

Regular Town Board Meeting

5-9-19

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

Roberta Roll gave an update on the Water Front Revitalization Grant. The contract is still at the State unsigned. The State is recommending the Town send out RFP's and hire a consultant as soon as possible. Roberta submitted a draft RFP for the Boards review and once the Town Board approves the draft RFP it will be sent to the State prior to sending it to possible consultants. Supervisor Nayer questioned how we could hire a consultant without a signed contract. Roberta explained that the Town should proceed with sending the RFP out and start interviewing consultants and be ready to hire one as soon as the signed contract is signed. This will save two to three months. Supervisor Nayer advised that the Town does not have to bid Professional Service Contract and would like to see the Town send the RFP just to the consultants that we have worked with in the past.

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Wolf to just send the Consultant RFP to Consultants that we have hired in the past as soon as the D.O.S. has approved the RFP. Motion was carried.

Councilperson Wolf questioned if the Hamlet Revitalization Taskforce was strictly to do with the Hamlet of Copake or all the Hamlets in the Town. Supervisor Nayer stated the Taskforce is just for the Hamlet of Copake even though the Grant encompasses the entire Town, the Taskforce is going to oversee this project. Supervisor Nayer added that when we get going the Consultant will be in contact with Trout Unlimited to see what grants maybe available for this project.

A motion was made by Councilperson Wolf and seconded by Councilperson Gansowski that the Hamlet Revitalization Taskforce act as the Local Water Front Revitalization Project Advisory Committee. Motion was carried.

The Board thanked Roberta for all the work she has put into this Grant.

A motion was made by Councilperson Gansowski and seconded by Supervisor Nayer to waive the reading of the minutes of April 14, 2019 Board Meeting and accept the minutes as written. Motion was carried. Councilperson Mettler abstained.

Announcements: Check the Town Website and the Copake Connection.

Correspondence:

From Tom Goldsworthy, Chairman, Organizing Committee for the Roe Jan Ramble – a letter asking once again for the Towns of Copake, Ancram and Hillsdale sponsorship for the 7th Annual Roe Jan Ramble Bike Tour on Saturday, September 21, 2019.

From Grant Langdon – two letters requesting the censuring of Paul Czajka.

From Kevin Egan, Director, Government Affairs Charter Communications – a notice of a rebranding of their lineup.

Department Heads/Committees: Nothing

Public Forum:

Grant Langdon stated that he gave all the Town Board Members a petition to censure D.A. Czajka and it hasn't been read or discussed and he would like to have it read. Supervisor Nayer advised him that we have had this discussion many times before, the Board does not read every petition that is submitted to the Town, we been through this matter many times already and there is nothing that the Board needs to do with this request and it should not be handled at the Town level. Councilperson Gansowski agreed that this has nothing to do with the Town and it should go to the State Attorney General. Councilperson Mettler agreed with Supervisor Nayer and Councilperson Gansowski that this is not an appropriate matter to come before the Town Board.

New Business:

Supervisor Nayer advised we had budgeted \$10,000.00 in this year's budget for the repairs to the Skate Board Park.

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Gansowski to authorize the bidding of the repairs to the Park Skate Board Park. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and seconded by Councilperson Gansowski to agree to sponsor the 2019 Roe Jan Ramble Bike Tour along with the Towns of Ancram and Hillsdale at no cost to the Town. Motion was carried.

Councilperson Mettler wanted to reassure the Board and Public that she has, as in the past contacted the Town's Insurance Carrier to make sure there is no additional cost to the Town in sponsoring this event.

Old Business:

Town Attorney Dow and Councilperson Wolf updated the Board that the investigation into other Municipalities dealings with Consolidated Communications should be wrapped up by next month's meeting. Attorney Dow has been in contact with Consolidated Communications and they have agreed to all the terms listed in Charter Communications Franchise with the Town. Councilperson Wolf is going to talk to the Chairperson of the Broad Band Committee to see if they are going to be able to look into Consolidated Communications dealings with other Municipalities and if not he will work on it.

Supervisor Nayer is waiting to hear back from the County about doing the computer upgrade.

Resolutions:

The following resolution was offered by Councilperson Wolf and was seconded by Councilperson Gansowski:

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 232-27 and Chapter 126 of the Code of the Town of Copake, the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals are authorized to hire professional attorneys, engineers, planners, or

other experts to advise or assist such boards in reviewing applications before them, at the applicant's expense; and

WHEREAS, such provisions of the Code of the Town of Copake provide for the applicant to place funds in escrow with the Town to ensure the payment of fees and expenses incurred in connection with such review; and

WHEREAS, the Supervisor is the chief fiscal officer of the Town and is responsible for the management of funds held by the Town, including such funds in escrow; and

WHEREAS, an Escrow Agreement template has been prepared for general use by the Town and reviewing boards in connection with the above, a copy of which is appended to this Resolution, which sets out the uniform terms under which such escrow is to be deposited by applicants and disbursed in order to pay the fees and expenses;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Copake grants general and ongoing authorization to the Supervisor to accept escrow funds from applicants to the Planning Board or Zoning Board of Appeals on behalf of the Town and its reviewing boards, and to execute Escrow Agreements from time to time, as needed, in accordance with section 232-27 and Chapter 126 of the Code of the Town of Copake and the Escrow Agreement template appended to this Resolution;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Copake authorizes and directs the Supervisor to deposit such escrow funds received pursuant to such an Escrow Agreement in an account of the Town as permitted by law, and in such a manner as to identify such funds as being escrow funds deposited by the applicant, and to make disbursements and other transactions in relation to such escrow funds, in accordance with the Escrow Agreement template and section 232-27 and Chapter 126 of the Code of the Town of Copake.

Resolution # 6	Supervisor Nayer	yes
Dated May 9, 2019	Councilperson Miller-Simmons	yes
Copake, New York	Councilperson Mettler	yes
	Councilperson Gansowski	yes
	Councilman Wolf	yes

Budget:

Supervisor Nayer advised that the first quarter sales tax check was \$171,522.00 up 4% from last year's first quarter.

Councilperson Report:

Councilperson Wolf reported that the Planning Board held a special workshop on Saturday, April 13th on the GRJH proposal at the intersection of State Route 23 and County Route 7. A lot of items were addressed regarding this proposed gas station/convenience store.

Councilperson Mettler reported that the Road Advisory Committee's next meeting will be held on May 30th and it is going to be a walk around the Hamlet followed by the meeting starting at 5:00pm.

Councilperson Miller-Simmons reported that the Park Commission formed a subcommittee to meet on the handicapped playground and met with a representative from Parktec and he is going come up with

ideas and price for inclusive playground areas that will allow a handicapped child to play side by side with the other children and siblings. The subcommittee will be meeting once a month going forward on this project. Supervisor Nayer stated that the Park Commission will have to seek out grants for this project.

Councilperson Gansowski reported that the Z.B.A. had a quiet month, Supervisor Nayer, Highway Superintendent Gregory and Councilperson Gansowski met with Trout Unlimited, Cornell University and NYSDEC and rode around the Town looking at 16 culverts that should be addressed. The next step will be to meet again and work on getting funding from the State to address repairs/replacements of these culverts. Councilperson Gansowski thanked the Park Commission for the great job they did with the Easter Egg Hunt.

Supervisor Nayer thanked Roberta Roll for the countless hours she has already put into the Water Front Revitalization Grant Application.

Public Forum:

Christine Pace from the Taconic Hills Little League Board thanked the Town of Copake for the use of the fields and the Park.

Councilperson Miller-Simmons spoke on what a great job the Grange did during their celebration this past weekend.

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Wolf to go into executive session to discuss possible litigation. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Gansowski and was seconded by Councilperson Wolf to return to the regular meeting. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Gansowski and was seconded by Councilperson Mettler that the bills from Highway Abstract #5 and the bills from General Abstract # 5 be paid. Motion was carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,