

Regular Town Board Meeting
& Tentative Budget Public Hearing

10/10/19

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

Supervisor Nayer opened the Public Hearing at 6:30pm with 2 people present. No questions or comments from the Public. Supervisor Nayer closed the Hearing at 6:35pm. The Regular Meeting followed at 7:00pm.

A motion was made by Councilperson Wolf and seconded by Councilperson Gansowski to waive the reading of the minutes of September 12, 2019 Regular Board Meeting and the minutes of the September 27, 2019 Special Board Meeting and accept the minutes as written. Motion was carried.

Announcements: Check the Town Website and the Copake Connection.

Correspondence:

From Kevin Egan, Director, Government Affairs, Charter Communications – four letters advising of future programming changes and price adjustments.

From Michael Latham, Director, NYS Ag & Markets – a letter regarding review concerning the Town of Copake's Zoning Ordinance and its Application to Copake Valley Farm, Columbia County Agricultural District # 1.

From Kim Volpe, Animal Health Inspector – a letter advising the Town that the DCO services were rated satisfactory.

From Grant Langdon – six letters and emails regarding his bill to the Town of Copake and D.A. Czajka.

Department Head /Committee Report: None

Public Hearing:

Grant Langdon read a statement about his family history in Copake and he state that his son did not burn down the barns that that the Fire Department and the Sheriff's Department accused of him doing.

New Business:

Supervisor Nayer advised anyone having problems receiving CODE RED messages from the County to reregister and make sure you do not use a password. There is a link on our Town Website with instructions.

Councilperson Mettler gave a detailed report on this year's Roe Jan Ramble. The weather was spectacular, a large number of participants and heard no complaints. The complete report is available on the Town's Website and the Town's Newsletter.

Supervisor Nayer read the following list of expiring terms and open positions: 2 Board of Assessment Review, 5 Park & Recreation Commission Members, 1 Zoning Board of Appeals Member, 1 Alternate Zoning Board of Appeals Member, 1 Planning Board Member, 1 Clerk to the Building Inspector/Code Enforcement and 1 Clerk to the Assessor. A Public Notice will be ran with all letters or resumes must be received by 2:00pm on Tuesday, November 5, 2019 in the Town Clerk's Office.

Old Business:

Supervisor Nayer mentioned that the time for the Roe Jan Library Volunteer Signup Day on October 19th was changed and the Library never got in touch with us about the time change.

The Board discussed the renewal of the Parking Lot Lease in the Hamlet. Supervisor Nayer was against renewing the lease due to the liability to the Town due to the condition and the neighboring property owner's trees encroaching the parking lot. Councilperson Mettler requested that the Board table any action at this time. The Road Advisory Committee is concerned that not renewing the lease will cut down on the amount of Parking available in the Hamlet. Councilperson Gansowski agreed with Supervisor Nayer that there is too great of a possible liability on the Town to renew the lease without improvements to the lot. Councilperson Miller-Simmons sees no reason that we can't contact the owner and advise that the Board is not interested in renewing the lease at this time due to liability concerns. Councilperson Wolf questioned what was the largest number of cars parked in that parking lot in the past? Supervisor Nayer said about seven cars and they are all Insurance Company Employees. Councilperson Wolf advised that he would be in favor of not renewing the agreement at this time.

A motion was made by Councilperson Gansowski and was seconded by Councilperson Wolf to not sign the Parking Lot Lease Agreement at this time and Supervisor Nayer will send the owner a letter stating that the Town Board is not interested in the Lease at this time. Motion was carried.

Supervisor Nayer will advise Highway Superintendent Gregory of the Board's concern with someone parking on the private property and look into either additional signage or possible pavement marking to indicate where the Municipal Parking is.

The Board discussed the Historical Property sign for the Town's Church Museum on Miles Road and the following motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Gansowski that the Town send a letter sponsoring the request for the Historical Sign. Motion was carried.

Budget:

Supervisor Nayer met with the Community Rescue Squad Board of Directors regarding their Budget Request for 2020 for the Town of Copake. They are requesting \$238,245.00 a \$79.00 increase over last year. They have done a great job in paying off debts and controlling their spending.

A motion was made by Councilperson Wolf and was seconded by Councilperson Miller-Simmons to authorize Supervisor Nayer to enter into a charge back with Columbia County for the amount of \$238,245.00 for the Community Rescue Squad for 2020. Motion was carried.

A motion was made by Councilperson Miller-Simmons and was seconded by Councilperson Gansowski to adopt the 2020 Preliminary Budget as the 2020 Adopted Budget. Motion was carried.

Appointments: None

Councilperson Report:

Councilperson Wolf reported that there was no Planning Board Meeting this month due to lack of a Quorum.

Councilperson Mettler reported that the Road Advisory Committee will be meeting with Columbia County Director of Engineering Knox this month. Also Councilperson Mettler stated that she attended a Congressional Hearing on Rural Broad Band where the FCC Commissioner attended and will be attending a meeting organized by DiDi Barrett called the Hudson Valley Rural Housing Workshop at the end of the month.

Councilperson Miller-Simmons advised that the Haunted House has been canceled for this year.

Councilperson Gansowski reported the ZBA Meeting was busy with the Save Craryville group attending. Also Councilperson Gansowski has been working with representatives for N.Y.S.D.E.C., Attorney General's Office and the Army Corp of Engineers and they will be taking over the lawsuit that the Town had with Sal Casino regarding the removal of the bridge built without the necessary permits.

Public Forum: None

A motion was made by Councilperson Mettler and was seconded by Councilperson Gansowski that the bills from Highway Abstract # 10 and the bills from the General Abstract # 10 be paid. Motion was carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,

