

**Town of New Paltz Town Board Meeting
December 17, 2009**

Present: Jane Ann Williams, Kitty Brown, Jeff Logan, and Toni Hokanson

At 7:35 p.m. Supervisor Hokanson opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda : remove Vaccaro

Old Business – municipal building commission request; - policy on health care contributions to bottom. Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to adopt the amended agenda. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Public Comment:

Ira Margolis, Village resident, offered thanks to the Board for providing the holiday meal for seniors at the Community Center.

Dave Lent, Town resident: Time Warner Cable construction fund – over \$211,000 and increasing. Rates are going up in January --request \$125,000 to assist in the operation of the Town and to advance public access in Town. Town Board requests Time Warner to no longer maintain 2% - it should come back to Town. Raising from 2 – 5%. 5% passed thru to Community? No- Dave Lent, Yes- Supervisor Hokanson. Councilwoman Brown said she brought Public Access recommendation at last meeting – no vote on \$10,000 cap.

Everette Payne asked who programs the light at the intersection of Routes 208 and 32? Supervisor Hokanson responded that NYS DOT does. Everette went on to say dangerous timing – he suggested the Town and Village should work together to get it fixed.

Announcements

Swearing in ceremony for elected officials: January 1st at 11 a.m. at the Community Center.

Family sponsoring a New Year's Eve party 12/31 at Community Center; there is a fee - call them for details.

Carol Roper, member, reported for the Space Study Committee--they met yesterday. First part of their charge is to find temporary headquarters for Police Dept. The second part of charge – permanent location for all other Town offices. Costantino property best suited – need appraisal. Asking board to pass resolution estimated cost \$1500. Cost – ideal location – might attract traffic (and foot traffic). Request Town Board to allocate funds. Councilwoman Brown recusing herself due to Town possibly having an interest in adjoining property which she owns.

Councilwoman Williams made a motion to allocate funds of \$1500 for appraisal out of this year funds. Seconded by Councilman Logan for discussion, who stated he is not in support of this. Councilman Logan asked 5 years from now what will that appraisal be worth? Motion is withdrawn.

Wetlands Advisory Committee – wetlands video: 2 minute video shown in summer – Requesting fund allocation for Jean to start working. Narrator fees not included in bid proposal. Links could be available from DEC and EPA. Councilman Logan moved \$8750 bid from Open Skye productions, to come out of Town Wetland fund, seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Time Warner Cable Construction fund: cap of \$10,000 for any single cable extension. Supervisor Hokanson says not ready does not know which is from street to home; construction fund for public roads where density did not meet requirements of Time Warner's contract.

Take \$125,000 out of construction fund – put money to more appropriate use. Councilwoman Williams define origin of construction fund – 5% franchise fee tacked to bill (in Town) new contract.....Supervisor Hokanson said she would like to see contract language before voting. Councilwoman Brown thinks \$260,000 in fund ask for \$125,000 back – claiming that it is Town's money. Supervisor Hokanson likes the idea of putting money in bank account, but it is B fund money.

Councilwoman Brown made a motion for the Supervisor to write to Time Warner and request \$125,000 of the construction fund collected thru franchise fees to be paid to the Town of New Paltz and a timely response to the request or break down on remaining construction projects be delivered as soon as possible. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

NYSERTA grant resolution: energy efficiency in our buildings is goal. Member of ECB requests – declare Town lead agency, type II action requiring no SEQR, and authorize resolution, motion made by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilman Logan Councilwoman Brown thanked Rob Ferri for being an outstanding member of the ECB board.

Got Wildlife? Nuisance control services: Dan Schwartbeck addressed the Board, was told by the Police Department to get the Supervisors' permission to leave his business cards at the Police Dept. for referrals. He does not do bug extermination – he is pro wildlife, has respect for wildlife, sees Beavers as important in the environment. He cannot encroach on sewers etc. Police will take cards. DEC has to give permission for homeowner to do anything. Councilman Logan made a motion to allow the New Paltz Police to refer calls to *Got Wildlife* for nuisance control. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Set Public Hearing for CWOSP property purchase: First property \$100,000 Palmateer; second property for consideration for purchase. (the money authorized for Town to spend 3 years ago on ballot – up to \$2 million. Seth – proposal for Sunset Ridge LCC for Community.

MillBrook Preserve – Nan Stolzenberg, Rachel Lagodka, David Hakim and students working. Other property owners donated property tonight proposing funds from open space be used – 2007 developed criteria, ranking form.....

John Orcutt and business partners showed an interest a few months ago and then made a proposal. Cara Lee– wooded area part of Millbrook or Tributary 13. Habitat value is high. Many values offered, appraised property - \$980,000. They are willing to sell for \$550,000 – 56% of appraised value. If the Town chooses to purchase, there are several options for future. School may have an interest but not right now. This is a window of opportunity – chance to seize control for benefit of community; asking the Town Board to set Public Hearing. Councilman Logan made a motion to set the Public Hearing for January 4, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried..

MOU for NYS DMV rental on hearing rooms 2010 – Courtroom use is \$50 per day. Councilwoman Brown made a motion to authorize the Supervisor to sign the MOU. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

NPRS 2010 Fee Schedule: increase in fees proposed, which the Board has to approve. Last increased in 2006, fees are within range of other local services. Councilwoman Brown made a motion authorizing the Supervisor to approve the 2010 fee schedule, amended wording to Town Board approve. The motion was seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Reorganizational meeting will be held on January 4, 2010.

Assisted Living Local Law: has not yet gone to the Attorney, tabled – the Town of Woodstock is in support for keeping people in their own homes. Guest Speaker Lisa Newcomb to join us, Executive Director of Empire Association of Assisted Living.

Vouchers: Councilwoman Brown is apprehensive about paying the \$8,000 bill from the Master Plan consultant, Peter J. Smith. She asked if there was anything new. Supervisor Hokanson responded yes. Councilwoman Brown questioned if the check can be held until we see updates. She said they were to promise goals and objectives, inventory paid – not satisfactory.

Warrants: Councilman Logan moved to authorize the Supervisor to pay the December Warrant in the amount of \$290,608.69. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Prepayments: Councilman Logan made a motion authorizing the prepayment of voucher #90371 for \$242.88 to the Highway Department Petty Cash. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Councilwoman Brown made a motion approving the prepayment of voucher #90364 for \$30.00 to RAD systems. Seconded by Councilman Logan. All aye votes cast. Motion carried.

Councilwoman Brown made a motion approving the prepayment of voucher #90353 for \$3,500 to Millhook Enterprises. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Supervisor Hokanson moved to authorize prepayment of \$6000 to Peter J Smith. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams. Councilwoman Brown voted no, three aye votes, motion carried.

At 9:27 p.m. Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the contract and the hiring firing, promotion, demotion of a particular individual. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

At 10:36 p.m. Councilman Logan made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Minutes: Councilwoman Brown moved to approve minutes of 10/22 as amended. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Councilman Logan moved to award (ASR) contract to lowest bidder with responsible bid including construction costs with mechanical costs. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, Supervisor Hokanson recused herself due to relationship. Three aye votes cast. Motion carried.

Healthcare: Supervisor Hokanson moved that the Town Board set policy upon start of next new official term all Town officials will pay 10% of health insurance if choosing to take health insurance. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast. Motion carried.

Buy Out: Supervisor Hokanson made a motion the Town Board sets policy that elected officials eligible for insurance not be eligible for the insurance buyout. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

At 10:43 p.m. Councilman Logan made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Marian Cappillino
Town Clerk