

**Public Hearing: Municipal Water Supply
Town Board Workshop Meeting
August 22, 2013
7:15 p.m.**

Present: Supervisor Susan Zimet, Councilwoman Jean Gallucci, Councilwoman Kitty Brown, Councilman Kevin Barry.

At 7:21 p.m. a motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to open the public hearing on the Municipal Water Supply, Chapter 140, Zoning definitions. Seconded by Councilman Barry, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

At 7:27 p.m. Councilman Logan arrived.

At 7:31 p.m. a motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to close the public hearing. Seconded by Councilman Barry, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

At 7:32 p.m. a motion was made by Councilman Logan to open the meeting with the pledge. Seconded by Councilman Barry, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Agenda: +Court Parking & Officer, +Lent Drive/Waring Lane Update

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to adopt the agenda as amended. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Public Input:

Ira Margolis was thankful that the meeting agenda and documents were on the website. In regards to the letter from the SUNY Foundation, he thinks there is a lot not being said about the tax exemption of the Park Point Project and it seems suspicious.

Announcements:

The Comptroller's Office is conducting a webinar on August 27th relative to grant opportunities for Local Governments.

The Mohonk Preserve is offering a free one-month membership for Ulster County residents starting August 25th.

2012 Annual Financial Report Update (AUD) presentation by Supervisor Zimet:

The Town has completed its' 2012 Annual Report and has filed it with the State Comptroller. Supervisor Zimet explained that between the savings and increased revenues collected in the 2012 budget and the 2013 budget savings, the taxpayers received a savings of \$1,341,882 in the A-Fund (town wide) and \$212,019 in the B-Fund (town outside the Village). She outlined the backdrop, corrective actions, unexpected expenses and deliverables that were experienced during 2012.

Presentation on Bike/Ped Flats Trail & Resolution for Greenway Grant:

Eric Roth presented an overview of the project, which is believed to enhance recreational opportunities, improve safety, and promote business through enabling bicycle and pedestrian access for users of the Wallkill Valley Rail Trail between downtown New Paltz and the Wallkill View Farm Market. Eventually, other future trail connections may lead to the fairgrounds, the Testimonial Gateway, and the Shawangunk Ridge. The Committee is requesting a municipal resolution from the Town Board in support of their submission for a \$10,000 grant to the Hudson River Valley Greenway to hire a trail planning consultant to evaluate and recommend trail routes. These recommendations will address potential problems of flooding damage to the trail and bottlenecking at the Carmine Liberta Bridge. The trail is expected to start near the bridge, over the Wallkill River and end near the intersection of Lewis Lane and Red Barn Road. The deadline is September 13, 2013. If awarded, the project would start 1/1/2014 to be completed by 8/31/2014, with the final grant report due by 10/1/14. The Town would be lead agency. Matching funds would be provided by a combination of funds from OSI, Mohonk Preserve, the Town Highway Department budget and in-kind personnel costs. The Committee is requesting the Town Board approve a municipal resolution in support of the grant application to the Greenway, which is a requirement for the grant.

Bill Weinstein, chair of the Bike/Ped Committee spoke on behalf of the other members in support of the New Paltz Flats Bike/Ped Committee and the project. They see it as an initial attempt to connect the center of New Paltz to with its western flank. This creates a springboard to make non-motorized travel to the Ulster County Fairgrounds a real possibility for many people. The project is consistent with the 2006 Transportation and Land Use Study and achieving New Paltz long term planning goals. It's a first step, but an important one.

Christine DeBoer spoke on behalf of the Wallkill Valley Land Trust in support of the project.

A motion was made by Councilman Barry for the Town Board to support the application to the Hudson River Valley Greenway from the New Paltz Flats Bike/Ped Committee for a grant. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Supervisor Zimet indicated that on behalf of the New Paltz Flats Bike/Ped Committee, she would reach out to the County to see if they would be interested in being a co-applicant on this grant.

New Paltz Central School District Contract for Police Services:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to enter into the IMA (as clarified by Councilman Barry) for Police Security Services with the New Paltz Central School District. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

SUNY Foundation Letter:

At a previous meeting, the Town Board voted to send a letter to the Foundation regarding the Park Point project. Councilwoman Brown read aloud the letter that was received in response from the Foundation. Councilman Barry indicated that he was disappointed that no one has reached out to the Town Board to address this great divide that exists between what we feel we're entitled to and what Wimorite thinks they should pay. Councilman Logan indicated that the overall feeling from the Board and the Community is that the project should be paying its fair share. He encouraged people to attend the School Board meeting on Wednesday, August 28th on behalf of the Town.

Court Officer:

Judge Jon Katz explained that he would like to hire Luis Torres to help with court security. He will be part time and put into the rotation with the other court officers.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to hire Luis Torres as a part time court security officer at the current part time rate paid to the other part time court officers. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Court Parking:

The Village Board reconfigured the parking lot at Village Hall and the court without contacting the Town Board or Judges. The Court Clerks now have to park further away from the entrance to their area of the building, which creates a safety and security issue now that the Police Department has relocated. Councilman Barry suggested writing a letter to the Village asking the Board to restore the parking spots for the court clerks for health and safety reasons.

Accessory Apartments:

Councilman Barry has been working with Building Inspector Stacy Delarede on a way to notify potential homebuyers that the property had a CO or Certificate of Compliance to use the property with an accessory apartment. When there is an applicant for this type of use, the Certificate of Occupancy will indicate exactly what the property owner can and cannot do. They will continue to work on this.

Administrative Assistant for Bookkeeper:

The new bookkeeper is requesting the Board advertise for a part time assistant for her office.

The previous bookkeeper had two assistants that each worked on a part time basis.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to put an ad in the paper for a part time temporary assistant for the bookkeeper to be paid at \$12/hr, for 15-18 hours per week.

Seconded by Councilman Barry, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to accept the minutes of **July 18, 2013** with one correction, and **July 25, 2013**. Seconded by Councilman Barry, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Police Commission Appointment for Negotiating Team:

The Town received a letter from the President of the NYS PBA expressing concern about the future negotiations involving the police contract. Councilwoman Gallucci does not feel that the proper procedure was followed by the Police Commission in terms of them voting to appoint a member to be part of the negotiating team. The member was just appointed by the Chair, and not voted on by the whole commission. Commissioner Margolis indicated that the appointment was made in public. Councilwoman Gallucci indicated that the Town Attorney advised that it would be wise for the Commission to enter into a formal resolution of appointment to comply with the Town Code. Councilman Barry suggested directing the Commission to have a meeting to vote to appoint a representative for negotiations.

A motion was made by Councilman Barry for the Town Board to direct the Police Commission to schedule a special meeting for the purposes of having a formal vote to appoint a member to the negotiating team for the Police contract. Seconded by Councilwoman Gallucci, all aye votes cast, Councilman Logan voted no. Motion carried.

Local Law prohibiting political solicitations on Town Property/Ethics:

Councilwoman Gallucci indicated that Town employees have informed her that they have been approached in person and through Town email with political solicitations. She has asked the Ethics Board to consider the proposed model law prohibiting political fundraising for an addendum to the Town's current Ethics Law. The Town Board will not take any action until it hears back from the Ethics Board.

Highway/B&G Lawnmower purchase:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to approve the purchase of the new mower at a cost of \$11,049.71 on state bid, to be split between Recreation's budget lines 7150.44 and 7150.46. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Electric Car Charging Station Resolution:

A motion was made by Councilman Barry to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, solar energy benefits all residents of the Town of New Paltz ("Town") by reducing harmful emissions and delivering reliable peak electricity when our grid needs it most; solar energy generates more jobs per Megawatt (MW) than any other energy technology; and simplifying solar permitting in our Town will develop the rooftop solar local market, bringing with it substantial economic opportunity; and

WHEREAS, streamlining the permitting process will benefit the Town staff by reducing the amount of time spent answering questions and reviewing each application (as solar grows in popularity, the permitting process runs the risk of overwhelming staff if the permitting process is not made more efficient); and

WHEREAS, such improvements can be done without compromising the safety and quality of the solar installations in the Town;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Town of New Paltz recommends simplification of residential and small commercial solar permitting to the Town and follow up by requesting at public meetings of the Zoning and Planning bodies to direct the simplification of solar permitting.

Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Budget Transfer:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to approve the budget modification and transfer to move \$21,090 in Parkland Funds to fund the building of the pavilion at the Sports Park as approved by the Town Board on June 20, 2013. As per the instruction of the Town's accountant Linda Hannigan the funds would be moved as follows:

From: TTE960.0 Parkland Deposits \$21,090, increasing expense

To: AAA980-2089.0 Other Culture & Rec Inc. \$21,090, increasing revenue

This transfer would allow for the AAA522-7150.260 NP Sports & Rec Park Equipment line where the bills are being paid out of to be properly offset by the revenue line.

Seconded by Councilman Barry, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Waring Lane/Lent Drive Discussion:

Dan Winfield, Lent Drive resident, sent a letter on behalf of the residents of Lent Drive, Waring Lane and Old Mill Road, to the Board outlining their concerns. Supervisor Zimet read the letter aloud which addressed the following:

Streams- Mr. Winfield has asked Engineer Dave Clouser about the apparent ineffectiveness of the run-off streams which done seem to be dumping water into the ponds to prevent erosion, but he has not yet heard back. This matter should be clarified prior to road dedication.

30 mph speed limit- A car simply cannot safely hold the road at 30 mph on the curves on Waring and Lent; the speed limit should be reduced to 15 mph.

Bike Path- He would like to give the Town Board a heads up so that there are no incidents/difficulties of sub-standard compliances. It is cautioned that if “accepted standards” of having a bike lane for such direction of vehicular travel are not followed then the Town of New Paltz could have future liability if/when an accident/collision between:

- two bikers going in opposite directions who collide and are injured/killed;
- a biker who moves out of the bike path to accommodate another biker coming in the opposite direction and subsequently is struck by a car and is killed/injured;
- a biker collides with a pedestrian who is sharing this narrow “bike path” and each/both are injured.

Mr. Winfield included the proper citations from NACTO and the Ulster County Transportation Plan.

Once the road is dedicated, the gate, which was supposed to be a temporary solution, will have to come down. At that point, the school buses will be able to pick-up kids, and the police will be able to issue tickets. Supervisor Zimet will work with Jim Littlefoot to look into speed cameras. The dedication will be put on the agenda for the September 19th meeting.

Municipal Water Supply:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to rescind her motion to close the public hearing on the Municipal Water Supply. Seconded by Councilwoman Brown, all aye votes cast, motion carried. A motion was made by Councilwoman Gallucci to keep the public hearing for the Municipal Water Supply, Definitions open. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Planning Board Attorney George Lithco received feedback from Ulster County Planning Board Chair, Dennis Doyle regarding recommended changes to the proposed local law.

At 10:53 p.m. a motion was made by Councilwoman Brown to adjourn. Seconded by Councilman Logan, all aye votes cast, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosanna Mazzaccari
Town Clerk