

Regular Town Board Meeting

6-13-19

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

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and seconded by Councilperson Gansowski to waive the reading of the minutes of May 9, 2019 Board Meeting and accept the minutes as written. Motion was carried.

Announcements: Check the Town Website and the Copake Connection. All Town Offices will be closed from July 4th and the 6th.

Correspondence:

N.Y.S. Dept. of Taxation & Finance – a letter advising that Copake’s final State equalization rate is 101%.

From Laura Brush – an email regarding dog problem on Oriole Road, Copake Lake.

From Kevin Egan, Director, Governmental Affairs Charter Communications – a letter advising that they will be dropping Hillsong Channel on May 24, 2019.

From Bryan Van Tassel, Summer Playground Director – an email requesting the reappointment of Dakota Curtsinger, Katelyn Jensen, Hunter Anderson and Jordan Cummings and appoint the following new Councilors Kaya Sindler, Rebecca Simmons, and Macayla Sparacino.

From Richard P. Koskey, President Rhinestrom Hill Community Foundation – a check for \$5,000.00 and letter to go towards the Town of Copake Summer Park Enrichment Program.

From Grant Langdon – a petition requesting the censuring of D.A. Paul Czajka and a letter regarding his son Frank Langdon being falsely accused of arson.

Department Head /Committee Report:

Robert Haight, Chairman Copake Planning Board advised that at their last meeting members of the public got out of hand and the Planning Board is requesting a Deputy Sheriff be present at their next meeting. Supervisor Nayer advised the Board that it was the most unruly meeting he has ever attended and our Resident Deputy will be present at the next Planning Board Meeting. The members of the Planning Board are basically volunteers and should not be treated the way they were.

Public Forum:

Grant Langdon read the following statement: In April of 1775 Simeon Cook was Captain of the Militia in Armenia. When word of the Battle of Lexington arrived the people gathered to hear the news. The British Regulars had opened fire on the militia at Lexington. Ephraim Pain gave a speech in favor of independence. After the speech ended Captain Cook assembled his men. Then he said, “Fellow soldiers, now it the time to give up our liberties or defend them with the musket—” He announced he

was going to go fight and asked if any of his men would follow him. They all did. He fought for seven years. A son, lot Cook, owned a farm in Copake and is one of Frank Langdon's ancestors.

The result was the Constitution with the Bill of Rights. The Right of free speech, the Right to a jury trial, the Right to face your accuser, probable cause for an arrest, indictment, not by the government, but by a grand jury. The Right to a jury trial for damages is guaranteed in the Bill of Rights. District Attorney Paul and Frank's corrupted defense lawyers conspired with criminal intent to deny Frank Langdon these Rights.

I am not asking you to take up your muskets and fight for seven years, I am asking you to censure Paul Czajka. He used his office to criminally destroy Frank and protect the Republican Party. If we do not demand our Rights and Liberties, we will lose them.

Supervisor Nayer stopped Mr. Langdon and advised him that he was told before he started that the Board was not going to permit him to discuss anything pertaining to Mr. Czajka or his sons case.

Presentation from Lynda Scheer, Consumer Assistance Program Coordinator reviewed how the Foundation for Community Health Prescription Assistance Program can help cover costs associated with prescriptions, prescription premiums and co-pays.

New Business:

The Board set the Waterfront Revitalization Consultant interview date for Monday, July 1st at 6:00pm at the Town Hall.

Supervisor Nayer advised the Board that Barbato Inc. has advised the Town of the increase in the refuse fees. Supervisor Nayer added that this is the first increase in many years.

A motion was made by Councilperson Wolf and was seconded by Councilperson Gansowski to authorize the approval of the new refuse service contract with Barbato Inc. as follows Town Hall 1 yard dumpster picked up once a week \$55.00 per month, Park 3 yard dumpster picked up once a week \$80.00 per month, Highway Garage 1.5 yard dumpster picked up once a week \$100.00 per month and Cardboard recycling dumpster 4 yard picked up when called \$45.00 per pickup. Motion was carried.

Supervisor Nayer advised the Board that he would like to address the resolution reappointing our Assessor at next month meeting and encouraged the Board Members to make a point of talking to our Assessor prior to the reappointment.

A motion was made by Councilperson Gansowski and was seconded by Councilperson Miller-Simmons to declare the 2009 International Dump Truck surplus equipment and authorize Highway Superintendent Gregory to advertise it for sale on the Auction International Website. Motion was carried.

Old Business:

Supervisor Nayer reported that County IT Department has figured the cost of replacing the computers in the Town Hall would be between \$8,000.00 and \$10,000.00.

A motion was made by Councilperson Wolf and seconded by Councilperson Gansowski to authorize Supervisor Nayer to proceed with having the Columbia County IT Department replace the Town Hall Computers. Motion was carried.

Supervisor Nayer is still working preparing the bid package for the repairs to the Park Skate Board Park.

Resolutions:

The follow resolution was offered by Councilperson Wolf and was seconded by Councilperson Mettler :

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Copake hereby establishes the following standard work day for the position of Park Superintendent, Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer, Councilperson and Dog Control Officer will be 6 hours and will report the official to the New York State and Local Retirement System based on their record of activities.

Resolution # 7	Supervisor Nayer	yes
6/13/2019	Councilperson Miller-Simmons	yes
Copake, New York	Councilperson Mettler	yes
	Councilperson Gansowski	yes
	Councilperson Wolf	yes

**Authorizing Engagement of Weston & Sampson as Engineers
For Planning Board Site Plan Review**

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

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, in connection with the Planning Board site plan review of the application by GRJH, Inc. for a proposed convenience store and gas station, the Planning Board seeks to engage Weston & Sampson, PE, engineers; and

WHEREAS, a professional services agreement between the Town and Weston & Sampson, for such engagement, has been prepared; and

WHEREAS, the applicant GRJH shall deposit funds in escrow to be used to pay the full costs of the engineering review, pursuant to an escrow agreement between the Town and the applicant,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Copake authorizes the execution of the professional services agreement appended to this Resolution, for the engagement of Weston & Sampson, PE, of Albany NY, in connection with the Planning Board site plan review of the GRJH, Inc. application for a convenience store and gas station on Route 23 in the Town of Copake.

Resolution # 8	Supervisor Nayer	yes
6/13/2019	Councilperson Miller-Simmons	yes
Copake, New York	Councilperson Mettler	yes
	Councilperson Gansowski	yes
	Councilperson Wolf	yes

Budget:

Revenue

5000.00 (A2705)

Appropriations

5000.00 (A7310.4)

Appointments:

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Wolf to reappointment of Dakota Curtsinger, Katelyn Jensen, Hunter Anderson and Jordan Cummings and appoint the following new Councilors Kaya Sindler, Rebecca Simmons and Macayla Sparacino. Motion was carried.

Councilperson Report:

Councilperson Wolf missed the Planning Board Meeting this month, Broadband Committee pretty quiet and Ethic had no complaints.

Councilperson Mettler read the following statement:

RAC- Road Advisory Committee- or the Citizens Advisory Committee – or the Route 7a Rehab Project- We walked around the hamlet – very thoughtful discussion regarding the height of the pavement, the depth of the culverts, the width of the sidewalks- whether there should be sidewalks! The traffic flow around the Clock and the parking.

Our meetings are on hold for now-we have been advised that the County has not hired a consultant and in order to really have meaningful discussions of these issues we need some professional input- and a more clear idea of how the County envisions the project.

We are waiting for further information from our Chair Bob Haight, but we hope to meet again by August or at least by September.

Hamlet Task Force- sent out 100 letters to businesses throughout the Town- inviting them to the meeting to be held on July 10, at 4:00 pm. at the Copake Grange. The letter was signed by five businesspeople in the hamlet* and we hope this meeting will be the Inaugural meeting of a town wide business association. A friend to the Task Force has developed a Website which we will present as a PowerPoint- and we hope that business owners will be excited and enthusiastic about moving forward.

*Seth Fallon, Christy Frank, Kirk Kneller, Jill Sims-Elster, Seung Suh

Councilperson Gansowski – Trout Unlimited got back with their list of culverts that they flagged as the most important and we have to compare it to what Highway Superintendent Gregory thought were the most important to determine what ones we will work on and start to pursue for grants. ZBA meeting had a lot of people attending regarding the West Copake Campground's proposal to have a year round campground. Councilperson Gansowski commented on how nice the flags looked throughout the Hamlet.

Councilperson Miller-Simmons brought up to the Board that the Park Commission wants to sponsor a field trip again this year and on June 17th at 7:00pm there will be another meeting regarding the handicap playground ideas, costs and life expectancy is. Supervisor Nayer would like to call that a multi-use playground instead of a Handicap playground. Councilperson Miller-Simmons said that the company calls it an All Inclusive Playground.

Supervisor Nayer attended the Planning Board Meeting, GRJH discussion got out of hand by the public. There will be a Sheriff's Deputy attending the next meeting of the Planning Board.

Public Forum: None

A motion was made by Councilperson Gansowski and was seconded by Councilperson Miller-Simmons that the bills from Highway Abstract # 6 and the bills from the General Abstract # 6 be paid. Motion was carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,