

TOWN BOARD MEETING – MARCH 20, 2008, 7:30 p.m.

Present: Nick Cartagena, Kitty Brown, Dave Lewis, Jane Anne Williams, and Toni Hokanson

At 6:07 p.m. the Town Board went into Executive Session.

At 7:38 p.m. Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Councilman Cartagena.

At 7:40 p.m. the meeting was opened by Supervisor Hokanson with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda: add Kathryn Daniels, (same request as Planning) add Unison concert sponsorship – to the end of new business. A motion was made by Supervisor Hokanson to adopt the agenda as amended. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Public Comment: Nancy Cohen, Town resident, spoke regarding pursuit of a new town hall. She submitted a petition with roughly 50 signatures collected. She expressed concern over New Paltz becoming unaffordable “if we are asked to pay more.” Supervisor Hokanson responded with the Board having the same concerns. Councilwoman Brown commented that those are good questions raised, the Board appreciates early thinking. Can each user contribute – Supervisor Hokanson planned to ask State; asking about emergency service district, similar to fire districts. Councilwoman Brown suggested adding this questionnaire as a regular feature on the agenda.

David Porter, Town resident, spoke regarding the Rivendell Winery proposal. His concern is the proposed location, he feels there should be no retail and manufacturing there, according to the Town Code. That is the #1 viewshed, according to the Open Space Plan. The developer asked the Town to change the definition of agriculture to get what they wanted. Where is that? Required it not be done to provide legal leverage.

Supervisor Hokanson: Town was awarded Farm Protection grant — an updating of Comprehensive Plan will result. A meeting is coming up on March 31. The Town is looking for committee members to serve; it is expected to be a nine-month process.

Everette Payne, Town resident, feels Rivendell is a fantastic plan; it should go forward, and thinks we’ll pay dearly when we lose the lawsuit.

Announcements: an additional cell phone recycling plan came to light; collection boxes already exist to benefit St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital. We won’t compete with their representative who approached us, and we will promote her.

..A letter of resignation was received from the Building Inspector, Tom Wiacek.

..Free income tax preparation is available for seniors. Contact the Supervisors Office for details.

..Earth hour is scheduled for March 29; participants are urged to turn off electricity for one hour.

Old Business: George Rodenhausen spoke on PUD, specifically relating to the proposed Meadowcreek Project near the Thruway.

Supervisor Hokanson suggested moving up ambulance services; tri-annual contract with ambulance service-formula requires village residents to pay a little more, but more calls occur in the Village. Councilwoman Williams asked about calls to the college-do they pay? Jeff Salt indicated the college pays for their gas. Supervisor Hokanson will get the formula for next week’s meeting—the Board will vote then. Jeff will also pursue the formula. He reiterated the comment made at a previous board meeting that during anticipated Wallkill River flooding there is an ambulance stationed across the river where a number of Rescue Squad staff reside. Volunteers are still welcome to the Squad, call 255-1719.

Planning Board: Paul Brown, Planning Board chair, submitted a request to move his workshop meeting time. A motion was passed in 2003 holding all meetings to 6:30 p.m. or later. Councilwoman Brown feels strongly about not granting this request. Supervisor Hokanson indicated the workshop meetings are on large projects. Technical issues are worked on, it’s reasonable to allow for workshops without motion. She voted aye, along with Councilman Lewis. Councilman Cartagena felt nervous about agreeing, felt Josh Honig had a good point. Councilwoman Williams.

Era: workshop meetings: public know basis for decisions. Councilman Lewis moved to allow the Planning Board to meet at 5:30 p.m. Seconded by Supervisor Hokanson. Supervisor Hokanson amended the motion to read “restricted to workshop meeting only with no actions taken.” Councilman Lewis accepted the friendly amendment. Aye votes cast by Councilman Lewis and Supervisor Hokanson. No votes cast by Council members Williams, Brown and Cartagena. Councilwoman Williams suggested looking at what Marian suggested (you need to revisit this .things have changed since the law was passed in 2003, more boards are being filmed, 2 Planning Board and the Police Commission. Perhaps the developer could pay for the filming, so there is a record. You could ask about the number of attendees other than the applicant. Maybe it’s time to revisit. Josh Honig, town resident, thought the developer could hold a Saturday meeting, making the meeting more accessible to the public. He’s just looking for a compromise-nothing beats putting the meeting on tape. Ron Turner, videographer and

chair of the BAR: we meet in the daytime; Supervisor Hokanson responded “you’re meeting with people by appointment.” Supervisor Hokanson done but put on public access, seconded by Councilman Lewis. Aye votes cast by Supervisor Hokanson and Councilman Lewis, 3 no votes cast by council members Williams, Brown and Cartagena, motion failed.

To acknowledge the amount of effort put forth by planning board volunteer members, Councilwoman Brown suggested that at a future meeting the Board adopt a policy as was done in Gardiner, making health insurance available to planning board members at 100% cost but at our rate; she will pursue.

Seminar Attendance for Recreation Director: Supervisor Hokanson moved to name the Town Board as lead agency, review the proposed environmental impacts, and authorize attendance for Pat Kenny at a Recreation conference in Saratoga Springs, NY. This is considered a type II action. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Ags & Farmland Contract: Katherine wrote grant, she is a planner with NY Planning Federation. Changes – under GIS mapping – reduced by \$1000, that \$1000 being added into zoning; other changes are required by the state-holding back of 10% of the payment until the project is completed and just a statement about what the hourly rate for her work is. This grant is a 10% match, we have to come up with that (\$2500.)

Councilwoman Brown: made a motion to authorize Supervisor Hokanson to sign the contract with NY Planning Federation for Agriculture and Farmland Protection and allocate \$2500 as our share of the match. Seconded by Councilman Cartagena, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Zoning change request of Vaccaro property on Shivertown Road: they want farm animals (chickens and dwarf goats) which are not allowed in an R-1 zone. They asking us to consider a zoning change. Their 8-acre parcel cannot be subdivided; they suggest the requirement be four acres for us to consider. Three options exist: the request can be referred to the Planning Board, or Town Engineer Dave Clouser before going to the Planning Board, or not be considered. Councilwoman Brown made a motion to refer it to the Planning Board. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Unison request for Town firework sponsorship: Councilwoman Brown recused herself as a Unison employee. Councilman Lewis moved to authorize the Town to sponsor the band *Bearfoot* at the 4th of July celebration, for a \$2000 contribution; other needed funding will be raised by Unison. This is a change from the usual shared sponsorship with the Village of two summer concerts. The Village will sponsor the second concert. Seconded by Councilman Cartagena, all (four) aye votes cast, motion carried.

Committee Reports: Councilwoman Brown: reported on the Greenworks Committee, which met on March 11th. Planet Aid Bins were ordered. They are working on a *Go Green New Paltz* day, and are working on a Regatta boat entry. The bin for used clothing arrived today to be put at the Recycling Center.

Councilman Lewis attended the Senior Citizens Task Force meeting. They are working on bus transportation for seniors and get a regular schedule. They are looking into trying to get help with small projects around homes of Senior Citizens. They are speaking to Jim Tinger, Director of the Youth Center, to do that.

Councilwoman Williams: Recreation Report: Recreation Director Pat Kenny along with Building and Grounds personnel, attended a turf grass conference in Suffern for the Field of Dreams. Pat contacted Larry Furey of New Paltz golf course to work together to introduce kids to golf. She is discussing with Ulster County Department of Health kitchen plans for the Community Center. Recreation committees are continuing to meet.

Councilman Lewis met with the Police Commission; we are monitoring use of force incidents to make sure they are handled correctly.

Supervisor Hokanson: Lt. Joe Snyder has been away at school (police leadership with FBI) for 10 weeks; she and Chief Zappone attended the graduation ceremony. A National Ready Month (emergency preparation) exists; signed up for the tool kit for hosting events. The annual event in September will work with the Rescue Squad; it’s FEMA sponsored. Citizen corp should get involved. Flooding: the Scare did not pan out-emergency plan put into place. The police website is updated every hour during times of emergencies. The campus gym was set up for an emergency, but there is a campus signage problem that will be addressed. In the event of the next emergency the Red Cross will pursue a sandwich board to help citizens find the gym easier.

Supervisor Hokanson: Town/Gown meeting held this week. College’s Master Plan was the primary topic. The Citizens Core prepared an emergency preparedness pamphlet for residents, with plans to include it in the assessor’s mailing in May.

-Councilwoman Brown: EnCC: Al Wegener made a presentation, has offered to walk w/EnCC to make report on health of trees on proposed sites; Joe Bergstein introduced opportunity to recycle cell phones and has a high school student working with him. He has a meeting with Supervisor Hokanson. They will prepare a letter to the Ulster County Department of Health regarding wells and septic being too close to each other. There is a briny spray to be pre-applied to roads to prevent ice formation and snow; saves on

OT and less high salt runoff. They are working on requirements to become a board, gathering maps and doing Open Space inventory. Members attended the Crossroads meeting on March 6th and will try to attend future meetings.

Prepay: a motion was made by Supervisor Hokanson to authorize the prepay of voucher # 85700 of \$884.81 to Marian Cappillino as reimbursement for attendance at the Association of Towns. Seconded by Councilman Lewis, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Warrants: a motion was made by Councilwoman Brown authorizing the supervisor to expend the amount of \$679,484.50 for the March warrant. Seconded by Councilman Cartagena, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Fred Van Nostrand, Town resident, commented regarding the newspaper reference that the community center should be open in April or May. Just sent out contracts for drainage (our guys doing W&S). Cannot do floor until pipes are all in. Closing comment: "You'll be lucky if it's done by August."

At 10:11 p.m. a motion was made by Councilwoman Brown to adjourn. Seconded by Councilman Cartagena, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Marian Cappillino
Town Clerk