

## **Town Board Meeting – November 17, 2011**

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

**7:32pm** – Supervisor Hokanson opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance

**Agenda-** Supervisor Hokanson said she would like to amend the Agenda as follows: add- Old business - Wetlands Law- EAF, and Community Partnership approval of payment prepays. Under New business- add a Resolution for a Historic Preservation Grant. Councilwoman Brown said she would like to add under New Business – a new policy for the Community Center, and a letter to Commissioner Joe Martenz asking that the SGEIS on the Fracking be rejected and that the Town of New Paltz send a letter to the Commissioner professing that. Councilman Logan would like to send a letter to DOT Poughkeepsie to get buses off of Rte 32 South. Need DOT to pave over culverts to move pick-up into the parking lot get it off of Rte 32 South; a letter to support their plans. **Motion:** Supervisor Hokanson moved to adopt the Agenda as amended. Councilman Logan seconded. All aye votes cast. Motion carried.

**Public comment-** There was no comments made by the public

7:40pm – Councilman Lewis arrived

### **Agenda items-**

**Wetlands Law EAF NegDec** – Dave Gordon reviewed the draft Negative Declaration with the Board. He said the EAF will be background. He also mentioned that the County prefers but you don't have to do a Neg Dec. He said the Board can ask him any questions and they are free to accept or reject this draft Neg Dec.

Dave Gordon said in 2005 an issue came up - the County didn't want the Wetlands Law to interfere with the connectivity between roads, subdivisions. The law answer – 2 ways to get permit – compelling local need or it's going to be a taking. They changed the Wetlands Law in 2005 to comply with the County's. It's still in the law, and in the NegDec. Impacts on water – positive, no impact on traffic and noise, no impact on air, will help with flood waters- may stop the flooding increases the recharge the streams slowly. Also shows how the Wetlands Law is consistent with the Town's Master and Comprehensive plans. Dave Gordon continued, on p. 10 – important, currently one third of the Town is off limits- it's already developed or covered with an existing Wetlands Law. This brings it down from 65 percent to 52 percent. Councilwoman Brown commented that it's not a prohibitive law. You can still go through the permit process if you have a special situation and it is possible that you could get one. He's rerunning tax numbers assuming the worst. The tax base would be reduced by 1.24 percent useful for SEQR purposes, potential reduction in your tax base, assuming 12 percent more of the Town won't be able to be developed, but it would be over a series of years, not just in one year. Councilwoman Williams pointed out that on the top of page 12 there is something wrong with his math. Something is not correct. He said they'll correct it and fix Part III. One issue that had been raised was concern about mosquitoes. He found mosquitoes were not a problem if a wetland was healthy and with quality vernal pools. He says we believe it won't affect patterns of development. The Town Engineer said that in 2005 the Wetlands Law then didn't seem to have a negative impact, and it was in

effect for 16 months. Dave Gordon continued, Neg Dec Flood Plain Law, Neg Dec Wetlands Law, watch out for cumulative impact. And it requires you to review the law on an annual basis, so built in mechanism. Dave Gordon This law will give a definitional function- can't ignore it in the SEQR process. Councilwoman Brown said it will tell you what you can and can't do.

**Motion:** Dave Gordon read the Resolution. Councilman Logan made a motion to adopt the Resolution for the Neg Dec. Councilman Lewis seconded. All aye votes cast, motion carried.

Dave Gordon said he will send it all to the County. He will go up there tomorrow, then clear on 7<sup>th</sup>? Board can vote. Board only has to wait thirty days. They don't have to worry about the County getting back first. They can vote on the law as of December 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Community Partnership Coalition:** Pierrette Farber, Director of the Community Partnership Coalition and Roger Spool the Treasurer came before the Board to request that the Town Supervisor and the Board approve the prepayment of three vouchers because these vouchers will be payable prior to the next warrant period. Council members Logan and Brown stated that they are not receiving minutes or enough information from them. The Community Partnership has been restructured. She has copies of the September Minutes with her. And she will resend them to them. Councilman Logan said he couldn't sign the vouchers for almost \$30,000 without seeing a copy of the contract. Councilwoman Brown concurred with him. Councilman Logan also said that Shari is posting inappropriate material on Facebook. Ms. Farber gave them a copy of the contract.

Councilwoman Brown replied the original grant said the Town Supervisor was being paid by the grant for 5 hours of work a week? Ms. Farber said yes and added that the DFC Coordinator requested it be changed from the Supervisor to Patti since Patti is the person who is actually doing the work that is required by the DFC. The Town gets this grant money for this work. Councilwoman Brown said she was not comfortable that a nonelected official doing this work. Councilwoman Brown responded she will sign the voucher for the airline ticket money and the conference lodging but not the \$28,500 one. Councilman Logan added according to the Grant the Town Supervisor signs off on it, oversees it. He asked why they didn't give us the contract. The Director said she gave Patti a copy of the contract last week. He said then there is a hole in communication. Toni is not giving them copies of the contract or the minutes. Councilwoman Brown added she wants minutes and a monthly report. She wants an explanation of the grant budget. She said you should submit a report with any vouchers you submit. Supervisor Hokanson suggested to Ms. Farber that when she submits a voucher that she should provide the page from the budget that correlates to what she's paying and highlight it. She said she would do that. Supervisor Hokanson explained the responsibilities of the Office of Community Research were clearly spelled out in the grant. The Federal government has approved this amount as described, and that's why she is comfortable voting for it. Page 7 and another part of the grant breaks down what she will provide (Office of Community Research) request for \$28,500. Councilman Logan and Councilwoman Brown agreed that we need a liaison or more specific information on the voucher. They added it's very different than any other normal voucher. Councilman Logan stated that he wasn't comfortable having a nonelected official going through the vouchers. Councilwoman Brown said we are the Fiscal Agent with fiscal oversight. And we said we would take responsibility for understanding where the money is going. She said she would love to get a report from their Treasurer that says we recommend that the Board expends these funds through the Federal Grant.

**Motions:** Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to approve the prepayment of voucher #11-96064 for Pierrette Farber in the amount of \$496.80 for the reimbursement for the purchase of airline tickets. Councilman Logan seconded. All aye votes cast. Motion carried.

Supervisor Hokanson made the motion to approve the prepayment of voucher # 11-96157 for Office of Community Research in the amount of \$28,500. Councilwoman Williams seconded. Supervisor Hokanson, Councilwoman Williams, and Councilman Lewis cast aye votes, Councilwoman Brown and Councilman Logan cast nay votes. Motion carried.

Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to approve the prepayment of voucher # 11-96121 for Grand Hyatt Washington in the amount of \$1,257.24 for lodging for the conference. Councilman Logan seconded. All aye votes cast. Motion carried.

### **Break**

#### **Huguenot Street Nursery School Event Application and Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Event Motions:**

Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to approve the event application for the Huguenot Street Nursery School event to be held on May 5, 2012. She also moved to approve the event application for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Dualathon 2012 to be held on April 29, 2012. Councilwoman Williams seconded. Councilman Logan added he'd like to modify agreement to add no use of any markings of any permanent materials on the streets. Councilwoman Williams said they include that in the agreement. They say that they will not use permanent marking materials. All aye votes cast. Motion carried.

**Motion: Contract for Traffic Control Services with Trailways** – Councilwoman Brown made a motion to authorize the Supervisor to approve the Contract for Traffic Control Services with Trailways. This allows the Police to help Adirondack Trailways to get their buses onto Main Street from Prospect Street during the heavy Thanksgiving traffic days. Councilman Logan seconded. All aye votes cast. Motion carried.

**Motions: Contract for Loop Bus service through November 2014:** Supervisor Hokanson reported that student ridership is down but faculty and other use ridership is up. She had a meeting with UCAP and someone from the Student Association in July and they've been working on stepping up the promotion of the bus again. Supervisor Hokanson said this Contract is between the Town and UPAC. She said if you want to change the amount that SUNY pays; we need to change the MOU between the Town and SUNY. The Supervisor is in favor of doing that before the end of this year. The Supervisor said that when the ridership is down we lose Federal Aid. Supervisor Hokanson said we need to charge College more because it is the lack of their students using it that is causing the cost to change. Reimbursement is based on the number of people riding the bus. She added we shouldn't make any drastic changes without allowing the process to move forward of trying to increase ridership and without consulting The Transportation Committee. She thinks we should take at least 6 months to a year to solve the money issue. She wants to increase the contribution from the College and that we should do now for next year's budget. She added, why don't you let me make some recommendations for our next meeting on that line particularly? That won't change our contract with the County. It will only change the MOU with the College.

**Motions:** Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to authorize her to declare the Town Board Lead Agent for the purpose to contract bus service with Ulster County and declare it a Type 2 Action. Councilman Logan seconded. All aye votes cast. Motion carried.

Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to have the Town Board authorize her to sign the IMU (Inter-municipal Agreement) with UPAC for the Loop Bus. Councilman Lewis seconded. All aye votes cast. Motion carried.

**Motion: Historic Preservation CLG Sub-Grant Program Resolution:** Councilman Logan said the only problem he has with this is he is shocked how few sites they are getting for that amount of money. Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to authorize her to pass the Resolution for the Historic CLG-Grant Program. Councilman Logan seconded. All aye votes cast. Motion carried.

**Motions: Policy for Classes in the Community Center and Anti-Fracking Letter to Commissioner Martenz?** Councilwoman Brown proposed that the Town adopt the following policy: that new Instructors shall be paid at half their usual rate for the four week trial period of any new class. If enrollment is not sufficient to cover the usual hourly rate at the end of the trial period the class shall be discontinued. She is basing that with Chuck supplying her with the sign up sheets. And he has agreed to discontinue classes that don't get enrollment but we have been paying Instructors to instruct classes where one person shows up. So she thinks it's fair for them to charge half of their hourly rate for the first 4 weeks of the trial period and then if enrollment is good we are happy to pay the full amount. She added because we can't afford to keep having new classes that end up costing us that kind of money. And really one person showed up. Councilwoman Williams said Chuck feels this would hamper his ability to get Instructors. Supervisor Hokanson said the Instructors still have to do the paperwork and collect the money. Councilwoman Brown also mentioned that they haven't been charging non-residents the out of town rate. She said all the Gardiner women are not paying the out of town rate. Councilwoman Brown said that Chuck is agreeable to these changes. He just said that he would prefer for us to create the policy instead of him having to do this individually.

**Motion: Community Center Policy:** Councilwoman Brown moved that the Board adopt these Policies. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Motion: Anti-Fracking Letter:** Councilwoman Brown moved that the Town Board authorize the Supervisor to sign the letter to Commissioner Martenz on behalf of the Town Board that states the Town of New Paltz agrees with Congressman Hinchey that the current SGEIS about Fracking should be rejected. Councilwoman Williams read the letter aloud. Councilwoman Williams seconded. All aye votes cast. Motion carried.

**DOT Letter:** Councilman Logan said he would move the discussion of the DOT letter to the December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

**Motion: Resolution to transfer the following Monies:** Supervisor Hokanson made a motion requesting the Town Board to pass this resolution to authorize her to transfer the following monies:

From Contingency A1990.4 to UCAT loop bus, CE A5630.4 in the amount of \$7,500 to cover the current bills and for the balance of the year 2011.

From Contingency A1990.4 to Special Prosecutor, CE A1110.24 in the amount of \$26,500 to cover the current bills and for the balance of the year 2011.

From Budget, CE A 1340.4 to Purchasing A1345.4 in the amount of \$600 to cover the current bills and for the balance of the year 2011. Please note that the budget is adopted as a whole in .4 and broken down by department for monitoring purposes. Councilwoman Williams seconded. All aye votes cast. Motion carried.

**Motion: November Warrant:** Councilwoman Brown made a motion to authorize the Supervisor to pay the November Warrant in the amount of \$1,004,131.58. Councilman Logan seconded. All aye votes cast. Motion carried.

**Motion: Town of New Paltz Highway Department:** Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to approve the prepayment of the following voucher # 11-96077 made out to the Town of New Paltz Highway Department in the amount of \$201.60 which is to replenish petty cash to reimburse the employees for meals incurred by the Highway Department's employees who have been working overtime to get caught up with fall clean-up after the storms before the next warrant date of 12-16-11 in case of more storms. Councilwoman Williams seconded. All aye votes cast. Motion carried.

**Motion: Highway Department to fix error:** Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to reduce the Expenditure line #DB9730-600 to 0. The truck payment was in there twice. She will leave the truck payment under the 400 line. Councilman Logan seconded. All aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Town of New Paltz 2012 Tentative Budget:** Supervisor Hokanson said the amount to be raised by taxes went down. Councilman Logan said that something wasn't right with her math. Supervisor Hokanson looked at the cover sheet, The Town of New Paltz Summary of Preliminary Budget. She said she would have to redo it for them. The changes that she made didn't save.

**Motion for Executive Session:** At 11:19 p.m. Councilman Logan made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Personnel issues within a Department of the Town. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

**Motion: Executive Session:** At 11:40 p.m. Councilwoman Brown made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Councilman Logan. Council members Brown, Logan, and Lewis voted aye, motion carried.

**At 11:41p.m. Councilman Logan made a motion to adjourn.** Seconded by Councilwoman Brown. Council members Logan, Lewis, and Brown voted aye, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn Varuzza  
Deputy Town Clerk