

Town Board Meeting
November 8, 2012

Members Present: Supervisor Nayer, Councilperson Gabaccia, Councilperson Miller-Simmons, Councilperson Winchell-Sweeny and Councilperson Mettler.

A motion was made by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and was seconded by Councilperson Gabaccia to waive the reading of the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting October 11, 2012 and the minutes from the Special Meetings October 24, 2012 at 6:45 PM and 7:00 PM. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney and was seconded by Councilperson Miller-Simmons to accept the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting October 11, 2012 and the minutes from the Special Meetings October 24, 2012 at 6:45 PM and 7:00 PM as written. Motion was carried.

Correspondence:

From N.Y.S.D.O.T. – a letter denying the Town’s request to lower the maximum speed limit on Lake View Road.

From William Newcomb – a letter requesting to be reappointed to the Copake Board of Assessment Review effective October 1, 2012.

From N.Y.S.D.E.C. – a copy of a Drawdown of Surface Elevation of Robinson issued to the Taconic Shores Property Owners Association.

From George Schnepf – a letter of resignation from the Copake Land Use Review Committee.

From Chief Administrative Judge A. Gail Prudenti – a letter requesting the Town a copy of the Town’s audit of the Town of Copake Court Records and a copy of the Town Board Resolution acknowledging that the audit was done.

Public Forum:

Frank Peteroy, Chairman Copake Z.B.A. requested the Board to reduce the fees for filing a shed variance; it is currently at \$100.00. Supervisor Nayer felt that we should wait until the LURC has completed their work. Attorney Dow will look into the process to change the variance fee prior to the next Board Meeting.

Marcia Becker stated she researched the matter pertaining to using Highway unexpended balance to offset the General side of the budget and was unable to find any laws preventing a Town from using these funds. Supervisor Nayer said he would look into this further.

Department Head Report:

Marcia Becker, Chairperson Copake Planning Board reported that the Planning Board had more subdivision before them then they have seen in over four years. Also the Catamount site plan has expired and they will have to reappear before the Planning Board with their proposed changes.

Frank Peteroy, Chairperson Copake Zoning Board of Appeals read a letter addressed to Copake Code Enforcement Officer Edward Ferratto (Please see attached).

Craig Surprise, Sole Assessor reviewed his monthly activity report and the summary of Agriculture Exemptions by year from 2009 to 2012. Councilperson Mettler advised the Board that the Agriculture Exemption report was in response to the Board's memo dated October 11th requesting the Agriculture Exemption and a report on all of the other exemptions in the Town of Copake.

Chris Quinby, Copake E.A.B. is looking into revamping the Town's Website. Chris also reported that the Park Commission is working on the upcoming light parade and they still have four vacancies on their Commission if anyone is interested in joining.

New Business:

Councilperson Mettler read the following mission statement for the Agriculture and Farmland Protection Committee:

Mission Statement
Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan Committee

The Copake Comprehensive Plan, adopted in 2011, recognized that the promotion of agriculture is a primary goal for the Town (Comprehensive Plan, hereinafter CP, page 20). Farming is fundamental to our history and essential to our future. The Comprehensive Plan urged that the Town adopt an Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan (CP, page 22.) The **Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan Committee** is charged with the task of developing such a Plan. The Committee should review the Town of Copake Farmland Profile which was adopted by the Comprehensive Plan Committee on April 28, 2011 and which was included in the Appendix of the Plan.

The Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan will 1) identify farmlands to be protected, 2) develop strategies and programs to protect farmland and encourage agriculture in Copake, 3) build a consensus among Town Officials, farmers and landowners about how to implement farmland protection strategies and encourage agriculture in Copake, and 4) make suggestions, where necessary, to update land use and zoning regulations to become consistent with protecting farmland and encouraging agriculture.

In the course of developing such a Plan, the Committee will:

1. Gather input from Town residents, landowners, farmers, Town, County officials, County and State agricultural experts about what Copake should do to support agriculture, protect farming and encourage farmland preservation.
2. Conduct a thorough analysis of farmland and farming in Copake; inventory, map and prioritize important farmland soils and active farmlands, and identify strategies and tactics to make sure the Town's agricultural sector continues to thrive. This work will build upon the Rural Water Study that was completed in 2009.
3. Collaborate with other agencies and groups, e.g., Columbia County Farm Bureau, Columbia County Soil and Water Conservation District, Natural Resource Conservation Service, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets, NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Columbia Land Conservancy, NYS DEC, Cornell Cooperative Extension in Columbia County, Copake Land Conservation Society, Roeliff Jansen Historical Society, Harlem Valley Rail Trail Association, Hudson Valley Fresh Cooperative.

A motion was made by Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney and was seconded by Councilperson Mettler to accept the Mission Statement for the Agriculture and Farmland Protection Committee and to advertise for volunteers to serve on this committee. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and was seconded by Councilperson Mettler to authorize the purchase of a cemetery plot back from CLARK MCKERCHER SIMMS and ELIZABETH CHASE SEYMOUR CROSLEY, residing at 1 Breezy Hill Road, Copake Falls, New York, 12517 for the price of \$188.75. Motion was carried.

Supervisor Nayer advised that the I.T. Disaster Recovery Plan has been completed and when we adopt the Policy Manual we will have completed everything on the State Comptrollers list.

The Board set a Policy Manual Workshop for Friday, November 30th at 6:30 PM to address some minor issues. Attorney Dow stated that he also found some discrepancies between the Town Code and the proposed Policy Manual.

Supervisor Nayer reported back from his meeting with Bob Flynn regarding repairs to the church museum. Mr. Flynn found many rotten boards along the bottom of the building and some weak spots in the floor. Supervisor Nayer recommended to the Board to do some temporary repairs to the floor to make it safe and then budget money to the 2014 budget for the remainder of the repairs due to the cost may exceed \$15,000.00.

A motion was made by Councilperson Gabaccia and was seconded by Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney to authorize temporary repairs to the church museum floor not exceed \$800.00. Motion was carried.

Councilperson Mettler stated that even though the Town owns the building and is responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the structure, the Roe Jan Historical Society maybe able help out financially with some of the repairs.

A motion was made by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and was seconded by Councilperson Mettler to request Attorney Dow to draft Local Law # 3 of 2012 repealing Local Law # 1 of 2009 establishing a full time court clerk and a deputy court clerk. 3 yes votes, 1 no vote, 1 abstained. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and was seconded by Councilperson Mettler to schedule a Public Hearing for Local Law # 3 of 2012 for Thursday, December 13, 2012 at 6:45 PM. Motion was carried.

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

WHEREAS, Key Bank is an authorized depository of Town funds and the Town has previously resolved to utilize certain online banking services provided by such depository, which are limited to making internal transfers among Town accounts and reviewing online transactions made in such accounts; and

WHEREAS, it is in the Town's interest to ensure the highest degree of security and access control over any online banking activities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That Resolution No. 10 of 2012, to enable online banking services at Key Bank, adopted by the Copake Town Board at the regular meeting of March 8, 2012, is amended as follows:

New sections 12, 13, and 14 are added, as follows:

12. Notwithstanding any contrary statement in this resolution or otherwise, the names of the accounts held at Key Bank among which transfers are authorized to be made are as follows: 1) Town of Copake General Fund (Money Market) Key Bank; 2) Town of Copake General Fund Key Bank; and 3) Town of Copake Trust & Agency Key Bank; and no online transfer to or from any other account is authorized.
13. Notwithstanding any contrary statement in this resolution or otherwise, the sole person authorized to make online transfers among such authorized accounts is Jeff Nayer in his capacity as Supervisor of the Town of Copake, for such time as he holds the office of Copake Town Supervisor, unless an additional person or persons is authorized pursuant to section 14, below.
14. Administrative privileges for authorizing electronic transfers by any person other than the Supervisor shall be on approval of a majority of the members of the

Town Board excluding the Supervisor and any Councilperson authorized to handle cash or sign checks on behalf of the Town, and the Administrator shall not exercise the power to designate any person as an authorized signer or User for purposes of using the Bank's Website in order to conduct online financial transactions, as granted in section 3, above, except upon approval of such majority.

Resolution # 20	Supervisor Nayer	yes
Dated November 8, 2012	Councilperson Gabaccia	yes
Copake, New York	Councilperson Miller-Simmons	yes
	Councilperson Mettler	yes
	Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney	yes

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Miller-Simmons to authorize Supervisor Nayer to transfer \$69,606.21 from the Highway unexpended balance to DA5130.2 Equipment to pay for the new tractor and mower. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and was seconded by Councilperson Mettler to authorize the following transfers:

From

A1355.41—Assessor Supplies	\$300.00
A1680.2—Equipment (Central Data)	\$1,000.00
A3120.1—Police Salaries	\$2,635.10
A6410.4—Community Day	\$2,000.00
A7310.1—Summer Program Salaries	\$4,464.23
A7310.4—Summer Program Cont.	\$1,360.60
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	\$11,759.93

To

A1110.44—Courts	\$1,100.00
A1355.44—Assessor Prof. services	\$8,000.00
A1355.472—Assessor Cont	\$300.00
A1680.47—Misc. (Central Data)	\$1,000.00
A9060.8—Emp. Benefits	\$1359.93
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	\$11,759.93

Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Gabaccia and was seconded by Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney to appoint William Newcomb to the Copake Board of Assessment Review effective October 1, 2012 ending September 30, 2017. Motion was carried.

Councilperson Miller-Simmons reported that the Park Commission is still short four members if anyone is interested in volunteering.

Public Forum: None

A motion was made by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and was seconded by Councilperson Mettler to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel and litigation reasons. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney and was seconded by Councilperson Miller-Simmons to come out of executive session and return to the regular meeting. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and was seconded by Councilperson Gabaccia to advertise for a Deputy Code Enforcement Officer. Motion was carried.

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

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

Respectfully submitted,