

TOWN BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 9, 2009

At the regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Copake the following were present:

Supervisor Crowley, Councilwoman Gabaccia, Councilman Sacks, Councilman Tompkins, and Councilman Kiernan.

Supervisor Crowley opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m. with 36 people present.

Supervisor Crowley introduced Gary Tuthill from Columbia County Emergency Management. There were questions that needed to be added on the Emergency Management Plan, Gary reviewed and gave recommendations to our plan (see attached).

Councilman Sacks thanked everyone's participation with the plan. Mr. Allen, a citizen enabled us to do this.

A motion was made by Councilman Sacks seconded by Councilwoman Gabaccia the minutes of June 6, 2009, June 13, 2009 and June 23, 2009 be accepted as written. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

1. Charter Communication – No action letter, to help move the Chapter 11 along.
2. Highway Superintendent Proper – Price of scrap steel is running about \$110.00 ton. Motion one way or another to proceed or wait. Reconsider the freeze on highway construction for the month of July.

Supervisor Crowley, we said no spending except for safety issue. Will leave it up to the Highway Superintendent, what can be delayed, should be.

A motion was made by Councilman Kiernan seconded by Councilwoman Gabaccia to authorize Highway Superintendent Proper to proceed with selling of scrap steel. Motion carried.

3. Building Department – Request to raise fees.

A motion was made by Councilman Kiernan seconded by Councilman Gabaccia to raise the Building Department fees (see attached). Motion carried.

4. Summer Park Program - Account for Bridgett Roberts in the amount of \$3,351.00 donation from Don Delamater for summer park program. Supervisor Crowley said it will be put in trust and agency and earmarked for summer program.
5. Columbia County Board of Elections – if the town has a voting machine they wish to dispose of they will remove it. Board decided to keep for parts or extra machine if needed.
6. Cipkowski Enterprises – Applying for liquor license.
7. Copake Falls Day- Second annual Copake Falls Day Saturday August 22, 2009.
8. Assemblyman Molinaro & Senator Saland – Copy of letter to Honorable Patrick Hooker Commission, Department of Agriculture & Markets in reference to Town of Copake v. Lackawanna Properties, LLC.
9. Assemblyman Molinaro – Thank you for contacting regarding the Resolution passed May 12, 2009 by the Town Board in support of legislation, A2596.
10. Morris Ordovery – Resignation from Economic Advisory Board.
11. Highway Superintendent Proper – Receiving \$84,827 in FEME damage from Federal Government.
12. Brad Peck Inc. – Proceeds amounting to \$343.00 from race on Copake day, to be donated to a worthy cause chosen by Copake Day Committee.

Councilman Sacks thanked Senator Saland and Assemblyman Molinaro for their support for help with Mr. Cascino.

Public Forum:

Mrs. Dodson asked who is to monitor Copake Valley Farm's removal of the things mentioned in the Judge's order and where will it go?

Supervisor Crowley said as far as the bridge goes that's DEC - I don't think it was defined in the Court's decision. Mr. Cascino's Attorney has sixty days to file notice of appeals.

Councilwoman Gabaccia, his Attorney is disputing the claim that the Town Attorney fees were \$21,000.

Morris Ordovery asked if restraining order is still in effect, and who is monitoring what's going on now.

Councilwoman Gabaccia, the order is still in effect and citizens are recording on-going activities at the site.

Councilwoman Gabaccia will call Lawyer ask if we can get our ZEO in the site and who is responsible to monitor the removal.

Councilman Sacks asked about sign out by the bridge, I think its illegal.

Jeff Nayer said every contractor has signs out if you ask him to remove his, all other signs will need to be removed.

ZEO will check with state.

John Keeler asked if we bid buses for summer program. Johnson's bid last year was lower, we hired the school.

Supervisor Crowley said Bridget got verbal bids last year school gave her a letter with a bid for two years at a lower price then Johnson's, the school stayed with the lower price. Johnson did not bid this year.

Jeff Nayer said the school has a good reputation on hiring bus drivers.

Copake citizen asked how the budget process works.

Supervisor Crowley, the board has been talking to each other several times a day, our first course of action is an independent audit to verify the numbers.

Councilwoman Gabaccia said one good thing that came out of this is the board is all working together.

Diana Wilson asked if anything is being done with the pile up at the highway garage.

Councilman Kiernan said they're digging out ditches on the sides of the road and the material has to be stored there, it is not toxic, it can be sold or used for fill.

When the budget is straightened out, we can put up fences so it is out of site.

Diana Wilson said she read the article by Diane Valden about exposing Housing Resources of Columbia County financial problems, be careful I don't think we should be doing business with this man.

Councilwoman Gabaccia said we can insist the Planning Board establish an escrow account before he comes before the board.

Send memo to Planning Board.

Diana Wilson thanked Diane Valden for the article.

Charles Dodson , report on the status of Copake’s Budding GIS (see attached)

Mary Ackley, it’s great you get ideas from the public but I’m ready for the board to make decisions. I voted for the board, and I think you’re the ones who should make the decisions.

Old Business:

Councilman Tompkins said Hudson Valley Energy was here June 29th did survey on the Town Hall.

The following resolution was offered by Supervisor Crowley seconded by Councilwoman Gabaccia:

Resolved: That the Town of Copake sign a no action letter in reference to Charter Communication, Inc. Form 394 Application. (see attached)

Resolution #15	Supervisor Crowley	Yes
Dated July 9, 2009	Councilwoman Gabaccia	Yes
	Councilman Sacks	Yes
	Councilman Tompkins	Yes
	Councilman Kiernan	Yes

Committee Reports:

Charles Dodson, Comprehensive Planning – Survey dead line has been extended indefinitely. Received over 500 responses one copy to household thinking was helping the budget, anyone 18 years and over can reply.

Harvey Weber , Environmental Committee – Meeting Monday 7:00 p.m. Pictures from highway.

Karen Hallenbeck, Ombudsman – Resolved 4 issues working on 5th.

Joe LaPorta asked if there’s any news on the Motor Vehicle storage permits. Supervisor Crowley said he talked to town Attorney - changes that have to be made are town law changes not zoning, recommend the Planning Board be given 45 days to put input in. Hopefully we will hear by August.

Supervisor Crowley - the District Attorney's office received grant money to purchase video equipment for all police departments in county.

A motion was made by Councilman Sacks seconded by Councilman Kiernan the bills from general # 7 and highway # 7 be paid. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gabaccia seconded by Councilman Kiernan the board go into executive session to discuss personnel matter and hiring issue. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Tompkins seconded by Councilman Sacks to return to the regular meeting. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Tompkins seconded by Councilman Kiernan the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

