consultant to the Assessor’s Office for the purpose of Revaluation Completion from January 9, 2018 to February 28, 2018. Motion was carried.

Budget:

A motion was made by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and was seconded by Councilperson Gansowski to authorize the \$250.00 spending limit for Town Employees. Motion was carried.

Councilperson’s Report:

Councilperson Miller-Simmons reported that the plans for the Music in the Park are moving along and it looks like we will have another successful season.

Public Forum: None

A motion was made by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and was seconded by Councilperson Gansowski that the bills from Abstract # 1 and the bills from the General Abstract # 1 be paid. Motion was carried.

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

Respectfully Submitted,