October 20, 2011
Public Hearing - Residency Requirement, Town board meeting
Present: Dave Lewis, Jeff Logan, Kitty Brown, JaneAnn Williams, and Toni Hokanson.

At 7:21 p.m. Supervisor Hokanson opened the Public Hearing. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.
Public Comment: Ray Lunati, vote "no" to changing residency requirement - grandfather in current employees.
Councilwoman Brown explained to an audience member the State has a requirement that Department Heads of the Town reside in the Town. Many of the Department Heads in New Paltz do not reside in our Town. In order not to be breaking the law anymore we are considering a law that would grandfather in the employees we have now but would require new hires whether Department Heads or not to be Town Residents. The rationale for this is all new hires would be Town residents and would get on the job training as they work here so that when a Department Head position opens up we would have a pool of local residents to choose from.
At 7:24 p.m. a motion was made by Supervisor Hokanson to close the Public Hearing. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, all aye votes cast, motion carried.
Agenda: Supervisor Hokanson said she would like to add a discussion about the trees and the park bench for the Pocket Park on Waring Lane, Woodland Pond, she thinks someone is coming tonight to discuss it. If they don't show up, they won't discuss it. A motion was made by Supervisor Hokanson to adopt the agenda as amended. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.
Public Comment: Ray Lunati, Town resident, just clarifying the Residency Requirement Law -need to be a resident correct? Supervisor Hokanson said except for the current employees.
Plutarch Road lighting he was wondering what the results were?
He thinks there should be a public speaking requirement. He thinks people who comment at the Town Board meetings should state whether they are Town residents or not. Councilman Logan added that the foremost expert on Open Meeting Laws in New York State, Bob Freeman is speaking on the 25th, at 7:30 pm at Deyo Hall on Huguenot Street will speak about Open Meeting Laws and Sunshine Laws. He also stated it is against Open Meeting Laws to require people to give their name and address. You can request, but cannot require them to do so. Mr. Lunati then commented on Councilwoman Brown's letter in the newspaper.
Community Announcements:
Calendar events: Ninety Miles Off Broadway show in November in the Community Center
Trails Conference; November 5th at SUNY
Flu Clinic: Nov 23rd at Dedricks – Medicare Part B clients are free, others pay $25.
Halloween parade on October 31st at 6 p.m. starting at North Manheim. New Paltz Efficiency Project – Second to final meeting will be held on October 31st at 9 am at Village Hall, and they'll be a summation of the findings of the group that has been studying consolidation options, and it will be televised. The final report is about 90 percent complete.
Fall clean up starting on 10/31 by the Highway department. Brush and leaves only will be picked up.
Agenda items:
Proposed Residency Requirements Law: Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to adopt the Short form SEQR for the Local law on Residency Requirements. Seconded by

Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried. Supervisor Hokanson read aloud the SEQR, then made a motion to adopt the negative declaration. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown all aye votes cast, motion carried.
Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to adopt the local law on Employee Residency Requirement. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams, for discussion, Councilman Logan will not be voting yes. Councilman Lewis: the town should have the option of choosing the best qualified person, would be in favor.
Councilman Logan: it's not up to the board, but department head to hire. He feels they should hire New Paltz residents. Supervisor Hokanson clarified. Councilwoman Brown said she was vehemently opposed originally, but feels we should pass it and then amend it. Vote: four ayes and one nay vote cast by Councilman Logan. Passed.
2012 Budget Justices: Fourth clerk put back in. Supervisor Hokanson said $187,383 was approved last year. This year it is $195,775 it's up with restoring half time to full time plus longevity. Questions were raised about the new employee and salary. Jim feels fourth clerk should be paid on parity with the Highway Department's clerk. Judge Katz made a case to keep a Prosecutor for Plea Bargaining. Councilman Logan stated that he would agree with the Justice's request for new clerk to get increase. The Judges suggested they could give up the line for Magistrate Dinners, and Jim B. said he won't go to the conference. Becky brought up that the security combination lock is leftover from the Police Department and too many people have the combination. Judge Katz is asking to replace it. It would cost about $1980 to replace it. Becky is in the process of applying for a $30,000 grant. If they get it, they could use some of that grant money for this lock. She'll know in January or February if they will get the Grant. They could replace the combination lock with a fingerprint lock. They're putting in $2,000 in the budget under Contractual to cover it. Councilman Logan asked Supervisor Hokanson if they wanted to put the grant amount under contractual so they would have a Revenue. She replied they would need to know what the totals are. So Councilman Logan told Becky to get the totals to Supervisor Hokanson as soon as possible, and the Supervisor said she will have the estimated cost for the fingerprint style lock sometime next week.
Reimbursement: Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to authorize reimbursement for Mr. Campbell. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams. All aye votes cast. Motion carried. October 31st is FEMA cut off for Hurricane Irene.
New Paltz Crop Walk: Supervisor Hokanson made a motion to approve it contingent upon that there is a New Paltz group involved, and if not, then, they will have to pay an additional $25 fee. Seconded by Councilman Lewis. All aye votes cast. Motion passed.
Reimbursement: Mr. Rogers applied for a permit to build a deer fence but it was denied because it needed a Variance. He's requesting a refund of the $25 permit fee. His request was denied because the fee is based on the application, not on whether it is approved or not.
EPA Pilot: Grant application. No money involved. It's to get technical assistance. Need a resolution in order to apply. Supervisor Hokanson moved to pass a resolution in support of the EPA Pilot Recruitment Program application. Seconded by Councilman Lewis. All aye votes cast. Motion carried.
Appointments: Councilwoman Williams said the Board interviewed Elizabeth Murphy for the ENCB and Councilwoman Brown moved to appoint her to fill somebody's unexpired term to be determined. Seconded by Councilwoman Williams. All aye votes cast. Motion carried. Councilwoman Williams stated that last month they interviewed Steve Farina it was for a three year term but there are only three months remaining. It expires on December 31st, 2011. Councilwoman Williams moved to appoint Steve

Farina to this position for the next three months. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown. All aye votes cast, except Councilman Logan who abstained. Motion carried.
2012 Budget- Police Department: Supervisor Hokanson said the Buckle Up NY money will not be available in 2012 - $3,500 so we'll have to remove that amount from income, and the associated over-time as well. Councilman Logan- p.1 operational budget – salary figures not remotely close to reality. On salary , it looks like you're going to be off by $400,000. It looks like you are going to run $2 million in salary for officers without over-time. Last year you budgeted $53,000 in over-time, will spend closer to $85,000, that's another $30,000 off. You're vacation numbers are also way off. Asked for $50,000 last year, you've already spent $219,000 this year for holiday pay 1.3 million spent this year. Fine with keeping these salaries, but you have too many heads. Councilman Logan's figures are for officers only. Supervisor Hokanson disagrees. Chief Joe says need to figure out what discrepancy is.
Ira M? – Stressed not holding Chief responsible for anything he has no control over. Councilwoman Brown – 2012 salary shows lot of significant salaries. 23 officers became 22 in 2011. They are also taking $32,658 out of the over-time line because the the Buckle Up NY money ($3,500) will not be available in 2012, so there will be this decrease in over-time. Supervisor Hokanson said that $45,000 in cuts were made in the .4 line. In 2011 we adopted $346,000 and for 2012 it is down to $301,000. Councilman Logan says gas is under budgeted. He says gas needs to go to at least $65,000 because that is where you are at right now. He said you're probably going to spend $69,000 this year on gas. Joe says buy administrative cars from auctions. Hybrid discussion – Joe will get prices on hybrids. Councilwoman Brown objects to carbon emission of Crown Victorias idling on Main Street. Randall suggests reducing cost of idling car is to increase foot patrols. Supervisor Hokanson suggested that the Police Commission study the idling- and perhaps make recommendations for certain times when they could be turned off. Councilman Logan suggested that perhaps the Police Commission could also look at the inventory of police vehicles. Do we need all the vehicles? Councilwoman Brown – asked why do we have to do twice as many background investigations next year as we did this year? The Chief replied the money is going up because we changed the one company that does the psychologicals. It's a little bit more money. We've had pretty big turn over recently with some officers and in order to do a proper investigation we're doing the psychologicals. That's where the cost is. They're like $300 each. Councilwoman Brown asked about the College Reimbursement - she said she sees it's gone down. She asked is that on a first come first serve basis? The Chief answered no. That's based on what we've been seeing what officers are doing. Over the years there's only a couple that have used it. Councilwoman Brown said but they're all entitled to it. Education – they discussed what grade the officer must achieve in order to get that reimbursement. It had been a grade of "C" Councilwoman Brown said that that was changed to a grade of "B" contract reverted to "C". The Chief asked her which one was signed? Councilwoman Brown said the one that had the grade of "B". The Chief will look at the amendment tomorrow and let her know what he finds. Conferences – Police Chief – Councilman Logan suggested he decrease the number of associations you belong to, and go to local conferences. Joe paid own airfare and will pay for his food for Chicago. They Increased the amount that they need for gas in the budget by $22,000; looking at high school as vendor, have to pay part of meter switch. Chief- we just switched over to Sunoco – get a fleet discount and for the next 2 months will get an additional discount of 30 cents a gallon, and when that 2 months is up they will still save that 10 cents per gallon and Sunoco doesn't charge for the account, like Mobil did. Councilman Logan suggestions: remove

A line of dispatch. He said the Village is paying 25 percent of budget, and using far more than that. Need to look at cost over runs- salary, overtime, gas. Look at Programs too like the Canine program – complete head count of officers, all detectives, all sergeants. Do we need so many officers? Chief – 911 will not handle non-emergency 911 calls. Councilwoman Brown – she is ready to cut Canine program – Could it be shared with other law enforcement agencies? A big discussion ensued between Randall from the Police Commission and the Board members. Randall suggested the Board give them a dollar amount that they want the Police Department to cut from their budget and then let the Police Chief decide how and where to make those cuts within his department. Supervisor Hokanson doesn't feel the Board can give them a dollar figure. She said she feels that they need to make the Police budget a budget exactly what it needs to be to not reduce the level of service that we have today. The Police Chief said so we cut the budget by $10,000 and you're saying that's not enough. The bottom line message from the Board to the Police Chief and Police Commission representatives was that they need to make more cuts to the Police budget.

Warrant: Councilwoman Brown moved to authorize the Supervisor to pay October warrant in the amount of $539,613.65. Seconded by Councilman Logan. All aye votes cast. Motion carried.

11:20 p. m. Supervisor Hokanson moved that they go into Executive Session to discuss an item related to contract negotiations. Seconded by Councilman Logan. All aye votes cast. Motion carried.

Supervisor Hokanson – Councilwoman Williams out 11:37 p. m. No decisions.

Supervisor Hokanson moved to adjourn at 11:37 p. m. Seconded by Councilman Lewis. All aye votes cast. Motion carried.