

## Regular Town Board Meeting

October 10, 2013

Members Present: Supervisor Nayer, Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney, Councilperson Miller-Simmons and Councilperson Mettler. Councilperson Gabaccia were absent.

A motion was made by Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney and was seconded by Councilperson Mettler to waive the reading of the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting 9/12/13 and to accept the minutes as written. Motion was carried.

### Announcements:

Pancake/French Toast Breakfast this Sunday at the Park Building to benefit the Vietnam Veteran's War Memorial.

There will be another Blood Drive held at the Park Building on November 29th from 2:00 pm – 7:00 pm.

The Copake Community Service Inc. will be holding a Christmas Wreath Sale to benefit the Vietnam Veteran's War Memorial, the signup sheet will be in the Town Clerk's Office. The cost is \$20.00 per wreath.

Late Item added to the agenda: Court Grant Resolution and approval to perform a court audit.

### Correspondence:

From N.Y.S. Department of Agriculture and Markets – A letter advising the Town that they are ruling in favor of Mr. Kitchen's request to process the poultry he raises on his farm.

From the Salisbury Association – sent a scrap book from Mr. Mike McCabe of old newspaper clippings of the Copake Area.

From Edgar Masters, Co-Chairperson Ag & Farmland Protection Committee – an email stating that their Committee is looking into a potential zoning change to allow processing of fowl and small animals on farms in the Town of Copake.

From Ned Schneier, Chairperson R.J. Library Birthday Committee – a letter thanking the Town for the use of the bandstand for their celebration.

From the Swiss Huite – a letter advising that they will be reapplying for their N.Y. S. Liquor License.

From Marcia Becker, Chairperson Copake Planning Board – a letter requesting Julie Cohen to be appointed to fill the unexpired term of Gray Davis.

From Kerst de Jong, Executive Director, Camphill Village USA Inc. – a letter inviting the Town Board to tour the newest addition to their community; Lirio House on October 13<sup>th</sup> 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm.

From N.Y.S.D.E.C. – a notice of completed application by Walt's Dairy Inc. to stabilize portions of the Bash Bish stream.

### Public Forum:

Harvey Weber representing the Roe Jan Young-at-Hearters presented a petition with 78 names on it requesting the Town of Copake look into finding a drug store to move into our area.

Marcia Becker questioned how much will budget increase if the Library Vote passes? Supervisor Nayer replied that it would increase the budget about .9%. Who actually is the Copake Community Service Inc., who are their Board members, what is their status, what is their mission statement, etc. Councilperson Mettler responded that they have been in existence since 1990's under a different name that worked on the clock fund raising. Russ Davis is the President, Roberta Roll is the Secretary and there are about 10 people on the Board, they are a not for profit organization. They assist other organizations in raising money to better the community. Lindsay LeBrecht stated she thought that this Not for Profit organization first came out of the Copake Economic Advisory Board.

Department Head and Committee Reports:

Highway Superintendent Gregory reported that they have completed their blacktopping and sealing of roads and are gearing up for winter.

Marcia Becker, Chairperson Planning Board report that they had a very slow month with only 4 referrals.

Code Enforcement Officer Ferratto reported that their office has been very busy issuing a lot of building permits.

Councilperson Mettler reported that the Ag & Farmland Committee meets the fourth Tuesday of every month and the Farm Survey has been sent out.

Lindsay LeBrecht, Park Commission reported the Haunted House is scheduled for 10/25 & 10/26 and the Commission is working on the plans for the Light Parade and is requesting permission to spend up to \$500.00 for this event. They are also working on their by-laws and requested the Board advertise for an adult and youth member.

Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney reported that the Conservation Advisory Committee had a representative from DEC come down to discuss what as a municipality the services they could offer the Town at no cost and we will be using their resources.

Roberta Roll Hamlet Revitalization Task Force reported that they meet twice a month, have received \$14,000.00 in Grant Money so far, continue working on the monthly Copake Connection and the goals set forth for them in the Comprehensive Plan. The Roe Jan Ramble Bike Tour was a big success and there will be a bike ride on October 18<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with the Bicycle Auction.

New Business:

Turned the letter from NYS Department of Ag & Markets regarding Mr. Kitchen's request for a processing facility for poultry raised on his farm to the Ag & Farmland Committee to up come with a plan that would be beneficial to the Farmers and the Town. Councilperson Mettler added that the Committee has been discussing the processing of poultry and small animals on farms in Copake. With the help of the Consultant they have reviewed State and Federal Regulations and through their discussion they have really tried to balance the concerns of residents and neighbors with the needs of farmers. While the matter is still in discussion, it would appear that the Committee is probably going to recommend to the Town to allow the processing of fowl and small animals and recommend limited

conditions under which this process can take place. It will be limited to a farmer to processing his own animals on his own farm. A report should be to the Town Board by the November Meeting and Councilperson Mettler suggested that it should be referred to the LURC and Attorney Dow so they can give their feedback prior to the Board Meeting.

Supervisor Nayer reported that Councilperson Miller-Simmons and himself met with the Highway Department and worked out the details for the Union Contract for three years. The Union agreed to the contract and now it is up to the Board to approve the terms of the contract.

A motion was made by Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney and seconded by Councilperson Miller-Simmons to approve the three year union contract for the Highway Employees. Motion was carried.

Supervisor Nayer advised the Board that the Town of Copake will be switching to CDHP from MVP and it should save the Town approximately \$10,000.00 per year for similar benefits.

Supervisor Nayer advised the Board that he received a letter from the Office of Court Administrations that every year the court records have to be audited and we budget approximately \$900.00 for our Town Auditor to perform the audit.

A motion was made by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and was seconded by Councilperson Mettler to approve the auditing of the Court records by the Town's Auditor. Motion was carried.

Anyone who has names that are missing from the War Memorials by the clock should get them to the Committee as soon as possible.

Councilperson Mettler reported that the work on the new website is proceeding and a lot of work has been completed so far. The Committee is reviewing the new website at this time and are going to be meeting next week to review it. There is a temporary website up and running with very limited information such as the Tentative Budget for 2014. We are hoping to have the new website up and running by the beginning of November with some section still under construction.

A motion was made by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and seconded by Supervisor Nayer to approve advertising for a LURC Secretary to begin the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year. Supervisor Nayer stated that if the secretary doesn't work out the position will be terminated and the LURC should have all of the work done by the end of 2014. Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney stated that she wants to attend the next LURC meeting to see how things are proceeding. Councilperson Mettler and Councilperson Miller-Simmons both felt the LURC needs a secretary. Motion was carried.

The following Resolution was made by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney:

RESOLVED, the Copake Town Board hereby authorizes Town Justices

BRIAN J. HERMAN & JOHN P. SPENCER to file an application for various equipment , furnishings, records management, scanning, signage & PA system. Funding from the New York State Office of Court Administration 2014 Justice Court Assistance Program.

Resolution # 15

Supervisor Nayer

yes

Dated October 11, 2013	Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney	yes
Copake, New York	Councilperson Miller-Simmons	yes
	Councilperson Mettler	yes
	Councilperson Gabaccia	absent

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney to appoint Julie Cohen to the unexpired term of Gray Davis on the Planning Board per the recommendation of the Planning Board Members. Motion was carried.

**Budget:**

Supervisor Nayer advised that we will be moving the fuel oil tank inside the building at the old West Copake Firehouse so the Town will no longer have to purchase Kerosene and will save over \$.50 per gallon on fuel costs.

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Miller-Simmons to authorizing the expenditure of up to \$750.00 on the Park Commission’s Holiday Light Parade and gifts and refreshments for the event. Motion was carried.

Preliminary Budget was adopted at the October 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, there will be a Public Hearing on the 2014 Preliminary Budget on Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am and a Special Meeting on November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm to consider the adoption of the 2014 Town Budget which at this time has a .5% increase.

Councilperson Report: None

**Public Forum:**

Lindsay LeBrecht question what was the contents of the letter from NYS Ag & Market regarding the Kitchen request? Attorney Dow reviewed that the letter offered their opinion that the Town’s prohibition of slaughter houses was an unreasonable restriction on farming and that is not permissible under the Ag & Market Law to have that in place and the Town would have to make some accommodation that would permit that kind of processing of animals raised on the premises.

Marcia Peteroy questioned how the Columbia County Office for the Aging 60 plus program ended up at the Town Hall instead of the Park Building. They were moved to the Town Hall when the Summer Program was going on at the Park Building and they liked the Town Hall better than the Park Building and requested permission to stay here. It is easier and more enjoyable for the participants.

A motion was made by Councilperson Winchell-Sweeney and was seconded by Councilperson Miller-Simmons that the bills from the General Abstract # 10 and the bills from the Highway Abstract # 10 be paid. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and seconded by Councilperson Mettler that the meeting be adjourned. Motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted,