

TOWN BOARD
JUNE 9, 2011

PRESENT

Supervisor Crowley
Councilwoman Gabaccia
Councilman Sacks
Councilman Tompkins

ABSENT

Councilman Kiernan

ACTION ITEMS

Supervisor Crowley opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with 24 people present.

Paul Krekeler, from Green LITES gave a presentation.

NYSDOT developed the Green LITES (Leadership in Transportation and Environmental Sustainability) certification program to help integrate sustainability principles into transportation using the building industrysLEED system as a model. The program is used on a continuous basis and formally ranks capital projects, operations/maintenance work on a sub-regional basis, and all region-wide investments made (and not made) on an annual cycle for internal review and comparison.

The program has been implemented in stages, starting with the September 2008 GreenLITES Project Design Program followed by April 2009 GreenLITES Maintenance / Operations Plan Spreadsheet, and ongoing March 2010 Regional Pilot Program.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gabaccia seconded by Councilman Tompkins the minutes of May 12, 2011 be accepted with the following corrections.

Pg 3. define Mr. Valentino, First Niagara Bank, and Mark Fitzgerald were sent letters referring to the \$25,000.

Pg. 7 Ethics Board the full *intension* no intend. Pull people who are, insert *Not* serving on other committees.

Pg 8. Its *incumbent* not competent

Pg 8. typo *doesn't* not dose, *individual* not individually cannot serve.

Motion carried.

Councilman Sacks, Action Items, for Attorney should be brought to front.

A motion was made by Councilman Sacks seconded by Councilman Tompkins to accept the minutes of May 23, 2011. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Louis Pillai – complaint about Fairpoint phone/internet service and bill.
2. Superintendent Gregory – advised the board they can put a temporarily limit on vehicles over 4 tons on any town road per 1660 vehicle and traffic law.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gabaccia seconded by Councilman Sacks to temporarily limit vehicles over 4 tons on Twin Bridges Road, Overlook Road, Black Grocery Road, Underhill Road, and Snyder Pond Road. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gabaccia seconded by Councilman Tompkins to amend the previous motion to include Skyfarm Road and Highmeadow Road except for local delivery. Motion carried.

3. Joyce G. Hearst – request for speed reduction on County Route 27 near Taghkanic Town Line. Will table till next month till we find parameters.
4. Harvey Weber – resignation from Committee to Nominate Ethic Board.

Supervisor Crowley announced Flanders Corp. will be opening a facility at the former Kaz site in Hudson. They plan on hiring 100-150 employees.

5. Joe LaPorta – resignation from Committee to Nominate Ethic Board.
6. Russ Davis – resignation form Committee to Nominate Ethics Board.
7. NYS Office of Real Property Tax Service – tentative equalization rate 72.
8. John Mengler – letter of support for reopening the Hub Restaurant.
9. Randi Shadic – thanks for recognition certificate.
10. Frank Peteroy – request Town Boards permission to pursue the development of a Performance Center in the Town Park.

Councilwoman Gabaccia, reply from an e-mail sent to Mr. Robinson, Columbia County Department of Public Works, with some questions to begin the dialogue here as liaison. (see attached).

I take this as a good positive step in the direction of improving our communications with the County. Hopefully we will be able to apply this to the project in center of town and stress that the town is interested at the beginning that the process be under Green LITES.

Councilman Sacks, from Grant Langdon, Copake has a history that goes back to the 1600's and no one thinks its important, there is no marker for the grist mill that ground flour for our troops during the revolution. We should start thinking about marking our historical sites. Will forward to Historical Society, Comp Plan and CRC.

PUBLIC FORUM

John Keeler, official decal on town car to designate it official.

Supervisor Crowley, we have official plates will talk to Highway Superintendent about decal for car.

What is the status of the \$25,000?

Supervisor Crowley, letters sent out ask manager at bank to look into it, can not supply the withdrawal slips as these transactions were done by verbal authorization. Who made the authorization electron is still a mystery.

Sent letter to State Comptroller asking them to include in audit.

John Keeler, why aren't the dumpsters locked? Bidding on buses fro summer program, why weren't they advertised.

Councilwoman Gabaccia, Bridgett e-mailed us that she got 3 verbal quotes; I'll explain to her it needs to be advertised.

John Keeler, consolidation of services.

Has there been improvement in the Assessors office.

Assessor Surprise, updating the files and exemptions, workshop in New Lebanon on revale have notified the board members and hope you can attend.

Jeff Nayer, Frank and Chris's idea having concerts at the park is a good idea, hope we can get behind them on this.

ACTION ITEMS

Supervisor Crowley, we already do intermunicipal work with other towns, will be meeting with Taghkanic Highway Superintendent.

Signs at Park; Attorney Rappleyea, they fit under the definitions of temporary signs therefore didn't require a permit.

Will notify Little League.

Youth Football; Attorney Rappleyea, checked with town of Cario the football team and league are entirely independent with the Town.

Councilman Tompkins, talked with Chris Frick on this and there good to go, will not need the towns tax number.

Shingles behind general store have been cleaned up, lighting on Lackawanna Farm, Ed Ferratto, that was an order of remedy of violation that I issued, and was supposable included with all the other violations. It should be with Rappport and Meyers. Will check.

Councilman Tompkins, Councilman Kiernan talked to Alice about picnic tables by pond ,she has no problem with it. Came up with a name Copake Farmer's Memorial Pond.

Councilman Sacks, Councilman Tompkins and I spoke to Fire Department we'll make sure the trucks have access to pond and still put tables, we decided it's a feasible project to take on. We have permission from fire company and Alice.

Attorney Rappleyea, I'll approach the ZBA to do an amendment.

Jeff Nayer, Town Board can say there exempt from Zoning if one member doesn't approve you'll have to come back with new application..

Supervisor Crowley, Ron from First Niagara seems to think they own a portion of the land the Farmers Market is on. Will check deed.

Comprehensive Plan is doing a great job, recommend we start Zoning Review Committee, we need to give people time to submit letters of interest. Would like to see 11 member board.

Will advertise for letters of interest for the Zoning Review Committee and Committee to nominate for Ethics Board with letters to be back by August 15, 2011.

OLD BUSINESS

Received one bid for picnic tables.

Don Shadic – three (3) 6' spruce picnic tables with benches attached \$130 each

Total of \$390.00

Councilman Sacks, I will ask Highway Superintendent Gregory to go with me to Lowes to look at their tables.

Supervisor Crowley, will check with State Park about tables.

West Copake Fire House – Attorney contacted Senator, in order to get legislation permission to sell the Firehouse we need to swap out some land it needs to be the best we can get of equal value. I believe we could have an appraisal close to the Firehouse for the pond. If we can provide that information to the Senators office they will immediately move forward.

Attorney will get appraisal.

Councilman Sacks, could we exchange the West Copake property for the VFW land.

Supervisor Crowley, I think when Allen Lampman donated the land it was for VFW only.

Councilman Sacks, we could put a building there for theatre and give the VFW a room.

Councilwoman Gabaccia, we made it through the first step with Pepsi Refresh grant for \$50,000.

A motion was made by Councilman Tompkins seconded by Councilwoman Gabaccia to amend the Standard Work Day Reporting Resolution February 10, 2011. Delete days and months (based on record of Activities for Lawrence O. Proper, Robert Lopez and Wes Powell. Motion carried.

The following resolution was offered by offered by Councilwoman Gabaccia seconded by Councilman Tompkins.

WHEREAS, the Town of Copake (hereinafter “local government”) believes that climate change poses a real and increasing threat to our local and global environments which is primarily due to the burning of fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, the effects of climate change will endanger our infrastructure, economy and livelihoods; harm our farms, orchards, ecological communities, including native fish and wildlife populations; spread invasive species and exotic diseases; reduce drinking water supplies and recreational opportunities; and pose health threats to our citizens; and

WHEREAS, we believe that our response to climate change provides us with an unprecedented opportunity to save money, and to build livable, energy-independent and secure communities, vibrant innovation economies, healthy and safe schools, and resilient infrastructures; and

WHEREAS, we believe the scale of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions required for climate stabilization will require sustained and substantial effects; and

WHEREAS, we believe that even if emissions were dramatically reduced today, communities would still be required to adapt to the effects of climate change from decades to come.

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that Town of Copake, in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to a changing climate will

1. Pledge to Combat Climate Change by Becoming a Climate Smart Community

Set goals to reduce GHG emissions and adapt to predicted climate change. Establish a task force of local officials and community members to review the issues and propose a plan of action. Designate a point person who will oversee climate change initiatives and publicly report on progress. Work cooperatively with similar task forces in neighboring communities to ensure that efforts complement and reinforce one another. As an official signal of commitment and for access to technical resources, sign on to widespread climate campaign such as ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability – Climate Protection campaign.

2. Set Goals, Inventory Emissions, Move to Action

Gather data, inventory GHG gas emissions, and establish baselines for local government operations and community sectors. Develop quantifiable interim GHG emission targets consistent with emission reduction goals and propose a schedule and financing strategy to meet them. Encourage stakeholder and public input and develop an action plan. Report emissions to The Climate Registry (TCR) which has developed a standardized method for reporting emissions inventories; use ICLEI and TCR's tools to track and evaluate progress.

3. Decrease Energy Demand for Local Government Operations.

Adopt a goal of reducing electricity use by 15 percent from projected levels no later than 2015.

Existing Public Facilities. Inventory current building electricity usage and identify opportunities for conservation and efficiency retrofits. Obtain energy assessments from New York State Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), the New York Power Authority, the Long Island Power Authority or other professionals. Consider actions such as purchasing energy efficient equipment and appliances, such as ENERGY STAR; improving lighting, heating, and cooling efficiency; setting thermostats for maximum energy conservation; decreasing plug load from office equipment; and increasing pump efficiency in water and wastewater systems.

New Public Buildings Achieve at least minimum U.S. Green Building Council Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design standards (LEED Silver) for all new local government buildings.

Infrastructure. Incorporate energy efficient technologies and operations and maintenance practices into municipal street lighting, traffic signals, and water and wastewater treatment facilities.

Vehicle Fleet and Commuting. Improve the average fuel efficiency of local government fleet vehicles. Discourage vehicle idling and encourage bicycling, car pooling and public transit for employees. Consider reducing the number of vehicles; converting fleet vehicles to sustainable alternative fuels; and using electric vehicles where possible.

4. Encourage Renewable Energy for Local Government Operations

Supply as much of the local government's power, heat and hot water needs as possible from solar, wind and small hydro through purchase or direct generation.

5. Realize Benefits of Recycling and Other Climate Smart Solid Waste Management Practices.

Expend the "reduce, reuse and recycle" approach to waste management in local government operations and in the whole community. Reduce the amount of solid waste generated – promote backyard composting, implement volume-based pricing and educate residents on how to prevent waste. Promote reuse by organizing community-wide yard sales, and providing a space for drop-off or trade of reusable goods. Provide recycling receptacles in local government buildings and outdoor spaces, require duplex printing in government offices, compost food scraps and green waste, and adopt a comprehensive green purchasing program.

6. Promote Climate Protection through Community Land Use Planning

Combat climate change by encouraging low-emissions development that is resilient to climate changes. When updating land use policies, building codes or community plans, include provisions to combat climate change; reduce sprawl; preserve and protect open space, biodiversity, and water supplies; promote compact, transit-oriented, bike able and walk able communities; promote infill development; minimize new development in floodplains; maintain or establish healthy community forests; and promote best forest management practices and encourage tree planting, especially along waterways, to increase shading and to absorb carbon dioxide.

7. Plan for Adaptation to Unavoidable Climate Change

Evaluate risks from unavoidable climate change, set adaptation goals and plan for adaptation. Identify climate change impacts (such as flooding, drought, and extreme temperatures) that could affect the Community. Identify areas such as water supply and sewer infrastructure that may be at risk due to sea-level rise and future changes in climate. Factor risks into long-term investments and decision-making. Execute climate change adaptation and preparedness measures through local government planning, development and operations, giving priority to the highest risk areas.

8. Support a Green Innovation Economy

Identify opportunities to incorporate climate protection, sustainability and environmental goods and services industries into economic development plans. Encourage workforce development training and school curricula that support the energy green collar job sector, including renewable energy and energy efficiency, as well as climate smart solid waste management practices. Procure climate smart goods and services for local government operations and support modernizing of local and national electricity grids.

9. Inform and Inspire the Public

Lead by example. Highlight local government commitment to reducing energy use, savings tax dollars, and adapting to changing conditions. Demonstrate the benefits of energy savings, energy efficiency, and renewable energy projects by hosting open houses; distributing fliers; holding local meetings; working with school districts, colleges, and universities to develop climate changes curricula and programs; engaging faith-based communities in climate protection; and regularly communicating community climate protection goals and progress to constituents.

10. Commit to an Evolving Process

Acknowledge that research and policy on climate protection are constantly improving and evolving. Be willing to consider new ideas and commit to update plans and policies as needed. Compare successes, cooperate and collaborate with neighboring communities to redirect less-effective actions and amplify positive results.

Dated June 9, 2011	Supervisor Crowley	Yes
Resolution # 11	Councilwoman Gabaccia	Yes
Copake, New York	Councilman Sacks	Yes
	Councilman Tompkins	Yes
	Councilman Kiernan	absent

Deputy LaPorta, met with NYSEG about updating power lines. There is not enough power for Columbia County. They want to put another sub station on Route 9. If they get approval it will be 2-3 years. If they get this it will increase our electricity down here.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Park ' Rec's – Diana Jamison,
 Would like to get new banners, posters and Flyers for Community day.
 Build a portable 9 hole min golf course.
 Permission for Mike to buy large bins for recycling.
 A motion was made by Councilwoman Gabaccia seconded by Councilman Tompkins to authorize Diana Jamison to purchase what they need for the park.
 Motion carried.

Booth on Community Day, reviewing the Memorial Garden fund for bricks for walk way.
 Project funds for new playground equipment
 Web-site updated regularly.
 Zumba classes very successful.
 Park supporting youth football, practice mid August.
 Would like to be involved with the pavilion project.

Comprehensive Plan – open for comments through the 14th.

Conservation Resource Committee – Susan Sweeney finished maps for Comp Plan.

Councilwoman Gabaccia, Highway Department collected 19 loads of trash several tires on clean up day, at \$98.00 ton.

Summer Park Program, no vending machine at park how are the children going to fluid on hot days. Councilwoman Gabaccia will suggest water coolers.

Donating from tractor pull money, Bridgette would like to be able to access the funds.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gabaccia seconded by Councilman Tompkins to authorize Supervisor Crowley to set up bank account for Summer Park Program. Motion carried.

Ed Ferratto, buildings at Coons property will be coming down.